



THE GYROLOG

THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON

Club Charter No.18, July 29, 1921

President-Ari Hoeksema, Past President-Bill Taylor,
1st Vice-President-John Boyd, Secretary-Barry Walker, Treasurer-Mike Matei,
Directors-Warren Garbutt, Marty Larson, Jack Little, Jim Lochhead,
Database Administrator-John Ross, Gyrolog Editor-Fred Schulte

MAY 2011

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

The May wedding anniversaries are **Gary and Jeanette Campbell**, 45 years on the 14th; **Dick and Vi Moskalyk**, 54 years on the 15th; **Fred and Paulette Schulte**, 43 years on the 18th; **Art and Judy Merrick**, 10 years on the 19th; **Chuck and Myrna Gerhart**, 46 years on the 22nd and **Peter and Katherine Morrison**, 31 years on the 31st.

President Bill Taylor welcomed 53 Gyro's, Gyrettes and guests to the May 3rd **Executive Installation** held at the Derrick Club. **Roger Russell** led the group in the singing of **Cheerio** and **Jim Lochhead** presented the **Grace**. Our guests were **District Governor Don Boyle** and his wife **Norma**, **Past District Governor Bernie Kropp** and **Brenda** from the **Sherwood Park Gyro Club** and **Marcia Kashani**, daughter of **Shirley and Marty Larson**.

John Ross spoke of our tradition of giving our guest speakers a portfolio binder.. The time has come to reorder a new supply or consider some alternate item to be given as a token of our appreciation. The portfolio binders can be reordered at a cost of \$22.50 each for a quantity of 50. There is also the option of providing our speakers with a book about Alberta. John suggested that we also consider a book entitled "**Alberta Book of Musts**" **101 Places Every Albertan Must See**" by **Dina O'Meara** at a cost of \$13. Those in attendance were asked to indicate their preference at the end of the meeting.

President Bill introduced our **District Governor Don Boyle**. Don was born in Regina, Saskatchewan and grew up in Fort Qu'Appelle, Washington D.C. and Toronto. He graduated in Mining Engineering from the University of Toronto in 1962. Don and Norma were married in 1964 and recently celebrated their 46th Anniversary. Don's career with Cominco Ltd/Teck Corporation, spanned 37 years and involved 13 moves to seven different towns in two provinces and one territory, Don retired in 2000 after five years as the General Manager of Kimberly Operations and Norma retired from teaching in 1999. in 1997, Don joined the Cranbrook Gyro's.

The first order of business was the presentation of the **Gyro Award of Merit** to **Walter Yakimets**. The Award of Merit is given in "Recognition of Exceptional Service to Club or District". Walter joined the Edmonton Club in 1997 and has introduced eight new members since joining. Walter is a retired surgeon and Professor of Surgery at the University of Alberta. He was responsible for organizing at least six surgical teaching projects in other countries as a volunteer, largely at his own expense. These countries included both East and West Africa, Central America, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan. He has continued his interest in things medical by participating in a Province of Alberta team assisting in the evaluation of out-of-province patient needs.



Bill Taylor

Don Boyle

Walter Yakimets

Walter has also served for many years on the board of the Friends of the University Hospital. He served as President of the Edmonton Gyro Club in 2005-2006 and his leadership within the club has been superb.

Don Boyle then recognized **John Ross**, who has taken on the new role of **Club Database Administrator**. Each club has been asked to appoint an administrator who will be responsible for ensuring that the club's membership information is kept up-to-date so that this information can be accessed on-line with the appropriate safeguards by Club, District and Gyro International members.



Don Boyle

Database Administrator John Ross

New member **Art Merrick** was then inducted into the Gyro Club of Edmonton. Art and his wife **Judy** reside in Ardrossan and have been married for 10 years. Art is Regional Sales Manager with Olympia Benefits Inc.



Don Boyle

Art and Judy Merrick

Ari Hoeksema

Bill Taylor has received a plaque that states **Gyro International Presents to The Gyro Club of Edmonton this Testimonial of Friendship in recognition of your Ninetieth Anniversary 2011.**

Don Boyle then proceeded to install the new Executive. The first to go was **Bill Taylor** who has served as President in 2010-2011 and is now **Past President**. Bill was thanked for his enthusiasm and commitment over the last year . **Ari "Dutch" Hoeksema** committed to upholding the duties and responsibilities of **President** according to the bylaws of Gyro International, District VIII and the Gyro Club of

Edmonton. **John Boyd** was then installed as **1st Vice-President**, **Barry Walker** as **Secretary**, **Mike Matei** as **Treasurer** and **Jack Little** and **Jim Lochhead** as **Directors**.

