



# *Gyroscope*

The Official Publication of Gyro International

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Dedicated to Friendship and Fun

Summer 2021



Dr Keith Lowings—Past International President  
1927 - 2021



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<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1pqfzl6N8zoHjvKGaQFbKp8FLtBK6OWfa?usp=sharing>

**About the Cover:**

Dr. Keith Lowings, past International President recently passed away

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## Dr. Keith Lowings

### Past International President

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*February 1927-August 2021*

Submitted by Ian Greig PIP with assistance from Doug Aspleset PDG

Gyro has lost a truly great leader and friend. Keith passed away August 10 at the age of 94 years. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Joan and his three children, three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He was born and raised in Broadstairs, Kent, England. After completing his schooling there, he served in the Royal Navy and on discharge he proceeded to the University of London – Guy's Medical School completing all requirements for his MD.

The call of the colonies brought Keith and Joan to Lethbridge, Alberta in 1957 where he had accepted a position at the Roy Clinic to practice family medicine.. Upon arrival, they were met by Gyro George Rhodes who was the business manager of the clinic. George explained to Keith that if he wanted to practice at the Roy Clinic, he had to join Gyro. After a few meetings, Keith found he liked what we stand for and joined the fraternity in 1958 making him now a 63 year member.

He served as Club president and his quiet but convincing manner impressed the Past Governors to the extent that he moved on to become Governor of District VIII. Again his demeanour and quiet convincing manner earned him the respect of the International PIPs and he later advanced to the Executive Council in 1985 becoming International President in 1987.

Over the years he supported and contributed much effort to the various charitable projects of the Lethbridge Gyro Club. Helping new members understand the essence of Gyro was something he always did and they appreciated his efforts. He took great pride in Gyro, working diligently for his Club, his District and Gyro International. Club, District and International officers have all benefited from his counsel.

He has been rewarded for his dedication to the fraternity with the Merit Award, Honor Key and the many good friendships that he and Joan made on their travels throughout Gyro. During the 63 years they were fixtures at all District Conventions and

Interim gatherings. At one time they drove to Great Falls, Montana and took the train to Cleveland for an International Convention.

The term “quiet and convincing” has been used more than once to describe Keith, however, when discussing something on which he had strong opinions, these strong opinions were sometimes passionately expressed and discussions became quite animated and at times entertaining to observers.

He always had a twinkle in his eye and usually a smile on his face as he walked around a room, greeting old friends and making new ones. Folks always sought out Keith for a visit and an update.

Keith took pride in his profession. Lethbridge was a fairly small city when he arrived but as it grew he was instrumental in establishing the Lethbridge Emergency Medical Services bringing 24 hour medical services the city and surrounding area. In the tributes to Keith former colleagues, Drs. Brian and Mary Searby wrote in part “Keith was one of the most hard working, reliable, helpful colleagues we had around in the Anaesthetic departments.....A good life; well lived. He will be missed.”

Indeed a good life well lived. Cheerio dear friend, Cheerio.

## President's Message

### By Blanton Bessinger

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Summer has passed very quickly, and now fall is upon us. I hope that all of you remain well, and have been more able to have face to face contact with your Gyro friends. My own club, Oryg, has had a golf outing and dinner recently, and it was great to be together again.

Several districts planned conventions for September and October. Bonnie and I traveled September 9-12 to the District I convention held in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. We were graciously hosted by Gov. Tim Wright, Lt. Gov. Larry Larson, S/T Fred Leonello, PDG John Hollendonner and many others from the northeast Ohio area. They tried hard to get me to correctly pronounce “Cuyahoga”. To no avail. I spent a morning with Sheila, office manager, and Gloria, membership secretary, at the home office building in Painesville. The visit was very informative. The building was built initially as an office for the International S/T, and was never a residential



house as it looks on Google. Decades of information is stored there, along with many other mementoes. One very impressive piece I looked at was all the President pins in one display, with the recent addition of Chris Randle's and Al Sinicrope's pins. Tradition has these pins being placed upon the passing of the PIP.

Gov. Wright had arranged a lunch for me with about 10 members each from the Painesville (c. 1940) and the Western Reserve (c. 1972) clubs in Painesville. I met a couple charter members of the WR club. At the same time, Sandy Wright had done the same for Bonnie. It was like we all hope Gyro will become again after this pandemic that so changed our normal habits. The fun and fellowship were very enjoyable for both of us. We were amused at the label of "junior Gyros" placed on Western Reserve by the Painesville club. Of course, they are not very "junior" anymore.

The convention was hosted by John Hollendonner of the Akron club. Prior to the meeting, I met with the planning committee for the Gyro International annual meeting set for June 27-30, 2022, in Cleveland, Ohio. Of course, our organization originated there over a hundred years ago. The district is the host, with all the clubs being a part. The plans are very exciting in that a lot of opportunities for fun and fellowship will be offered in addition to the time for the annual general meeting. I urge you to start thinking now about attending this meeting. If you have never attended the annual GI meeting, this one would be a good place to begin. Cleveland is a beautiful city, with old and new architecture in its buildings, the waterfront of Lake Erie, distinguished universities and medical centers, sports, and Broadway-type Theater. Of course, we will visit "the alley".

At the business meeting, I was encouraged by the

efforts of District I to keep Gyro viable, and hopefully moving to a growth of new clubs, and expanding of current ones. The dinner was a clambake, with wonderful food, drink, fun, and fellowship. Bonnie and I have several new friends now amongst the Gyros and ladies of district I. It was a distinct pleasure to install a new member and his lady for the Akron club, with the sponsoring couple standing with them. Larry Larson as Governor, Fred Leonello as S/T, and Tim Wright as PDG were installed. A very special privilege was presenting the Award of Merit to Tim Wright, for his many years of service to Gyro, as well as the ongoing support as district officer, planner for expansion, service on GI committees, and other activities "for the good of Gyro."



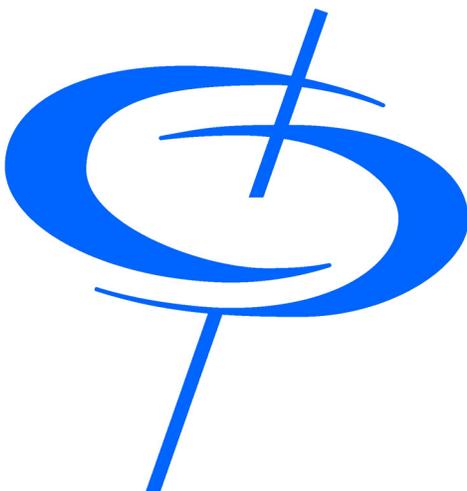
Committees on membership and technology remain very active. Elsewhere in this issue is an update from PIP Alan Pentney, chair of MC. The member-

ship committee will be bringing recommendations to the October Board of Governors' meeting on membership and organization going forward, as they have spent significant time on the survey data that many of you sent back a few months ago. The web site, with its member portal, continues being improved. It is amazing how easy it is now to navigate the online information, find members, and look up club charter years, location, members and the like. If you have not availed yourself to this resource lately, I urge you to do so.

