



April 1, 2003

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Res. 434-2438

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Roy Bennett
Res. 987-2403

2nd Vice-President

Tony Sheppard
Res. 435-4325

Imm. Past President

Larry Dobson
Res. 444-5111

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Res. 444-6080

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Res. 476-3221

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Res. 434-0925
Peter Fairbridge
Res. 435-5629
Wayne Tingley
Res. 488-5467
Peter Butler
Res. 987-4581

Gyrolog

Editor-In -Chief

Gordon Rennie
Res. 488-2856

Editor

Allan Douglas
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President Victor welcomed 27 Gyros to our April Fools Election Night at Kelly's Saloon at historic Fort Edmonton Park. **John Ross** led us in Cheerio and a 'fresh from Australia' **Marty Larson** asked the blessing.

District Governor Jerry Glassford informed us of the discussion about District dues that occurred at the District VIII Interim Convention at Fairmont. **District Secretary David Burnett** presented a draft letter to go from our President to the District VIII Officers.

The letter addressed declining membership and the costs associated with the necessary activities of the District VIII Officers. It covered a number of recommendations to reduce the expenses of Gyro International. Also included was the paragraph "Given the opportunities that abound for cost reductions, we can not support a Dues increase of any amount or fundraising initiatives for our Club". **Peter Carter** moved, seconded by **Dick Nichols**, that the draft letter be approved.

The motion to increase District Dues by up to \$15 that was passed at the Interim Convention was discussed. Some members argued that since there has not been an increase for some time it was not wise to take a position against any increase. **Gordon Robertson** moved, and **Gord Rennie** seconded, and amendment to the motion to delete the paragraph related to dues increase so that the letter would be silent on that issue. The amendment was approved unanimously. Those present then unanimously approved the amended motion. On behalf of the club, thanks to **David** and **Gerry** for their creative and proactive approach to a difficult issue.

Dave Duchak has been reporting on the activities of the hockey pool. On March 15th, Game 17 saw the Dallas Stars in town. Dallas led 1:0 after one and **Beth Siegel** and Gordon Brooks each received \$10. It was tied 2:2 after forty minutes and Jim Warrack and **Allen Bleiken** got the \$15 prizes. The Oilers were victorious with a 4:3 final and Jennifer Steven, **Geoff Brewer**, and Perry Baird received \$25.

On March 22, the visiting Capitols took a 1:0 lead and Michael Lippe and **Bernice Pedden** each won \$10. With a tie of 1:1 after two, **Dick Nichols** and Kelly Kazeil received \$15. Again the Oilers were victorious with a 5:3 final and Barbara Walker and **Shirley Larson** smiled a \$25 smile.

The second last game of the season was played in Edmonton on March 28 with the visiting Columbus Blue Jackets. The Oilers led 1:0 after the first and Mark Power, **Fred Schulte** and **Marty Larson** got the \$10 prize. They surged to 3:0 after two and **Mike Matei** and **Don Birmingham** won \$15. The final of 4:0 saw **John Ross** and **Peter Butler** take home \$25. A good night for the Oilers and Gyros alike!

Back at Kelly's Saloon, **Past President Larry Dobson** presided over election night. **Fred Schulte** and **Peter Fairbridge** completed their second year as Directors and those present thanked them for their valuable contributions to the club. **Peter Butler** continues as a Director in his second year, and **Peter Fairbridge** has agreed to stay on for a third year to cover **Wayne Tingley's** second year. The new directors are **Win Kirkwood** and **Bruce Foy**. **Dick Nichols** will continue as Treasurer. The club expressed its appreciation for a job very well done by outgoing Secretary, **Geoff Brewer**. **Barry Walker** has agreed to become the new Secretary.

The Officers for 2003/04 will be, **Immediate Past President Victor Jagoldas**, **President Roy Bennett**, **First VP, Tony Sheppard**, and **Second VP Wayne Tingley**.

There was support for the idea of the Edmonton Gyro Club taking over the Tournament for Prostrate Cancer run by the Cancer Board. We will do it in conjunction with the current sponsors this summer and will have their support in 2004. This will be a one day event that will heighten the profile of our Club.

There were five draws for items such as a golf discount book, scotch, and wine. The winners in order were **Roy Bennett**, **Gerry Glassford**, **Jack Ellis**, **Roy Bennett**, and **Peter Fairbridge**.

