

District VIII

2019 – 2020 Executive:

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Website:
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Our Clubs:

CALGARY
November 12, 1921

CASTLEGAR
May 25, 1984

CRANBROOK
May 17, 1924

**EDMONTON
CROSSROADS**
May 18, 1957

EDMONTON
July 29, 1921

LETHBRIDGE
March 28, 1925

NELSON
February 16, 1924

REGINA
October 20, 1921

**SHERWOOD
PARK**
October 4, 1975

STAMPEDE CITY
November 3, 1962

WALLACE, ID
May 19, 1934



GOVERNORS' NEWSLETTER – Derm's 7th November 3, 2020

This being my seventh **Governors' Newsletter**, I think it is important to let you know how we are doing as a District. As of today, our membership in **District 8 is at 317** members. I must commend you all on your continuing efforts to stay in touch with each other and experimenting with social media. Amid the pandemic our focus should be to stay healthy and safe and practice social distancing & wash your hands often and wear a mask when you cannot distance. Be kind to each other and help your neighbor if you can. Just doing that will bring us all to a point where we may be able to get back together again.

One year & 5 months have passed since the Drumheller Convention and because the 2020 District Convention had to be cancelled, the District Executive decided to stay in their positions until the **Calgary Convention, June 10 -14, 2021** which is being held at the **Deerfoot Inn & Casino**. If that convention is to be cancelled your executive will decide about doing a virtual change to the District Executive, going forward.

As the gyro circle continues to turn and this would normally be the weekend we would be at **Curl-a-rama**, please look for the email I sent about our 'virtual' Curl-a-rama Zoom Cocktail Party.

As many snowbirds are staying home this coming winter, **District 8 Clubs** are trying to stay active in various ways.

Online Socializing

If you or your club needs any help setting up a Zoom meeting, contact 2nd International Vice – President Peter Carter (2ndVP@gyro.org) as Peter is knowledgeable about Zoom and willing to assist.

Edmonton Club's Installation & Founders Celebration took place virtually on October 20, 2020. **President Chuck Gerhart** welcomed 52 Gyros and Gyrettes to their Founders Day Zoom Teleconference. There were 20 couples, eight singles and four special guests, Myself and my wife **Lillian** and **Lt. Governor Sid and Sharon Slade**, brought greetings from **District VIII** and mentioned Edmonton's history and award winners. I then installed the Club's Board: **Past President, Bruce Swanson; First Vice-President, Dunc Mills; Treasurer, Gary Campbell; Directors: Ron Trant, Ray Dallaire and Dan Hasinoff, and Chuck Gerhart, President. Secretary Barry Walker and Director Doug Armstrong** were not in attendance. I then inducted **George Schuller** as the newest member of the Edmonton Club. George

'A Fraternity of Friendship'

was accompanied by his wife **Karin Conradi**. I then had the honour of presenting the **Award of Merit**, for outstanding service to Gyro, to **Dick Nichols**. Congratulations Dick.

Gyroscope

If you have any submissions for the next edition of the **Gyroscope** the deadline is December 20, 2020. Please forward your submissions to Governor of District 7, Editor of the Gyroscope, Derek Hay (hay.family.58@gmail.com)

District Notice

Calgary Club will defer making a **Go / No Go decision** on proceeding with the detailed planning and promotion for 2021 Convention until **3rd week in January 2021**. This still gives Calgary enough time to get plans for June 10-14 firmed up (they have already booked hotel venue - **Deerfoot Inn & Casino**).

International News

International Technology Committee:

By Peter Carter (technology@gyro.org)

International Website: Over the past few months, the Gyro International website '**gyro.org**' has been getting refreshed and updated, to make the website more meaningful and usable. So, you can readily identify what changes have been made, the **Home Page** now has a column "**WHAT'S NEW/UPDATED**" for this purpose; with the most recent addition or update listed at the top.

