



THE GYROLOG

THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON

Club Charter No.18, July 29, 1921

President-Georg Schuller, Past President-Jack Bowen

Vice-President-Ray Dallaire

Secretary-Barry Walker, Treasurer-Larry Dobson

Directors- Jim Lepp, Leon Lubin, Martin Marshall, Sheldon Weatherby

Peter Carter (Ex-Officio) Dunc Mills (Ex-Officio)

Database Administrator-Chuck Gerhart, Gyrolog Editor-Fred Schulte

Club Website: www.edmontongyroclub.com

MAY 2024

BIRTHDAYS: Hank Mottl on the 12th, Len Evenson 85 years on the 13th, David Burnett, 85 years on the 18th and Allan Warrack on the 24th.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES: Sheldon and Judy Weatherby, 53 years on the 15th; Fred and Paulette Schulte, 56 years on the 18th; Jack and Steffany Bowen, 30 years on the 21st and Chuck and Myrna Gerhart, 59 years on the 22nd.

President Georg Schuller welcomed 48 Gyros, Gyrettes and guests to the May 7th luncheon meeting held at the Mill Woods Golf Course Woodvale Clubhouse.

Our special guests were **Greg Garbutt**, Paster at Leduc Baptist Church and his wife **Vivian**, a retired family physician and their **daughter Cassie**, an accomplished singer and graduate of the Rosebud Arts School and of course our esteemed Gyro musician **Warren Garbutt**.

Warren led the group in the singing of Cheerio and **President Georg** presented the grace.

Larry Dobson reported that **Jack Ellis** is not well but has renewed his membership and welcomes visitors. **Warren Garbutt** advised that **Cliff Revell** has dementia, and our prayers are with him.

After a hearty luncheon, we were treated to a musical ensemble consisting of **Warren** on the piano keyboard, **Greg** on the base guitar and **Cassie** singing the **Great Songs of the 1940's and 50's**.

The songs included the following:

(There'll Be Bluebirds Over) The White Cliffs of Dover, a popular World War II song composed in 1941 by Walter Kent to lyrics by Nat Burton. Made famous by English singer **Vera Lynn's** 1942 version.

Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree (with Anyone Else but Me)

A popular song that was made famous by Glenn Miller and the Andrew Sisters during World War II.

We'll Meet Again, a 1939 song by **Vera Lynn** with music and lyrics by English songwriters Ross Parker and Hughie Charles.

I'll be Seeing You, a popular song about missing a loved one, with music by Sammy Fain and lyrics by Irving Kahal for the 1938 Broadway musical comedy *Right This way*. In 1944 it was a number one hit by **Bing Crosby**, It was also a big hit for **Billie Holliday**.

When I Fall in Love, **Nat King Cole**, 1957.

Graduation Day, composed by Joe Sherman with lyrics by his brother Noel, a hit song by the Four Freshmen in 1956.

I Could Write a Book, a show tune from the 1940's Rodgers and Hart musical *Pal Joey* where it was introduced by **Gene Kelly** and Leila Ernst.

Georgia on My Mind, a 1930 song written by Hoagy Carmichael and Stuart Gorrell and first recorded that same year by Carmichael at the RCA Victor Studios in NYC. The lyrics were ambiguous enough to be about a woman or a place.

In 1960, when Ray Charles reprised the ballad, he put a totally new spin on the popular American song. **He sang about the state of Georgia** where he grew up in a segregationist state whose racist policies, he was still subject to at the time. In 1979, the state of Georgia issued a formal apology to Charles and designated his song the official state of Georgia song.

These Foolish Things (Remind me of You), published in 1935 by Boosey and Hawkes, composer Jack Strachey, lyricist(s) Eric Maschwitz. Singer, actress Dorothy Dickson introduced the song in the 1936 British musical comedy *Spread it Abroad*. **Nat King Cole** and **Ella Fitzgerald** later popularized the songs.

Tangerine, a 1941 song recorded by **Jimmy Dorsey and His Orchestra**, vocals by Helen O'Connell and Bob Eberly.

Come Fly with Me, a 1958 song composed by Jimmy Van Heusen, with lyrics by Sammy Cahn. The song was written for **Frank Sinatra** and was the title track of his 1958 album of the same name. The song sets the tone for the rest of the album, describing adventures in exotic locales in Bombay, Peru and Acapulco Bay as the Jet Age began.

President Georg thanked our entertainers for an exceptional performance. **Greg** and **Cassie** were presented with a signed copy of the *Giants of the Pacific Northwest. The Hunt Family Totem Poles*, authored by our Gyro, Doug Armstong.



Greg

Warren

Cassie



FIRST POSTING

Jeffery (Jeff) Wurzer has applied for membership in our club. **Jeff** and his wife, **Teresa** live in Edmonton. Jeff is an avid outdoors person and is the owner of *Just Like Family Home Care*. **Doug Armstrong** proposes him.

“A Blast from the Past”

The Edmonton Gyro Club relinquished their role of building and operating Gyro Playgrounds in the late 1940's and turned their attention to providing scholarships to Grade 9 boys and providing financial support to arts, drama, and music. Our Club sponsored **Marek Jablonski** for three years at the Julliard School of Music in New York City as a concert pianist.

