

District VIII

2019 – 2020 Executive:

Derm Jackman
Governor
(250) 365-3127
dermj65@gmail.com

Sid Slade
Lt. Governor
(780)464-6203
sws.slade@gmail.com

Ken Baker
Secretary-Treasurer
(403)281-0920
ken.baker65@gmail.com

Larry Fenton
Past District Governor
587-224-3176
lfenton6906@gmail.com

Website:
district8.gyro.ws

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 Second!

December 8, 2019

This being my second **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 320** members. Clubs with small memberships and older members are struggling to stay active. The glue in **District 8** lies in the province of Alberta where the larger clubs have a population to draw from. I must commend you all on your efforts to add new friends to our gyro circle. Please keep up your efforts!

Six months have passed since the Drumheller Convention and the **Gyro** circle continues to turn. It amazes me how important **Gyro** is in all our lives. It is fall and usually a time to give thanks for what we all have in our lives, so I thank all of you for being my friend and making **Gyro** such a great organization, to belong to.

Curlarama, in Canmore, was another outstanding event, thanks to the hard work of **PDG John Hodgson**, from the Calgary Club. The hotel was great, the food and curling were outstanding and what more can one say about the friendship. It was awesome to see so many non - gyro guests attending. I enjoyed it so much I'm looking forward to next year, already. I have included some pictures of the winning teams.

Congratulations to the winners...



"A Event"

2019 Calgary

*Larry Fenton, Jay Likely, Lorne Kelly,
Wayne Lewanzick*



"B Event"

2019 Sherwood Park

*Bill Austin, Jim Malott,
Al Govenlock, Ted Ewanchuk*



"C Event"

2019 Calgary

*John Hodgson, Bill Schultz,
Dave Jenner, Lloyd Godfrey*



"D Event"

2019 Sherwood Park

*Ray Davis, Dave Rozak, Don Greig,
Terry Bajer*

Countless Gyros have been introduced to Gyro, for the first time, by being invited to Curlarama as guests. Curlarama continues to be an outstanding opportunity for a guest to realize he is amongst a most friendly group whose sole purpose for being there is to relax and have fun. A remark once made by one of our senior Gyros, after a final game, that neatly sums up the "Curlarama Experience" is:

"IT'S NOT ABOUT THE CURLING".

Thanks for your service to all Gyros & Gyrettes, present and past, who have served our countries.





Soon Christmas will be here, and it will be a time to get together with our friends and families and keep that circle of friendship and love we share outside of Gyro moving. On behalf of **Lillian** and myself, we would like to wish all our **Gyro & Gyrette** friends and their families, a **Safe, Joyous Christmas**, and good health in the **New Year**, to come. We look forward to your company, at the **Medicine Hat Convention**, in May.

International Technology Committee:

In a thorough review of the database to ensure everything was being properly accounted for, the Tech Committee identified content that was being hosted in the database that would better be suited for the district and international website due to its non-sensitive nature. By hosting this content outside of the database, it allows all Gyros to access and share it easily without a username and password. This includes the History Info section, the Other Links section, and the Calendar sections.

In exploring where content would be moved, and how it would best look, the Tech Committee identified the new design for Gyro websites (originally planned for after the database migration) to be closely tied to this and a decision was made to setup and test the new design for the History Info section and Calendar sections. Testing this will allow the committee to most efficiently help Club Webmasters take ownership of content.

To work towards a smooth transition of content, a joint meeting between the Tech Committee and Club Webmasters was held to explain the plan in more detail. Additionally, members of the Tech Committee have been in contact with the Club Webmasters throughout the process.

On October 15, the website hosting for all Gyro International hosted sites was moved to a new platform that will allow us to have additional space, faster loading times, and enhanced security.

Additionally, following great feedback from members on how e-mails are sent/would ideally be sent from the database, integration with the "SendGrid" email system is being tested to ensure a proper fit.

While the extra time completing these tasks will inevitably push the launch date of the new database further into 2020, the committee is continuing to work hard towards our goals and the many volunteer hours of its members is greatly appreciated.

International Membership Committee:

IPIP Matt Johnson is chairing a **Membership Committee** and the current make-up of the committee consists of **Dan Bliss, Derm Jackman, Harold Bernard, Don Patterson,** and **Roger Lindley**. The committee will look at ways and ideas to increase membership & the potential to increase membership.

Club Visitations:

In September, **Lillian & I** attended the **Stampede City & Calgary Club Installation** and were hosted by **District Secretary/Treasurer Ken Baker & his wife Ann**. The **Stampede City** Installation was held at the **Carriage House** and included an outstanding brunch. I installed **Brad Hinds** as the new **Club President**. A slide show of remembrance was put on to remember **Gyro Bob Rowan**. **PIP/PDG Ian Grieg** presented **Gyro Ted Gaffney** with his **50year pin and plaque**. Much **Gyro** friendship was shared. Thank you, **Stampede City**, for your hospitality.

Later in the week we were hosted by **PDG John Hodgson & Laura** for a great meal and an evening of **Gyro** friendship and hospitality. Thanks **John & Laura** for your hospitality.

We were also hosted to a **Meet and Greet** at **Dave & Dian Jenner's** home where there was much **Gyro** hospitality; thanks **Dave & Dian** for your hospitality.

We had a **Meet and Greet** at **District Secretary/Treasurer Ken Baker's** home before the **Calgary Club Installation** which took place at the **Hotel Blackfoot**. I met with the incoming executive and we had a very informative discussion about **Gyro** and where it is heading and how we can try to make it better & attract new members. I installed **Ken Baker** as the new **Club President** and two new members: **Larry Doupe & Sharron** and **Dave Tisdale & Alaine**. Welcome **Larry & Sharron, Dave & Alaine**. I also presented a **25 Year Pin** to **Bill Schultz** and **Garry Davies**. There were also some **10 and 15 Year Tags** presented. The evening was capped off with some great entertainment from **Paul Isaak** a very dynamic juggler, from **Calgary**. An outstanding event & hospitality. Thank you to all of you for making us feel so welcome.

We also attended the **Cranbrook Club** Installation, in October, where I installed **Dr. Glen McIver** as the new **Club President**; and their new executive for the coming year. We had a very enjoyable evening of hospitality and **Gyro** friendship. Thanks **Cranbrook**.

Past District Governors:

Reminder to all **PDG's** if there is anything you want to add to the agenda for the **PDG's** meeting in **Medicine Hat** to please email or contact **IPDG Larry Fenton** at **lfenton6906@gmail.com**

Reminders:

Please keep in mind that the **District Executive** is always looking for new candidates, for executive positions, and that it is very rewarding to serve on the **District Executive**. Please consider taking a turn on the **District Executive**.

If you have any suggestions or ideas on how to bring in new members and you want to share them with the rest of your friends, in District, please let me know and I will make every effort to pass on your ideas.

Upcoming Conventions:

- **District 8 Medicine Hat, AB:** May 28 – 31, 2020 – hosted by the **Stampede City Club**
http://www.gyro.ws/stampedecity/Convention_2020.html
- **District 4 & International, Victoria, BC:** June 9 –14, 2020 – hosted by the **Victoria Gyro Club**
<https://victoriagyro.com/victoria2020/>

1st International Vice President Alan Pentney, Stampede City Club, will be installed as **International President**, at the **Victoria Convention**. Please make an effort to attend this Convention and show your support for **Alan & Tara** and for **Gyro**.

Yours in Gyro,

Derm Jackman
District 8 Governor

'A Fraternity of Friendship'