On the return trip, we came across the "Thunder Bay Grill" in Rockford, IL. I had to inquire, and, indeed, the name does come from Thunder Bay, Ontario, home of Port Arthur and Nor-West Gyro clubs, in my home District VII. It's a small world.



Have a good fall. I hope you will participate with your Gyro friends and ladies in fun and fellowship gatherings.



## JUMP START YOUR GYRO YEAR

Submitted by Alan Pentney

Now that there is hope for a return to regular Gyro Club events and meetings there will be opportunities for recruiting new members. In anticipation of this, the Betterment Fund Directors are going to be promoting the use of funds set aside for clubs to recruit.

The fund can "jump start" your member recruitment by funding a fun event where friends are invited or where persons unaware of Gyro can be introduced to it – perhaps at a public function. Every club should have a Director in charge of membership to remind members to recruit and to promote Gyro in some manner. In the past few years' clubs have had success creating teams to compete.

The Betterment Fund Directors will be contacting District Governors this fall to identify clubs that may have an interest in using the Fund. Then some clubs will be contacted to explore how recruitment is going and to identify ways to recruit and expand awareness of the Fund. In addition, all club presidents will be emailed with information on the Fund and how to access it.

Typical recruitment of a member takes multiple interactions because the decision to join an organization involves many factors in a person's work and personal life. Of course, we in Gyro know from experience that the benefits of Gyro are many from a quality-of-life perspective, especially with a club and District that has fun events.

This campaign to use the Fund is Gyro International volunteers actively working for the betterment of individual clubs. More information is found on the gyro.org website at <https://gyro.org/gyro-special-funds/>. Additional training and tools for clubs can be found under the club resources tab at <https://gyro.org/training-tools/>. A particularly interesting document is the Gyro Party Cookbook that outlines many ways to enhance a club's fun and friendship.

A new Gyro year is underway so let's share the Gyro spirit with members we have missed meeting with for 18 months and bring in new people to join Gyro. If you need help contact the Betterment Committee at [betterment@gyro.org](mailto:betterment@gyro.org).

JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY  
9TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-1309**

Extension of Remarks  
Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky  
September 3, 2021

Happy 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, Mr. Frank J. Chulay

I rise to honor Frank J. Chulay and wish him a very happy 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on September 13, 2021! Mr. Chulay is a distinguished resident of Lincolnwood, Illinois. He had an honorable civic service career serving the Village of Lincolnwood and served as Village President from 1985 to 1993.

Frank J. Chulay was born on September 13, 1921. He immigrated to the US through Ellis Island at the age of 2 with his parents Frank and Elizabeth from the Hungarian part of Romania and moved to the City of Chicago.

Mr. Chulay spent two years at Wright Junior College and attended Chicago Teacher's College, where he met Altanah, and they later married. He volunteered for a program in the Army Air Corps and was called up to active duty in 1943. Mr. Chulay was trained as a pilot and flew B-24 bombers in the South Pacific. He resigned from the military in 1945, attended DePaul University under the GI Bill, and received a degree in accounting in 1946. In 1967 Frank and Altanah moved to Lincolnwood.

Mr. Chulay served as Lincolnwood Village President from 1985 to 1993. He was instrumental in bringing Paramedic Services of Illinois to Lincolnwood in 1989 and helped build the new Village Hall campus. During his term as Mayor, he cast the tie-breaking vote to approve the application to build the Lincolnwood Town Center.

Mr. Chulay treated all he interacted with respect and always put the needs of the Village residents first. He was active in the Northwest Municipal League, where he served as the President for one term, and active in the National League of Cities.

Mr. Chulay was married to Altanah for 48 years before her death in 1992, and has two children, Jeff and Jill, two grandchildren, Kristin and Amy and one great-grandson, Matthew. Frank has been married to Irma Chulay since 1995.

I appreciate Mr. Chulay's service to the Lincolnwood community and wish him a very happy 100<sup>th</sup> birthday!

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letter received by Frank Chulay, the lone member of the Chicago Club, on the occasion of his 100th birthday

# International News

## Executive Council Officers

### Blanton Bessinger – President

*St Paul, MN  
District VII*

Blanton became a member of the Oryg Club of St. Paul in 1998. He has been active since that time, and was on the board of directors for several years, serving as Club President in 2012-13. He was elected to DVII Lt. Governor in 2014, then served as Governor (2016) and immediate Past Governor (2018).



He attended all the International meetings, and took a leadership role on the Board of Governors, serving as chair of the sub-group meeting of Gov/Lt Gov for two years. He was elected to 1st Vice President of Gyro International in 2020. He grew up in Georgia, and moved to St. Paul in 1965 after receiving his MD from Emory University. He trained in Pediatrics and Pediatric Cardiology with two years spent on active duty in the US Air Force Medical Corps. His career included academic physician and private practice over 20 years. He became Chief Medical Officer for the Mpls/St Paul Children's Hospitals for 14 years, retiring in 2003.

He and Bonnie live in St. Paul, and celebrated their 41st wedding anniversary in 2020. They have three children, and three granddaughters – two out of college and a third grader. Blanton enjoys golf still, use to play a lot of tennis, but two hip replacements stopped that. He has been privileged to serve in leadership roles in his church, state and national medical societies, and golf club.

Blanton has also served on several non-profits whose missions were advocating for children at state and national levels. Bonnie was one of the first

advanced nurse practitioners in neonatology. She enjoys retirement also, and is active in her nursing school alumni organization. She has a large extended family, nine siblings, 28 nieces and nephews, and several more grandnieces. Quite a contrast to Blanton, who has no siblings.

### Peter Carter – 1st Vice President

*Edmonton, AB  
District VIII*

Peter has been a member of the Edmonton Gyro Club for 21 years. He has been Club President (2016-17) and District VIII Governor (2017/18). In 2020, he was elected 2nd Vice President of Gyro International and became the Chair of the Technology Committee. He now serves as the 1st Vice President and continues as the Chair of the Technology Committee.



