



THE GYROLOG

THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON

Club Charter No.18, July 29, 1921

President-[Bruce Swanson](#), **Past President-**[Ray Dallaire](#),
1st Vice-President- [David Winfield](#), **2nd Vice-President-**[Chuck Gerhart](#)
Secretary-[Barry Walker](#), **Treasurer-**[Gary Campbell](#),
Directors- [Tracy DesLaurier](#), [John Mann](#), [Leon Lubin](#), [Len Evenson](#)
Database Administrator-[John Ross](#), **Gyrolog Editor-**[Fred Schulte](#)
Club Website: www.edmontongyroclub.com

JANUARY 2019

Those celebrating their birthdays are **John Ross** and **Cliff Revell** on the 2nd, **Fred Otto** on the 12th, **Dunc Mills** on the 24th, **John Boyd** and **Jim Lochhead** on the 26th, **Bob Kerrison** on the 28th and **Jack Brown** on the 31st.

President Bruce Swanson welcomed 32 Gyros and three guests to the January 8th luncheon meeting held at the Faculty Club. **Alan Warrack** led the singing of Cheerio and **Heinrich Grosskopf** presented the Grace.

Walter Yakimets introduced his son **Stephen** and grandson **Jamie**.

Past International President Marty Larson welcomed our newest member **Bill Donnelly** and his two sponsors, **John Mann** and **Dunc Mills**. Marty spoke about our Edmonton Club's long and successful friendship history since 1921. Marty then proceeded to induct Bill with his promise to uphold the values contained in the Constitutions of Gyro International, Gyro District VIII and the Gyro Club of Edmonton. John and Dunc then proceeded to pin Bill and present him with his nametag. In concert with our club tradition, Bill shook each member's hand and was welcomed enthusiastically.



Marty Larson

Bill Donnelly

John Mann

Dunc Mills

Bruce Foy Introduced our guest speaker, **Dave Dickie**, a graduate of Old's College with a four-year diploma in landscape design. In 1988, he joined Land Tec Contractors who were starting to replace pressure treated wood playground equipment in Edmonton. In 1997 Dave started his own company, World

Landscapes and has been involved in the refurbishing and landscaping of over 200 playgrounds.

While refurbishing Crestwood Playground, Dave said he heard stories of an **abandoned Civil Defence Command Centre bunker in Mackenzie Ravine**. This bunker was one of many constructed in Alberta in the 1950's and 60's. These underground bunkers were constructed in response to the development of nuclear missiles in the United States and Russia in the mid 1950's. Civil Defence was a federal government initiative that ran from 1948 to 1965 in response to World War II and to prepare and educate ordinary citizens about what to do in the event of a nuclear attack or natural disaster.

Municipal infrastructures were improved and standardized across Canada, ensuring efficient response. Some of these Civil Defence processes are still in use today, such as encapsulated water treatment facilities, standardized hydrant connectors for fire hoses, standardized communications systems (telephone and radio), and modernized equipment used by first responders. The Civil Defence organization was also responsible for the construction of roads, bunkers, tunnels and manufacturing of safety supplies and equipment such as air raid sirens. Surplus war supplies were recycled for the Canadian Civil Defence effort. Most artifacts, tunnels and bunkers have been destroyed from the era.

Dave advised that the recent demolition of **Wellington School (built 1957)** in Edmonton revealed an underground bunker with very strong concrete, tested to be 60 psi, which was at least twice the strength of most concretes at that time. Blast glass in the classroom windows was also observed. A women's 1947 army hat was also found in the bunker. Attempts were made by Dave Dickie and others to have parts of the underground bunker preserved, however there has been little support by heritage organizations.

Many public buildings in Alberta were designed with civil defence structures but are virtually unknown by most people today. Some examples include the **Grosvenor Building** in West Edmonton which was specifically **designed to withstand a nuclear blast**. In the **Town of Banff's** old Post Office Building there was an underground surgical centre and in the **City of Camrose**, the Post Office building contained an underground bunker to accommodate 100 people.

Editor's Note: Dave Dickie works with **Fred Armbruster, Executive Director, Canadian Civil Defence Museum Association**, which was established in April 2012 and is a not-for-profit, *charitable organization dedicated, to preserving, protecting, and presenting the Canadian Civil Defence Cold War Emergency Preparedness history to the world.* The Association has collected Civil Defence air raid sirens, mobile feeding units, mobile hospital supplies and emergency preparedness instruction manuals. Fred Armbruster was also actively involved in the discovery of the underground bunker in Mackenzie Ravine in Edmonton. He was able to take documentary photographs and video of the interior of the bunker in 2010. The City of Edmonton has arranged for some interior and exterior repairs to the bunker.

