



Gyroscope

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Dedicated to Friendship and Fun

Winter 2022



Ian Greig July 9, 1941 – March 10, 2022



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About the Cover:

Ian Greif—Past International
President 1997-1998

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IAN GREIG – A GYRO LEG- END IN OUR TIME

July 9, 1941 – March 10, 2022

This is a story about a man who grew up in Gyro – became a leader in Gyro – then worked tirelessly the rest of his life to maintain the friendship of Gyro at the Club, District and International levels. Ian D. Greig was that man.

Ian was born in Calgary Canada on July 9, 1941 with an English – Scottish heritage that he proudly displayed all his life – nary a Gyro gathering could



1974 Club Installation
Ian - Immediate Past Pres.

occur without Ian eloquently singing Danny Boy. His father's time in the second world war influenced his decision to enter University in a military Officer's Training program where, in the Navy, he learned the importance of working with others and the benefits that comradeship brings. He set his sights on becoming a chartered accountant that

led to him partnering with John McClelland, a Charter member of the Stampede City Gyro Club formed in 1962 in Calgary. Needless to say, Ian gravitated to Gyro in 1968 at the age of 27 like a duck to water with his supportive bride Joan.

Within 5 years he had moved through Club positions to become the 12th President of the rowdy Stampede Club in 1973. Not wanting to miss out on all the Gyro fun Ian made his way through the District VIII Chairs to become Governor in 1982. This opened up a whole new vista of Gyro as he made life-long friends throughout North America at Governors meetings,



1983 Nelson Convention
Joan & Ian - "A Bicycle Built For Two"

District and International Conventions. Over the next 10 years in Gyro Ian collected a Merit Award for exceptional service at the Club and District level as well as, the "Honor Key" Award for distinguished service at the international level for assisting the governing body with its accounting. This primed Ian for his next phase of Gyro indoctrination as he was elected as 3rd Vice-President of Gyro International in 1994 so that at the relatively young age of 53 and with 25 years of



1990 Past Pres. Dinner - Ian & Ted Gaffney

Gyro experience under his belt, he became International President with his mantra "Keep the fun in Gyro" – which is recognized with an unusual plaque created by his close friend Tom Lennox PIP to be awarded annually to someone like Ian who keeps the fun in Gyro.

Like most Past International Presidents Ian stayed involved by attending every Interim and Annual Convention. He was a strong advocate for Governors and International Officers making visitations to Clubs and did not tolerate any eroding of governance. If anyone wanted to prevent

increases or eliminate executive positions or conventions, they were in for a serious discussion with Ian. On the other hand, Ian enjoyed any argument or discussion with many going into the wee hours at conventions.



1997 Inter. Conv. - Ian installed as International President

If Ian could not find a fun Gyro event, he gathered friends to have one – his most ambitious undertaking was co-hosting the 2006 International Convention in his hometown of Calgary. Over 400 attended with many still raving about the Vegas quality musical "Chicago" performed by the guys and girls that made up the 25-member club. At the President's Ball Ian was awarded the prestigious Ed Steinbacher Lifetime



Ian as "Gus" in "Chicago" Skit
2006 International Convention

Achievement Award that recognizes a member who reflects the essence of friendship, hence his favorite verse in speeches:

If you walk in front of me ... I may not follow. If you walk behind me ... I may not lead. Just walk beside me ... and be my friend.

Over the past 15 years Ian moved into a mentoring role for many, kept in touch with distant friends and even widows of best friends. He was active in the Annual Curling bonspiel as an observer and diligently prepared twice monthly bulletins on the activities of his Club – awarded best bulletin in 2020. He was on the 2012 Centennial Gyroscope Committee and he even edited the International By-laws 4 years ago. He battled back from a leg crippling disease to manage on his own and he learned zoom technology during COVID so he could observe the monthly International



2006 International Convention, Calgary
Ian - Life Time Achievement Award
Chris Randall & Emil Baijot

Board of Governors meetings – and always made a contribution “for the good of Gyro”. Resting on his laurels was not in the cards for Ian. He proudly carried the Gyro torch and set a shining example for all Gyros to come.

On March 13, 2022 – only 3 days after his passing - 25 of his Gyro friends



2017 - Stampede City Installation
Ian - Founders Night Address

gathered for a Ceilidh (Gaelic party) where we sang Danny Boy in his stead. In the lyrics from “Danny Boy” we could hear Ian singing “And I shall rest in peace until you come to me.”



From the President ---- By Blanton

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Spring has sprung! Even in Minnesota. Seems just like yesterday when we were wishing of you a Merry Christmas, and three months has already passed. I often recall the advice of a medical school professor, as we students would be lamenting how slow the hours seem to go by with all the books and studying, he said “the hours will drag, but the years will fly.” Certainly true, as those student days are 50+ years ago.

