

## **Gyro, District IV Newsletter**

### ***Hello District IV Gyros!***

Our Interim Convention was held in a beautiful seaside setting on Vancouver Island in Nanaimo BC from April 5 to 7. All but a very few of our 19 Gyro Clubs from BC and Washington State were represented. While the weather was not as cooperative as it often is, the Gyro of Nanaimo gang did another bang-up job in every way by bringing the sunshine in the way of welcoming attitudes. From the scenic Nanaimo Yacht Club we could see many beautiful boats plus a view of the surrounding harbour in all its rustic splendor. The hotel, which was only a 5 minute walk from the yacht club, did a great job in making us welcome.

Don and Debbie Patterson hosted the hospitality room where it seemed most everyone who attended made a visit. Sometimes all at once. Great times were had and many stories were shared.

Thank You Nanaimo for once again doing a super job!!

### **The District Meeting:**

A decision was made to have only a few things on the agenda but do our best to make sure that these items were well discussed and some impactful unanimous decisions were made. We were close on all counts.

While everyone thought that growing the membership was our first priority, there was a very lengthy discussion about the need to support an increase in International Dues. With significant cuts to paid travel and other costs and no increases over almost 10 years, it was thought that there was no more room to cut our International budget further without doing damage to Gyro as a whole. The almost unanimous decision was to support an increase with a caveat. We said we can support an increase but the International Board if it could show us a plan to help Gyro turn around its fortunes.

To that end we have re-introduced two plans, one presented by Bob Skene and the other by Emil Baijot. Both were presented about 7 years ago. While the board has paid some heed to recommended cost cutting measures in these plans, we want a real effort to be made to attack our main issue of rebuilding our membership and finding possible alternate ways of funding Gyro so that the next adjustment in dues can hopefully be downward.

The amount of a dues increase is unknown but may be from anywhere from \$5.00 to \$10.00 annually. This, of course is subject to an agreement with the other Gyro Districts. A decision will be made at our Reno Convention in June of this year.

Your Lt. Governor and Governor have been working diligently preparing for the International Convention where we will present the District IV proposal that is based on those meetings.

Membership was also on the agenda. Don Patterson presented a business card sized brochure that consists of 3 panels when unfolded. It has an invitation describing Gyro and an area where it can be customized for each club. It was felt by those attending that it would be helpful in 2 ways. First as a reminder of what to say when making an invitation to someone to attend a Gyro meeting as a prospect and secondly as a piece that would find its way into a prospects pocket.

The District has offered to print a batch fully customized for any club who wants these cards as a part of their recruiting program. We are waiting for the responses. So that we can begin the printing.

Let's get this job done so that those we meet over the summer can have an invitation when we resume normal activities in the fall.

Governor Jordan will be presenting this idea to the International Board of Directors and attending Governors of the other Districts.

#### **Our Next LT. Governor – Matthew Williams:**

There was an assembly of the D4 membership Committee and a series of interviews with some very capable people. They selected Matthew Williams, a Nanaimo Gyro, as our next Lt. Governor who will be sworn in at our September 20-21 District Convention in Vernon this fall.

Matthew is a young father who has a successful background in computing as well as having served through the executive seats and as President. He is very well known and respected throughout Gyro. We believe he will do an excellent job in assisting us in the job of redirecting our efforts so that we can begin rebuilding Gyro to its former stature.

#### **Activities:**

Each club reported their activities for the year. Many sounded like a lot of fun and attached below is a summary. Remember that *Gyro is a social club*. This means we spend time together beyond business meetings to have fun. A good dose of social interaction in a face-to-face encounter and a good laugh every day will help your longevity. *Get out and meet someone!*

This is a short summary of the activities which were included in the club reports handed in at our District 4 Business Meeting in Nanaimo.

7 clubs held - BQ's

6 clubs held - Christmas Parties

5 clubs held - Golf Functions

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner

Guest Speakers

3 clubs held - Went on Tours  
Founders Night  
App and Yapps

2 clubs held - Bocce Tourney  
Attended a Band Concert  
Meet regularly for Coffee  
Have Cards Nights  
Grey Cup Parties  
Do Fundraisers  
Chase the Ace  
Have mixed Dinners

1 club held - Ethnic Dinner  
Attended a Car show  
Joint club meeting  
Went to a Baseball Game  
Attended a Horse Race  
A hockey night  
A Trivia night  
Father / Sons dinner  
Fishing Weekend  
A Hockey Pool  
A Valentine Dinner

Safe Travels,

Cheers

Governor Jordan and Catherine  
Lt. Governor Don and Debbie