



Caloosa Capers

Caloosa Gyro Club, Cape Coral FL



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June, 2025

CALOOSA GYRO CLUB OFFICERS:

President.....(Vacant)

Secretary.....Bill Beadle

Directors – Committee Chairs:

Bill Beadle (Communications),

Bob McCoy (Events Planning)

Vice President.....(Vacant)

Treasurer.....Edd Huetteman

Bulletin Editor.....Pete Stocker

Membership Chairman.....Steve Anderson

Committee Coordinator.....Pete Stocker

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

BIRTHDAYS: Dave Moffat-July 11, Bob Rowe-July 17, John Bedrick-July 20,

ANNIVERSARIES: Greg & Christine Hagan-July 19, Dave & Sharon Stokley-July 24,
Tedd & Julie Cowling-July 27.

*"The main vice of capitalism is the uneven distribution of prosperity. The main vice of socialism is the even distribution of misery."
-Winston Churchill*

CLUB SCHEDULE:

July 2, 2025, Wed., 11:45 AM (Stag) Luncheon at Sea-Craft Waterfront Tiki, N Ft. Myers

July 4, 2025, Fri., 7:00 PM (Couples) Fireworks Cruise, Kingfisher Fleet, Fisherman's Village, P.G.

July 16, 2025, Wed., 11:45 AM (Stag) Luncheon at Sabal Springs Lake House Restaurant, N Ft. Myers

CALOOSA CLUB NEWS:

Note: The June 25 Cabbage Key Cruise was cancelled due to little interest.

In the May Bulletin, the article on the May 3 Kentucky Derby Party included a "Mystery Couple", with the challenge to guess who the couple was. No one responded to the challenge! The answer was Dave and Cathy Anderson. Dave is a long time Gyro from the Peterborough Club, in Ontario, CA.

The June 3-10 Annual Convention and Alaska Cruise was attended by John and Cathy Styles, who were the only Caloosa Gyros who attended. They enjoyed the Cruise, the weather was not too bad, and they were especially struck by the White Pass & Yukon RR trip to Skagway. Below is a partial copy of the June Bulletin of the Stampede City (Calgary), AB Bulletin the "Stampede City Gyroper" – Editor Alan Pentney is a former PIP (Past International President and new International Secretary-Treasurer, as well as Co-Chair of the Gyro International Restructuring Committee.



STAMPEDE CITY GYROPER

Issue 8 - 2024-2025.

Editor – Alan Pentney

June 14, 2025

EDITORIAL

I joined fellow club members Jim, Dale and Mary Ann on the International Convention Cruise June 3 to 10th to Alaska. We enjoyed being part of 136 Gyros on board. Since we did not have a hospitality room the piano bar at the center of the ship became “Gyro Central” to share stories, team up for meals and plan the next day. Of course, we closed it down every night with even the staff dancing to the tunes.

The 20 Gyros from the Vancouver Island Alberni Club attracted a lot of attention with their white logoed T-shirts. I wore a Gyro lanyard which was noticed by the Captain who asked how we were enjoying the cruise. Those of us wearing our blue badges were asked about Gyro and of course it came up in conversations at meals with others. One result was an Iowa member referring a couple from Didsbury to talk with Ken Baker and me about joining one of our clubs. He commutes to Calgary daily so let’s hope he joins.



The weather was not great, but we were prepared with coats and rainsuits for excursions and just seeing the local sights. The Red Dog Saloon in Juneau did not disappoint with a caustic comedian

and many Gyros quacking as they downed “Duck Fart” shooters (see Jim beginning the toss here) – turns out the ship could make them, but it was not the same ambiance. The day at the Daws Glacier in Endicott Arm was less than expected since the ship did not get close to the glacier due to its size. It was still nice to experience the small icebergs going by in the narrow fiord channel. Humpback whales and porpoises were spied in calm water with a day of waves each direction.

I will cover business information later in the bulletin, but I wanted to give a taste of the “vacation” aspect of this convention. Anyone who attended knew that 3.5 days of the cruise was not Gyro and the expense had to be viewed that way. Speaking of “taste” - the dining room meals were very good and the seven-layer cakes had to be experienced at the café. Now I must lose the weight!



