



Caloosa Capers

Caloosa Gyro Club, Cape Coral FL



VOL. 6 Issue 68

May, 2024

CALOOSA GYRO CLUB OFFICERS:

President.....Steve Anderson

Secretary.....Bill Beadle

Directors – Committee Chairs:

John Bint (Communications),

Richard Leister (Events Planning)

Vice President.....(Vacant)

Treasurer.....Ronn Skolnik

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: **Deborah Phinney-June 7, Gerry Gurtowski-June 8, Ronn Skolnik-June 18,**
 Bill Burns-June 29

ANNIVERSARIES: **Richard Leister and Roxanne Lawrence-June 14, Doug & Arlene Glazier-June 20.**

"Without friends the world is but a wilderness"
-Francis Bacon (1561-1626)

CLUB SCHEDULE:

June 2 -6 International Convention (Couples), Winnipeg, Manitoba, CA

June 19, 2024, Wed. 11:45 AM – (Stag) Luncheon at Pete Stocker's home, 4808 SW 20th PL, CC, FL 33914

CALOOSA CLUB NEWS:

Caloosa Club Members:

Please refer to emails from Steve Anderson dated May 5 with attached Gyro Structure Proposal, and reminder dated May 23. Any comments and suggestions are needed by NLT June 1st, for discussion following the International Convention. For your convenience, a copy of the Proposal is attached to this email.

Our only couples' function in May was a dinner cruise that had to be cancelled due to bad weather!

Here are some communications from World Travelers John Bint and Bill Burns:

From: John Bint [mailto:standlake@ameritech.net]

Sent: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 6:53 PM

To: Steve Anderson; Bill Beadle; Pete Stocker; Ronn Skolnik; Bill Burns; Richard Leister; John Styles; Ed Roeever; Gerry Gurtowski; Heinz Remus; Jack Lyon

Subject: Portugal

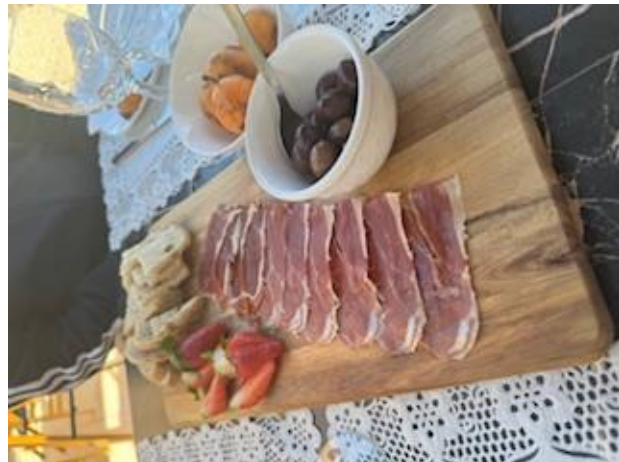
Hi Everyone, On Sunday evening, and after two flight delays, I finally arrived in Faro, in the Algarve region of Portugal. My daughter and two friends are here with me to celebrate her birthday.

The weather here is similar in temperature to Ohio and is around mid 70s, with blue skies. A little cool for swimming, but perfect for walking and sightseeing. So far we have been to the beach and to the mountains, which are only a short drive away. I have tried two traditional Portuguese meals, the first was fried octopus (not my favorite) and today we went to a winery for wine tasting and tapas. The tapas were excellent, especially the "black pig meat", which is like prosciutto, and goat cheese, which we washed down with 4 different glasses of local wine!! The guide at the winery also played guitar and sang and asked if anyone would like to sing, so of course after 4 glasses I had to give a chorus of "Sweet Caroline"!!

Regards

John

The following are John's Photos of Portuguese Meals and Tapas (no recording of "Sweet Caroline"):



From: Bill.Burns@BurnsAutomation.com [mailto:Bill.Burns@BurnsAutomation.com]

Sent: Wednesday, May 22, 2024 2:34 AM

To: 'John Bint'; 'Steve Anderson'; 'Bill Beadle'; 'Pete Stocker'; 'Ronn Skolnik'; 'Richard Leister'; 'John Styles'; 'Ed Roever'; 'Gerry Gurtowski'; 'Heinz Remus'; 'Jack Lyon'

Subject: RE: Portugal

Hi John and the Gang:

So, since we are giving travel updates here's mine.

Leslie, my son Bob, and I arrived in Barcelona yesterday. The weather is great, low 70's and sunny. We went to a restaurant our first night here and also enjoyed octopus (Leslie passed) as well as 4 other tapas dishes including a Spanish bruschetta, crispy sardines, lamb tacos, and ox tail sandwich. Today we will go to the Picasso museum. The following day we visit the Gaudi designed Sagrada Familia Basilica where construction began 130 years ago and is scheduled for completion in 2026!

Four more days in Barcelona then fly to Lyon France where we will stay at a rental house in the Provence countryside for about a week. I'm renting a car for local exploration and will end up in Strasbourg, France for a couple of days. We'll take a train to Munich, rent another car, and explore Bavaria for a few days. We finish the trip at a house rental in Wiesbaden. Bob and I will attend a trade show for a couple of days in Frankfurt then fly home on June 13.

I will be flying to Ft Myers on June 15 to oversee the installation of a new dock since mine was damaged by hurricane Ian.

Regards,

Bill Burns



Sur le Pont d'Avignon



Leslie Burns Sur le Pont d'Avignon



District X News Follows:

GYRO INTERNATIONAL

DISTRICT - X

A Fraternity of Friendship

Governor: Steve Anderson-Caloosa Gyro Club of SW Florida

DISTRICT X GOVERNORS REPORT

AGM, NIAGARA FALLS, JUNE, 2024

"It is not what we have in life, but who we have in our life that matters"

Greetings from Gyro District X. We are alive with one strong club and offer heartfelt wishes that our Fraternity of Friendship and its' members enjoy the proximity of interclub events with other clubs in their Districts.