The lengthening of the days is welcome to most of us. I have gotten a chuckle lately with all the efforts to overcome astronomy laws that have been in place for a zillion years. Did you see the notice about a clock that could go faster/slower, so that sunrise and sunset would be the “same time” every day? I don’t care what they do with the clocks, on December 21st the amount of sunlight at the north 45th parallel (my Minnesota location) will be 8 +/- hours. And we’ve already tried in the US to make DST year round, but changed due to all the problems with young kids getting safely on the school bus in complete darkness. Arizona stays on standard time already, who wants another hour of sunlight in the evening when it is 115 F in the shade.

Onto Gyro news – your officers (executive council) and board of governors (district G/LG plus EC) continued virtual meetings through the winter. The attendance remains high, and discussions are productive. The budget for fiscal year May 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023 has been developed by the EC. The recommendation of \$50 per capita was approved by the BOG. This is the same as the current year, and represents a \$20 rebate from the \$70 level. For the past two years, the budgeted expense for EC travel to annual and district conventions has not been incurred. Therefore, some of the accumulated non-designated assets (cash) is being used to offset the decreased revenue from per capita.

Hopefully, all of you are aware from our emails that

the Annual Convention planned for Cleveland in June 2022 by District I had to be canceled. The committee had set up a great schedule. We even would have had a party “down in the alley”, the location of the founding over 100 years ago. However, registrations were slow coming in. The district governors were contacted by the host committee to get a sense of what attendance might be. The response was not encouraging. Concerns over safety and travel were paramount. With deadlines for guaranteed deposits from the hotel and venues coming due, the conclusion was that the registrations would not meet the required number. Any registration fees were to be automatically returned. However, if anyone is holding a hotel reservation, that must be canceled by the individual. The hotel is the Embassy Suites Hilton, Cleveland Rockside, (212) 986-9900.

Kudos again for the productive membership committee. You’ve been informed in recent direct emails, as well as the last Gyroscope, about Gyro 2025 Marketing Plan, and about recommendations and implementation steps for clubs to have in order to maintain and actually grow their memberships. A great video, interviews with leadership of successful clubs, is available through district governors and club presidents. The task force talked about in my last article has been working, with Dan Durbin, 1st VP, as chair. This task force is looking at governance, and assessing if flattening the governance now in place at district and/or international level would be positive for clubs and the overall organization. At the current time, there are nine districts. Leadership (G/LG) in six of them include members who had done it in past years. Three are Past International Presidents!! Gyro benefits greatly from the efforts of these. But, we need new members, new ideas, more involvement in club and organizational leadership. Most of us really regard our clubs and organization as in-person experiences. However, have cost and time of travel make the in-person international/district meetings an antiquated idea? The feeling is strong that Gyro clubs remain connected, but do we need nine districts? Are we able to be more efficient, yet remain connected? There will be more to come on governance in coming months.

The MC developed and presented to the BOG a Diversity Statement. It was approved unanimously. The document can be found on the web site. A bullet point has been added to the Gyro Values on the home page. It reads “Committed to fostering, cultivating, and preserving a culture of diversity.” All the members of the MC are to be congratulated.



Several have been active for several years. Thanks, guys.

A brief note about upcoming web site changes from the technology committee. A version 2 is in the works for the members’ portal. There will be added options for making contact with other clubs/members easier. Also, thanks to Peter Carter 1st VP and chair and the members for their work. Peter will be “stepping down” and then “moving up” as he becomes President in June.

Bonnie and will be heading back to Minnesota in a few weeks. Rather be there than here in Arizona for the summer, remember 115 F in the shade. However, there are some scenes here that never grow old. The Saguaro cactus in the photo is more than a hundred years old. The arms supposedly occur about every 10 years!!

Enjoy the spring!!!
YIGF



Never Forget Your Friends!

Submitted by Don Patterson

Many years ago, a newlywed young man was sitting on a couch on a hot, humid day, sipping frozen juice during a visit to his father. As he talked about adult life, marriage, responsibilities, and obligations, the father thoughtfully stirred the ice cubes in his glass

and cast a clear, sober look on his son.

"Never forget your friends," he advised, "they will become more important as you get older." "Regardless of how much you love your family and the children you happen to have, you will always need friends. Remember to go out with them occasionally, do activities with them, call them."

"What strange advice!" The young man thought. "I just entered the married world, I am an adult and surely my wife and the family that we will start will be everything I need to make sense of my life."

Yet he obeyed his father; Kept in touch with his friends and annually increased their number. Over the years, he became aware that his father knew what he was talking about. Inasmuch as time and nature carry out their designs and mysteries on a man, friends were the bulwarks of his life.

After 60 years of life, here is what he learned:

- Time passes.
- Life goes on.
- The distance separates.
- Children grow up.

Children cease to be children and become independent. And to the parents it breaks the heart but the children are separate of the parents. Grandchildren too grow up and begin busy lives with little time to spend with the older generation.

- Jobs come and go.
- Illusions, desires, attraction, sex ... weaken.
- People do not do what they should do.
- The heart breaks.
- The parents die.
- Colleagues forget the favors
- The races are over.

