



## THE GYROLOG

THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON

Club Charter No.18, July 29, 1921

### President

Bill Taylor  
780 430-0330

### 1<sup>st</sup>Vice-President

Ari Hoeksema  
780 421-7776

### Past President

Leon Lubin  
780 454-9712

### Secretary

Barry Walker  
780 475-0983

### Treasurer

Mike Matei  
780 930-1780

### Directors

Chuck Gerhart  
780 439-9792  
Ken Willan  
780 434-1306  
Warren Garbutt  
780-435-2961  
Dick Moskalyk  
780-435-6922

### Gyrolog Editor

Fred Schulte  
780 434-092

MAY 2010

Those celebrating their birthdays in May are **Andy Friderichsen** on the 13th, **Geoff Brewer** on the 17th, **David Burnett** on the 18th and **Allan Warrack** on the 24th.

The May wedding anniversaries are **Dick and Vi Moskalyk**, 53 years on the 15th; **Fred and Paulette Schulte**, 42 years on the 18th; **Chuck and Myrna Gerhart**, 45 years on the 22nd and **Peter and Katherine Morrison**, 30 years on the 30th.

### SECOND POSTINGS

**John ("Jack") Little** has applied for membership in our club; **Jack** and his wife **Sylvia** reside at **434 Tory Pt.** in Edmonton and their postal code is **T6R 3C8**. Their telephone number is **780-434-1076** and their email address is [jacklittle@shaw.ca](mailto:jacklittle@shaw.ca) Jack is the Executive Director of the Edmonton Heritage Festival and is proposed by **John Plunkett** and **David Burnett**.

**Jim Lochhead** has applied for membership in our club; **Jim** and his partner **Sandy McDonald** reside at **#3 1015 Gault Blvd.** in Edmonton and their postal code is **T5E 5B6**. Their telephone number is **780-644-0266** and their email address is [Jim.Lochhead@gmail.com](mailto:Jim.Lochhead@gmail.com) **Jim** is Minister at McClure United Church and is proposed by **Barry Walker** and **Roger Russell**.

The **Canadian Blood Services** held their reception to honour this year's Milestone Donors on April 28th. **Roger Russell** was recognized for an amazing 400 blood plasma donations, while other Edmonton Club Gyro's recognized for whole blood donations were **Bruce Houston** (75), **David McNaughton** and **John Ross** (50).

**President Leon** welcomed 50 Gyro's and Gyrettes to the Executive Installation Night at the University of Alberta Faculty Club on May 5th. **Marty Larson** presented the Grace and **Larry Dobson** led the group in the singing of Cheerio.

President Leon also introduced **Gary Campbell** as the newest member of our club.

**Jack Brown** introduced his friend and colleague, **Dr. George Molnar** a veteran of the Second World War and participant at the formal surrender of the German Army in Holland on May 5th, 1945. George Molnar was a 22 year old staff officer in the Canadian Army who spoke a number of languages including German. He was ordered with no rehearsal or preparation to assist **General Charles Foulkes**, commander of the First Canadian Army in the translation of surrender terms to **General Johannes Blaskowitz**, Commander of the Netherlands German Army. The terms of surrender were discussed and accepted by General Blaskowitz on May 5th but the formal signing documents were not available that day due to the lack of a typewriter. On the following day, General Foulkes was joined by **His Royal Highness, Prince Bernhard** of the Netherlands at Wageningen in the formal signing ceremony.

General Blaskowitz, as commander of the German 8th Army, led the invasion of Poland in September 1939. He was a traditional soldier and kept firm control of his troops in their dealings with civilians and was outraged by the atrocities committed by the SS against Polish and Jewish people. His fair-minded approach was not supported by the German High Command and he was transferred and demoted a number of times over the course of the war. However, he proved his worth time after time and was pressed back into service to undertake counterattacks against the British and American armies in Europe. In January, 1945, Blaskowitz assumed command of Army Group H in the Netherlands and conducted a fighting withdrawal against the British 8th Army. General Blaskowitz at this time allowed airdrops of food and medicine to the Dutch civilian population.