Past President Bill also announced that **Marty Larson** has agreed to take on the responsibilities as our fourth **Director** for the coming year.



Don Boyle Bill Taylor Ari Hoeksema John Ross Jim Lochhead
Barry Walker John Boyd Mike Matei Jack Little

Andy Friderichsen reached a remarkable milestone on May 13th when he turned **90 years** young. Andreas (Andy) was born in Copenhagen, Denmark and was one of two sons and two daughters in the Friderichsen family. Andy's mother died a few days short of 100 years and his grandmother also lived to be 100.

Andy attended a boys school, followed by a gymnastic school and then worked on farms during the Second World War, reaching the managerial level. Andy also spent a year in England where he was a butler to a wealthy family living in a castle. In 1950, he decided to try life in Canada and worked in a variety of jobs including six years with the C.N.R. Andy met Blanche in 1955 and they eloped the following year and spent three months in Denmark and Europe honeymooning.

Andy accepted an offer to be farm manager in Kenya on a farm owned by an Italian corporation. The Mau Mau Rebellion ended that adventure. The rebellion was a military conflict that took place in Kenya (then called British East Africa), between 1952 and 1960. It involved a Kikuyu-dominated anti-colonial group called Mau Mau and elements of the British Army, auxiliaries and anti-Mau Mau Kikuyu. The conflict set the stage for Kenyan independence in 1963.

Back in Edmonton, Andy attended Alberta College and the University of Alberta, Faculty of Agriculture. He then spent six years as a Funeral Director at Hainstocks. Thanks to **Roger Russell**, Andy joined Gyro in 1984. Andy spent the last 21 years of his working career at McBain's Camera as Manager of Audio-Visual Services. Blanche spent her last 21 years with Alberta Education in Library Science. They both retired within a week of each other in 1987. Andy's hobbies include woodworking, silver-smithing and reading. Andy and Blanche have travelled the world, undertaking 50 cruises and visiting friends and family.

Congratulations Andy and Happy Birthday!



Andy Friderichsen

President Ari Hoeksema welcomed 21 Gyro's and one guest to the May 17th Business luncheon meeting held at the Royal Mayfair Golf Club. **Dick Nichols** led the group in the singing of *Cheerio* and **Jim Lochhead** gave the *Grace*. **Allan Warrack** introduced his guest **Jamie Fleming**.

The purpose of the meeting was to review the resolutions approved by the Gyro International Board of Governors meeting held in Savannah, Georgia in January 2011. The Executive Council of Gyro International will be considering these resolutions at the International Convention to be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia, July 4-10th, 2011. These resolutions will be accepted, amended or rejected at this convention.

Gerry Glassford, Past District Governor, presented background information on the Gyro Districts as a preamble to the discussion on the Gyro District IV Recommendations for "Our GYRO in the 21st Century", dated December 9th, 2010. This document was presented to the Board of Governors at the Gyro International Interim Meeting held in Savannah, Georgia.

Marty Larson, Past District Governor and Past International; President, gave some further background context for the proposed changes.

The Gyro Club of Edmonton presently submits \$50 for each member annually to Gyro International.

Discussion by various members resulted in a consensus that the proposed International dues increase of \$10 is not out of line with inflation and the challenges facing a large voluntary organization. A reduction in the number of International Executive Council members will likely mean less talented people will agree to stand for office. It appears that the Gyro International Executive Council faces an "optics" problem with how the business side of the organization is delivered. One of the symptoms of this problem is opposition to any International dues increase whatsoever by some clubs and districts.

There needs to be a refocus of the business side of Gyro International and District organizations. There is a lack of transparency of financial matters at Gyro International. At the International and District level, consideration should be given to more focus on the business side of Gyro at Interim Meetings. The International and District Conventions could then focus more heavily on the friendship/fun side of Gyro.

The decline in membership must be addressed at the District and club level and we should be looking at the successful clubs to determine what makes it work for them.

Our detailed response to the proposed changes to the Gyro International Executive Council structure which was considered and approved by the Board of Governors in Savannah, Georgia will be forwarded to our District Governor by June 1st.