RECENT EVENTS

Gyro Convention – Princess Cruise from Vancouver to Alaska

This is to highlight the Gyro activities on the Convention. It started with a welcome reception in a large aft room with a view of Vancouver as we left. President Mike Eisner welcomed us and acknowledged our District (led by Ted Ewanchuk and Dunc Mills) for arranging the convention. Many reacquaintance conversations and many new introductions. Nice to see Roy and Lynne Penniket of the former Lethbridge club. Also very nice to see six single ladies of former Gyros.

Next day was the Past District Governor’s Meeting with 21 attending. I chaired the meeting that provided a majority opinion on 5 topics to the Board of Governors later that day. The Board of Governors reviewed Financials and the Budget for the coming year. The dues will stay at \$70 but the By-Laws will be adjusted to allow fees up to \$90 in the future. The coffers have in excess of \$100k available. Membership is 1461 – down 212 from 2 years ago. Partly due to a large club, Vancouver, Washington leaving. The Edmonton Club described an invitation extended

to a golf club to join them for a baseball game to recruit members. Port Colborne Niagara has increased from 7 to 30 members in 4 years through networking (they may have to split the club soon). Approval was given for the Calgary location for the next convention on July 13-17, 2026, at the Deerfoot Inn and Casino.



On June 7 the AGM was held to a full house. Dale Woodroffe was our club's delegate. Election of officers occurred: President: Ned Barber (Buffalo); 1st VP: Dunc Mills (Edmonton); 2nd VP: Trevor Slaney (Prince George); Past President: Mike Eisner (Blacklake Ca.) and I was appointed as Secretary- Treasurer. Fortunately for me Ken Baker was appointed as Financial Administrator. The main order of Business was amending the Constitution and By-Laws for implementation of the wording for changing 9 Districts into 3 Regions and moving 3 Regional Directors onto the Executive instead of continuing with District governance. This involved 1000 wording changes. However, 28 motions were tabled in advance on additional changes plus the Past Governors meeting resulted in 2 motions and a few motions were tabled from the floor. Most of the motions were not related to restructuring – in fact one was to go back to District Governance and dues collection – it was defeated. It was made clear that implementation of the changes was not to occur till 2026. A late motion to return the names “District” and “District Governor” for the 3 Districts was approved. Two club motions to permit women as active paying members were defeated (for the 4th

AGM in 10 years). It was a marathon session of 3.5 hours, but the agenda was dealt with.

Next up was the Formal Ceremony. The venue was a large show room. Dignitaries were piped in for awards and installations, outgoing and incoming speeches were made. The last at sea day featured a luncheon for everyone where on behalf of Dale and Jim, I was able to invite Gyros to Calgary for next year's convention and distribute Brochures, so they remember. All in all, a very productive and entertaining convention.



Duncan Mills, John & Cathy Styles (reverse image!)



Outgoing Executive Committee



Outgoing Executive Committee and their Ladies (Dan Durbin, PIP, Master of Ceremony)



Trevor Slaney, International 2nd VP (Standing)



Larry Duba, Fresno Club, Bulletin Editor, PIP



Neil (Gyro of the Year) and Lolita Baker



Alan Pentney, PIP, Int'l Secretary/Treasurer

CALOOSA GYRO VETERANS' PROFILES:

Tedd Cowling has come up with the idea of including the bio of a Caloosa Club Veteran to be included in our monthly bulletin from time to time. Accordingly, Tedd, with help from Pete Stocker and Steve Anderson are conducting interviews with those club veterans who are willing to participate. The first one is Jack Lyon, 92, who was in Korea at the very end of the police action:

Gyro Military Biography

Caloosa Gyro Club
Fort Myers, Florida



John B. Lyon (Jack)

Charter Member

Birthday: 1/19/1933

Born: Toledo, Ohio

Education: Ohio State University, University of Toledo

Residences: Ottawa, Canada; Columbus & Cincinnati, OH; Minneapolis, MN; Cape Coral & Fort Myers, FL

Civilian Occupation: Independent Sales Representative

Military Service: 1953 to 1955

Branch: U.S. Army

Active Service: Korean War

Assignments / Deployments / Operations:

- Fort Knox, KY
- Camp Pendleton, CA
- Japan (Osaka)
- Korea

Civilian Affiliations: VFW, American Legion, Gyro International

Favorite Port of Call: Yokohama, Japan

Coming out of ROTC, Jack was drafted by the US Army. He did his basic training at Fort Knox where he spent 10 weeks going through Radio School. Jack's interest was stirred by his Father's Canadian military service as a Ham radio operator and who once served for a month on a British Man O' War vessel.