The **RCAF Alsask Radar Dome** located near the Alberta-Saskatchewan border was constructed in 1961-62. It became operational in 1963 as part of the Pinetree Radar Line located roughly along the 50th Parallel between the Pacific and the Atlantic. This early warning missile detection site was operational until 1987 when the threat of the Cold War had drastically reduced.

This last **Radar Dome in Canada**, located on a 6.5-acre parcel at Alsask, Saskatchewan has been purchased by the Association.



RCAF Alsask Radar Dome

Dan Hasinoff thanked our speaker for his dedication to the preservation of this Canadian history.

Gord Robertson was the **Free Lunch** winner

President Bruce Swanson welcomed 33 Gyros and one guest, **Maryella Armstrong** to the January 22nd luncheon meeting held at the Faculty Club. **Sam Gruden** led the singing of Cheerio and **Jim Lochhead** presented the Grace.

President Bruce acknowledged **Marty Larson's 55th anniversary** in the Edmonton Gyro Club.

David Burnett announced that we are very fortunate to have one of our own members, **Doug Armstrong** speaking to us today. Doug was born in the frontier town of The Pas, Manitoba in 1934, son of a United Church Minister and a mother who was a prairie-born teacher and pianist. He graduated in Medicine from the University of Manitoba in 1960. From 1965-69, he undertook post-MD studies in Winnipeg and Melbourne, Australia. Doug served as Assistant Professor, Immunology Research at the University of Alberta from 1970-75 and from 1976-2006, he practiced family medicine. Doug then served as Chief of General Practice at the Misericordia Hospital until his retirement in 2012.

During his 40 years as a Family Physician, Doug developed a strong compassion for Native people and admiration for their patient, generous and courageous attributes. In time he gained a significant appreciation for all native cultural and artistic works, especially the extraordinary impressionistic art of the Northwest Pacific Coast Kwagiulth People.

In 1987 he and his wife Maryella acquired a small part of a relatively little-known, but magnificent 85-foot tall totem pole, owned by the Totem Pole Marina and Resort at Shuswap Lake, established by Allan and Thelma Dray. During the restoration of this totem pole in 2006, many questions were raised about the pole, and the decision was made to record for the future, in book form, the unique history associated with this magnificent, giant totem pole.

The resulting book **"Giants of the Pacific Northwest" The Hunt Family Totem Poles** was published by Doug Armstrong in 2013.

Doug has provided some basic information about Totem Poles. **“Totem”** is a word derived from an Ojibway word “do-daim” meaning a “family or clan...symbol...usually a bird, animal, fish or reptile” similar to a European coat of arms. “Totemism” is an anthropological term indicating generally, that a kin group of people is descended from a specific animal, towards which it shows special interest and respect and does not hunt or eat. However, on the Northwest Coast of Canada totem pole animal-like figures usually represent supernatural beings once encountered by the owner’s ancestors, who were thereafter given the right to use them as crests, identify symbols and as a record of their history.

A Russian sealing ship under the command of **Captain Vitas Bering** in 1741 noted carved interior house posts at Cape St. Elias, Alaska. **Captain Cook’s** scientific expedition in 1776 provided visual documentation of decorated house posts inside a long house in the vicinity of Nootka Sound on Vancouver Island. Totem pole carving and raising on the Northwest Coast was rare prior to and in the late 18th Century due to the high costs of carving and commissioning.

Captain George Vancouver reported in 1792 the presence of many large wooden mortuary edifices. The larger multi-figured poles were carved initially by the Haida, Tlingit and Tsimshian people, while the Kwagiulth carved human ancestor and spirit helper figures as house posts and grave monuments. However, as the wealth of the community increased and iron tools became more prevalent as a result of the fur trade with Europeans, totem pole carving became faster and easier, reaching its peak in the 1860’s.

Unfortunately, disaster struck the communities of the Northwest Coast with the inadvertent introduction of communicable European diseases such as smallpox, measles and influenza beginning in 1832 and peaking in 1862. The population of Haida Gwaii declined from 7000 in 1835 to 800 in 1865. The loss of family community, artistic continuity and family wealth significantly reduced the carving of totems. In addition, politicians and missionaries misunderstood the importance of the potlatch. *The **Potlatch** was a ceremonial distribution of property and gifts to affirm or reaffirm social status, as uniquely institutionalized by the native people of the Northwest Coast.* As part of a policy of assimilation, the federal government banned the potlatch from 1884 to 1951 in an amendment to the Indian Act. The government and its supporters saw the ceremony as anti-Christian, reckless and wasteful of personal property.

