In Memoriam

M. Carl Hansen
1933 - 2015

Gyro Honor Key Recipient

Life only comes around once, so do whatever makes you happy, and be with whoever makes you smile.
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Please – when communicating via e-mail, give us your complete name and club affiliation – Thanks!

~ “WITHIN THE SCOPE” ~

GYROPINION:
P/3 The President’s Message
P/4 New & Views from the President
P/11 The Meaning of Gyro Friendship - 1st VP Dana Davidson
P/20 “Fable of the Porcupine”

OF INTERNATIONAL INTEREST:
P/2/ International Officers & District Governors / Contents
P/5/ Gyro becomes truly international
P/6/ From the Editor’s Desk
P/7/ 2015-2016 Budget
P/8/ Financial Report from the AGM
P/9/ Remembering Carl Hansen, Honor Key Recipient
P/14/ Savannah Interim Flyer
P/15/ Savannah Interim Flyer
P/16/ Savannah Registration Form
P/17/ “Camp Gyro” - 2016 Convention in Red Lake, ON
P/19/ Tokyo Gyro Club - “New”
P/22/ Memorial Donations
P/23/ New Mission Statements
P/24/ 2015 International Convention
P/25/ Director of Membership - Initial Work
P/29/ Trivia: The Jerrycan
P/34/ Future Meetings

OF DISTRICT INTEREST:
P/5/ District X Convention
P/6/ District VIII Convention
P/33/ Yorke-Brimacombe Golf Tournament

INDIVIDUAL CLUB EVENTS:
P/10/ Painesville P/21/ Rochester
P/12/ Lethbridge P/22/ San Jose

ABOUT THE COVER:
Dedication to Honor Key Recipient
M. Carl Hansen
As required by Gyro resolution

ABOUT THIS DIGITAL GYROSCOPE:
This issue is in .pdf format. To print a copy, simply select PRINT and the printer will start with pages in order.
To open properly, use the free Adobe Acrobat 7 or higher.
I'm Chris Snyder and I am the new president of Gyro International. It is an honor and a privilege to serve Gyro as your president and I look forward to the coming year.

We're back from the International convention held the last week in Buffalo, hosted by the Buffalo Gyro Club. Thank you Buffalo for a great convention and the affirmation of the true Gyro spirit.

Some say that Gyro is at a crossroads, and that we, as an organization, are not going to survive unless radical change is not forth coming. But is that true? I feel that this organization has become a bit sidetracked on where it is headed. At the Tempe interim convention in January 2014 at one of the seminars, when the discussion was “how to grow clubs”, one of the comments was the “K.I.S.S.” method. I won't put in the whole quote, but it starts “Keep it Simple ___. From the seminars in Tempe came the New Era Committee. Out of that committee came a wealth of ideas to help clubs grow, ideas on parties or events clubs could hold to help attract new members and keep the current members enthusiastic about their membership in Gyro. As I said in Buffalo and I'll repeat here, what other organization offers so much and asks for so little return; where else can you walk into a room full of strangers and find a room full of friends.

Am I over simplifying our organization? I don't think so. After attending the Buffalo convention, I witnessed firsthand what Gyro is all about. Everyone in attendance had a good time and enjoyed getting together with old friends and meeting new friends. What is wrong with that? The challenge is for not just the E.C., or the Governors and Lt. Governors, or the club officers, but all of us as Gyro's to grow this organization. When you talk about Gyro, stay with the positives, what attracted you to Gyro and why you are still a Gyro, and what great clubs we have. We have to stay positive.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve this great organization.

Yours in Gyro Friendship:

Chris Snyder
President, Gyro International

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GYRO INTERNATIONAL BECOMES TRULY INTERNATIONAL

On Saturday, June 27, 2015, the delegates to the Annual General Meeting, held in Buffalo, New York, formally accepted the application of the Tokyo Gyro Club, Japan, to become a member of Gyro International. Thus Gyro is now extended beyond North America in scope.

