



THE GYROLOG

THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON

September 20, 2005

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President Walter was pleased to see that we were having our meeting on a beautiful day in paradise. **Past President Dick** led us in Cheerio and **John Ross** asked a **Bill Graham** type of blessing.

The August 16th Gyrolog omitted a report on the business portion of the meeting. The Gyro Board had an e-mail meeting regarding three items that concerned the club. Here are the recommendations of the Board:

1. Cost of the Thanksgiving Dinner -

John Stroppa has arranged for a Thanksgiving Dinner at Sanata Maria Goretti Community Hall. The Basic cost of the dinner is \$15 per person. Since we are inviting the Gyrettes there was discussion how much we should bill everybody. Also it was suggested that we should include a 15% gratuity as it is quite standard to include a gratuity for a social event. John Stroppa suggested that since this was a regular meeting the usual supplement be applied to this dinner. Therefore with the supplement plus the \$17 per person (including Gyrettes) we could cover the cost of the dinner + gratuity + GST. This \$17 fee was approved by the meeting.

2. Fees for **Al McClure** -

Al McClure had been a life member of the Gyro Club of Edmonton. Since his return from Winnipeg there was a question whether he would continue to pay the life membership fee. Since the original discussion took place this item has become a non-issue for two reasons. First **Al's** health at the moment is such that he feels that he cannot be an active member of the club, and secondly, if and when he becomes active, he will pay the full active membership fee.

3. The Club covering the cost of the Recognition Dinner for Cancer of the Prostate Golf Sponsors:

The Board is recommending that the Gyro Club of Edmonton cover the cost of the Golf Sponsors and their significant others. This item was brought forth to the meeting for discussion and approval since the sponsors did not wish any of the monies that they donated be used for expenses of the Golf Tournament. After a somewhat heated discussion the membership present (29/51 - quorum is one third of the membership) approved that the Gyro Club of Edmonton cover expense of the meal for Sponsors and their spouses only) and that these monies should come from the Benevolence Fund.

On September 6, 2005 an evening mixed meeting was held at the Selkirk Hotel at Fort Edmonton Park to celebrate the Alberta and Saskatchewan centennials. **President Walter** welcomed the 64 people in attendance. **Roger Russell** led the group in Cheerio and **Rev. John Dowds** asked the blessing.

Guests from the Sherwood Park Club were **District Governor Eric Braun** and his wife **Andrea, Jan Bradley, Rikke** and **Cora Doojtjes, Don** and **Corry Greig**, and **Roger** and **Marion Phillips**. St. Albert Club members **David** and **Hettie Jones** were also present. **President Walter** introduced his guests **Dr. Richard** and **Vi Moskalyk**.

As part of the program, **Ernie Siegel** reviewed the prominent people from his home town of Luseland Saskatchewan, including Jim Pattison.

Based on his research in the archives, **John Ross** presented the early history of our club. The formation of a Gyro Club in Edmonton was first talked about by **Reg Henry** who became the Club's first President, and **Harry Fuller**, the Club's first secretary, in the early months of 1921. An organizational meeting was held at the Hudson's Bay building early April 1921. At this meeting, the plan and idea of a Gyro Club was fully discussed and the formation of the *Gyro* Club of Edmonton was decided upon. 23 gentlemen were in attendance.

Chartering of the new club took place on Friday, 29 July 1921, at the Macdonald Hotel. Vancouver Club President, **Rowe Holland**, was the Installing Officer. The celebration was a gala affair c/w a gourmet meal and orchestra. Edmonton Mayor Duggan delivered the welcome address. Edmonton was the 15th Club chartered into Gyro.

Bruce Foy outlined the early history of Saskatchewan. Saskatchewan is a Cree word "Kis-is ska-tche-wan" meaning swift current or bad river. Saskatchewan is also known as "the land of the living skies" or each fall as "the next year country".

The motto for Saskatchewan is: *From many peoples, strength.*

Tony Sheppard provided the early history of Alberta. The original Fort Edmonton stood exposed on the flats, and flooding on the North Saskatchewan forced relocation to the

present site of the Alberta Legislature. Early transportation was by York boats some of which were built in Edmonton and Rocky Mountain House.

The second era was steam, stern wheel riverboats and by 1879 17 stern-wheelers were offering regular service on the Prairie rivers. They were replaced by the railways by 1891.

The presentations will be included in the club archives if you wish to read the full content.

Going back to September 20th, **President Walter** introduced his guest Dr. Dick Moskylak. There were 27 Gyros in attendance at the meeting.

Allan Warrack reported that **Al** and **Betty McClure** and **Gord Rennie** were going out to lunch when their car was hit from the rear. None were seriously injured but all three had some whiplash and did experience shock and pain. All are recovering.

September has the largest number of wedding anniversaries (10), including **Mort** and **Jean Morter** celebrating 54 years on September 5, **Peter** and **Marjory Fairbridge** 53 years on September 6, **Harry** and **Kerry Kocil** 25 years on September 20, **Bruce** and **Marg Foy** celebrating 45 years on September 24 and **John** and **Evette Stroppa** at 52 years on September 26, 2005. The suggestion is that the anniversaries of couples that end in 5 and 0 be reported, plus all anniversaries over 50 years. Is it the wish of the members to have all anniversaries included?