Born in London, England, Peter immigrated to Canada in 1954, at the age of 5, with his mother; coming across the Atlantic on the Queen Mary. He was educated and started his working career in Ottawa. Peter has had 3 very distinct careers: 10 years with the North American Van Lines subsidiary operation, working his way up from Accounts Payable Clerk to Controller, Western Canada; in 1980 he was hired by the Edmonton Art Gallery, as the Administrative Director; and then in 1990 he started his own business, Carter's Travel & Cruises, which later merged with Vision 2000 Travel, which grew to 100 staff and 10 offices in Alberta and B.C. He sold his interests in 2013 and retired.

Peter and his wife, Eileen, have been together for 21 years. Eileen still has her own CPA practice,

but, it did/ not prevent them from doing extensive travel, prior to Covid-19. Once the pandemic is over, they plan to make up for the lost travel.

Since 1978, Peter has been involved in numerous Not-for-Profit Board of Directors during his working career. Since retiring, Peter remains active and is currently on the Boards of: Old Glenora Conservation Assoc.; and Pilgrims Hospice Society.

## Daniel Durbin 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

### *Olympia & Tacoma*

For the last year or so, most of us have had a different type of work experience. Our commute was just down the hall from our bedrooms. Kids and pets would sometimes crash Zoom meetings, and our work clothes developed semi-permanent creases from being hung up so long.



Most of us turned to our computers to stay connected, get our news or just play a game and unwind. With the rise in computer usage during COVID, cyber-crime is on the rise as well. I am concerned for the wellbeing of all my fellow Gyros and want to provide some information to help you stay protected while using the internet.

Two trending cyber-attack methods are extortion and coercion. The frequency and sophistication of these attacks and those that engage in this cyber-crime are increasing worldwide. Once mostly relegated to individual email accounts, cybercriminals are now targeting businesses and business partners with claims of stolen data or threats to release confidential information in order to extract payment. Extortion incidents reported to the FBI have increased from 17000 in 2016 to over 76000 in 2020. (n.d., FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center)

- Extortion attacks occur when a cybercriminal threatens to share confidential info or damage your reputation if you don't provide some form of compensation, usually money or gift cards which are hard to trace.
- Coercion attacks take multiple forms. The sender may pose as a trusted entity, associate, or government agency. Ultimately, the attack will promise something special or threaten something harmful unless you follow their instructions.

Be careful.

- Don't leave confidential information out for others to see:
- At your desk
- On your printer
- In your office
- Un-shredded in trash cans
- On Post-It notes – **ESPECIALLY YOUR LOG-IN CREDENTIALS**
- Lock everything up when you walk away:
- Secure your computer
- Lock all your drawers and file cabinets

Remember: Banking institutions will not ask for your password information or entice you to click a link and input your information. If an email is threatening or coercing you to click a link, enter information, or take action – if there seems to be a sense of urgency in the email urging to act quickly – it is most likely not legitimate.

## Alan Pentney, Immediate Past President

### *Stampede City*

Alan has been a member of the Stampede City Gyro Club in Calgary since 2005. He was Club President, District VIII Secretary, and Governor (2015-16). In 2018 he was elected as 2nd Vice-President of Gyro International and in 2020 became President.



His career was in public service as a Civil Engineer - graduating from Ottawa University in Ontario. He was with two provincial environmental protection agencies for 30 years and with the National Energy Board of Canada regulating pipeline operations for 9 years.

Alan and his wife Tara have been happily married for 46 years while raising two children: a daughter in the pharmaceutical industry in Toronto and a son who teaches high school in Calgary. They now have three grandchildren who constantly astound them.

Alan enjoys a variety of activities outside Gyro including golf and curling. He is a life member of the Royal Canadian Legion where he helped create a \$13 million Legion building in Calgary in 2017. Tara is active on the Board of the Alberta ALS Society and enjoys spending time with family and friends. Combined their couple activities and a love of travel keeps life interesting.

## MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

### Submitted by Alan Pentney

In the spring of 2021, the Gyro International Membership Committee decided that a Marketing Plan was needed to promote recruitment of members. The first step was to retain FirstPoint Management Resources to conduct a member survey in May 2021 that asked 13 questions. The questions were meant to indicate the general level of satisfaction with the organization and solicit information regarding areas of improvement.

The survey was sent to 1867 Gyro members with a second survey sent to former members. There were 442 member responses which is a respectable 23% response rate and a lower rate for non-members with 304 responses. The number of responses and the quality of most of the responses indicate a desire on the part of members to see Gyro emerge from COVID as a successful organization. Complete responses to the survey, including all responses to open-ended questions can be accessed using this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-9TBKHPQV9/>.

There is an amazing amount of positive feedback and constructive criticism in the survey results. Many commented on how they enjoyed the uniqueness of the organization and 84% expressed satisfac-

tion with their club. Not surprising, members were less satisfied with Gyro International – with many not familiar with the governing body since clubs have significant autonomy and there has been poor communication about the benefits of Gyro beyond what happens at a club level. Probably one of the best communication tools was the Gyroscope being mailed to members, but that became unaffordable. Many respondents expressed hope that Gyro's leadership could use findings from this survey to make important adjustments to the organization in a way that supported clubs and preserved the legacy of the organization.

FirstPoint submitted a Survey Report dated June 4, 2021 with thoughts on increasing membership. To operationalize the findings and create an easier path to implementation, eight binary decisions (Yes - No Questions) were posed in the FirstPoint Report. A key conclusion of the Report was that Gyro should create a Short-Term Operations Plan that prioritizes a short list of operational steps based on the 8 Decisions the Board of Governors (Board) makes. The Plan would identify resources and volunteers to work on those items.

The eight Decisions posed to the Board of Governors are as follows:

#### *DECISION 1 - CONTINUITY*

- Should Gyro continue as an international organization that promotes club affiliation? A yes or no to this question could still allow for change under Decision 4 on structural changes.

#### *DECISION 2 – STATUS QUO OR CHANGE*

- Should Gyro International change the way it operates or remain essentially the same? This question has implications for some of the following questions.

#### *DECISION 3 - INCLUSIVENESS*

- Should Gyro International admit women as full members? The explanation of this question in the report also implies that inclusiveness for others should be made clear.

#### *DECISION 4 – STRUCTURAL CHANGE*

- Should Gyro International change its structure to provide for reduced payments to international

and the transfer of more administration and control to clubs? Structure and associated expenses have changed in the past 4 years, but further change could be advantageous for retaining members.

