



GOVERNOR'S BULLETIN

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District VIII Executive

Governor
Alan Pentney

2126 3 Ave. NW Calgary
AB T2N0K4

Phone: (403) 629-6345
Email: apentney@telus.net

1st Lieutenant
Governor
John Hodgson

339 Avonburn Rd. SE
Calgary AB T2H 1N9

Phone: (403) 253-3150
Email: jehodgson@shaw.ca

Past District Governor
Dave Deroos

114 Cedar St. Wallace ID
83873

Phone: (208) 512-3965
Email:
dderoos@suddenlink.net

Secretary Treasurer
Ken Baker

59 Woodgreen Dr. Calgary
AB T2W 4G6

Phone: (403) 238-6717
Email: kjb.pc@telus.net

District Database
Sid Slade

30 Carmel Road, Sherwood
Park AB T8A 5A6

Phone: (780) 464-6203
Email: sslade@shaw.ca

A Jolly Roger Time at the District VIII Convention

On May 21-24, 2015 District VIII members from eight clubs met at the Fairmont Hot Springs Resort in BC for fun and friendship! The sunshine and summer-like temperatures made the event very enjoyable – this is one reason why we have now combined the interim and annual convention!

Fun events included a mixed golf tournament organized by Jim Malott IPDG, Sherwood Park club on Thursday followed by a BBQ dinner. Friday morning we enjoyed a Poker Run car rally, set up and run by Lyall and Marilyn Carter, Calgary club. The afternoon was another fun filled event with 65 persons participating in a Bocce Tournament, organized by Joe Vingo PDG, Nelson club. Thanks also to Dave Jenner and Bryan Sherwood of the Calgary club for the challenging court layout. An all-girl team from Nelson (Norma Vingo and Tammy Darough), Stampede City (Katie Pattison) and Edmonton (Paulette Schulte) crushed all opponents.



Friday evening entertainment was a barrel of laughs. The theme was Pirates of Panorama and costumes were exceptional! Ken Baker, Tara Pentney, Ann Baker and Katy Pattison did a superb job with decorations and a photo booth. As tradition, Derm the Gyro DJ from Castlegar, provided lively music for dancing; a line dance lesson was compliments of our own Dave Deroos!

The Annual Business Meeting occurred on Saturday morning while the ladies enjoyed brunch and a break from us. After a few more hospitality hours. Dale Woodroffe, 3rd VP Gyro International and a Stampede City club member, installed our new executive (see the line-up in the column to the left). John Hodgson, Calgary club was unable to attend but was installed as 1st Lieutenant Governor by Skype (A first for the District). Dancing followed to the 5 man band of L8.

Contact Us

District VIII

WEB SITE

District8.gyro.ws
(under construction)

CALGARY

CASTLEGAR

CRANBROOK

EDMONTON
CROSSROADS

EDMONTON

LETHBRIDGE

NELSON

REGINA

SHERWOOD
PARK

SPOKANE

STAMPEDE CITY

WALLACE



Some Executive Biographies



I am **John Hodgson**, 1st Lieutenant Governor for the next year. I was born in Montreal in 1946, the first of four brothers. When I was five years old, the family moved to Hudson, a small town on the Ottawa River about 40 miles west of Montreal. It was an ideal community in which to raise a family with excellent schooling and a variety of recreational facilities in a country living setting. My parents encouraged me and my brothers to participate in sports. I played and enjoyed virtually every sport imaginable but excelled in none. I was also very active in the Boy Scouts and developed a great appreciation for the outdoors and nature through numerous camping and canoe trips.

I attended McGill University where I obtained a bachelor of commerce degree. I then joined the accounting firm of Price Waterhouse and obtained my CA designation. I transferred to the Halifax office for two years and traveled and worked extensively throughout the Atlantic provinces during that period. After returning to Montreal, I married in 1973 and we subsequently had two boys, Jeffrey in 1977 and Trevor in 1979. Jeffrey is now the father of my two grandchildren, Madelynne and Joshua.

In 1981 we accepted a transfer from Montreal to Calgary. Apart from the initial difficulty of leaving family and friends, it was a move that we did not regret. I remained with PricewaterhouseCoopers in Calgary until my retirement in 2004. Unfortunately, that was also the year that my marriage ended. Fortunately, I later connected with my partner, Laura Young.