'Our Clubs': (Blue Menu Bar) has a completely new look and now identifies all our Gyro Clubs by City and District. And those Clubs with a website have a 'Link' making it easy for anyone interested in Gyro to make contact. In this regard, if a Club link has been missed, please let me know.

'Special Funds': A '**Special Funds**' page (Blue Menu Bar) has been created to make it easier for our Clubs and Members to have access, knowledge and an understanding of the two (2) Special Fund Programs. Hopefully, the page contains everything you wanted to know about the '**Betterment**' and '**Memorial Funds**', and how to access them!

'Gyro Store': A new look in the hopes it will be easier to find and order items.

'Contact Us' Soon to be released is a new 'Contact Us' page which will have 'Position emails' in the hopes that it will be easier for our Gyro members to contact the person that they are looking for; i.e. **President Alan Pentney** will be President@gyro.org and emails sent to that address will be automatically 'Forwarded' to his personal email address, without putting his personal email address on the Public website; for security purposes. Then, next year the 'Position email' President@gyro.org emails will be 'Forwarded' to Blanton Bessinger; and so on.

Club Website Options: Earlier this year, the Technology Committee (then Chair: **Matthew Williams**) moved the Hosting of the International Website to **John Overall's** company. As a result, we can now control the design of our web pages so they fit/flow better on Tablets & Phones, AND we can NOW OFFER two (2) NEW options for Clubs to have a Website presence, at NO COST!

The first option is to have a ‘**Generic Web Page**’, which will give some general information about Gyro and it will provide the When and Where your Club Meets and Who to Contact if someone, in your area, would like more information or would like to come out to a meeting. This ‘Generic Web Page’ will be created by the Technology Committee, on your behalf, once we receive your Club’s Meeting and Contact Information... it’s that simple and there is no maintenance, and no charge!

Here are two (2) examples: <https://gyro.org/blacklake-club/> and <https://gyro.org/san-jose-club/>

The second option is a ‘**Sub-Site**’ which allows your Club to create and maintain its own Club Website, on the International Host Server, **at no cost!**

The Club website address would be ClubName.gyro.org. With the Sub-Site option, your Club does need someone to develop and maintain the website, but we provide the tools: WordPress; Elementor PRO; and Design Themes. We can also offer some assistance, if required. And there is no limit to the number of pages you can have; and the design can be unique to your club! Can it get any better?

Our Pilot/Test Club, for the Sub-Site option was the Winnipeg Club and here is what their webmaster, Derek Hay, created, on **Winnipeg.Gyro.org**. Derek Hay also created the website for the **2021 International Convention** using the Sub-Site option. See **2021International.gyro.org**.

Coming Soon: The ‘**AWARDS**’; ‘**DATABASE**’ ‘**MEMBERS LOGIN**’ and ‘**OTHER INFO**’ headings in the ‘**Black Menu Bar**’, of the website, need work so the **Technology Committee** will be reviewing and working on these; so that the **Award information is updated and complete**; we are looking for **New DB Software with more abilities to display information**; and have a **Secure Area for sensitive Member and Gyro Information**; and, all of the ‘**OTHER INFO**’ items will be updated, as required. So, keep checking ‘**WHAT’S NEW/ UPDATED**’ on the Home Page of Gyro.org.

Reminders

To all **PDG’s** if there is anything you want to add to the agenda for the PDG’s meeting at the Next District Convention please email or contact **IPDG Larry Fenton** at lfenton6906@gmail.com Please keep in mind that the **District Executive** is always looking for new candidates, for executive positions, and it is extremely rewarding to serve on the District Executive. Please consider taking a turn on the District Executive.

If you or your club have been using social media to meet and get together, please share your experience with 2nd International Vice- President Peter Carter (2ndVP@gyro.org).

Next year **District 8** will celebrate a **once in a lifetime milestone**, three of our clubs; **Calgary. Regina and Edmonton** are all going to be **100 years old**.

Yours in Gyro,

Derm Jackman
District 8 Governor

‘A Fraternity of Friendship’