**Ernie Siegel**, a 37 year member of the Edmonton Gyro Club, then spoke of some his exploits as a navigator with 570 Squadron of the Royal Canadian Airforce. Near the end of the war, Ernie's squadron made 15-20 flights supplying British and Canadian troops in Holland. This was at the same time that General Blaskowitz was conducting his fighting withdrawal against the British and allowing food and medicine drops to Dutch civilians.

Our special guests at the Faculty Club Installation were **District VIII Governor Bernie Kropp** and his wife **Brenda**. Governor Bernie proceeded to un-install **Leon Lubin** as President and accepted Leon's pledge to undertake the position of **Past President** to the best of his abilities. **Ken Willan** and **Warren Garbutt** were installed as **Director's** for the coming year. This was followed by the installation of **Barry Walker** and **Mike Matei** as **Secretary** and **Treasurer** respectively. **Bill Taylor** then took the oath to uphold the purpose and goals of Gyro as **President** for 2010-11. Past President Leon gave a few closing remarks and indicated that he had enjoyed his term as President and appreciated the support he had received. **Leon** and his wife **Jo-Anne** distributed yellow friendship roses to all of the ladies present.



**Past President Leon Lubin and Jo-Anne**

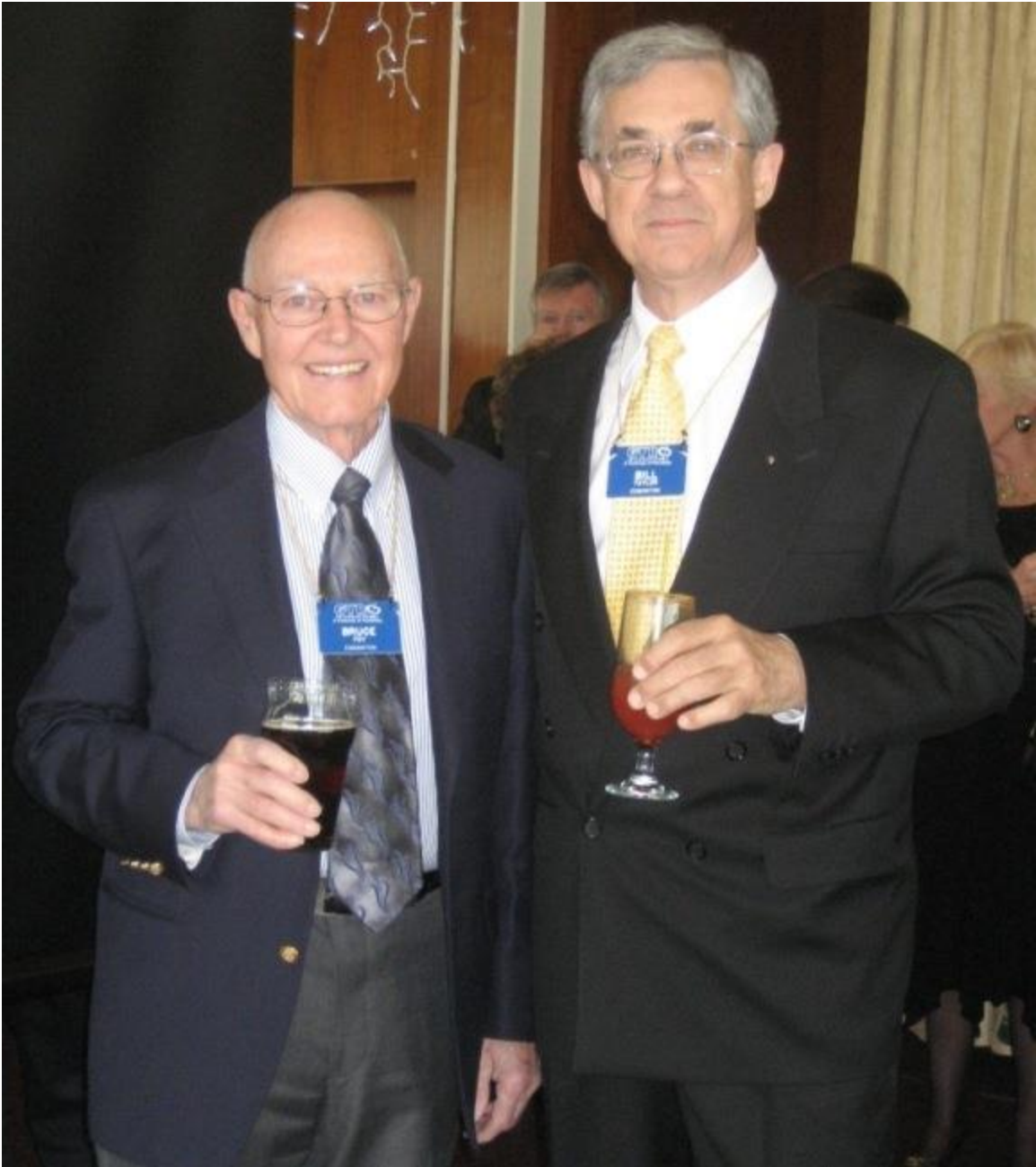


Photo by Elaine Douglas

**Bruce Foy and President Bill Taylor**



Photo by Allan Douglas

**Ken Willan**

**Bill Taylor**

**Leon Lubin**

**Barry Walker**

**Warren Garbutt**

**Bernie Kropp**

**Mike Matei**

**President Bill Taylor** welcomed 40 Gyro's and seven guests to a beautiful, sunny and hot day at the Royal Mayfair Golf Club on Tuesday May 18th. **Len Stevens** led the group in the singing of *Cheerio* and **Allan Warrack** presented the Grace.

