



Caloosa Capers

Caloosa Gyro Club, Cape Coral FL



VOL. 6 Issue 63

December, 2023

CALOOSA GYRO CLUB OFFICERS:

President.....John Bint

Secretary.....Pete Stocker

**Directors..... Bill Burns, John Styles,
Richard Leister**

1st Vice President & Treasurer.....Ronn Skolnik

2nd Vice President.....Ed Roever

Bulletin Editor.....Pete Stocker

Membership Chairman.....Steve Anderson

Don't forget to send, or call with best wishes to your friends. Stay in touch!

BIRTHDAYS: John Kachmar-January 1, Candy Swalheim-January 2, Heinz Remus-January 18,
Jack Lyon-January 19, Arlene Glazier-January 24, Carla Kachmar-January 28,

ANNIVERSARIES: (None in January)

"A true friend is the best Possession" –Ben Franklin

CLUB SCHEDULE:

January 3, 2024, Wed. 11:45 AM – (Stag) Luncheon at Sea-Craft Waterfront Tiki, Marinatown, N Ft Myers

January 17, 2024, Wed. 11:45 AM – (Stag) Luncheon at Sea-Craft Waterfront Tiki

January 19, 2024, Fri. 4:00 PM – Couples' Gathering at Barb and Bob Robertson's

See Invitation emailed on 12/19 and 12/31/23 for address and details

CALOOSA CLUB NEWS:

Several "Snowbirds" are now back! Welcome back to "Paradise"!

From Steve Anderson:

Christmas Comes Early to Caloosa Gyro

It was a perfect Florida evening 12-9-2023, without snow and without intruding humidity allowing pool side banter and the joyful sound of friends greeting each other. Christmas cheer and goodwill was felt by all friends and guests who appeared and bringing a rich variety of food and beverages to ring in the Holiday in Gyro Style.

30 Elves wearing variations of Santa Hats, holiday jewelry, and Christmas shirts quickly placed their potluck offering on the serving table, headed out to the bar while wishing, "Merry Christmas to all." The enthusiasm was electric.

The Anderson home was decorated in full holiday spirit. Mistletoe was not required to induce some "huggin and some kissin." What a great way to celebrate the season, thankful for the unselfish gift of friendship.

"Goose" Anderson offered his reading of a familiar Christmas message but titled, "Twas the Night AFTER Christmas" using names of club members and wives as reindeer, and fictional family. Later, at dusk when the Christmas lights shone brightly the attendees were challenged (in groups/teams) to compete in a "Christmas Trivia" contest of 25 questions. Truly amazing how well these aging children recalled names of actors, songs, movie characters, and especially Biblical passages. They had learned the meaning of Christmas as youngsters. God Bless us all!

Christmas Carol sheets were provided for our annual, enthusiastic, "song fest." The group effort was sincere but somewhat less animated as in previous years. Old age, eh? The most popular song, "Santa Baby" by Eartha Kitt, was very earthy and enjoyed by every soprano and tenor who lifted their voice in the moment.

The evening was a success, partially because of the group effort and a superior job of clean up before the last Elf had left. Mr. and Mrs. Claus were very thankful.

Wishing you all a safe and happy 2024

INTERNATIONAL NEWS:

The 2024 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION, "FRIENDS GALORE IN '24" is scheduled for JUNE 2-6, 2024 in NIAGARA FALLS! It will be HOSTED BY: DISTRICT 3, PORT COLEBORNE NIAGARA SOUTH, and PETERBOROUGH.

The Caloosa Gyro Club has many snowbird members in Ohio and New York who, along with Florida full timers will be attending in mass! Mark your calendars now. Further information will follow on receipt.

MISCELLANEOUS:

A few witticisms and one-liners:

- “Nothing spoils a good story more than the arrival of an eye-witness.” –Mark Twain
- If you dropped something when you were younger, you just picked it up. When you’re older and you drop something, you stare at for just a bit contemplating if you actually need it anymore.
- It’s fine to eat a test grape in the produce section, but you take one bite of rotisserie chicken and it’s all “Sir, you need to leave!”
- Never trust an electrician with no eyebrows.

CURRENT PROSPECTS LIST/NEW MEMBERS: (Please provide names of any new Prospects!) **SPONSOR:**

Ron Neurohr-Prospect
Mike Wojchick-Prospect
Ed Pasteur – Prospect

Dave Stokley
Dave Stokley
Steve Anderson

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Hello Gyros,

Now 2023 has come to an end, I would like to look back at some of the very enjoyable social events that our Events Committee put together. What a year it has been for our club. We held 21 Stag lunches and 14 Couples functions, which must be a record for us. Among the Highlights of the Couples functions were the 2 Golf tournaments, our Annual Picnic, Entertaining at the Styles home and a Barbecue at Herons Glen. July 4th was celebrated at the Three Fisherman's restaurant and in August a visit made to the Cape Cabaret. The Anderson's entertained us at home with the Gyro International President's reception and also the Christmas party.

A Big Thank You to all of the organizers of these events.

The Events Committee has already begun to plan the functions for 2024 and we will be letting you know where and when they will take place.

I wish you all a very Happy and Healthy New Year.



John Bint

Message from the Membership Chairman, Steve Anderson

It's Your Life to Build

Edgar Allen Poe, before he died at the age of 40 under circumstances probably involving alcohol poisoning, he confessed his problem. "It has not been in the pursuit of pleasure that I have periled life and reputation and reason," he said. Rather, it was "a sense if insupportable loneliness. *

Friendship is one of the primary pillars of building a happier life. Friends can lighten the load of the heaviest days. There are few joys in life as wonderful as seeing close friends after a long separation. Without friends no one can survive. This is the clear conclusion from decades of research.

"Friendship accounts for almost 60 percent of the difference in happiness between individuals, no matter how introverted or extroverted they are." A life without close friends is like a home in the winter (in Massachusetts) without heat. The percentage of Americans who say they have fewer than three close friends has doubled since 1990.*

The reasons for this sound an awful lot like Poe syndrome, but on a mass scale. We are willfully neglecting friendships, and even pushing them away. Our fixation on screens and social media makes it easier to be alone than ever, and many young people even confess that making friends in person now feels awkward or frightening.* When one is aging, or ill, it feels impossible.

In a poll long after the pandemic lockdowns had ended, 21 percent of respondents said that socializing had become more important to them since the corona-virus outbreak, but 35 percent said it had become less important. Many of us have simply forgotten how to make friends.*

The good news is that, through Gyro, it's never too late to relearn friendship skills and restart old relationships. How truly simple it is, to "Share Gyro with a Friend," and to "Bring a friend to Gyro." Our fellowship is infectious and spreads easily when guests are invited to participate in fun-filled activities. When we are, "present and positive", introducing new friends strengthens our club and enriches our lives as well. The reward is by no means insignificant. "Hello Gyro"

The gift of friendship is yours to give.

- Quotes from, Build the Life You Want. Arthur C. Brooks