After ten weeks of the Fort Knox Radio School, Jack and others were bored with their training because Morse Code was all they taught. Some of the Officers indicated that they had a big Tank school on the base and some of the men jumped over into that. Tank school was another ten weeks of training.

After completion of training, they had the choice of going to Germany or transferring to the Marine base in Camp Pendleton to train on amphibious tanks and tractors. This entailed three months of training where they practiced with the old, old, old Water Buffalos that were used in WWII that scared the heck out of newly recruited Marines since they were so difficult to land and leaked tons of water.

This training took him to Japan, near Osaka, where the Army had stationed one of the last battalions of amphibious craft. This assignment lasted six or seven months before the Army pulled the plug on their amphibious program since the Marines had the most advanced watercraft. So Jack, and others, were left with two choices: go to Germany or go to Korea. He had no desire to go to Germany, so the choice was clear. Korea it was.

A Japanese crew sailed the Army soldiers to Korea over the course of seven days, during which they traded their WWII K-rations for rice with the crew. So in 1954, Jack landed near the DMZ.

Jack was a part of the Tank brigade during his time there and has a number of entertaining Tank stories to share.

Jack came back to the States and enrolled in the University of Toledo and graduated with a degree in Marketing. He later married his sweetheart and raised a family. His son is also a military veteran spending 20 years in the service.

Key lesson and takeaways from Jack's experience in the military:

- I still make my bed every morning
- Spending time with my Kids is most important
- The military taught me to keep focused and moving ahead



Thank you Jack for your Service.

DISTRICT X NEWS:

(None in June)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS:

2026 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

The 2026 Gyro International Convention is scheduled for July 13 (Monday) to July 17 (Friday) in Calgary at the Deerfoot Inn and Casino. Registration and information by September 2025.

Here is the body of a June 12 email from Dan Durbin to the members of the Gyro International Restructuring Committee:

Subject: Update on 2025 Gyro International Convention & Committee Work

Gentlemen,

The 2025 Gyro International Convention was a tremendous success! Over 140 Gyros enjoyed a memorable cruise to several Alaskan ports, including Juneau, Skagway, Ketchikan, and Endicott Arm to view the glaciers. A great time was had by all!

This year's Annual General Meeting included numerous motions (a summary will be provided by the Secretary/Treasurer), but one directly impacted our committee's work. The Past District Governors raised an important point that was later endorsed by the Governors' meeting and formalized as a motion during the AGM. As a result, our proposed constitutional and bylaw changes were amended to revert the titles of "Region" and "Regional Director" back to "District" and "District Governor."

This decision honors club traditions, supports a smoother transition during restructuring, and reduces costs related to pins, plaques, and awards already associated with the "Governor" title.

Additionally, our committee member Alan Pentney served as parliamentarian for this year's AGM and has been appointed as the new International Secretary/Treasurer, succeeding Matt Johnson.

While we've made significant progress—our constitutional and bylaw changes are now official—our work is only halfway done. The next phase focuses on transitioning to the new structure and implementing the new Districts* and District Governors* (*denotes the new structural titles, distinct from the original).

Alan and I will coordinate the next steps. I'll be reaching out soon to schedule a conference call to update the full team and plan our path forward.

Best regards,

Dan Durbin

MISCELLANEOUS:

A few possible "Trueisms":

- Still trying to get my head around the fact that "Take Out" can mean food, dating, or murder.
- Being popular on Facebook (or TikTok) is like sitting at the 'cool table' in the cafeteria of a mental hospital.
- When I lost the fingers on my right hand in a freak accident, I asked the doctor if I would still be able to write with it. He said, "Possibly, but I wouldn't count on it."
- I woke up this morning determined to drink less, eat right, and exercise. But that was four hours ago when I was younger and full of hope.

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

Ron Barrett
Jay O'Brien*
Gary Dubuque
Ronald Glasgow
Dick Muller*
Dick Kline*
Paul Wasserott
Pat Battaglia

Sponsor: Bill Beadle
Sponsor: Steve Anderson
Sponsor: Pete Stocker
Sponsor: John Styles
Sponsor: David Moffat
Sponsor: Bill Beadle
Sponsor: David Moffat
Sponsor: Bill Beadle

*These three men have been voted in to be new members as soon as they are installed, which will be at a stag or couples' function in the near future.

NEW MEMBERS:

(None in June)

MESSAGE FROM THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN:

(Please see Current Prospects/New Members Above.)