THE GYRO STORE has a wide range of Gyro material such as jackets, earrings, sports shirts, hats etc. these would make excellent gifts for Gyros or Gyrettes and they can be ordered by mail or from the website at www.gyro-international.org. An idea for golfers, if we ever get onto the links, is a microfibre windshirt in black, navy, or tan for \$50. A variety of Gyro logos are available some free, others at a cost.

UP COMING EVENTS:

On April 14, 2003 the **GYRETTES** are hosting a mixed casino night at the Yellowhead Casino. Cocktails will be at 6:00 PM with a steak dinner at 7:00 PM. There will be door prizes and \$10 in gambling money. The cost is \$30 per person.

On April 15 there is a regular Club lunch meeting with the team of **Peter Butler**, **Peter Carter**, and **Win Kirkwood** arranging for the program of speaker John Short.

April 25 is the date for the Gyro Bridge Club windup at the Highlands Golf and Country Club (6603 Aida Blvd). Cocktails at 6:00, Dinner at 6:30 followed by bridge and prizes. There will be a no host bar. If you have any special menu requirements contact **Marion Morstad** at 417-0571. Cost will be approximately \$30 per person. Please ensure that all bridge games for the year are completed by the first week in April and the scores and money forwarded to **Marion Morstad** at that time.

The May 6 meeting is cancelled because of the May 10th Installation of our new executive. It will be a mixed function in the evening at the Edmonton Country Club. **Walter Yakimets** and **Bruce Foy** organizing. The cost is \$40 per person for the dinner, \$48 if you wish to have cocktails and wine.

May 20 will be the first meeting under the leadership of our new President, **Roy Bennett**.

The trip to the Black Cat Ranch is scheduled for May 27th. There are 10 couples signed up so far. There is room for a total of 16 couples, so if you have been procrastinating on this one and would like to go contact **President Victor**.

The annual mixed golf tournament is moving from Westridge to the Legends Golf Course on Tuesday July 8, 2003. The cost will be \$40 per person for 9 holes of golf and a great dinner. **Barry Walker** is doing the planning and a wild guess is that he will be looking for prizes.

The International Convention in Salt Lake City Utah occurs July 24 – 27, 2003.

The District VIII Convention, which will see **District Governor Gerry Glassford** end his term, will be held in Wallace, Idaho between July 31 and August 3, 2003.

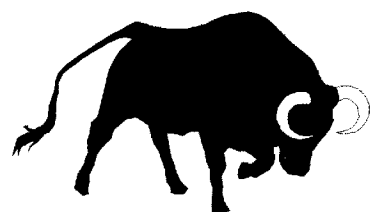
The Quad Club Golf Tournament is scheduled for September 5, 2003 and it will once again be at the Legends. Details will follow.

The St. Albert Club has already booked the Faculty Club for Founders Night on October 22, 2003.

The Christmas Party for next year is booked for December 2, 2003.

Same Old Bull

Allan



GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON

BUSINESS MEETING

APRIL 1, 2003

FORT EDMONTON

During the Business Meeting at the Fairmont Interim a number of critical issues related to our District fiscal solvency were discussed. The following four points of information have been shared with all Club Presidents in our District. Due to the time sensitive nature of the fundamental MOTION of March 15, 2003 it is important that our Club prepares a resolution to be sent to the Executive Officers of District VIII by May 15th.

The following four points (together with the background information) is useful for our discussion:

1. FUNDAMENTAL ASSUMPTION: The primary focus of our District VIII Executive Committee is to help to build the strength and integrity of our Clubs. In allocating limited resources at the District level, the first call is to be on meeting the needs/expectations of our District VIII clubs.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The attached documents provide essential information on our declining memberships, our budget, the areas in which the budget expenditures occur, a background paper to the budget complete with alternative strategies that might be considered/added to, and debated.

3. MOTION OF MARCH 15: Moved by R. Penniket Seconded by R. Neumar

BE IT RESOLVED that the following Motion be presented and voted upon at the Wallace, Idaho 2003 Convention Business Meeting:

"That the annual Club Assessments for District VIII Dues be increased by an amount of up to \$15.00 per member, levied on all classes of shares except 50 Year Members." The Motion Carried.

A number of alternatives have been placed before the delegates by way of a Budget Discussion Paper presented at the meeting and shared with Club Presidents on March 7th (also attached to this letter). The District VIII clubs are asked to respond to the District VIII Executive with their Club's recommendation on this important matter no later than May 15, 2003.

