



Caloosa Capers

Caloosa Gyro Club, Cape Coral FL



VOL. 5 Issue 58

July, 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: Tedd Cowling-August 3, Julie Cowling-August 3, Elizabeth Wright-August 3, Bob Robertson-August 10, Leslie Burns-August 12, Bill Stein August 19.

ANNIVERSARIES: (None in August.)

"I have noticed that nothing I never said ever did me any harm." –Calvin Coolidge ("Silent Cal")

CLUB SCHEDULE:

August 16, 2023 Wed. 11:45 AM – (Stag) Luncheon at Beef O'Brady's, Santa Barbara (Tentative) Stocker
August 18, 2023 Fri. 5:00 PM – Couples Dinner at Cape Cabaret, Cape Coral, FL Leister-Lawrence-Stocker
(See flyer emailed on November 2)

CALOOSA CLUB NEWS:

On Friday, July 14, a group of Gyros celebrated the 99th birthday of our beloved member Jim Sciple at the Café in Cape Coral. A few pictures follow:



A few days later, Jim was not feeling well, and a visit to the hospital resulted in a diagnosis of late stage leukemia. Jim has declined any life-extending treatment and is comfortable at his ground floor condo, with weekly visits from a Hope Hospice nurse. And currently, his daughter Maria is staying with him for the duration.

A group of Gyros presented Jim with a plaque prepared by Gyro International as a testimonial of our gratitude to have him as our friend and member of the Caloosa Gyro Club. The presentation was repeated on Friday, July 28. We in the Caloosa Gyro Club have been blessed to have Jim Sciple as a member, and more importantly, a friend.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS:

See the Spring-Summer Gyroscope, the Gyro International Newsletter (It's not too late to register for the Int'l Convention.)

In November, current Gyro International President Peter Carter and his wife Eileen are going to be visiting in Orlando followed by two nights in Cape Coral, staying with Steve and Patty Anderson, before going on a cruise. The Andersons are planning to be hosting a social gathering at their home the late afternoon and evening of November 11th.

MISCELLANEOUS:

A few witticisms from a friend:

- A conscience is what hurts when all your other parts feel so good.
- The colder the x-ray table, the more of your body is required to be on it.
- Eagles may soar, but weasels don't get sucked into jet engines.
- The hardness of the butter is proportional to the softness of the bread.

CURRENT PROSPECTS LIST/NEW MEMBERS:

Ron Neurohr-Prospect
Mike Wojchick-Prospect

SPONSOR(S):

Dave Stokley
Dave Stokley

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:



Hello Gyros,

As we all know, Gyro is about Friendship and Camaraderie. How true this is! This week I was taking a trip to Up State New York and I heard that one of our members was also there, near the Canadian border. It was, of course, our own Jack Lyon, who has a cabin in the Adirondack mountains, so we arranged to meet up with him. If you have never been in that area you really should go there. The scenery is beautiful and the small villages and towns are so interesting with stores and restaurants to please the most discerning visitors. Jack suggested that we meet in the village of Old Forge, at the hardware store, where his daughter works. What a remarkable place! It is full of so many things, not just hardware, but books, clothes, kitchen ware and about anything that you might wish to have! We spent around one and a half hours in the store and still did not get to every department. We decided to check those out the next time that we visit Old Forge.

After lunch we visited Jack's summer home and attached is a photograph of us outside of the cabin.

A wonderful day of Friendship and Camaraderie!!

Yours in Gyro Friendship

John Bint



Message from the Membership Chairman, Steve Anderson

GYRO PRIDE

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They stood face to face in quiet conversation for nearly 30 minutes. It was as if they were in a protective cocoon with none of the other 200 Gyro's around them willing to penetrate the private exchange between these 2 silvered hair veterans. The Gyro Convention Theme was "Saving Private Gyro." One wore his WWII Canadian Airforce uniform and the other an American brown leather flight jacket. Both had been Spitfire pilots, perhaps at the same time in the same skies over Europe. Not being privy to the stories they shared made observing the exchange from a respectful distance all the more poignant to the Gyros watching. These two men had performed valiantly on a stage set with a mutual "*Purpose*". Their profile together reflected gallantry.

*

Some years earlier I sat, silently enthralled, listening to another Gyro Canadian Air Force Veteran as he quietly shared the story of how he was the only survivor in his bomber crew when their plane, flying in bad weather, unexpectedly slammed into hillside farmland. He spoke with genuine affection of the locals who rescued and protected him. The Squadron Reunions he now frequently attends in England nourish his soul, & allow him to keep alive the memories of war buddies and civilian friends. He truly understands the "*Power*" of friendship in his life. When he is in view, it is his smile that first greets you.

*

The enemy shore batteries adjusting their range after every barrage were getting closer to making direct hits on the approaching American landing craft. Amid the concussion of exploding shells, and the roar of marine engines at full throttle, there was little time for the young Naval Officer in charge of his boat to remember or think about home and the warm rolling hills of Central Washington. All he wanted to do was to remain "*Poised*", deliver his cargo of Marines safely to the beach and return for another group. He was a Lawyers son who, when returning safely home became a lawyer himself, and then served as a Judge for many years until retirement. His walls are covered with citations, commendations, medals and awards received for many naval engagements, and civic contributions. He is a modest man who holds the respect of all who know him.

*

Many years ago during an Int'l Convention, I became aware, once again, of the special qualities so many Gyros possess. I was getting to know a new Gyro friend who lived in the "Sunshine" state. He was a quiet, understated man who held a Masters Degree, flew 95 F-4 missions during an unpopular war, and retired as a Major from the Airforce. He spoke of how much he enjoyed flying that plane, and the armament it carried, but not once did he speak of, or glorify battle in any way. In fact it was never mentioned. He coached youth sports for many years and recently retired as a Junior High School teacher of American History. He is valued for his honesty & loyalty to friends.

Contributions and sacrifices made by Gyro men for their homelands are not exclusively military in scope. Some years ago we learned that one of our Canadian brothers was a National Recipient of the very prestigious Queens Jubilee award, given in recognition for unique and exemplary services to his community; one of only two given in Canada.

It can be safely assured that hundreds of stories similar to the ones above would be told when calling the roll of our Gyro roster. The membership directory of Gyro is, and always has been filled with men of unspoken courage, men of high character and honor who are dedicated to family, church, and state. Their community involvement demonstrates and reflects a dedication to improve our quality of life. They possess a desire and a willingness to share in the work that brings peace and order to our world.

How fortunate we truly are that our Gyro Founding Fathers sought the companionship of “like minded men” whom also understood the value of friendship, and the satisfying experience of shared fellowship. When the Gyro motto of “*Power, Poise and Purpose*” was suggested, those principles, as they apply to our fraternity, were easily understood and quickly embraced.

When recruiting potential new members, I wonder if injecting a sense of *Pride* into the explanation of Gyro and Gyro principles might be effective, as well as appropriate. Describing the men of high caliber who are involved certainly adds a positive dimension to our fraternity. Doing so may provide motivation for a Gyro candidate to join what has been defined as a unique friendship organization made up of vigorous, active men.

We need not add the word “*Pride*” to our motto of “*Power, Poise and Purpose*”. However, should it not be in our hearts and minds, and on our lips?

Steve Anderson
Caloosa Gyro, Membership
Chairman
Governor, District X