### *DECISION 5 – CLUB SUPPORT*

- Should Gyro International invest resources in better equipping members to recruit and meet at the club level? This topic was considered by the Board last year with strong support for increased training.

### *DECISION 6 – VIRTUAL EVENTS & TECHNOLOGY*

- Should Gyro International support the creation and administration of virtual clubs? The concept may have merit in certain circumstances.

### *DECISION 7 – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CAUSES*

- Should Gyro International identify or encourage international or community causes to be supported as an organization? The survey respondents did not support this as an initiative but it has merit for recruiting millennials so it cannot be ignored.

### *DECISION 8 – INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT*

- Should Gyro International invest resources to create tools and infrastructure items requested by members in this survey? A list of tools was compiled in the report that included: recruiting kit & talking points; info about what younger people value; marketing video, and knowledge of what is working/not working elsewhere.

These decisions require careful consideration, and you will note that some of them influence subsequent decisions. For example, a no decision on #1 would mean the remaining questions are not necessary and the organization becomes like the Probus organization. The Committee's objective is to focus on decisions that have a strong impact on recruitment. Of course, retention of members is just as important.

The Committee is currently in the process of making recommendations to the Board on what the

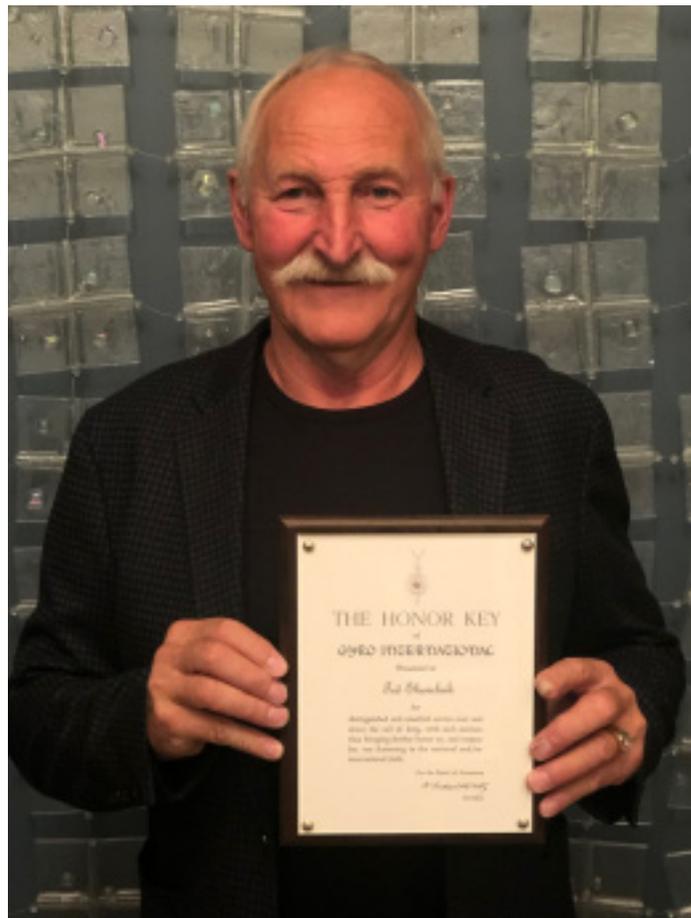
Board should do with regard to each decision. The Committee is not in a position to tell the Board how to action a decision as that requires further analysis. The Board will be presented with advice in mid-October with anticipation that the Committee could receive direction to begin the short-term marketing plan recommended in the Survey Report.

The Committee thanks those that responded to the survey and commits to keeping everyone informed as the initiative progresses.

## **TED SHEWCHUK PIP RECEIVES HONOR KEY**

### *Submitted by Alan Pentney*

At the first Virtual Gyro International Annual General Meeting on June 26, 2021 Ted Shewchuk stepped down from the Executive Council after holding five Chairs in as many years. He was recognized for his contribution to the organization with the awarding of the prestigious Honor Key.



The Honour Key is considered the highest award of the Organization and as such it symbolizes the recognition and appreciation of the entire membership. It is for service that transcends District boundaries, for giving exceptional time and talents supporting Gyro expansion, and for continued symbolism throughout the Fraternity, of what the Gyro spirit signifies.

Ted Shewchuk has been a Gyro member of the McKenzie Island Club in Red Lake Ontario since 1994. In his time in Gyro, he has held each executive position within the club. Ted served as District VII Lieutenant Governor in 2010-2012 and Governor in 2012- 2014.

During his tenure on the Executive Council Ted was challenged with clubs in Nova Scotia that were in jeopardy of leaving Gyro. He and his wife Annwyl journeyed to visit all the District VI clubs to encourage them to remain in Gyro. Similarly, he traveled to District X in Florida to provide information to clubs on benefits of Gyro. His President year in 2019 – 2020 was also challenging with the onset of the Pandemic.

He grew up working with his father in the family construction business which he eventually took over and then founded Shewchuk Enterprises Ltd. He continued to work fulltime while attending to Gyro Duties.

Ted will continue to support Gyro at his club, in District VII and Internationally from his home base in Red Lake. He will be enjoying his first grandchild as well as the adventures of his three daughters Aundrea, Jaclyn, and Ashley as they begin their lives away from home and school. Ted will also be enjoying travel destinations with Annwyl, often meeting Gyro's in their travels.



Male Bonding—  
Proven to  
reduce  
stress!

All male friendships are essentially quixotic: they last only so long as each man is willing to polish the shaving-bowl helmet, climb on his donkey, and ride off after the other in pursuit of illusive glory and questionable adventure.

— Michael Chabon —

AZ QUOTES

Why  
I rather  
have a best  
guy friend:

- No drama.
- They wouldn't spread my secrets.
- They consider me as a sister.
- They protect me.
- They can intro me the their friends.
- They don't hit on the guys I find cute.
- They are good listeners.
- They give good advice.

In ethology and social science, male bonding or male friendship is the formation of close personal relationships, and patterns of friendship or cooperation between males. In the context of human relationships, male bonding is used to describe friendship between men, or the way in which men befriend each other. - Wikipedia

# District News

## District III 2021 Summer News

Submitted by Alan Pentney & Linda Bliss

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### *Peterborough Club*

It was with great enthusiasm that the Peterborough club greeted the new rules relating to gatherings in Ontario during COVID. We kicked off our summer program on Saturday, July 17th with a President's Barbecue hosted by club President Dave Anderson and his wife Cathy at their home. Alan and Tara Pentney, Past International President and Tim and Tracie Miskolczi, Past District Governor were our honored guests. As you are aware, many members of the Peterborough Club are also Past Governor's so we felt we had all the bases covered. Current District Governor, Dan Bliss and his wife Linda were in attendance and as a result of having such an esteemed group of representatives of Gyro, it was decided to go ahead and install three new members into the Peterborough Club. More fun was had when Alan Pentney re-installed Dan Bliss as Governor of District III – live and in the flesh. Zoom is an effective alternative, but nothing beats up close and personal. The event was filled with socially distanced games including: Washer Toss, Bean-Bag Baseball, Ladder-ball and a favorite – “Which Moonshine do You Like Best?”. This was followed with a delicious buffet meal prepared by Cathy and Dave so that individual portions prevented virus spread.