But, true friends are always there, no matter how long or how many miles away they may be. A friend is never more distant than the reach of a phone, or a need, barring you, intervening in your favor, waiting for you with open arms or blessing your life.

When we started this adventure called LIFE, we did not know of the incredible joys or sorrows that were ahead. We did not know how much we would need from each other. Love your parents, take care of your children, but keep a group of good friends. Dialogue with them but do not impose your criteria.

And Then It Is Winter

Submitted by Craig Cormack

You know time has a way of moving quickly and catching you unaware of the passing years. It seems like yesterday that I was young, just married, and embarking on my new life with my mate. Yet in a way, it seems like eons ago, and I wonder where all those years went.

I know that I lived them all. I have glimpses of how it was back then and of all my hopes and dreams. But, here it is... the winter of my life, and it catches me by surprise... How did I get here so fast? Where did the years go and where did my youth go? I remember well seeing older people through the years and thinking that those "older people" were years away from me and that winter was so far off that I could not fathom it or imagine fully what it would be like.

But, here it is...my friends are retired and getting grey... they move slower and I see an older person in myself now. Some are in better and some worse shape than me... but, I see the great change... Not like the ones that I remember who were young and vibrant...but, like me, their age is beginning to show and we are now those older folks that we used to see and never thought we'd be.

Each day now, I find that just getting a shower is a real target for the day! And taking a nap is not a treat anymore... it's mandatory! Cause if I don't on my own free will... I just fall asleep where I sit!

And so... now I enter this new season of my life unprepared for all the aches and pains and the loss of strength and ability to go and do things that I wish I had done but never did!! But, at least I know, that though the winter has come, and I'm not sure how long it will last... this I know, that when it's over on this earth... it's over. A new adventure will begin!

Yes, I have regrets. There are things I wish I hadn't done... things I should have done, but indeed, there are also many things I'm happy to have done. It's all in a lifetime.

So, if you're not in your winter yet... let me remind you, that it will be here faster than you think. So, whatever you would like to accomplish in your life, please do it quickly! Don't put things off too long!! Life goes by quickly. So, do what you can TODAY, as you can never be sure whether this is your

winter or not!

You have no promise that you will see all the seasons of your life... so, LIVE FOR TODAY and say all the things that you want your loved ones to remember.. and hope that they appreciate and love you for all the things that you have done for them in all the years past!!

"Life" is a GIFT to you. The way you live your life is your gift to those who come after. Make it a fantastic one.

Remember: "It is Health that is real Wealth and not pieces of gold and silver."

- Your kids are becoming you.....but your grandchildren are perfect!
- Going out is good.. coming home is even better!
- You forget names... but it's OK, because other people forgot they even knew you!!!
- You realize you're never going to be really good at anything.... especially golf.
- The things you used to care to do, you no longer care to do, but you really do care that you don't care to do them anymore.

- You sleep better on a lounge chair with the TV blaring than in bed. It's called "pre-sleep."
- You miss the days when everything worked with just an "ON" and "OFF" switch..
- You tend to use more 4 letter words ... "what?"..."when?"...???
- Now that you can afford expensive jewelry, it's not safe to wear it anywhere.
- You notice everything they sell in stores is "sleeveless?!"
- What used to be freckles are now liver spots.
- Everybody whispers.
- You have 3 sizes of clothes in your closet.... 2 of which you will never wear.
- But "Old" is good in some things:
 - Old Songs, Old movies ...
 - and best of all, our dear ...OLD FRIENDS!!

Stay well, "OLD FRIEND!"



What is Friendship and How it Affects Your Life and Relates to Our Gyro Membership.

Submitted by Dana Davidson

Friendship is something that, unfortunately, is often taken for granted and its value and importance does not become realized until one has a negative or traumatic experience or grows older and loses a loved one or friendships due to death.

Scientific studies (Mayo Clinic) have proven that friendships have a major impact on your health and well-being, but it's not always easy to develop or maintain friendships. Gyro gives you that opportunity to do both. Understand the importance of social connection in your life and what you can do to develop lasting friendships. **Gyro can give us this opportunity.**

Good friends are good for your health. Friends can help you celebrate good times and support during bad times. Friends prevent isolation and loneliness, especially as you grow older and give you a chance to offer much needed companionship. **Gyro can help with this.**

Friends can also:

- Increase your sense of belonging and purpose
- Boost your happiness level and reduce stress
- Improve your self-confidence and self-worth
- Help you cope with trauma, such as divorce, serious illness, job loss or death of a loved one, as mentioned earlier
- Encourage you to change or avoid unhealthy lifestyle habits, such as lack of exercise or bad eating habits

Friends also play a significant role in promoting your overall health. Adults with strong social connections, like Gyro, for instance, have a reduced risk of health problems (depression, high blood pressure, unhealthy body mass). Older adults who have meaningful relationships and social support likely are to live longer than peers with fewer connections. (Scientific studies)

Friendships may take a back seat to other priorities, such as work or caring for children or aging parents. Developing and maintaining good friendships takes effort. The enjoyment and comfort friendships can provide, however, makes the investment worthwhile.