My retirement years are flying by far too quickly. I have continued various volunteer activities and taken the opportunity to enjoy more recreational travel. In addition, I am spending more time in curling rinks and on golf courses but without any noticeable improvement in my prowess with those activities.

I was introduced to Gyro as a guest at District VIII's Curl-a-Rama in Banff. I subsequently joined the Calgary Club in 2000 and served as its president in 2010/11. I now intend to do my best to assist Governor Alan Pentney with his duties and Laura and I look forward to the opportunity of making new Gyro and Gyrette friendships.



I am **Alan Pentney**, Governor for the coming year. I graduated from Ottawa University in Civil Engineering in 1978 and then spent 28 years with Alberta Environment. I worked on all aspects of environmental protection ranging from municipal water and wastewater systems, through industrial emissions to water allocations. For the past 7 years I have been with the National Energy Board regulating the operation of inter-provincial and international pipelines.

My wife Tara and I have raised two children: Alana who is in the pharmaceutical industry in Toronto and Jon who teaches middle school in Calgary. Combined they have provided us with the joys of three grandchildren. Meanwhile I keep active with Golf, Curling and volunteering at an 1800 member Legion as Treasurer and New Building Construction Trustee.

Future Events

2015 International
Convention – Buffalo NY
June 21-28

2016 Interim
Convention - Savannah
Georgia - January

2016 District VIII
Convention – Fairmont
Hot Springs - May26-28

2016 International
Convention – Red Lake
Ontario – July

Insert your Club event
here

Ken Williamson of the Stampede City Club introduced me to Gyro at the 2005 Curl-a-Rama event. Over the past 9 years I held the following positions in Gyro: Director (2 years) Vice President; President (2 Years); District Secretary; 2nd Lieutenant Governor, 1st Lieutenant Governor and now Governor. During that time I also was a bulletin editor for 6 years. Look for me where ever rum is being served.

Messages to Think About

Congratulations go to the Lethbridge Club for stellar attendance at the convention – they received the coveted **Man-Mile Award**. The recipient of the **Best Bulletin Award** was Fred Schulte of the Edmonton Club. The bulletins are very different so selection of someone to receive the award is becoming more difficult. The **Membership Award** went to Wallace for the second consecutive year.

The **Annual Business Meeting** reviewed Gyro International recommendations regarding a Membership Chairman; Mission Statement; and Nomination Committee. The options for future District conventions was reviewed with Clubs encouraged to put forward a proposal to either host at their club or host in Fairmont or another location of their liking. The **budget** going forward is projected to make \$29. The District is in good financial shape with funds of \$39,000 available – so no increase in dues is necessary.

IPDG Jim Malott conducted the **Edmonton** installation on May 5. I conducted the May 9 installation at **Nelson**. The turnout was exceptional at both events and demonstrated the power Gyro has. District installations are going to occur on June 11 in **Regina** (I am attending) and June 20 at the **Sherwood Park** Club with John officiating. Please let us know if you have any other special events you would like District presence at.

Curl-A-Rama is being organized by the Calgary Club (John Hodgson as Chair). It is on Nov. 6-8 in Banff with the fees of \$240 including 2 nights of accommodation, Friday hospitality and food, 2 breakfasts, a Saturday banquet and of course curling. Without curling it is \$175. A steal of a deal for the most fun you can have with your kilt on.

The **International Convention** is from June 21 – June 28 in Buffalo NY. I will be attending to represent you. Concerns about declining membership and departing clubs is on the agenda but I believe that if we continue to do the things that promote fun and friendship we will attract like-minded persons and perpetuate the Gyro brand. The key is communication both internal to your club and external to other clubs. Even more importantly is communication to acquaintances and friends to attract them to join.

In my installation **acceptance speech** at the convention I committed to:

- Representing District to the best of my ability
- Advancing the ideals of Gyro whenever there is an opportunity
- Getting to know more Gyros by visiting as many clubs as possible
- Communicating via bulletins and a more informative District Website.

Your Friend in Gyro

Alan Pentney

Governor District VIII