Saturday, Aug. 14th saw our Club gather for Breakfast, hosted by club members Jason and Jennifer Dunford at their home. Weather was perfect and nothing beats good food with good friends and a Mimosa or two to start your day. This will be an annual event for our club!

Our Gyrettes were busy this summer too and resumed their monthly meetings. A Friday night “August Adventures” was enjoyed and this girl's night out was so much fun.

The men are planning a fishing weekend September 23 to 26, and will head north to Fernleigh Lodge, Cloyne, Ontario, for a weekend of championship fishing and storytelling. They are taking a couple of boats and some fishing rods so we may have some “fishy” stories for you later...or what happens in Cloyne stays in Cloyne.

### *Port Colbourne Club*

Tim and Tracie Miskolczi hosted a BBQ and corn-hole tournament, Saturday, Aug. 28th at their home. Attendees included Dan and Linda Bliss, current District Governor and Dana and Barb Davidson, 1st Lieutenant Governor. It was exciting to welcome Ted and Aynwel Shewchuk, past Past International President who just “happened to be in the neighborhood” and by that we mean southern Ontario. What a lot of fun and Dan was able to install their newest member Randy Rowe.

### *St. Catharine's Club*

There is much excitement as we look forward to the District III Convention 2021, hosted by the St. Catharine's Club. October 1 – 3rd, will see us gather for friendship and social interaction with American and Canadian Clubs... that's what Gyro is all about and so sorely missed these past months. This opportunity to reconnect with all our friends and install the new Executive is highly anticipated.

## District –VII

### By Governor Derek Hay

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District –VII held another virtual annual General meeting on the morning of September 11th. The meeting opened with a moment of silence to honour that brave people who ran into burning buildings and those that passed on that fateful day.

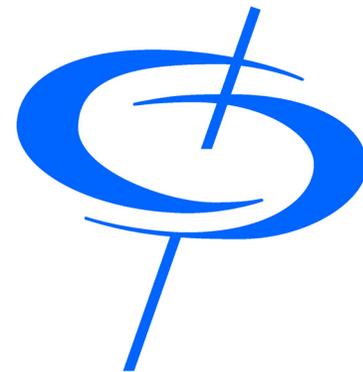
Clubs in attendance were; Minneapolis – Metro, Minneapolis – Northstar, Nor-West, Oryg/St. Paul, Port Arthur & Winnipeg. Each club was asked to give a brief summary of the past year and their club status. A number of corrections were noted on membership levels between what was reported and



what the official database says. All clubs are urged to verify their rosters and make changes as necessary. The governors report was distributed prior to the meeting and was accepted as such. Our faithful treasurer presented a very detailed financial report. The account of which was changed from a cash basis to an accrual basis to better track district dues into the year they are earned.

The dues were reviewed and were left unchanged. A constitutional review was conducted and reported on. The only changes of note that will be presented to the members next AGM, are the changing of the expansion fund to a district betterment fund using much of the same wording that International has in their constitution.

As this is a virtual meeting, virtual awards were announced. Rich Makela won for the best bulletin. (only two club produce bulletins in the District). There was no election of officers as we are just starting the second year of our two year terms.



**Women eat ice-cream, men toast marshmallows. — Dianna Hardy**

You get home okay or are you deep in the mountains recovering from a ceremonial male bonding ritual after killing a bear? — Kristen Ashley

It's called male bonding. You'll never get it. I believe women are as capable as men, deserve equal pay—and that one day, should be sooner than later, in my opinion, the right woman can and should be leader of the free world. But you can't understand the male bonding rituals any more than men can understand why the vast majority of women are obsessed with shoes and other footwear.

Nora Roberts

# Club News & Events

## Change of Leadership in Blacklake Gyro Club Submitted by Larry Duba

On August 12th, 29 Gyros with their ladies attended the Installation of Officers dinner at Rosa's restaurant in Pismo Beach, California.

President Steve Black welcomed everyone and introduced PIP Larry Duba who would be installing the officers. Steve provided some information about the upcoming District IX convention scheduled for October 21-24 in Jackson that is part of the mother lode gold country. Steve announced the names of those having birthdays in August as follows:



Bob McGill, Noreen Johnson, Tom Lewis, Kris Sims, Abe Viero, Dave Weitzel, Dan Woodson and Cici Wynn.

Larry was called upon to install the new officers for the Club. He first installed President Steve Black as the Immediate Past President.



Larry then installed Roger Lindley as President. This was the fourth time he is serving the Club as President.



Larry installed Ed Henderson as Vice President.



Larry installed Craig Armstrong as the Treasurer.



Larry installed Harry Walls as the Secretary



Larry Installed Bill Sims and Bob McGill as Directors who will take care of events and programs for the enjoyment of the members.



After the installation, everyone enjoyed dinner and socializing with each other after long periods of not seeing each other due to the pandemic.



## STAMPEDE CITY BOCCE Submitted by Ian Greig

The Stampede City Club was ready for a Covid friendly gathering so a hot, smokey (thank you BC afternoon at the estate property of Ian and Eve McGillivray was just what we needed. We established two things. Firstly, we were ready to party and secondly, none of us are high quality bocce players.. There were hugs but for the most part it was Covid friendly.

Our hosts had canopies set up to create even more shade than what was provided by the old growth forest that covers the property. There is more than enough cleared out for the house, parking and three bocce courts. The 30 Gyros, ladies and guests all arrived at close to the same time and exchanged greetings as if we had not seen each other for a year and a half. In preparation for the matches, aim straighteners were consumed.



The Gathering Spot

The three bocce courts allowed the double knock out event to be completed in a reasonable time but nobody cared how long it took as there was



Ann Chalmers, Shawn Hamilton, Molly Hamilton, Wes Fillo

as much interest in visiting as there was in bocce. In the end, the team of President Wes Fillo and Molly Hamilton won the “A” event and the “B” was taken by Shawn Hamilton and Ann Chalmers. Dale Green did a fine job of setting this up.