Developing and maintaining healthy friendships

involves give-and-take. It is important for you to be a good friend as it is to surround yourself with good friends. **Gyro provides this.**

Remember, it is never too late to develop new friendships or reconnect with old friends. Invite them to come to a Gyro event. Investing time in making friends and strengthening your friendships can pay off in better health and a brighter outlook for years to come. Positive attitudes bring positive results. Negativity brings loneliness. **Gyro gives us friendship.**

A wise person once said, "Friendship is the hardest thing in the world to explain. It is not something you learn in school. But if you haven't learned the meaning of friendship, you haven't learned anything." **Gyro shows you this.**

Why are you reading all of this? Being part of Gyro International and inviting a friend to join, far outweighs the cost of being an International member, which when you break it down, is \$5.83 per month. Hardly something to stop you for not joining or questioning. The value is explained above and in our heart along with our common sense, surely not our wallet. The cost is an excuse, not a reason. Gyro gives us options. We decide to participate. It's part of the package. The more you put, the more get out. Something to consider for new prospective members.



balter

(bôl'ter) v.

To dance gracelessly, without particular art or skill, but perhaps with some enjoyment.

[MIDDLE ENGLISH]



An actual sign at a golf club in Scotland

@ladsgolf



1. BACK STRAIGHT, KNEES BENT, FEET A SHOULDER WIDTH APART.
2. FORM A LOOSE GRIP.
3. KEEP YOUR HEAD DOWN!
4. AVOID A QUICK BACK SWING.
5. STAY OUT OF THE WATER.
6. TRY NOT TO HIT ANYONE.
7. IF YOU ARE TAKING TOO LONG, LET OTHERS GO AHEAD OF YOU.
8. DON'T STAND DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF OTHERS.
9. QUIET PLEASE...WHILE OTHERS ARE PREPARING.
10. DON'T TAKE EXTRA STROKES.

WELL DONE... NOW, FLUSH THE URINAL, WASH YOUR HANDS,
GO OUTSIDE, AND TEE OFF.



Vinipote (n.)

Meaning: A wine drinker (or a wine bibber)

Origin: 1600's England

Usage: What's wrong with being a vinipote?

Crapulous

Adj: It sounds like a word Dr Seuss made up, but it's legit. Crapulous describes that feeling you get when you realize you've eaten and/or drank yourself sick.

That cake was delicious, but I shouldn't have eaten it all. Now I feel crapulous. Ugh.

I came home & my dog peed a little because he was happy to see me. None of my friends pee when they see me. I'm surrounded by fakes.

International News

Gyro International Diversity Statement

Adopted February, 2022

GYRO INTERNATIONAL DIVERSITY GUIDE

Preamble

Gyro International has been a Fraternal organization for over 110 years in the United States and Canada. It is based on a model where men of good character and reputation meet in a club setting to enjoy each other's social friendship. A traditional Ideal of Gyro is:

Gyro carries with it no label of race, creed, political or other club affiliation. It imposes no limitations. On the contrary, it broadens vision and extends social contacts. Gyro stimulates personal achievement. It is the hallmark of an understanding personality joined in agreeable voluntary social relationship with other men of kindred mind and purpose.

Diversity Guide

Introduction:

The concept of diversity encompasses acceptance and respect. It means a recognition that each individual is unique and that we have individual differences. These can be along the dimensions of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, age, physical abilities, religious beliefs, political beliefs, or other ideologies.

Gyro International recognizes that its fraternal members typically recruit friends and acquaintances from their own social networks. As a result, the membership has, to date, tended to not be demographically diverse.

Purpose of the Guide:

The Initial purposes of this Diversity Guide are for the organization to publicly recognize the unconscious perceptions of bias that accompany a Fraternal organization as well as to encourage Gyro members to think about diversity and unconscious bias

so they can think differently when they consider asking someone to come to a Gyro event.

Gyro International's Position and Expectations on Diversity:

Position:

Gyro International is committed to fostering, cultivating and preserving a culture of diversity.

Expectations:

Our membership is the most valuable asset we have. The collective sum of the individual differences, life experiences, knowledge, inventiveness, innovation, self-expression, unique capabilities and talent that our members share with each other represents a significant part of not only our culture, but our reputation and organizations' long history as well.

We recognize and encourage our members' differences in age, color, disability, ethnicity, family or marital status, gender identity or expression, language, national origin, physical and mental ability, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, veteran status, and other characteristics that make our members unique.

Gyro International's diversity is applicable - but not limited to - practices on member recruitment; social events; and the ongoing development of a club environment built on the premise of diversity that encourages:

Respectful communication and cooperation between all members and their partners.