By 1910 virtually all carving ceased, except by the brave people of Alert Bay and a few other isolated villages.

The Hunt Family Crest Totem, Shuswap Lake was the fourth of the Hunt Family Totem Poles.

The **first Hunt Family Totem Pole** is linked to Mary Ebbetts, the aboriginal matriarch of the west coast native Hunt family. Mary was a Tlingit, originally known as Anisalaga who married Robert Hunt, a trader for the Hudson's Bay Company in 1855. Mary and Robert lived in Fort Rupert on Vancouver Island most of their lives. In 1870, Mary Ebbetts Hunt's mother tragically drowned in the Nass River on the southern tip of Alaska. A memorial totem pole was carved and raised by the Tlingit people at Tongass in the Nass River area.

Mary and Robert lived with their adopted Kwagiulth tribe in Fort Rupert but were aware of the mutual tribal dislike between the Tlingit and Kwagiulth. Mary and her family decided to have a totem pole raised in Fort Rupert, which would copy the crests used in her mother's memorial pole. Mary hoped that the totem pole would remind the Kwagiulth people of her family's dual heritage and promote goodwill amongst her adopted people toward her Tlingit family. **The Fort Rupert Hunt Pole** was carved in the Kwagiulth style by master carver **Charlie James**.

In 1899, the **original Tongass 'mother' pole** was cut down by a group of Seattle businessmen who believed that the Tongass Village was deserted. In fact, the men were away at their fishing camp and the women were working in a cannery. The pole was cut in half for transportation and transported to Seattle, Washington. **The 50 ft pole was erected in Pioneer Square** and officially dedicated in a public ceremony on October 18, 1899. The pole was seriously damaged by fire in 1932 and transported to Ketchikan, Alaska for repair. Repair was not possible, and a new 70 ft red cedar pole was cut and carved by 10 Tlingit people. The new pole was carved in three months as a copy of the original pole and painted with traditional colours of black, brick red and blue-green. The completed pole was transported to Seattle and erected in Pioneer Square in 1940.

The Hunt Family Crest Totem Pole was commissioned in 1972 by Allan Dray, a Texas businessman living in Calgary. Dray entered into a verbal contract with **Chief Carver Henry Hunt** in Victoria. Hunt, his son Richard and John Livingston carved the 85-foot totem pole at Victoria and moved it to Shuswap Lake in 1973. Henry Hunt's last and greatest pole incorporated most of the crests of the original pole from Tongass and all the crests of the Hunt pole in Fort Rupert. It includes eight major figures, including the two lowest figures from the Mungo Martin family, obtained through Henry's wife. These superbly carved figures are excellent

examples of the highly stylized and impressionistic art that the Northwest Coast Kwagiulth People have developed over the last few centuries. The totem pole was refurbished in 1988 and again in 2006.

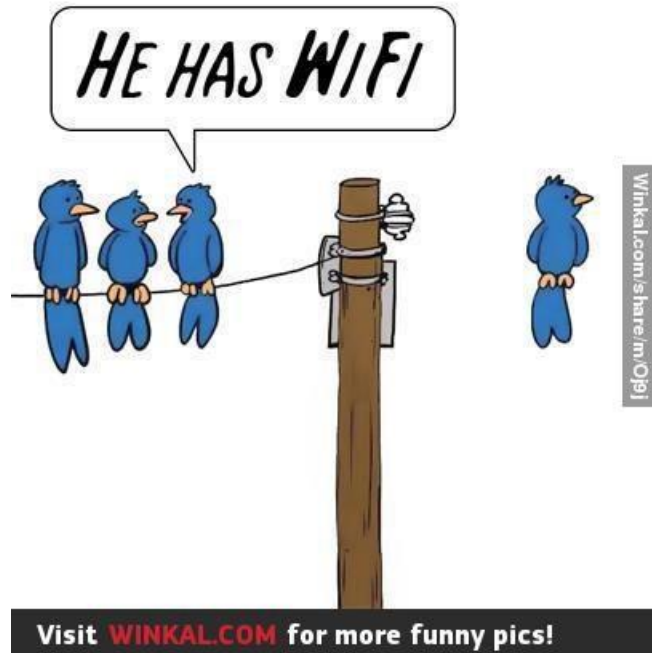


The Hunt Family Crest Totem Pole

Editor's note: The information provided on the previous pages is taken from Doug Armstrong's book entitled "**Giants of the Pacific Northwest**" **The Hunt Family Totem Poles**

My effort does not do justice to the excellent history and art work in the complete book.

John Mann was the winner of the Free lunch draw.





It was considered the best photo of this century. A lioness and her cub were crossing the Savannah, but the heat was excessive, and the puppy was in great difficulty walking. An elephant realized that this cub would die and carried him in his trunk to a pool of water walking beside his mother.