Marek was born in Nazi-occupied Crakow on November 5, 1939, and began studying piano as a youngster in the city's music conservatory. His first recital took place in 1945 before a most unusual audience. The hall was filled with officers of the Russian secret police—the Jablonski family's immediate neighbours. Marek's father was in the Polish armed forces, and the boy was not to see him until 1947. The plight of Poland and Marek's experience of the war and its aftermath left its

indelible mark. His love for his native land never faded, and it explains his unique relationship with the music of his fellow Pole, Frederic Chopin.

When Marek was ten, his family decided to leave Poland. **They emigrated to Canada and settled in Edmonton in 1949.** Marek continued his piano studies with Gladys Egbert in the summers in Calgary and the Banff Centre for the Arts. He gradually acquired a reputation as a young virtuoso. Luck played a part in 1955, when the great Artur Schnabel happened to hear the sixteen-year-old Marek. Schnabel was enthusiastic about Marek's talent and predicted a brilliant career for the young pianist. The maestro kept in touch with him and was generous with advice.

Jablonski won the Dimitri Mitropoulos scholarship in 1958 and began advanced studies at New York's Juilliard School with Rosina Lhevinne, an exceptional piano teacher who was the wife of renowned pianist Joseph Lhevinne. In 1961, Marek won first prize in Canada's Jeunesses Musicales competition and made debuts with a number of Canadian, American, and European orchestras. He was one of the few soloists able to fill the large concert halls of Canada.

Side by side with his concert career, Jablonski **dedicated himself passionately to teaching.** In addition to his regular students in Edmonton at the University of Alberta, he found the time and enthusiasm to give masterclasses in Toronto, Montreal, Bergamo, Milan, and Corfu. The most popular of his masterclasses were those given each summer at the **Banff Centre of the Arts** from 1975 until his death in 1999.

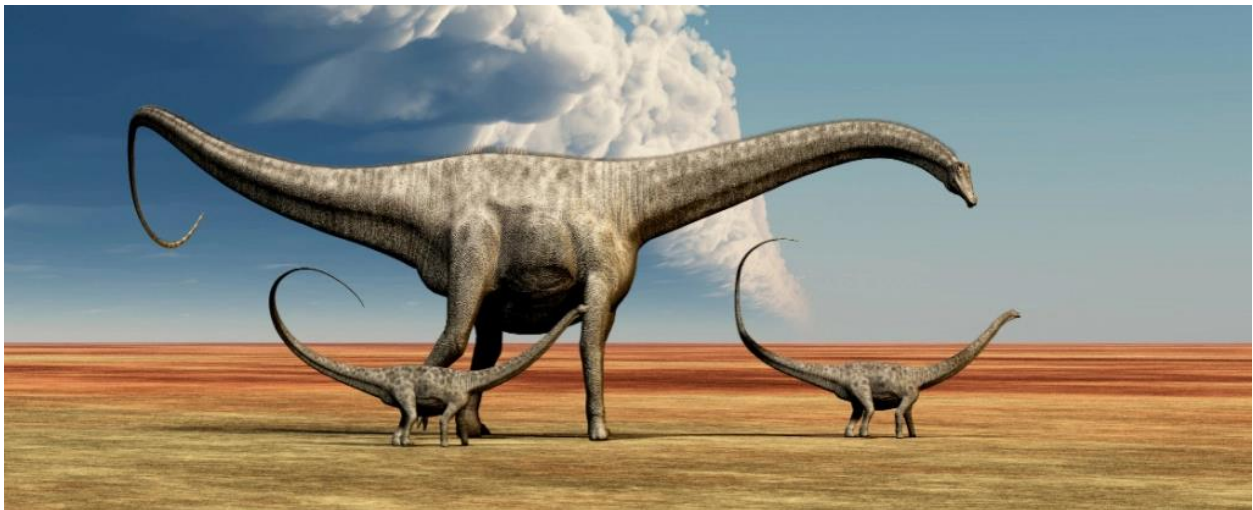
Source: Lucie Renaud, La Scena Musicale Magazine, Vol. 5, No.6 March 1, 2000.



Photos: Thomas Yu and Scena.org

Gyros, Gyrettes and guests met at the **Telus World of Science** to view **Dinosaurs: The Exhibition** on Tuesday May 21st. This exhibition features 10,000 sq.ft. of dinosaurs from around the world.

The largest skeleton replica at 65 feet long is the **Diplodocus** which lived in western North America during the late Jurassic period 154-150 million years ago.



Courtesy of sciencetimes.com



The **Stegosaurus** lived during the Late Jurassic Period about 150 million years ago.