SECOND POSTING: Bill Taylor and his wife Marie live at 3212 115 St. in Edmonton, T6J 3H8. Their telephone number is 430-0330. He sells industrial electrical products. His hobbies are photography, fitness and woodworking. Bill is proposed by **Barry Walker** and seconded by **Roger Russell**.

FIRST POSTING: Sam Gruden and his partner Bea McKenzie live at 10204 132 St. in Edmonton, T5N 1J7. Their telephone number is 488-5520. Sam is an estate planning advisor with Raymond James. His hobby is woodworking. He is proposed by **Mike Matei** and seconded by **John Ross**.

Another of **Marty's** stories about kids. A little boy was doing his math homework. He said to himself, "Two plus five, that son of a bitch is seven. Three plus six, that son of a bitch is nine." His mother heard what he was saying and gasped "What are you doing?" the little boy answered "I'm doing my math homework Mom". "And this is how you teacher taught you to do it?" the mother asked. "Yes" he answered. Infuriated, the mother asked the teacher the next day, "What are you teaching my son in math?" The teacher replied "Right now we are learning addition". The mother asked "And are you teaching them to say two plus two, that son of a bitch is four?" After the teacher stopped laughing she answered "What I taught them was two plus two, THE SUM OF WHICH is four".

Peter Butler introduced our guest speaker, Earl Andrusiak the Vice President and manager of the HSBC bank who opened by congratulating the Edmonton Gyro Club on the very professionally run Prostate Cancer Golf Tournament. He and his bank were one of the major sponsors of the tournament. The bank is headquartered in England and has 1,800 branches in 77 countries. It was started to support trade between China and England and it has been China's largest foreign bank since day one. There are two hundred thousand shareholders in a hundred countries. If one had invested \$100 in the bank in 1975 and reinvested the dividends the investment today would be \$65,000 which represents a compound return of 24%.

The bank invests in the communities where it operates and in addition to our golf tournament has contributed to the Gretsky and Friends tournament, scholarships at the University of Alberta, NAIT and Grant MacEwan. It also supports the environment and is a large sponsor of Earthwatch. **Harry Nash** thanked Earl for his presentation on our behalf.

Bryce Van Dusen won the free lunch.

The Sherwood Park Gyro Club will be celebrating their 30th anniversary on Wednesday October 5th and it will be a MIXED event. The meeting will be at the German Canadian Club and the organizing committee has arranged for a buffet dinner, entertainer and some reflections of 30 years in Gyro. More details will be available shortly. Let's help them celebrate.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

John Stroppa is planning for a Gyro/Gyrette luncheon to celebrate Thanksgiving. The date is Tuesday, October 4, 2005 at 12:00 noon. It will be at the Santa Maria Goretti Italian Community Centre, 11050 – 90 Street. There is ample free parking available behind the centre, on the front street, or across 90th Street in the Commonwealth Stadium parking lot. The cost will be \$17 per person and there is plenty of room for guests.

Founder's Night is scheduled for Tuesday October 18, 2005 at the Mayfair at 6:30 for a wine reception and 7:00 for dinner. Dress is jacket and tie to tuxedo and there is a choice of Roast Prime Rib or Atlantic salmon. The cost is \$60 with wine and \$50 without. **PIP Marty Larson** will speak to Founders Night and Leigh and Aline MacMillan will make a presentation entitled "Life in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia".

Put a star beside November 1 on your calendar. This is the day for yet another special day of Gyro/Gyrette friendship. 2005 is "Year of the Veteran" and November 1 is the day we will be honouring our club-member Veterans. This special luncheon meeting will be held at "the Hanger on Kingsway", Alberta Aviation Museum, 11410 Kingsway Avenue. Please plan to arrive by 12:00 noon, or earlier, if you wish to spend extra time at the museum (they open at 10:00 a.m.) You will be serenaded by a live band, "The Group", playing favourite tunes from WWII era, from noon to 12:30. We will then march (just kidding) proceed to the "mess hall" for a soup and sandwich lunch. The program, saluting

our Veterans, follows. You will then be dismissed to tour the museum and restoration workshop at your leisure. As you depart, you will each receive a copy of the CD "Salute - a Tribute to the Canadian Veterans". Cost?? \$20.00 each. Guests welcome. Please note that this is a "**mixed**" meeting including our Gyrettes. We hope that all members and their partners will be able to attend. :-)
John Ross will have a sign up sheet at our Thanksgiving luncheon, Tuesday, October 2nd. (He'll also be collecting your \$20 admission fee, so please come prepared!)

Mike Matei advises that "Curl-O-Rama" is scheduled for November 4 to 6 in Banff, Alberta. Cost is \$195.00 per player which includes a minimum of 3 games, 2 nights accommodations, 2 breakfasts, gyro hospitality on Friday night including food and drinks, and the Saturday night banquet. Please let **Mike** know if you are interested in going as we would like to field at least one team, hopefully two teams.

The Gyro Prostate Cancer Sponsorship Appreciation Dinner will be held at the Faculty Club on Wednesday November 16, 2005.

Walter Yakimets has booked the Riverview room at the Shaw Conference Centre for our Christmas party on December 6, 2005.

Our Club will be hosting the District VIII Convention in 2007 from August 9 to 12. It will be at the Delta City Centre Hotel and the room rates will be about \$100.

Same Old Bull

Allan