**John Stroppa** introduced his guests, **Larry Pope** and speaker, **Bud Steen**. **Larry Dobson** introduced his guest, **Alex Stosky** and **David Burnett** his guest and new member applicant, **Jack Little**. **Peter Morrison** introduced his guest, **Jay Kembhavi**, **Sam Gruden**, his guest **Mike McKinney** and **John Ross**, his guest **Brian Small**.

**The Gyro Club of Sherwood Park** was represented by **District Governor Bernie Kropp, Past DG, Don Greig, Lawrence Zalasky, Bill Austin, Bill Carter and John Evans. Lawrence Zalasky, Co-Chairman** presented information on the District VIII Sherwood Park Gyro Convention, "**Come Play in the Park**" to be held **August 19-22, 2010**

Activities include a Monte Carlo Night and Dinner on Thursday evening, **August 19th**, a golf tournament at Belvedere on Friday morning, **August 20th** as well as tours of the Strathcona County Museum and the Strathcona Wilderness Centre. On Friday afternoon, there will be Bocce and Crib tournaments and a BBQ Dinner followed by entertainer, **Mark Sterling**. On Saturday, **August 21st**, there will be a Past Governors Breakfast, Business Meeting, Ladies Brunch at the Salisbury Greenhouse, Wallace, Idaho Hospitality and the Governor's Banquet and Ball. On Sunday morning there will be a Float Away Breakfast.

It is hoped that the Gyro Club of Edmonton will be well represented at the convention.

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Our guest speaker, **Bud Steen** was introduced by **John Stroppa**. Mr. Steen is a graduate of the University of Alberta with a B.A. in 1976, a LL.B in 1982 and was admitted to Bar-1983 Alberta. He is a Past Chair of the Canadian Bar Association, Northern Alberta Foreclosure Subsection and a member of the Legislative Review Committee of the Canadian Bar Association, Creditor's Rights Section.