Teamwork and member participation, permitting the representation of all clubs and member perspectives.

Member contributions to the communities we reside in to promote a greater understanding and respect for diversity.

All members of Gyro International have a responsibility to treat others with dignity and respect at all times. All members are expected to exhibit

conduct that reflects inclusion at Gyro events or business meetings.

Recourse:

Members who believe they have been subjected to any kind of Inappropriate conduct or discrimination that conflicts with this Diversity Guide should seek assistance from their Club President or alternatively their District Governor or the President of Gyro International.

Membership committee

Submitted by Mike Eisner

Dear fellow Gyro,

“Ask not what Gyro can do for you, rather ask what you can do for Gyro”. A wise person asked something similar to this in the 1960’s in an effort to rally the country in a single purpose, to work together to make things better. While it was important back then to bring the country together it is even more important today in keeping Gyro together.

Our membership is waning and our purpose is diminishing. What started as a ‘Fraternity of Businessmen’ went to a ‘Fraternity of Friendship’ and now a Fraternity of trying to continue.

Ask yourself what you are doing to stem the flow of decreasing membership in the Districts and your club. If, as you reflect, you realize that you can do more, then the efforts of the Membership Committee are available for you to review and see what the best fit for you is to spread the word and increase the membership.

Through the interview process that was completed recently by First Point, it was determined that the successful clubs have key points to their success. While all of the points do not work for all of the clubs, by the process of elimination each club and each member can find something that is appropriate for them.

What do the successful clubs do?

Have fun. Is that not what all of us want to do?

Increase membership. I know that this is easier to say and not so easy to do, but is it? When was the last time you asked someone to visit your club and experience the camaraderie that exists among Gyro members?

Bring in younger members. We have our kids and their friends that could be members; do you ask them to join? If not, why? Check the average age of your club members and then charge the membership with every member to bring in a guest 10 years

younger than they are. This helps in bringing down the average age of the club.

Social clubs. Are you a member of a golf, pickle ball, tennis, swim, exercise, badminton, bocce club? Have you asked your friends to attend a meeting?

Gyrettes. Your wives are an additional source of getting new members. If they are treated well in the club, they will pass on the word to their friends and ultimately their friends’ spouses.

Business connections. For those members still working, ask a fellow employee to attend a meeting. And remember, networking is still a strong benefit to being a member. There is nothing wrong with combining business with pleasure.

So, whether you knew it or not, you have the necessary tools to help make a difference within the Gyro organization. But it won’t be easy. It will take some time and energy to achieve your goal and based on the average age of many of the clubs, we have lots of both.

OK, you have your marching orders. If every member of the Gyro International organization commits to bring in one new member within the next 90 days, that will be 1800 new members. Is it possible? Anything is possible if you put your mind to it. For me, I want to “do for” Gyro rather than have Gyro “do for me”. Together we can do anything we put our minds to.....

Gyro Membership Committee

News

Submitted by Alan Pentney

It appears that Clubs can now start meeting in person where health officials have lifted restrictions on gatherings. In anticipation of this the Membership Committee has created some resources for Clubs to think about and use to maintain and increase membership.

Gyro Success Stories

In November 2021 the Committee recruited a consultant to interview selected clubs on their success factors with the intent that this information could be helpful to other clubs. Six clubs were interviewed – Kudos to Clinton, Syracuse, Prince George, Edmonton, Long Beach, and Fort Lauderdale for agreeing to do this. Nanaimo and Caloosa responded to a questionnaire. The consultant provided a summary report as well as a 45-minute video of clips from the interviews. The video is a little long,

but a viewer can easily scroll to a club of interest. The video link on YouTube is: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kFDYvTCCT3c>.

The report plus an Appendix is available on the gyro.org website at two locations – the Club Resources tab (<https://gyro.org/club-resources/>) and the members portal (<https://members.gyro.org>). A key observation in the report is: *“Each of the clubs I spoke with has done a great job adapting to their local conditions. No two clubs are structured the same, meet in the same way, or engage the community in the same way. Each club ought to be studying the unique elements of their community to understand how they might adjust to take advantage of traditions, shifting demographics, local economy, club history, or networks of friends and contacts”*. The report contains a short summary of each club’s success plus tips on membership. As a resource, the Report contains a checklist to help your club consider changes.

Gyro Diversity Guide

The Member Survey Report from 2021 made the observation that Gyro members primarily were Caucasian males in the older demographic. The context was that there are opportunities for changing this to the benefit of membership. As a result, the Committee created a Diversity Guide for Club use. Included within the Guide is a **Gyro International Position on Diversity** that says:

“Gyro International is committed to fostering, cultivating and preserving a culture of diversity.”

The Guide, including the position statement was adopted by the Board of Governors in February 2022. Please read it here in this Gyroscope or on the website at <https://gyro.org/club-resources/>. In addition, the Values promoted on the gyro.org Home page (below Mission and Vision) were updated to include the Diversity Statement.

