

Gyro District 8 Governor's Newsletter



Duncan Mills

I am not very adept at the "Cut and Paste" thing, so it was far from my intention that MY picture would be on this newsletter bigger than the Gyro International or District VIII logos!

Compliments of the season to everyone in Gyro District VIII. This is Dunc Mills from Edmonton, your current Governor, with a long-overdue but hopefully timely Newsletter that I am sending out to all the clubs in the district plus some other selected recipients in the Gyro family. Since I was elected / appointed / railroaded / , pick one or more, as the 2023-2024 Governor at the District VIII convention in Calgary back in July, I have had the pleasure of participating in many club functions throughout District VIII. It was my goal to personally visit every club in the District during my term in office and if you count a visit to Wallace ID back in February for their Installation Night when I was still Lt. Governor, I will complete my District Tour on New Years' Day when I will be attending the Regina Gyro Club's annual Levee, their major social event of the year. I haven't been in Regina in about 40 years,

and I am really looking forward to meeting the Rider Pride gang at their Levee on New Years' Day.

I'm thinking of a side hustle of getting tee shirts made up,,,,Dunc's District Tour 2023-24 with all the clubs listed. I should be able to get at least \$25 a shirt; \$50 if autographed.....if Taylor Swift can sell the merch, I should be able to as well,,,,,just a thought.

Club Visitations

Naturally, it's much easier for me living in Edmonton to get out to visit both Calgary clubs, plus the Sherwood Park and Edmonton Gyro clubs. But in company of Lt Governor Ted Ewanchuk of Sherwood Park, Secretary - Treasurer Ken Baker of the Calgary Gyro Club and Past International President Alan Pentney of Calgary, the four of us made a road trip in late September to both the Nelson and Cranbrook BC clubs. Derm Jackman brought members of the Castlegar BC club over to Nelson, so in the two days, we were able to meet virtually all of the Gyro members in southeastern BC and enjoyed their fantastic hospitality.

I have been to many functions in Edmonton and Calgary over the last six months, including three Christmas parties as well as Installation Nights, horseshoes, bocce, cribbage, pool and fundraising auctions.



I did double duty as Santa which I have to admit was a blast. I think it's fair to say that the Edmonton, Sherwood Park and Calgary clubs' holiday dinners were glad to see Santa and his bag of gifts!

2024 District 8 Convention

We are pleased to announce that we have finalized dates and a location for the 2024 District 8 Convention! Please mark your calendars for :

***Wednesday, June 19 & Thursday, June 20, 2024
in Lacombe, AB.***

The District Committee felt it was very important to have a convention next year, and although no one specific club was able to step up to volunteer to host the event by itself, the district will ensure that we have a convention. Many clubs have already pledged their support as both volunteers and with promises to attend.

We talked a lot with club leaders across the district to get feedback about what Gyros wanted. You will note that the 2024 Convention will be only two days, not the usual three. There are a lot of advantages to shortening up the convention by a day, not the least of which was the reduced costs, and the location of Lacombe will be very central for all the clubs in both the Edmonton and Calgary areas.

Registration costs will be low, and Treasurer Ken Baker has worked out a budget that will amaze you! More details will be forthcoming very soon on the district 8 website. Lacombe is a wonderful small city of about 20,000 people an hour south of Edmonton and only two hours north of Calgary. The host Best Western hotel we have selected is literally within walking distance of every event we have planned, including golf, a women's luncheon, bocce, horseshoes, city walking tours, a Concert in the Park in front of City Hall and a Dine Around Lacombe opening night. The theme for the convention will be. " 2024 Gyro Summer Celebration " as the convention will help kick off the first days of summer with an emphasis on casual summer clothing and **FUN!!!**

Marty Larson's 60th Anniversary in Gyro

Marty Larson of the Edmonton Gyro Club is well known as "Mr. Gyro" in the Edmonton Gyro Club. Marty has been an icon in Gyro for 6 decades, and has served Gyro in virtually every capacity, including a term as International President.

Marty is celebrating his 60th Anniversary as a member of the Edmonton Club on Friday, January 26,2024. We are going to honour Marty's incredible career in Gyro with a luncheon at the Mill Woods Golf Club in Edmonton, open to Gyros, Gyrettes, wives of members and any friends of Marty that would like to be in attendance. To make it as easy as possible for Gyros from Edmonton and Calgary to attend, we thought that a luncheon would allow for travel to and from Edmonton without having to incur the costs of a hotel, or night-time driving. We will be finalizing a menu and costs with the Mill Woods GC right after New Years with full details of this very important and memorable event to come out in a separate media release to District 8 clubs and members.

Just think about a 60-year career in Gyro for a minute! I was in Grade 8 when Marty joined Gyro and I'm now almost 73 years old. The Edmonton club still had some charter members from our club's

beginnings in 1921 when Marty joined. JFK had just been assassinated and The Beatles were set to appear on the Ed Sullivan Show. And here we are ready to recognize Marty and Shirley's incredible contributions to Gyro.

Presidents - please let your club's members know about both the Convention and Marty's 60th Anniversary luncheon. If you have any questions for me about these events, or anything about District 8 Gyro plans, please feel free to email or phone me.

**Yours in Gyro Friendship,
Dunc Mills
The Gov.
ph. 780.446.5537
email: curlerguy@gmail.com**