4. RESPONSE DEADLINE: MAY 15, 2003 - responses can be sent to any member of your District VIII Executive. For your convenience we add the address information for your District VIII Governor and your District VIII Secretary/Treasurer:

Gerry Glassford
733 Riddell Street
Edmonton, AB
T6R 1A9
gerry.glassford@ualberta.ca

or
David Burnett
1716 Beaspaw Drive West NW
Edmonton, AB
T6J 6K5
djburnet@telusplanet.net

PRELIMINARY DRAFT No. 2

Gyro Club of Edmonton Letterhead

April 4, 2003

To: District VIII Officers

Re: Up to 40% Increase in District Dues and Consideration of Other Alternatives

Gentlemen:

This letter is in response to the motion passed at the recent District VIII Interim business meeting in Fairmont and your request for recommendations no later than May 15th. The District VIII Budget, the Budget Discussion Paper and Membership Reports were distributed and discussed at an evening Club meeting on April 1st. There were 31 members present.

We are concerned, despite the vitality of some Clubs within the District, that the declining downward trend line of District VIII membership is more likely to continue than to be reversed and that a Dues increase may exasperate the problem. We believe that the greatest opportunity to change this trend and to grow and perpetuate Gyro is with the individual Clubs. For this reason our resources, to the greatest extent possible, should be invested at the District level.

Over 1/3 of the proposed increase in District Dues can be eliminated if we accept an increase in the Interim Registration fee from \$75.00 to about \$85.00 to fully cover the cost of Officers' travel. While it can be argued that this represents a level of cross subsidization (All District Gyros should contribute to the Officers' expenses and not just Interim attendees.), we believe that Interim has, and is seen as having, the highest value to cost ratio of all Gyro Conventions (Registration \$75.00, hotel \$84.00/night) and that participants will gladly pay the slightly higher Registration fee. Such a change will have the affect of limiting District expenses to only one District Convention per year and, when combined with our other recommendations, will eliminate the need for a Dues increase.

Some of our other District expenses are beyond our control. Not only does International incur its own costs but it also drives a number of District costs. Significant to the cost of District VIII is the cost of District Officers attending two International Conventions each year. The impact of currency exchange further increases this cost for Canadian Clubs. Accordingly, it is impossible to consider changes at the District level without reflecting on the way International is organized and how it impacts on the Districts.

If each year only one District Convention and one International Convention had to be covered out of District VIII Dues, no increase in District Dues would be required.

This brings us to a number of recommendations intended to reduce Gyro International's expenses while maintaining its effectiveness and at the same time improving its transparency and the understanding of its role by the membership at large:

- Discontinue all future International Interim Conventions. Instead, add a one and a half day working session immediately prior to each International Convention commencing with Salt Lake City. If something requires a meeting of the International Officers between annual conventions, the meeting can be conducted by conference call or group e-mail.
- Discontinue all future issues of the Gyroscope in favour of the President posting a quarterly or semi annual newsletter on International's Website along with membership statistics, listings of International and District Officers, upcoming events, historical information and other items and pictures of interest.
- Move the International Directory from hard copy onto International's Website. It can be updated as soon as changes become known. Printed copies can be made available on a cost recovery basis or Clubs and members can print sections they required. It can be broadened to include e-mail addresses so that only one directory needs to be maintained.
- Publish all minutes, budgets and the financial statements of all International funds on the Website.
- Reorganize the Officers' duties and, as of the Convention in Salt Lake City, eliminate the position of Third Vice President.
- Ask each Club President to update the membership on a regular basis about happenings and events at International, distribute copies of the President's Newsletter, etc. Gyros will be far more aware of International's role than is presently the case.

The world has changed dramatically over the past number of years and it's time that Gyro does so as well. We can not simply keep increasing Dues to offset our shrinking membership.

These and other possible savings that the International staff may identify will significantly reduce International's costs and should allow for an immediate reduction in International Dues.

Given the opportunities that abound for cost reductions, we can not support a Dues increase of any amount or fundraising initiatives for our Club.

Friendship is our only commodity. Surly it is worth organizing ourselves in the most efficient and cost effective way to create the image of a modern and dynamic organization to promote and perpetuate it.

We ask the District VIII Executive to distribute copies of this letter to all other District VIII Clubs, to each District Governor and to Gyro International. We have enclosed a cheque for \$500.00 which we hope will help to defray the unfunded District VIII costs of the current year.

Respectfully submitted,

Victor Jagoldas, President, Gyro Club of Edmonton