And we call them 'wild animals'!

Dick Nichols reports on the [Hockey Pool](#)

Game 7	December 31	Winners	First Period	Second	Final
Oilers vs Jets					
First	1	0	Gary Campbell	Harry Kushnir	Jack Ellis
Second	2	3	Sharon Matei	Bea McKenzie	Brooks Ross
Third	3	4	Sara Dobson	Unsold	Brock Cook

Game 8	January 2	<u>Winners</u>	<u>First Period</u>	<u>Second</u>	<u>Final</u>
Oilers vs Coyotes					
First	0	1	Erica Herscen	Terri Russell	Gary Campbell
Second	2	1	Dan Larson	Valerie Walker	Steffen Scornaienchi
Final	3	1	Michael Halliway	Walter Yakimets	Bill Taylor

Game 9	January 8	<u>Winners</u>	<u>First Period</u>	<u>Second</u>	<u>Final</u>
Oilers vs Sharks					
First	1	3	Rob McKinnon	Kasper Bundschuh	Herb Zmurchuk
Second	2	5	Unsold	Unsold	Emma Hastings
Final	2	7	Janet Hughes	Unsold	P. Bourbonnais

Game 10	January 22	<u>Winners</u>	<u>First Period</u>	<u>Second</u>	<u>Final</u>
Oilers vs Red Wings					
First	0	0	Grace Burnett	Paulette Schulte	Miranda Herscen
Second	0	2	Bea McKenzie	Cassandra Russell	Elaine Douglas
Final	2	3	Walter Yakimets	Carol Dobson	Unsold

“Fast Fred

UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual Valentines Dinner Party, Faculty Club, Faculty Club, February 5th

Time: 6:00 pm, Dinner 7:00

Cost: \$60 per person. Cash Bar available.

A full-service dinner will be offered in the Dining Room, followed by with a fun and informative program;

The menu includes Salad; a choice of either Baked Filet of Salmon or Prime Rib of Beef and Yorkshire Pudding, Dessert, Coffee and Tea.

Vegetarian, Gluten-Free and Vegan entrée is also available.

Your partner is obviously welcome and singles most welcome as well.

Team Leaders: John and Helen Ross, Chuck and Myrna Gerhart.

Tuesday Luncheon, Faculty Club, February 19th

Speaker: Sol Rolinger

Topic: Edmonton River Valley, Future Developments

Team Leaders: Jack Bowen and Jack Brown

Gyrette Luncheon Meeting, Faculty Club, March 12th

Registration: 11:30, lunch 12:00 noon

Speaker: **Sheri Somerville, Executive Director, Ballet Edmonton**

Topic: “Art Connects”, a free dance and wellness program for socially vulnerable children.

Team Leader: Petra Hagemann

Wednesday Luncheon, Faculty Club, March 20th

Proposed 2019-20: Gary Campbell

Speaker: **Robert Ascah**

Topic: “Reflections on a Sales Tax in Alberta”

Team Leaders: Warren Garbutt and Jack Ellis

Gyro District VIII Convention, Drumheller, May 23-26th

Gyro International Convention, Reno, Nevada, June 2-6th



A World-Class Exposition!



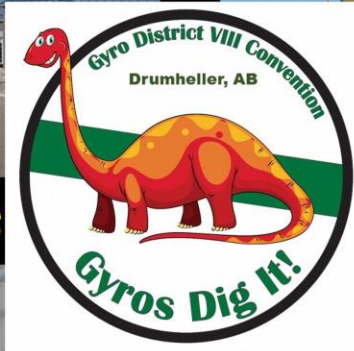
Hoo Doos and Badlands!



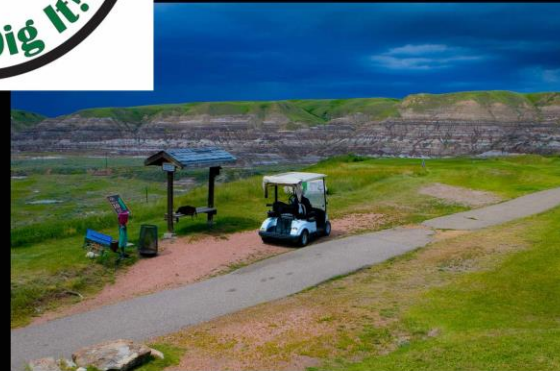
No Hassle Facilities



Roar with the Gyros!



Last Chance Saloon - Yahoo!



Golf with the Dinosaurs!

**Gyro District VIII Convention
Drumheller, Alberta
May 23 - 26, 2019**