

District VIII of Gyro International 2008 – 2009

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September 23, 2008

Well it has only taken me a little over a month to sit down and send out my first correspondence to the club presidents. I hope I have your email addresses correct and that you will pass on the information enclosed to all your members.

I would like to start by thanking all that attended the convention in Nelson this past August. It was a great turn out (240 gyros and dates) which is the largest turn out in some time. The Nelson club did a great job and I know that we all enjoyed hosting such an appreciative group.

Over the coming year I hope to see as many clubs as possible and will along with the other members of the executive continue to keep the fun in Gyro. I would like to work at the club level to stress that incoming members of the club executives have some guidance with respect to their new positions and will be looking to clubs to share any information that they have with those clubs that may desire such. At the convention this summer the Past District Governor's requested that a group of us get together and discuss possible changes to conventions and interim structure to make it more desirable for members to attend and smaller clubs to participate in the hosting of a convention so if you have any suggestions please get back to me.

On the membership bandwagon we all need to come to the realization that we are getting older as a club and we need to continue to allow our group of friends to grow to keep our clubs alive. I think it is important that we focus on the basic principle of GYRO which is FRIENDSHIP. This is the simplest concept in the world and we can not loose site of it. Every club has its strengths and weaknesses and we need to focus on those strengths for expansion. The answer that we need younger members just does not cut it with me. We need to focus our attention on bringing in new members as friends and not look at their age. It is far to easy to say we are to old to attract younger members and just do nothing so lets look at what brought us into gyro and see if we can generate some enthusiasm in our clubs regarding membership. I have never seen a gyro for their age (except to marvel at some of you) but simply as my friend. I am now jumping off the wagon.

Please keep in mind the upcoming events with Curlarama on Nov 7-9th in Banff. You do not need to be a curler as I prove each year. They have a new structure which went over well last year which included a very inexpensive Texas Holdem game on Saturday night to keep those not interested in the Bars busy and it worked great. We are hoping to see more District IV members this year which is great. There is also the International Interim in New Orleans in January and our own Interim in Fairmont from March 13-15 2009. These are all great opportunities to make some new friends and connect with some you may have lost touch with. If nothing else you get see the new Governor and Secretary Treasurer keeping the fun in Gyro.

Hope I have not bored or depressed anyone. Please feel free to contact me at any time with questions or comments.

Regards
Joe Vingo
Governor Gyro District VIII