GOVERNMENTIUM: A New Metal?

Lawrence Livermore Laboratories has discovered the heaviest element yet known to science. The new element, **Governmentium (Gv)**, has one neutron, 25 assistant neutrons, 88 deputy neutrons, and 198 assistant deputy neutrons, giving it an atomic mass of 312. These 312 particles are held together by forces called morons, which are surrounded by vast quantities of lepton-like particles called peons. Since Governmentium has no electrons, it is inert; however it can be detected, because it impedes every reaction with which it comes into contact. A tiny amount of Governmentium can cause a reaction that would normally take less than a second, to take from 4 days to 4 years to complete.

Governmentium has a normal half-life of 2-6 years. It does not decay, but instead undergoes a reorganization in which a portion of the assistant neutrons and deputy neutrons exchange places. In fact, Governmentium's mass will actually increase over time, since each reorganization will cause more morons to become neutrons, forming isodopes. This characteristic of morons' promotion leads some scientists to believe that Governmentium is formed whenever morons reach a critical concentration. This hypothetical quantity is referred to as critical morass. When catalyzed with money, Governmentium becomes Adminstratrium, an element that radiates just as much energy as Governmentium since it has half as many peons but twice as many morons.

Author unknown, supplied by Mike Matei.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Regular Luncheon Meeting, Hoies Greenhouse, "The Enjoy Centre", St. Albert, June 7th

Time: 11:30 am lunch at Prairie Bistro, 12:30-45 minute tour

Cost \$15.00

Location: Southwest side of Big Lake, 101 Riel Drive, St. Albert.

Contact: Jack Ellis

District VIII Annual Golf Tournament, River Bend Golf Course, Red Deer, June 10th

Time: Begin at 10:00am

Cost: \$130.00, includes golf, power cart, 8oz Rib Eye Steak dinner, prizes, all taxes and gratuities

Format: REGULAR STROKE PLAY, play your own ball to you handicap. Prizes awarded for low gross and low net scores.

Please provide your current handicap and include your cheque, payable to "The Sherwood Park Gyro Club" and forward to:

Mike Matei, 227 Wilson Lane, Edmonton, AB T6M 2K8

780-414-2514, michael.matei@raymondjames.ca

The 2011 District VIII Convention, Wallace Idaho, June 16-19

Registration Fee: \$375 couple or \$187.50 single

Co-Chairmen: David DeRoos and Mike Hull

Dinner and Entertainment Thursday Night June 16th

Ladies Luncheon on Friday

Bocce Tournament

Banquet Dinner and Dance on Friday

Museum Pass to tour any of 4 of Wallace Museums

Bar Bingo Card to see who drops the Ball Saturday

Lead Creek Derby participation and refreshments on Saturday

Barbeque on Saturday Night

Float away Breakfast on Sunday

More Convention Information:

www.wallacegyros.com/about-us.php

GYRO International Convention, Halifax, Nova Scotia, July 4-10

Registration Fee: \$500 couple or \$250 single

Printable Registration Form available at www.gyro.ws

Hotel Rooms: Marriott Harbour Front, Gyro rate \$179 until June 13th

Lobster Dinner, Casino Nova Scotia, Celtic Entertainment, Art Gallery Tours, City Harbour Tours, Ocean Sailing, International Tattoo, Fine Dining, Golf, Golf, Golf, Maritime Shopping, Pubs Galore, Historic Sites.

Questions: contact Jim Sweet, Convention Chairman 902-752-3453 or email jim.inez88@gmail.com

Annual Gyro/Gyrette Golf Tournament, Legends Golf Course, Tuesday, August 2nd.

Prizes are needed!

Contacts: Barry Walker and Roger Russell

Gyro/Gyrette Corn Roast and Bocce Tournament, Malmo Community Hall, Tuesday Evening, August 30th

Location: 11525-48 Ave.

Time: Bocce 4:00 pm, Dinner 6:30 pm

Corn, Chicken, Salad and Dessert, Beer and Wine

Contacts: Roger Russell, Dave Burnett and friends

2011 Gyro Day at the Races, Northlands Spectrum, 4th Floor Chairman's Suite, Sunday September 25th

Time: 12:00 noon- Doors open, lunch buffet, 1:00 pm Post Time

Contact: Val Pohl