Promoting Membership

Governors have shared the above information with Club Presidents with the expectation that club executives would discuss this with members. If you have not heard from your executive, please ask them. If you wish a zoom call to explore this or any aspect of Gyro, please email membership@gyro.org.

On February 25 a Committee member, Mike Eisner PDG of the Blacklake Club in California, sent an email to all members with challenges to address the declining membership – if you have read it you should be inspired and if you have not please email Mike at theotherm@aol.com for a resend.

Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given

in accordance with Chapter 3 Article II Section 1 of the Bylaws of Gyro International that the

Annual Convention and General Meeting

of the member clubs will be held virtually again this year.

June 18, 2022

10:00 AM CDT

The installation of the new officers will follow at

6:00 PM CDT

As we get closer to the time of the meeting there will be more announcements sent by direct emails and web site, including the link information on how to register for the meeting.

Blanton Bessinger
President
Gyro International

District News

Sid Slade

Governor District-VIII



Born and raised in Nova Scotia in 1944 and departed in 1964 to join the RCMP. While training in Ottawa I met my wife Sharon and after transferring to British Columbia in 1966. Sharon and I married in 1970 and were immediately transferred to Prince Edward Island where we spent 3 years. In 1973, we uprooted

ourselves and were transferred to Saskatchewan where I was posted to our national training academy. After a 3 year posting we relocated to British Columbia and spent the next 13 years in various locations prior to be transferred once again to Alberta. After 7 years in the greater Edmonton area I was off to the best job ever – retirement after serving 32 years.

We added to our family tree in 1975 with our oldest son Shane and again in 1976 with the addition of our second son Scott. We are the proud grandparents to twins – Sean and Avery who were added to the family tree in 2009.

Although I was acquainted to Gyro while in Port Alberni and Nelson, I did not have the opportunity to become a member until moving to Sherwood Park. At the time I belonged to another service club and several members were members of Gyro upon which I became more interested and through my acquaintance with PDG Keith Bradley I eventually joined this happy group of gentlemen.

During my years with the Gyro Club of Sherwood Park, I have participated as Director, Vice President and eventually President in 2006-2007 and Secretary/Treasurer of District VIII under the

guidance of PDG Bernie Kropp.

Since joining Gyro Sharon and I have enjoyed the benefits and friendship of our good Gyro's.

Larry Duba

Governor District-IX

I was born in Seattle, Washington in 1943. My family moved south a couple times before arriving in San Jose, California. I obtained a



BS Degree in Electrical Engineering at the San Jose State University. My first marriage ended in divorce. My current marriage to Alice is now going to be 46 years. We have two

children and three grandchildren. I had two careers; 40 years with Pacific Gas & Electric as an Engineer, Communications Supervisor and Project Manager. I served four years active duty in the US Air Force. I obtained a MS Degree in Systems Management at USC. I served 22 years in the Reserves for a total of 26 years and retiring as a Lt. Colonel. I have been very active supporting Veterans by serving on the Veterans Parade Executive Board and by driving Veterans in the many Fresno Veterans Day Parades. Being selected as Grand Marshal in 2018 honored me. As outlined below, I have been very active in our Fraternity of Friendship.

Club, District and International Positions:

Joined Fresno Gyro Club in 1999.

Fresno Club Secretary 1999

Fresno Club Vice-President 2000

Fresno Club President 2001

District IX 1st Lt. Governor 2005-6

District IX Governor 2006-7

Chairman, Gyro Blue Ribbon Committee on Convention Guidelines and Costs 2007-08

GI Future of Gyro Committee Member 2008

-09

Co-Chair GI Convention in San Diego 2009
GI Past District Governors' Meeting Secretary, 2009 & 2010

Gyro International (GI) 3rd Vice President 2010-11

GI 2nd Vice President 2011-12

GI President 2012-13

Written Health & Wellness Reports 2012-Current

GI IPIP 2013-14

Fresno Gyro Club Secretary 2015 - Current

GI Membership Director 2016-18

District IX, 1st Lt Governor 1017-2021

District IX, Governor 2021-Current

GI Membership Committee Member 2019-Current

Conventions:

Co-Chair of three District IX Conventions hosted by Fresno Gyro Club (2001, 2007 and 2013)

Chair of Fresno Gyro hosted Convention in Mariposa 2018

Chair of Gyro International Committee hosted by D IX held in Reno 2019.

District-VII Receives Betterment Funding Submitted by Ross Davis



George Burr, President of Minneapolis Metro GYRO, receives a check from GYRO International Betterment Fund Board member Ross Davis to help pay for recruiting efforts by the club. GYRO International encourages clubs to apply for funding of recruitment events.

Trevor Slaney Governor District IV



From left to right in the picture above are: my daughter, Julianne; my son, Tyler; my wife, Joanne; myself and my daughter, Jennilee.

