

District VIII of Gyro International 2010 – 2011

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District VIII
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EDMONTON
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STAMPEDE CITY

TRAIL

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September 25, 2010

For my first of several reports to the District VIII Gyro Club Presidents, I would like to emphasize that I do sincerely appreciate the opportunity to be of service to our membership, and respectfully request that these news and views bulletins be passed on to all club members by whatever means best serves your Club.

We on the District Executive are well aware that many members are not at all interested in District or International matters or participating in events beyond the Club level. I hope to be able to convince those non-believers that the broader Gyro World really is the essential foundation that has kept Gyro thriving for almost 100 years, and is needed more than ever to ensure that "Gyro" survives well into the next 100 years. **All** members are the custodians of the Gyro Social concept and, I am sure, believe in the value of the concept, or they would not be members.

Some, I am sure, voice the question "What do I get for my dues dollars to District and International?" I will try and convince you this year of the benefits to your Club. I want to assure you that the dollars are very prudently expended. I would suggest that there are very few Gyros who do not believe that it is a wonderful vehicle for developing rewarding and long term friendships and providing a constant stream of stimulating and fun social events. Your District and International connections provide a wealth of ideas to enrich your Club activities, opportunities for extending your network of like-minded friends, and providing financial and technical support for many Club initiatives.

Participation beyond the Club level is a great way to enhance your exploration of parts of North America. I ask all of you Club Presidents to try and foster a greater interest in the broader Gyro world.

The latest Gyroscope has been sent out in digital form. Apart from the large number of photos, most of which are not of interest to the average Gyro, there is a wealth of information about the issues and efforts being made to ensure a vibrant future. There is an excellent letter from our own District PIP Ian Greig that is well worth reading that should cause you to reflect on the value of Gyro. Please ensure there is someone in your Club who can help ensure members know how to access it, and if some members do not have access to a computer, copy worthwhile content for them.

A request for feedback of individual preferences for digital or printed copies of the Gyroscope a few months ago received only a 4% response. The Gyroscope is expensive to produce but much more economical in the digital form. Gyro has opted, for now, to ensure all members can receive the document by continuing to provide a printed copy,

but only to those who cannot receive it digitally. Could you all please canvas your members and determine the names of those who do want a printed copy. We will assume the remainder can live with the digital form. The fewer printed copies needed, the lower will be the cost. Please forward that information to me, or Emil Baijot.

Like all social and service clubs Gyro has seen membership slowly declining in this age of complex and stressful lifestyles. One of my priorities is to assist in providing a simple more user- friendly and effective membership recruitment process. I will be sending it out within the next month and would ask for your support in implementing it at your club level.

My Best regards to you and your Club Members

Don Boyle