



THE GYROLOG THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON

President

John Plunkett
Res. 435-7011

MARCH 2009

1st Vice-President

Leon Lubin
Res. 454-9712

Those celebrating their birthdays in March are **Alan Rusler** on the 3rd, **Roy Bennett** on the 17th, **Ernie Siegel** on the 22nd, **Barry Walker** on the 29th and **Ari "Dutch" Hoeksema** on the 30th.

2nd Vice-President

Bill Taylor
Res. 430-0330

The March wedding anniversaries are **Peter and Margaret Butler**, 35 years on the 15th; **Tony and Emily Sheppard**, 46 years on the 16th; **Mike and Sharon Matei**, 20 years on the 18th; **Geoff and Diane Brewer**, 30 years on the 24th; **David Dyck and Shirley Hearty**, 3 years on the 26th and **Greg and Linda Scherf**, 23 years on the 29th.

Imm.Past President

Jack Brown
Res. 434-0392

Secretary

Barry Walker
Res. 475-0983

President John Plunkett welcomed 27 Gyro's and two guests to the March 3rd luncheon meeting held at the Royal Mayfair Golf Club. **Dick Nichols** led the group in the singing of *Cheerio* and the *Grace* was presented by **John Ross**.

Treasurer

Mike Matei
Res. 930-1780

"Dutch" Hoeksema introduced his guest, **Dr. Herbert DeloRey**.

Directors

Bill Clarke
Res. 437-4678
Peter Carter
Res. 488-2403
Sam Gruden
Res. 488-5520
Ari Hoeksema
421-7776

Our guest speaker was none other than **Past District Governor and Past International President, Marty Larson**. Marty presented a wide-ranging array of interesting tidbits of information entitled **"Did You Know"?** A sampling of these follows:

Gyrolog Editor

Fred Schulte
Phone 434-0925

The Gyro Club of Edmonton has been very active in district and international events, and has had a number of members recognized for their contribution to our organization.

Gyro's highest recognition, the **Honour Key Award** has been awarded to **Alex Mitchell (1939)**, **Roy Miller (1950)**, **Russ Carter (1953)**, **Gord Rennie (1985)** and **Marty Larson (1994)**.

The **Award of Merit** for outstanding service to Gyro has been awarded 11 times to our members and includes; Ken Robertson (1963), **Gord Rennie (1969)**, Lorne Graben (1970), Russ Carter (1979), Jack Jones (1981), Harry Mills (1982), **Marty Larson (1989)**, Wes Van Dusen (1993), **David Burnett** and **Barry Walker (2001)** and **John Ross (2003)**.

In 1991, Gyro introduced the Bud Mitchell Award, **International Gyro of the Year** and the first recipient was **Gord Rennie** followed by **Barry Walker in 2006**.

These awards indicate that we have one of the strongest clubs in Gyro and suggest that taking part in conventions and participating in district office is considered important to our club.

In keeping with our current economic times, the position CEO has been renamed Chief Embezzlement Officer and CFO is now known as Chief Fraud Officer.

The next time you are washing your hands and complain because the water temperature isn't just how you like it, think about how things used to be. Here are some facts from the 1500's.

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May and still smelled pretty good by June. However, even in June they were starting to smell, so the brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odour.

Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, following him; the same water was used by the other men, the sons, the women and finally the children. Last of all came the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose somebody in it. Hence the saying, "**don't throw the baby out with the bath water**".

The floor of the house was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt, hence the saying, "**dirt poor**".

The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery when they got wet in winter. So, they spread thresh on the floor to keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they kept adding more thresh until when the door was opened, it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entryway which came to be known as the "**threshold**".

Thanks to Marty for his entertaining and informative presentation.

The free lunch draw was won by **Bruce Foy**.

Dick Nichols reported on the results of the Hockey Pool.

