

District VIII of Gyro International 2016 – 2017

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District VIII
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GOVERNOR'S BULLETIN

August 31, 2016

CALGARY **2016 International Convention**

CASTLEGAR The 2016 International Convention was held in Red Lake, Ontario from July 11th to 16th. Red Lake, which is about 180 km due north of Kenora, is a prolific gold mining region and a mecca for sport fishing and hunting. It is also home to the McKenzie Island Gyro club who were fabulous hosts for the Convention.

CRANBROOK

EDMONTON
CROSSROADS There were approximately 130 attendees at the Convention including all four members of your District VIII executive with our ladies. District VIII was also represented by [Ray Ballan](#) from Nelson and [Marty and Shirley Larson](#) from Edmonton. Of course, [Dale Woodroffe](#) from the Stampede City club was also there and was installed as 1st Vice President of Gyro International. Unfortunately, medical treatments prevented [Mary Ann Woodroffe](#) from attending. I know I speak for all in sending best wishes to Mary Ann for a full recovery.

EDMONTON

LETHBRIDGE

NELSON

REGINA

SHERWOOD PARK

STAMPEDE CITY

WALLACE

The Convention offered many interesting activities including visiting a gold mining operation, golf, fishing, wine tasting and boat tours on Red Lake. While Gyros were in meetings, the ladies had the opportunity to take courses in dream catcher crafting and water colour painting. Among my personal highlights were the two late afternoons and evenings spent at the McKenzie Island Gyro clubhouse which is only accessible by boat (ice road in the winter). We were given a welcoming ceremony by representatives from the local Anishinabee indigenous people; feasted on roast pig and fish fry dinners; and enjoyed a fireworks display on the second night. A human foosball tournament was also included in the McKenzie Island activities. District VIII entered a team without fully knowing what we were getting into. We won our first game but then were beaten by a team of McKenzie Islanders who benefited from youth and home field advantage. Fortunately, we had no serious injuries.



The business meetings portion of the convention included the following:

- Presentation of a balanced budget for 2016-17 but with continuing fiscal challenges ahead.
- International dues remaining static at \$60 per member for the 2017-18 year.
- As a cost saving measure, there will be no Interim Convention in 2018.

- Future International Annual conventions are to be hosted by Districts on a rotational basis. District II will host the 2018 Convention at the Abbey Resort in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. Dates will likely be in late June/early July.
- PIP [Larry Duba](#) has taken on the new position of Membership Director and has established a committee with representation from all Districts. Thank you to [Alan Pentney](#) for agreeing to represent District VIII. You should have seen an email from Larry summarizing membership recruitment and retention discussions which took place at the Convention. Please contact Larry or Alan with any questions or suggestions.
- The Executive Council for 2016-17 includes [Dana Davidson](#) (District III, Toronto club) as President and our own [Dale Woodroffe](#) (Stampede City club) as 1st Vice President.

Visit the International website and click on “Home” if you wish to view the meeting minutes, the current budget and recent financial statements.

Congratulations to the following District VIII Gyros who garnered the following awards:

- Best bulletin for medium sized clubs – Sherwood Park, [Scott Brisbin](#), editor.
- Best District Governor bulletin – [Alan Pentney](#)
- Merit Award – [Jim Malott](#), Sherwood Park.

And, as a final item of interest from the Convention, Alan [Pentney](#) and [Dale Woodroffe](#) were the winner and runner-up respectively in the photo scavenger hunt contest. Alan nosed out Dale by lending his camera to a float plane pilot who captured required photos of an aerial view of Red Lake and a moose.



Clockwise from the lower left – 1. McKenzie Island Gyro clubhouse; 2. Clubhouse front lawn and boat dock; 3. Gold mine tour; 4. Human Foosball.

Here and There in District VIII

[Fred Schulte](#), the Edmonton club's bulletin editor, has prepared a special edition of "Gyrolog" in celebration of the club's 95th anniversary. It chronicles the history of the club and gives tribute to the contributions made by many of the club's members over the years. A link to this excellent bulletin has been posted on the District VIII website.

Kudos to the [Nelson](#) club for getting a website up and running.

The [Stampede City](#) club is organizing this year's [Curlarama](#) which will be held in Banff from November 4 to 6. You don't have to be a curler to attend and guests are most welcome. Registration details will be distributed in September but in the meantime mark your calendar for this fun event.

The 2017 District VIII Convention is scheduled to be hosted by the [Wallace](#) club from June 14 to 18. It will immediately follow the 2017 Gyro International Annual Convention which is being held in Vancouver from June 9 to 13. Visit the International website for information concerning the Vancouver Convention as well as the International Interim Convention which will be held in San Diego from January 29 to February 3, 2017.

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I hope that you enjoy the remaining few weeks of summer.

John Hodgson, Governor District VIII.