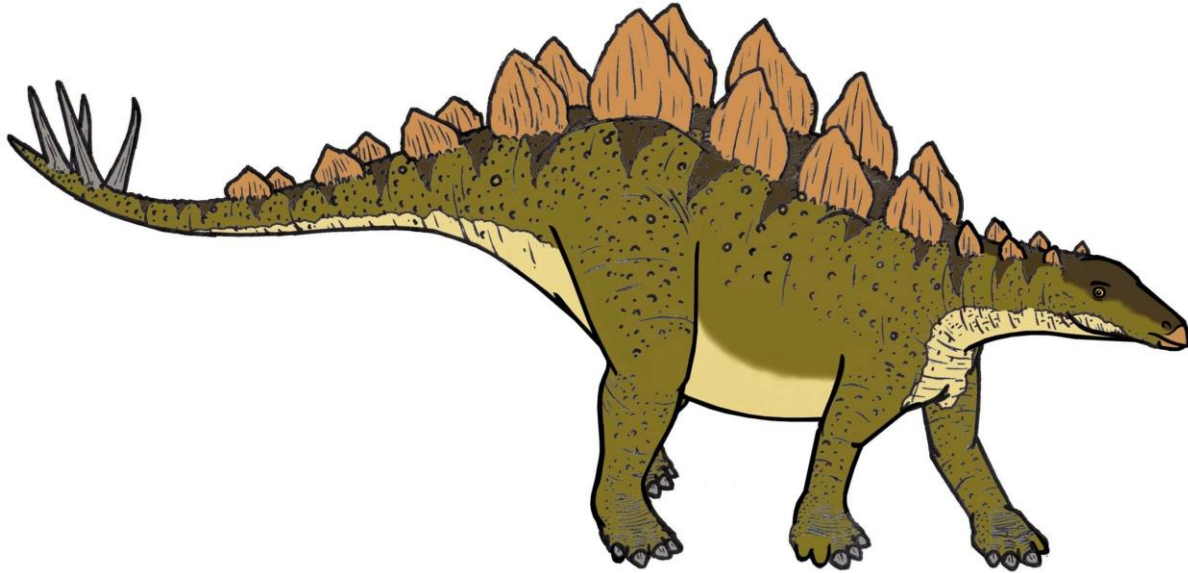


Illustration of a Stegosaurus Image credits: Conty/Wiki Commons



The Dinosaur Exhibition was very popular with school age children and their teachers and parents.

Thanks to **Ken Willan** for organizing this event.

Immediate Past President, Jack Bowen welcomed ten Past Presidents and **President Georg Schuller** at the Mill Craft Bar and Kitchen on Wednesday evening, May 22nd.



Clock-wise-**Leon Lubin** **George Schuller** **David Burnett** **Marty Larson** **Fred Schulte** **Allan Warrack** **Dunc Mills** **Jack Bowen** **Larry Dobson** **Bruce Swanson** **Mike Matei** **Bruce Foy**

The group discussed the traditions of the Past Presidents Dinner which was first held in the 1940's. Stories, and some good and baaad jokes were swapped.

President Georg was encouraged to be his own man and ask for help whenever needed. He then proceeded to tell the story of how Canada geese behave to achieve their life goals.

Some time ago, Leon mentioned a couple of behavior patterns of Canada Geese. This piqued my interest, and I decided to delve a little deeper into their behavior this afternoon. I discovered several interesting attributes that we can learn from and that also apply to our friendship club.

We all know the iconic V formation that geese fly in over great distances, working towards a common goal. This formation allows them to fly more efficiently.

Similarly, when a team has a common goal, it will be more efficient, effective, and successful if everyone works together. By leveraging the strengths of team members, our goals become much more attainable.

Support is Important

When a goose is injured or sick, two other geese will leave the formation to stay with it until it recovers. Once the goose is ready, they catch up and rejoin the flock together.

As a team, we are only as strong as our weakest member. When one of our members faces a setback, it's crucial that we offer support and care until they are ready to rejoin.

I've often observed this within our Gyro community, and I am confident you will support me whenever I need it, even without asking. This mutual support allows me to benefit from your skills, talents, knowledge, and experience.

Cheering Progress

Geese are known to honk while they fly, encouraging those in the front to maintain their speed and keep moving towards their goal.

Communication and feedback are vital. Ensuring that everyone's skills, talents, knowledge, and experience are utilized is essential.

Encouragement and celebrating individual and team progress fosters engagement, support, and continuous movement towards success.

Staying Loyal to the Purpose

Geese do not significantly alter their migration routes; they always return to the same areas each flight. Their goal remains constant.

The purpose of our team extends beyond our goals; it encompasses our group's culture. I rely on the team members to guide me in understanding the mission, culture, and goals of the group. I encourage you to share your experiences, as this allows me to benefit from your skills, talents, knowledge, and experience. I am confident you will provide all the support I need. And I thank you for that.

Thanks to **Jack Bowen** for organizing this long-standing event!

“Fast Fred”

Upcoming Events:

Tuesday Luncheon Meeting, Mill Woods Golf Course, Woodvale Clubhouse, June 4

Speaker: Ray Rohr, retired Transport Canada pilot

Topic: Flying our Canadian politicians

Team Leaders: Sam Gruden and Bruce Foy

District VIII Convention, Lacombe, Alberta, June 19-20

Edmonton River Cats vs Bellingham Bells-Baseball, mixed event, last week of June, RE/MAX Field.

Team Leader: Sheldon Weatherby