Game 14 March 3 Winners First Period Second Period Final

Oilers vs. Nashville			Austin Power	Ryan Power	Bruce Rimmer
First	2	2	Sharon Matei	Sharon Matei	Chuck Gerhart
Second	2	3	Unsold	Unsold	Mike Lacoursiere
Final	5	6			

Game 15 March 10 Winners First Period Second Period Final

Oilers vs. Montreal			Shirley Mote	Andrea Scornaienchi	Don Roskewich
First	0	1	Terrie Ellis	Gord Rennie	Sophie McKinnon
Second	3	2	Warren Douglas	Dave McNaughton	Dave McNaughton
Final					

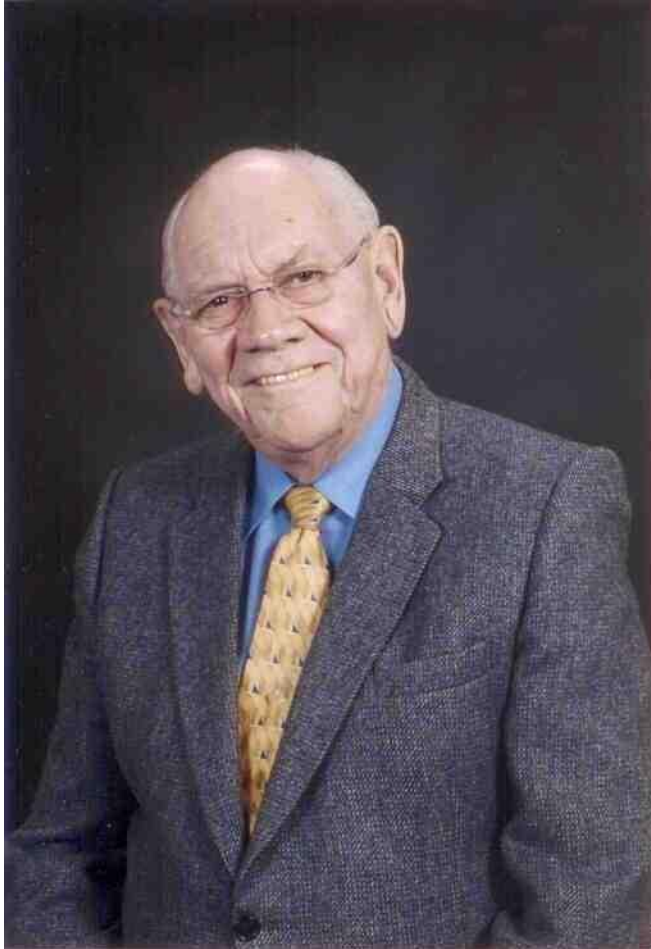
Game 16 March 14 Winners First Period Second Period Final

Oilers vs. Colorado			Dana Boyko	Dana Boyko	Chris Sellar
First	1	1	Geoff Brewer	Geoff Brewer	Chuck Gerhart
Second	1	1	Ron Ramsey	Ron Ramsey	Marilyn Rhodes
Final	2	3			

President John Plunkett welcomed 25 Gyro's and our guest speaker to the March 17, 2009 luncheon meeting held at the Royal Mayfair Golf Club.

Cheerio was led by **John Ross** and the Grace was presented by **David Burnett**.

Past District Governor **Gerry Glassford** recognized **Andy Friderichsen's** membership in the Gyro Club of Edmonton over the last **25 years** and presented him with his 25 year pin. Andy received a hearty round of applause from the members. Andy thanked the members for this recognition and also gave thanks to his sponsor, **Roger Russell**.



Andy Friderichsen 25 Year Gyro

Our club has received a letter of resignation from **Greg Scherf** who joined our club in 2006.

President John reported on his attendance at the **District VIII Interim Convention** held at Fairmont Hot Springs March 13-15th. Attendance was down this year to 109 Gyro's and Gyrette's from an expected attendance of 160. During the Business Meeting there was discussion on ways to improve attendance. One of the

proposals suggested was to move the Interim Convention to April to allow golfing. This proposal was not supported.

Peter Carter introduced our guest speaker, **Ryan Pleckaitis**, General Enforcement Coordinator, Complaints and Investigations Section, Planning and Development Department, City of Edmonton. Mr. Pleckaitis has 9 years experience including three years as a Bylaw Enforcement Officer before moving into coordination and management.