Mr. Steen's interest in football began at an early age both as a player and later as a Winnipeg Blue Bombers fan. He later became an Edmonton Eskimo fan and was disappointed in the quality of skill level exhibited by some of the league officials. While he was still completing his studies at the U.ofA., Bud took a half year course on football officiating but was still unable to learn enough to satisfy his need for expert knowledge. As a result, he was invited to a flag football game of High School juniors to try out his limited knowledge and skills as a head linesman. As they say, the rest his history; Bud was hooked and became actively involved in the Edmonton Flag Football League which acted as a farm team for the CFL.

Bud Steen has been officiating with the CFL for 29 years and will have worked 500 games by the end of the 2010 season. There is a lot more to it than attending a three hour game. There are officiating camps and weekly meetings to fine tune the interpretation of rules. The CFL Rule Book is a very complex document that requires years of study and game interpretation to master. Unlike hockey which is a flowing fluid game, football is a game of strategy with chess-like plays and brutal physical encounters.

A typical game day starts with an 8:00 am breakfast of the seven person officiating crew who will be working together for the whole season. The breakfast is followed up by a meeting with their local supervisor who will review plays from the previous week's game film. There will be review of rules and discussion of strategies to deal with odd plays. This meeting will end about 12:30 pm, followed by exercise or rest. The crew will assemble two hours before the game to check out the stadium and deal with last minute details. There will be a meeting with team officials 40 minutes before game time and the umpire and referee will meet with head coaches. A debriefing follows the three hour game; all plays are captured on film and the officials are grilled on plays by the supervisors. Ninety percent of all plays are confirmed by the replays. Injuries suffered from action on the field can quickly end an officials career. There are seven officials on the field at every game and they include a line judge, a field judge, a head linesman, a side judge, a field judge, an umpire and a referee.

As CFL referees, they hear constant complaints about the job performance. They read the attacks over coffee and toast in their morning newspapers. They get into their car and hear people whine about their work on the radio. They turn on the television at night and see more of the same. Through it all, they remain silent. They talk publicly less often than the Queen or members of Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper's Cabinet. So why do they do it? Fans need to understand that the referees don't have biases, they go out every day and try to do the best job they can. Mistakes will be made, but they are minimized by training, preparation and being in the right spot to make a call. CFL officials are evaluated on every play in every game. The referee with the highest marks at the end of the year gets to work the Grey Cup Game.

Bud Steen in his other life is a lawyer in Edmonton and he is not getting rich from his part time job in the CFL. The most he has ever made in one game is \$1250; but he loves the sport and he gets to ref football at the highest level and work with stars like Ricky Ray and Sean Fleming.

**Ari (Dutch) Hoeksema** thanked Mr. Steen for a very informative and entertaining presentation. **Peter Morrison** was the winner of the free lunch draw.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Regular Tuesday Luncheon Meeting, Royal Mayfair Golf Club, June 8th.**

**Presentation:** Mike Matei will present year-end results of 2009-10 Budget and proposed 2010-11 Budget, followed by new member inductions.

**Gyrette Meeting, Royal Mayfair Golf Club, Tuesday, June 8th.**

**Time:** 6:00 pm, Dinner 6:30 pm

**Cost:** \$25

**General Meeting and Committee Reports**

**2010 District VIII Red Deer Golf Tournament, Friday, June 11th.**

**Location:** Riverbend Golf Course

**Contact:** Mike Matei

**Regular Tuesday Luncheon Meeting, Royal Mayfair Golf Club, June 22nd**

**Speaker:** Gary McCuaig

**Topic:** Prosecution of "War Criminals" in 2002-03 under the jurisdiction of the United Nations Mission in Kosovo.

**International & District VII Convention, Crowne Plaza Hotel, St Paul, Minnesota, July 11-18, 2010** More information available at [www.oryg.gyro.ws](http://www.oryg.gyro.ws) and [www.international.gyro.ws](http://www.international.gyro.ws)

**District VIII Convention 2010, "Come Play in the Park", Sherwood Park, AB, August 19-22, 2010**

**Gyro/Gyrette Corn Roast, Malmo Community League Hall, Tuesday Evening September 7th.**