District X has seen 6 of its 7 clubs resign their Charters in the last 5 years. The same malady that strikes a disheartening number of clubs throughout Gyro also infected previously good clubs here in Florida. Death took four members of the Gasparilla club, 3 of whom were past Governors, and International Presidents.

Sarasota spark plug President and Past Governor fell ill and was unable to keep the fun alive for his members who wished not to serve in his place. Ft Lauderdale members, after recycling 2 of its repeat Presidents several times, fell exhausted and were disinterested in continuing to support any activity that involved District or Int'l events.

It is a repeat story that foretells a challenging future for our Fraternity of Friendship. It does not, however, describe finality. Rather, it illuminates the accepted proposition that "membership retention" is the critical component that supports "Keeping the Fun in Gyro." It also spotlights positive/active club membership recruiting programs.

External expansion in our past history provided new clubs being formed in the decades following WWI, WWII and Korea. 30+ new clubs were chartered in each of those "Post War Recovery Periods." Troops returning from harms-way understood the value of friendship and were eager to connect. The U.S has been involved in 15 "shadow wars," and some directly since 2001. Would returning Vets today be any less motivated for shared friendship? Let's announce Gyro to them!

District 10 intends to rebuild with the addition of new friendship clubs by targeting retirement communities, new modern cities that have been developed, special- interest groups composed of Baby Boomers as members of associations of retired Teachers, Lawyers, Physicians, Military, Police, Fire Fighters, Accountants, Financial planners, and Realtors.

Plans for rebuilding District X have been drafted on four platforms:

1. Growing the Caloosa Club (currently 31 members) so that two smaller clubs may be formed by bedding the members geographically into the N Fort Myers and Cape Coral Clubs.

2. Babcock Ranch is a newly developed, self-sustaining, solar powered, "Green City" with over 300 homes and more being built. They have their own School, Security, Citizens Committee, Grocery Stores and Shops, etc. A Gyro Club introduction is scheduled for August 2024 with the Rotary Club. All Rotary members are residents of Babcock Ranch. The presentation is provided with 5 minutes for the introduction, then 1 hour networking the assembled tables. Packets, similar to the New Members Kits will be available.

The goal is to either recruit into the two existing clubs mentioned above, or motivate the formation of a Babcock Ranch Club, bringing D-X to 3 clubs. Then repeat in other locations.

3. Reach out to the Retired Professional Associations described above by inviting them as speakers to our Gyro events. Or instead, request the opportunity of being invited as a Gyro Speaker during one of their meetings.

Part B of scheduling speakers, can be used to attract non-Gyro groups to attend. Example:

We have scheduled a couple's luncheon for November 13th with a speaker from Lee County Port Authority (Ft Myers Int'l Airport). The venue is the club house private dining room of Herons Glen, a 1,300 home, Golf-retirement community. A notice of the scheduled Gyro event will be broadcast through the residents' news-letter announcing additional limited space available for those interested. We currently have 13 club members who are HG residents.

4. Health Care Retirement Villages will be contacted to introduce “Independent Living Residents’ to our Fraternity of Friendship, and to the benefits that social contact offers for improved mental and emotional recovery, and longer life to those who feel isolated. It is a real value proposition! We have identified 5 such facilities around Tampa, 5 around Ft Lauderdale, and 5 here in SW Florida. This ignored demographic displays thousands of facilities in the U.S. and hundreds more in Canada. Corporate Management of multiple locations, of these types of facilities would be eager to learn of a “no cost” friendship organization that provides quality of life enhancement to its residents. “Win-Win!”

SUMMARY:

District X is in the search for members who wish to be considered for serving on the D-X EC, all positions. Realizing that D-X has a greatly reduced roster, and that Int’l is holding one convention per year may salve the concerns of candidates that serving the District will not be burdensome or interfere with leisure time.

The Caloosa Club continues to recruit senior citizens, (mature candidates) that bring their “savvy and energetic assets” to strengthen the club. They are stepping up to fill officer positions, and help staff our 3 committees for Event Planning, Communications, and Member Recruiting. Their Gyrettes are also recruiting successfully, and serving on the events committee. “Win-Win!”

“Tell your friends you love them while you have them.”

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Anderson

Gyro District X Governor



Goose

INTERNATIONAL NEWS:

The Gyro International Convention in Niagara Falls, Ontario, is now imminent!

As an additional reminder, The Winter Gyroscope was placed on the Gyro International Website. Members who have not done so will need to set up a password in order to access the Members' Portal which is where the Gyroscope may be found (too large for many computers to receive as a .pdf attachment).

MISCELLANEOUS:

A few "Proverbs" That Missed the Cut:

- How do you tell when you're out of invisible ink?
- Ambition is a poor excuse for not having enough sense to be lazy.
- Why do psychics have to ask you for your name?
- Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.

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

Ed Pasteur (Candidate)

Sponsor: Steve Anderson

Dan Gauy (Possible Associate Member)

Sponsor: Steve Anderson

NEW MEMBERS:

(None in May)

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT and MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN:

Poem taken from the June 2012 GyroScope "Centennial Edition."

Written by Bert Wertman a 44 year member of the Buffalo Club and a recipient of the Award of Merit when he penned this poem in 1979 to remind us all what friendship means.

FRIENDSHIP

Count your garden by the flowers,
Never the leaves that fall.
Count your days by golden hours,
Do not count the clouds at all.
Count your night by stars not shadows,
Count your hours with smiles not tears.
And with the joy throughout your lifetime,
Count your age by friends not years



Goose