

District VIII of Gyro International 2003-2004

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District VIII Governor's Bulletin – Edition #3 – Feb. 29, 2004

Past Events

Visitations

Cranbrook's Installation in January was the only District visitation scheduled since our last Bulletin. Mary Anne and I, along with the Fillos, the Aspeslets, and Gyros and Gyrettes from the Nelson Club were treated royally and a good time was had by all. This scarcity of visitations is about to end however, as we see a busy schedule around the District through until July.

International Interim Meeting – Melbourne, Florida

151 Gyros and Gyrettes were at this meeting (to quote International President Arnie Crass) "to do the work of Gyro and have some good fellowship and friendship". Besides Mary Anne and I, the Aspeslets and the Griegs attended from District VIII. You all should have received by now a summary of this meeting from International President Arnie but I will reiterate some of the highlights:

- To trim future expenses, the Board of Governors voted to implement a change to reduce by one day the length of the International Interim Meeting and the International Convention. The shortened Interim Meeting days will begin in 2006 and the shortened International Convention will begin in 2007. This is the earliest that they can be implemented due to existing hotel commitments. For District representatives this reduces the number of meeting days from three to two for the International Interim.
- Since last July Gyro has seen a net increase in total membership of 5% which is encouraging for the future of Gyro. As well, prospects look encouraging for the formation of several new clubs.
- This year about 50 Gyros participated in the membership symposium that gave representatives the opportunity to present what was working successfully in their District to bring in new members. A good list of ideas and successful programs was developed from this and will be distributed by 2nd Int. VP Al Sinicrope.

During this short stint on your District Executive (which has resulted in travelling to these International functions) we have come to know and enjoy the company of many gyros and gyrettes from other parts of North America. This experience has been both enriching and most enjoyable for Mary Anne and I. We encourage all Gyros to also experience this by extending your participation in Gyro beyond your local club.

Coming Events

District VIII Interim March 26-28, 2004 – Fairmont Hotsprings

- At last count we had 89 rooms booked so this promises to be another great turnout of District Gyros
- Late comers should check with the hotel – there just might be rooms available due to cancellations, etc.
- Please review the minutes of our last meeting (from the Wallace Convention). These are being sent along as well as being available on our District Website.
- Any new agenda items? – please let me know before March 23.

International Convention June 24-27, 2004 – Syracuse, NY

- All information and registration forms available on the Gyro International Website.

- Four hours drive from Hamilton (335km) or Ottawa (306km)
- Make a holiday trip of it: Scenic 1000 Islands, Niagara Falls, Wine Country, Anirondack Mtns., etc.

District VIII Convention Aug 5-8, 2004 – “Rocky Mountain Rendezvous”

- In beautiful Waterton National Park at the Bayshore Inn
- hosted by the Lethbridge Gyro Club (\$325/couple)
- Whats included? Thur. - evening meal; Fri. - bocce, hiking, tours, BBQ and evening Waterton Lake Cruise with refreshments; Sat. – lunch and dinner and dance; Sun. breakfast.
- Hotels are being booked up so get your hotel registration in as soon as possible.

District Membership

- We have encouraged all the clubs to have a Membership Chairman (and many do), to plan their activities to include opportunities for prospective members, and to consider use of the Betterment Fund. Prospective Member Kit material has now been distributed to each club and this material is available on request from District and is also available on the Gyro International website.
- District clubs have added fifteen new members since last summer and several clubs have additional prospects as well. However we have lost 27 members during this same period so our net is dismal.
- We recognize that within those clubs consistently attracting new members there are some key “spark plugs” who make it work. We are all indebted to those amongst us who are insuring the growth of Gyro for the future.

Communications

Gyro International Website - has an “all new look” and is easier to use and more informative. Most of the forms needed for membership issues, visitations, etc. are now available as are prospective member kit material. Summaries of recent events and pictures as well as “all you want to know” about upcoming functions (including application forms) are there. The Gyro Store is also there with pictures of the merchandise and order forms.

District VIII Website – continues to slowly mature as our webmasters time permits. Club and District Bulletins are posted and a list of District Events, and other District information is available. Look for District Convention information and registration forms to come.

Regards,



Al Clark
Governor District VIII