Enforcement within the City of Edmonton is divided into four areas, Animal Enforcement, Parking, Community Peace Officers and General Enforcement.

General Enforcement is carried out by 25 non-uniformed staff and deals with the following issues and areas.

Unsightly Property - The City receives thousands of complaints annually from citizens regarding major and minor messes on private property. Most of these complaints are resolved after the property owner receives a notice. In those situations where no action is taken and all steps in the enforcement process have been used, the City has the power to go in and clean up the sites and bill the property owner. In 2007, the City undertook 98 cleanups. The City of Edmonton uses a compliance first and enforcement last approach to deal with unsightly property. The whole process can take up to two months and involves a notice, followed by an order, opportunity for appeal and then a hearing if necessary.

Illegal Fire Pits -Edmonton is one of the last Canadian municipalities that still allows open burning in back yards under controlled conditions. Only clean wood is allowed to be burned, not garbage or leaves. There are size and location restrictions to minimize neighbouring complaints.

Commercial or Mechanical Noise Complaints -The removal of snow during the night or early morning by private contractors can be the subject of a complaint and investigation.

Noxious Weeds - Two of the most common weed types targeted for enforcement are Canada thistle and variety of Chamomile. The common dandelion is not deemed to be a noxious weed.

Removal of Snow on Adjacent City Sidewalks -Private property owners are required to remove snow and ice from adjacent city sidewalks. If the ice cannot be removed, then it is allowed to use sand which is made available free of charge at all City of Edmonton recreation grounds. Windrows of snow plowed from city streets can be

plowed up to a maximum of one foot on the adjacent side walk. Amount in excess of this will be removed by the city.

Littering - Littering can range from small sites to large problem areas where people dump large furniture items and appliances on vacant city land.

Business Licencing -Through the active licensing of businesses the city is able to shut down illegal and unsafe operations.

Escorts and Massage Practitioners - The city licences the businesses not the individual workers.

Smoking Enforcement

Tracking The city enforces the tracking of mud and dirt from construction sites on to city streets.

Peter Carter thanked Mr. Pleckaitis for a very informative and interesting presentation.

The free lunch draw was won by **Fred Schulte**.

Treasurer, Mike Matei reported on the proposed plans to gradually increase the yearly dues over the next four to five years to reach the goal of full cost recovery. In the past our club has charged higher annual dues and as a result accumulated a fairly significant surplus in the General Revenue Fund. In the last few years the dues have been reduced through a subsidy from the General Revenue Fund. The present dues are \$165 and are expected to increase \$25 -\$30 in 2009.

The Royal Mayfair Golf Club has increased the total cost of our luncheon meal to \$18.57 in 2009.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Regular Luncheon Meeting, Royal Mayfair Golf Club, April 7th

Speaker: Ian Terry, Hydrogeologist, Millennium Environmental Services

Topic: Alberta Oil Sands

Contact: Bob Berube, 780-436-4896

Gyrette Dinner Meeting, Royal Mayfair Golf Club, April 14th

Speaker Topic: Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of Canada. Mission-to find a cure for leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma. Special emphasis on **Team-in-Training**, currently the world's largest endurance sports training program with over 30,000 participants in various events such as half marathons, marathons and triathlons.

Elections Night, Edmonton Petroleum Club, 6 PM, April 21st

11110-108 Street

Cost: \$50 with wine and \$40 without wine

Contact: Jack Brown, 780-434-0392

Executive Officers Installation, Mixed Event Gyro's/Gyrette's

Faculty Club, U of A, 6 PM, May 5th

Meal: Roast Beef Prime Rib, Salmon Buffet

Cost: \$40 with wine and \$30 without wine.

Contact: John Plunkett, 780-435-7011

International & District IX Convention, San Diego, California, June 8th-14th

Co-Hosts: Black Lake and Fresno

District VIII Convention, Cranbrook B.C., September 17th to 20th