Then came the food. Our hosts provided snacks and a beautifully cooked salmon. Sandy Macleod had smoked brisket which pleased everyone and the directors and their ladies provided salads. A good way to share the work load. Oh yes, we also had cupcakes, cookies and strawberries.



*Our host telling stories*

It was some where around eight (it had been a long day) when folks started to move out, all the while, talking about the next time and regretting that a fire ban prevented the use of the huge fire pit.

## Tacoma President Installation Submitted by Alan Pentney

The Tacoma Washington Gyro Club is now 98 years old and looking forward to achieving its 100th anniversary soon. It is a small club with 4 members but two members are on the younger end of the scale so there is growth potential. This article is about an opportunity to conduct an installation of the new President at a fun event.

The story begins on August 2, 2021 in Gig harbor Washington when seven Gyro passengers set sail in on a 3 Hour Tour! Captain Tom took control of the good ship Riviera with a crew of one. With much fanfare, or at least as much as 7 Gyros can muster, a farewell circle of Gig Harbor was completed. Gig Harbor was named for the Captains Gig



(boat) that brought explorer, Captain Charles Wilkes ashore during a storm in 1840. Leaving seals, kayaks, paddleboards, and various other craft in its wake, the Riviera headed out into Puget Sound with our 9 year old Gyront threatening to abandon ship if rough water was encountered. “Never fear” said Captain Tom “It’s a helluva evening for a tour”. The Gyros’ came prepared with ample supplies of food, beverages and clothes. Other passengers gaped in amazement at how the Gyros commandeered the ship. PIP Matt Johnson and his sidekick Kamden (The Gyront) took over the Galley for shelter while former Naval officer Dan Durbin adjourned to the Helm leaving Gyro Ladies Missy Durbin, Lisa Kay Johnson and Tara Pentney at the Bow – with the cache of supplies. Meanwhile, IPIP Alan Pentney made such a nuisance of himself all over the ship that Captain Tom began making announcements on the intercom about him. Fortunately, there was no brig on the ship.

The water was relatively calm, so we made good time to the Tacoma Narrows Twin Suspension Bridges. The bridges are very impressive with 187 feet clearance above water and a length of 1 mile with 2 main spans. The first bridge was completed in July 1940 and became famous as “Galloping Ger-



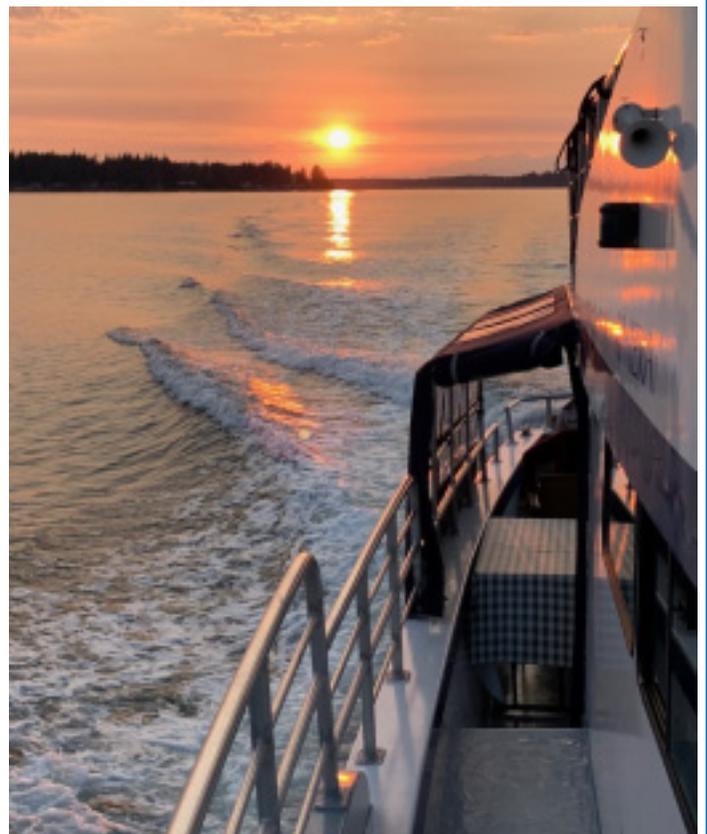
tie” because of its vertical movement in wind with the public enjoying this experience until November 1940 when the bridge collapsed during a prolonged wind event (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XggxeuFDaDU>). It was rebuilt with airplane wing technology to prevent wind effects and the second bridge was built in 2007.

After leaving the Narrows we entered smoother waters in Hale Passage and charted a course to Horsehead Bay that shelters many fancy homes and summer retreats. One of the residents greeted us so enthusiastically that we were tempted to raid her liquor cabinet, but Captain Tom preferred to keep the potentially fatal Greek Mythology Siren at bay and our return journey began as the sun was setting. At this point in the journey, it was decided that incoming President Matt of the Tacoma Gyro Club would be installed to replace outgoing President Dan. With all Gyros and Ladies present to witness, IPIP Alan conducted the installation at the bow of the ship as the sunset reflected off numerous windows of homes lining the cliffs and hills of Tacoma as if they were on fire.

The 3 hour tour ended with the Riviera quietly chugging into an enchanting evening lit Gig Harbor.



We disembarked with many memories to cherish like anytime when Gyros get together and decide to have a fun event. To hark to the Gilligan’s Island theme song ending - We leave all our friends on this



west coast shore. Perhaps, they will be there forevermore. Maybe a rescue will set them free. Tune in on the 100th Anniversary and then you will see.

## Clinton

### Submitted by Dan Blohm

In July the Clinton Gyro club had their annual Shrimp Boil Fundraiser. This year was a record turnout with 41 of our members present and over 60 guests. The boiling crew served over 100 pounds of shrimp for the all you could eat fest. Proceeds from this event go to maintenance of the Clinton Gyros clubhouse which is located on the backwaters of the Mississippi river.



A special award was presented after dinner to Dick Farwell for being a 50 year member. Dick is

still very active with the club as are two of his sons Chris and Greg. Next year the Clinton Club will be celebrating its 100th anniversary.

## Rochester

### by Nancy Dougherty

The Rochester Gyros were able to comfortably regroup at enlightening luncheons w/ speaker and festive social events held in May & June. Social distancing and safety protocols continued to be top priorities. Everyone was 'fully vaccinated' and anxious about resuming Gyro gatherings.