Joanne and I were introduced to Gyro in February 2002. I cannot believe it has been 20 years! Tyler was an infant and the twins were toddlers. Joanne and I were born and raised in Newfoundland and grew up in a very small town. We went to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan so I could go to Law School (planned), and so that we could have twin daughters (surprise!). We came to Prince George in 2001 to start my law career and then Tyler came long. I have owned and run my own practice since 2007 and Joanne is my office manager, Jennilee is a legal assistant, Julianne cleans the office as she works her way through university, and Tyler has law school plans himself and may even want to work with his old dad one day. It truly is a family business.

Prince George has been good to us, and Gyro has been good to us. Gyro gave us the opportunity to establish deep roots in our new community and to form strong friendships that have grown for two decades and will continue for life.

I became the president of my Prince George Club in 2014 and really began to enjoy Gyro beyond my home club after Prince George hosted the District 4 Convention in 2015. The connections we made as we started travelling led to my recruitment and now I am proud and honoured to be District 4 Governor.

It's been an interesting year. Gyro International has been very active through regular virtual meetings. At the District level, however, it has been quiet. I wish I could have visited more clubs in person. But thankfully, things are starting to open up. I am excited for the in person interim convention in Nanaimo and then Prince George is hosting the District Convention in September which will be a blast! We hope to see you there!



Club News & Events

Caloosa Gyro Club Steve Anderson

WENDYS "VETS" SAY, "THANK YOU"

During the spring of 2010, 2 years prior to the Caloosa Gyro Club being chartered in SW Florida, a men's Friday morning breakfast was formed. The initial group of six new friends gathered to merely enjoy some small talk, share some laughter, and rub elbows with "the guys." (Sound familiar?) The group grew to around a dozen enthusiastic regulars. Change being a constant factor in most groups, the various locations and personalities changed, evolved and then split.

Simultaneously, some of the "breakfast buddies" had been hearing about Gyro as a friendship club. They attended couples parties, and then planning meetings that led to the charter of the Caloosa Gyro Club in April 2012. Friday morning breakfast continued as a non-Gyro gathering; No structure, no agenda, open to all who cared to attend. This assembly has remained very popular, and has led to some of the expansion of membership in the Caloosa Gyro Club.

As you look down the table today most of the guys have become Gyros. They all declare this breakfast at "The Café" is often the high point of their week. They bring other friends. Some are Veterans and wear military baseball hats. This Friday morning stag breakfast is a simple, but joyous gathering of friends who enjoy being together.

There is another gentle but powerful moment each Friday which we would miss if it was not to occur. We are the beneficiaries of a kind and meaningful gesture that is so eloquently understated that we often do not grant it proper value or recognition.

The Café has been our breakfast table venue for 5 years now. Wendy, a busser, cleaning tables, is the creator of this highly anticipated moment each week. She arrives, usually when we are in mid-meal, places her purse in a safe location, and immediately, without hesitation, turns in our direction.

She then circles our table, gently taps each of us affectionately on the shoulder while asking, "How are My Vets today?"

It is a grand expression of appreciation and affection that she has made part of her week; One that makes her feel connected with, and bonded to the men she is honoring. All of us, sometimes as many of 15-17 guys, with broad smiles respond individually when tapped with, "Hey Wendy how's our girl today?" We all feel grateful for the moment. We wondered should "we", do something for Wendy? She had not missed extending this tribute once in over 5 years.

Could we not create a moment of recognition for Wendy that is personal for her while expressing the esteem in which she is held by "Her Vets?" It was agreed that we would surprise her on a given morning with a leaded glass crystal, diamond shaped trophy. The glass was engraved with an American Eagle at the top, and then etched with the names of 15 of the regular attendees over the past 5 years. Several were deceased. Since most of the guys were now Gyros, a Gyro emblem followed the names, and then underlined with Caloosa Gyro. The plate attached to the trophy base simply said, "Wendy's Vets, say Thank You."

The Café staff was clued into the ceremony. When the appointed time arrived Wendy was called to the end of the table. She was presented with her trophy, and told of the sentiment, and respect for her which it displayed. The Troops were called to Attention, and Wendy received a "Hand Salute." With tears traveling down her face, she returned the salute. Hers eyes were not the only ones glistening.

A week or two later the local newspaper Editor of The News-Press, heard of the event and Wendy's recognition. She was interviewed, and a second presentation complete with "hand-salute" was performed. A journalist and photographer were in attendance to document the occasion for publication. Wendy, The Café, U.S. Veterans, and Gyro International were all noted in the 2 page article.

A true win-win for all involved. And truly, what a meaningful moment for Wendy, a person of

integrity who quietly goes through each day with a smile, spreading goodwill, rightly receiving overdue recognition, appreciation and the affection deserved.

The presenters of the recognition for Wendy are proud Veterans, and very proud to be Gyros. Both are rewarding achievements.

Humour Page(s)

There are three things that cannot be easily hidden: The Sun, The Moon and the Truth.