In May, the Kentucky Derby Day Event attracted attendees who were ready for a day at the races. Tom Krugh provided a large TV for all to easily watch the race at our favorite lodge in the park. Tom Lennox kept our glasses full with his ever-popular mint juleps. Bob & Sue Kessler expertly handled the betting table. Maggie Freeman was the sole wagerer on the 3-year-old dark bay colt "Medina Spirit" which pulled off an upset over all the favorites including the Gyro bettors! Truly a fun annual Gyro event!

Luncheon attendees enjoyed a very stimulating/informative presentation by Anthony Daniele, President of Daniele Family Companies in Rochester, on the proposed Whole Foods Project in Pittsford. He reviewed its planning process which began in 2015 and ended with its current status of "construction in progress". A lively question & answer period followed.

In June, members, spouses & guests again gath-



ered together on a relaxing warm Friday night to partake in our popular Pig Roast Event, orchestrated by Glenn Marshall. Everyone expressed approval for the addition of the pulled turkey served alongside the pulled pork and abundant favorite side dishes. Greetings & conversations abounded indicating a good time was had by all!

Our newest Gyro member, Barry Childs, provided a very informative/educational presentation to luncheon attendees about the Africa Bridge Project in Tanzania which he founded. It is a nonprofit rural economic organization empowering Tanzanian families to protect, support, and care for vulnerable children by helping villages implement sustainable social service economic solutions. Several success stories were heard.

Since we break for the summer months of July and August, everyone has been eagerly looking forward to gathering again in September to continue our 2021 season of luncheons & events beginning with our annual Steak Roast. Organizer Bob Kessler earned kudos from all for the quality of the steaks. And, Bob, along with Tom Krugh, received a round of applause for their excellent job as chefs perfectly grilling the steaks to each member's preference. Attendees brought packed picnic baskets containing a delicious variety of items each wished to eat/drink to complement their steak. A lovely picture-perfect night for all.

Providing the coronavirus statistics do not impact the remaining calendar for the year and beyond, the luncheon meetings (some scheduled with speakers) and social events will continue. We are especially looking forward to celebrating our 100th year anniversary!

## Humour Page(s)

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Winston Churchill loved paraprosdokians, figures of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected.

- Where there's a will, I want to be in it.
- The last thing I want to do is hurt you, but it's still on my list.
- Since light travels faster than sound, some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
- If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.
- War does not determine who is right - only who is left.
- Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.

- They begin the evening news with 'Good Evening,' then proceed to tell you why it isn't.
- To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research.

## *From the Editor ...*

Today is deadline day for this newsletter and I certainly appreciate the articles I have received in advance of the deadline. Almost two years ago, when I was asked to become the new editor of Gyroscope. I am not a writer. I will edit and format articles I get (to the best of my ability) and I will layout the newsletter in a format that is readable and in sections. The sooner I get articles in the sooner and I can start on this process.

One of the first things I need to do with any article is to change all fonts & pitch to match that of the whole newsletter. I am sure you appreciate having one font and pitch, rather than changing fonts etc. It makes for much easier reading. I also need to strip out any special formatting that is in the article. I try my best to put it back (bold type, underlines). When an article is preformatted by the author, it is not in the same column width I use. It may be continuing on the next page. So, all the effort someone does on formatting, I throw out the window, to make the article fit in the spaces I have available. For pictures, I try my best to insert in the same position in the article as I can, but if it does not fit because of a column break or a page break, then I put it as close as I can. It is really helpful to the reader if the picture has some sort of a caption with it to explain what it is all about.

But my biggest problems I have when laying out the articles into the sections they belong, is fillers. I use fillers to ensure a new article starts (as best as possible) at the top of a page or column. No one wants to see a title at the bottom of one page and the article on the next page. The need for fillers is tremendous each month. I need fillers in various sizes and on various topics. I try my best to find fillers that have to do with Gyro & friendship. But you know what it is really hard to find, is anything on Male friendship, Male bonding or anything close to that. Most of the quotes on friendship are female in nature. Or are not appropriate for our newsletter. There are tons of pictures of male bonding and male friendship, but they are mostly from the gay community,. (not that there is anything wrong with that). And that is what brings me to my point. Is male

friendship so venerable, the wrong thing comes into our minds, when we see a picture of two men, smiling, laughing or hugging each other. Is the male ego so sensitive that we are offended by two guys hugging in friendship? Must everything about



males embracing be related to sports. Must every picture of male friendship include beers or liquor in hand.

Gyro is about friendship.

Male friendship in particular. And to try to explain the club to our male friends is hard sometimes, they sometimes tend to pick up the wrong meanings of male friendship. So, are we ashamed to express this male friendship of ours publicly? Do we have a hidden fear of being labeled as gay because we have male friends and we show it? And what if we are labelled, is that bad? I have a few friends who are gay. They may or may not be out of the closet, but I still consider them friends. Gyro needs to look at what we are. Look around your club. I can take a strong guess that it is a white old man's club. Where is your club's inclusivity? Remember the day and age we are now living in. All our clubs need to represent the community we live in. And that community, these days, is not white, privileged and straight.

Now where was I going with this. Oh. Yes, I need articles and I really need fillers to balance and

filler the columns and pages. So, if you come across something that you think might be good for Gyro, please send it to me. I ask only one thing, that whatever you send me, make sure there is no copyright attached to it. No syndicated items, no water marks on the pictures. Everything has to be for public domain. And please if they are family shots, that you have the permission of the family if there are kids in the pictures. We do not want to go down that rabbit hole.

To insult a friend implies that you respect his masculinity enough to know he can take it without acting like a crybaby. The swapping of insults, like the fighting between brothers, becomes the seal of the male bonding.

— Frank Pittman —



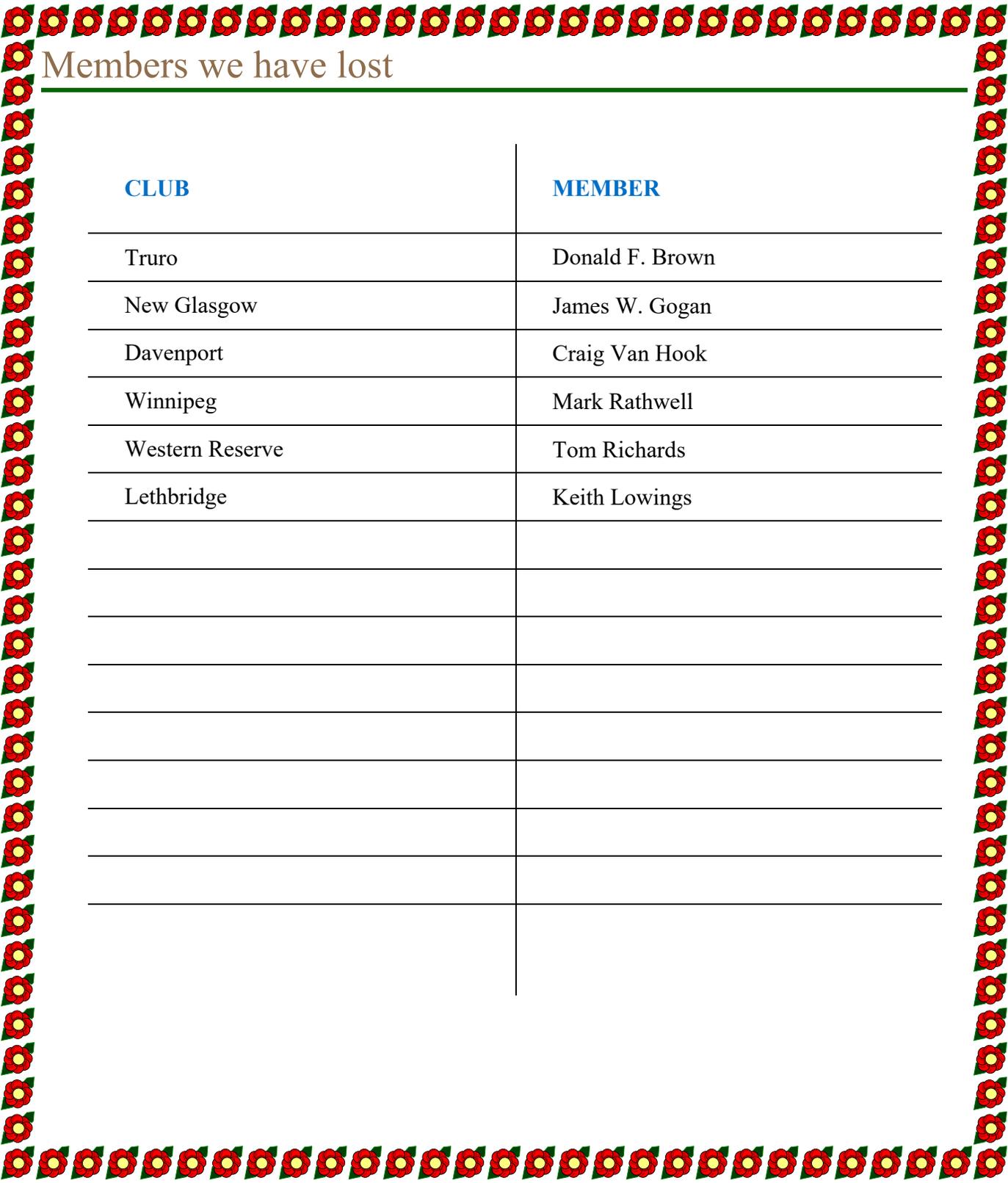
Membership Stats	2005	2010	2015	2020	2021	2022
D-I	291	274	275	250	234	231
D-II	230	220	190	150	142	144
D-III	461	441	378	303	299	296
D-IV	774	730	596	505	477	477
D-V	0	0	0	0	0	0
D-VI	160	149	127	69	64	61
D-VII	302	268	251	229	220	219
D-VIII	418	407	364	317	312	306
D-IX	159	154	145	135	133	133
D-X	50	42	55	45	34	32
D-X1	0	0	0	0	0	0
D-XIII	0	0	6	0	0	0
INT'L.	58	55	34	28	25	24
	2903	2740	2421	2031	1940	1923

**Fact:**  
Male friends are more loyal than female friends

Member/ Country	20151				
	2005	9	2020	2021	2022
U. S. Members	2160	1406	967	928	915
Canadian	1781	1326	1036	1009	984
Int'l. Associates	58	34	28	25	24
Total Members	3999	2772	2031	1962	1923

## Welcome New Members

Club	Member	Sponsor
Syracuse	Joe Cunningham Chuck Davoli Bill Dutch John Hamel Tom Hamel Andrew Miller Mark Modzeleski Randy Noble Art Palermo Dave Wyman	
Clinton	Scott A. Judd	Dan Srp
Clinton	Mitchell L. Jahns	Todd Powers
Clinton	Hunter Carter	Jerry Moehr
Rochester	Robert S. Childs	Carl Sardegna
Metro Milwaukee	Richard F. Casper	Tim Flatley
Canton	Joseph W. Perrotti	Robert Pittinger
Marion	Rick S. Roe	Ed Rieke
Port Colborne	Jim Bulek David Reid	
Victoria	Bob Marinett	Dan Blanchard John Uliana
Davenport	Barron Curtis	David Samuelson
Fresno	Edward B. Bates	Larry Duba
Olympia	Aaron Huntley	Gerald Wagner
Port Colborne	Randy Rowe	Garth Paley
Calgary	Laurence Hancock	Ken Baker William Schultz
Long Beach	Alex Merrill	Leif Hertzog
Long Beach	Colby Durnin	Matt Bennett
Long Beach	Dan Hofstadter	Ron Malouf



## Members we have lost

<b>CLUB</b>	<b>MEMBER</b>
Truro	Donald F. Brown
New Glasgow	James W. Gogan
Davenport	Craig Van Hook
Winnipeg	Mark Rathwell
Western Reserve	Tom Richards
Lethbridge	Keith Lowings

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



## Conventions

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

## DISTRICTS

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- District I Convention ..... September 11th  
Cuyahoga Falls VFW
- District II Convention .....
- District III Convention St Catharines..... October 1 -3 2021  
[stcatharines.gyro.org](http://stcatharines.gyro.org)
- District IV Convention ..... Sept 24-26  
[tslaney@slaneyrandall.com](mailto:tslaney@slaneyrandall.com)
- District VI Convention .....
- District VII Convention Virtual..... Sept 11, 2021  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86598559279?pwd=M0ZxNXpkT1BjVDI2UTNhUzd2SUpXUT09>
- District VIII Convention Calgary ..... September 23-26, 2021  
Deerfoot Inn & Casino  
..... [ken.baker65@gmail.com](mailto:ken.baker65@gmail.com)  
<http://district8.gyro.ws/index.php/district-conventions/>



- District IX Convention Jackson,CA..... October 21-24  
[theotherm@aol.com](mailto:theotherm@aol.com)
- District X Convention .....

## INTERNATIONAL

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- International & District I— Cleveland.....2022
- International & District VII - Winnipeg.....August 4-8, 2023