The following are 2 Simple Truths, 5 Rules of Life, and 3 Bonus Rules:

SIMPLE TRUTH 1:

Lovers help each other undress before sex.
After sex, they always dress on their own.

The moral of the story -- In life, no one helps you once you're screwed.

SIMPLE TRUTH 2:

When a woman is pregnant, all her friends touch her stomach and say, "Congratulations."

But none go up to the man, touch his penis and say, "Good Job."

Moral of the story -- Hard work is rarely appreciated.

FIVE RULES TO REMEMBER IN LIFE:

1. Money can't buy happiness - but it's far more comfortable to cry in a Porsche than on a bicycle.

2. Forgive your enemy - but remember the freaking asshole's name.

3. If you help someone when they're in trouble - they will remember you when they're in trouble again.

4. Alcohol does not solve any problems - but then, neither does milk.

5. Many people are alive only because it's illegal to shoot them.

BONUS RULES:

1. Condoms do not guarantee safe sex! A friend of mine was wearing one when he was shot by the woman's husband.

2. I think all politicians should wear uniforms. You know, like NASCAR drivers, so we could identify their corporate sponsors.

3. Also, all politicians should serve only two terms -- one in office and one in prison.

Being eight again

A man was sitting on the edge of the bed, watching his wife, who was looking at herself in the mirror. Since her birthday was not far off he asked what she'd like to have for her birthday.

'I'd like to be eight again', she replied, still looking in the mirror.

On the morning of her Birthday, he arose early, made her a nice big bowl of Coco Pops, and then took her to Adventure World theme park. What a day! He put her on every ride in the park; the Death Slide, the Wall of Fear, the Screaming Roller Coaster, everything there was.

Five hours later they staggered out of the theme park. Her head was reeling and her stomach felt upside down. He then took her to a McDonald's where he ordered her a Happy Meal with extra fries and a chocolate shake.



Then it was off to a movie, popcorn, a soda pop, and her favourite candy, M&M's. What a fabulous adventure!

Finally, she wobbled home with her husband and collapsed into bed exhausted.

He leaned over his wife with a big smile and lovingly asked, 'Well Dear, what was it like being eight again?'

Her eyes slowly opened and her expression suddenly changed.

'I meant my dress size, you idiot!!!!'

The moral of the story: Even when a man is listening, he is gonna get it wrong.

From the Editor ...

Attention club presidents and event organizers. As your club opens back up from the pandemic, please send me pictures and short articles on any fun activities or events, you club does that is in line with Gyro Friendship and fun. Maybe it is a golf tournament, A cruise along a river, a day at the local tiddly-wink championship. Whatever the event or activity, if it promote Gyro fun & friendship I want to share it with the rest of our Gyro world.



Membership Stats	2005	2010	2015	2020	2021	2022
D-I	291	274	275	250	234	225
D-II	230	220	190	150	142	146
D-III	461	441	378	303	299	242
D-IV	774	730	596	505	477	479
D-V	0	0	0	0	0	0
D-VI	160	149	127	69	64	43
D-VII	302	268	251	229	220	223
D-VIII	418	407	364	317	312	298
D-IX	159	154	145	135	133	140
D-X	50	42	55	45	34	30
D-X1	0	0	0	0	0	0
INT'L.	58	55	34	28	25	23
	2903	2740	2421	2031	1940	1849



Fact:
Male friends are more loyal than female friends

Member/ Country	2005	2015	2020	2021	2022
U. S. Members	2160	1406	967	928	924
Canadian	1781	1326	1036	1009	902
Int'l. Associates	58	34	28	25	23
Total Members	3999	2772	2031	1962	1849

Members we have lost

CLUB	MEMBER
Wallace	David H. Rounds
Nelson	Ambrose J. Morin
Canton	John Vertolli
Edmonton Crossroads	Brian Dunnigan
Nelson	Ray Burgess
Victoria	Ernest Watson
Calgary	Robert Lane
Painesville	Jim P. Arbaczewski
Clinton	James D. Cherveney

Deadlines for the next GyroScope
 March 20, June 20, September 20, December 20



Conventions

To learn more <https://gyro.org/conventions/>

DISTRICTS

District I Convention	
District II Convention	.....
District III Interim	..... April 23 M.T.Bellies in Welland
District IV Interim Convention	..... April 8 – 10 Nanaimo, British Columbia
District IV Convention	..... September 23-25, 2022 Prince George Gyro mikemillard9@gmail.com
District VI Convention	.....
District VII Convention	..... August 25-28 McKenzie Island
District VIII Convention	..... September 22 - 25, 2022 Medicine Hat, Alberta https://stampedecity.gyro.org/?page_id=4029
District IX Convention	..... October 13 - 16 Arroyo Grande, Central Coast Gyro Club
District X Convention	.....



INTERNATIONAL

International	..... June 18, 2022 - Virtual via Zoom
International & District VII - Winnipeg	..... August, 2023
District III	.....2024
Sherwood Park	.....2025