At the AGM and the evening banquet, the national flag of the new club shared the podium with the flags of Canada and the United States.

Later this summer, 2nd Vice President Dale & MaryAnn Woodroffe will divert time from a planned personal visit to the country to meet with the membership and officially induct the officers.
HELLO, GYRO!

I’m Chris Snyder, the new Gyro International President. This newsletter is going to be an ongoing project by me to keep the Gyro Membership informed on events and news around our organization.

Too often I hear of the perception that there is a lack of communication in general in Gyro. I would like to change that perception, and one way I see to accomplish this is to publish this newsletter on a regular basis.

But I will need your help in this endeavor. Communication is a two-way street. I cannot write about events in our clubs without you, our members, communicating back to me or the other Executive Council members, so we can get the news out to our membership. In the meantime, I will keep the lines of communication open for all.

In the coming year, I will have with me the following officers:

• 1st International V.P. Dana Davidson
• 2nd International V.P. Dale Woodroffe
• 3rd International V.P. Matt Johnson
• Immediate Past International President Lonnie Turner

One of the duties of this year’s International Officers is the responsibility to communicate with the Districts. The International Officer assignments are as follows:

• Districts I and II – Chris Snyder
• Districts III and VI – Dana Davidson
• Districts VII and VIII – Dale Woodroffe
• Districts IV and IX – Matt Johnson
• District X – Lonnie Turner

I’m publishing this information so the District Governors and Officers know there is an International Officer who they can contact and an Officer who will be in contact with them on a regular basis.
NEW CLUB IN TOKYO

Many thanks to PIP Larry Duba for all the hard work he did in helping to establish a new Gyro Club in Tokyo, Japan. The new charter was approved at the Annual General Meeting in Buffalo. The new district will be D-XIII. I’ll have more information in future editions of this newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP

I had the pleasure of installing two new members at the recent Painesville Gyro club officer installation. Welcome to Gyro Don Leaman (Mary Jo) sponsored by Richard Iafelice, and Gary Swan- son (Jackie) sponsored by Andy Meinhold.

In the year that Dr. Kent Caserta served as president of the Painesville club, ten new members were added. Congratulations to the newest Gyros and to Kent and the Painesville club for their increase in membership.

At the recent International Convention held in Buffalo, three Gyro Clubs were recognized for their excellent efforts in adding new members:

- Large size Club – Painesville, D-I
- Medium size Club – Western Reserve, D-I
- Small size Club – Madison, D-VII

A BIG THANKS TO BUFFALO

Many thanks to the Buffalo Gyro Club for sponsoring the International Convention. All the hard work and planning was evident as the whole week was smooth sailing, including the Thursday night river cruise, the Friday night “Roaring Twenties” party, and the Saturday night installation dinner. Hats off to convention chairs Mike and Cynthia McNally and Steve and Vicky Glamuzina for their successful efforts.

Chris Snyder,
President, Gyro International
An excellent convention was just concluded in Buffalo, NY. The mood was upbeat and progressive. In the air was a positive feeling, that if we pull together we can mitigate, then solve our membership decline. The NEC committee is still active and voicing their comments, and we look for continued contributions and perhaps even solutions.

Governor Tim Wright, Sr. of District One has agreed to take on the new position of Membership Director. This is a monumental job and Tim will need all the assistance he can muster from not only each district, but also from each club. If he asks, please consider the negative options, and give him your support and your time. The alternative to not increasing membership is a bleak vision to those of us that have enjoyed so many years of Gyro friendship.

Gyro has embraced new Mission, Vision an Value statements as proposed and approved at the Buffalo Convention. The intent was to bring those thoughts forward from the past to be more in focus with today’s electronic society. You can find the new statements elsewhere in this addition, and they are published on the website - both standard and mobile - for viewing. We thank Randy Tarrier, Powell Club, for chairing the effort - a true effort in semantics.

Among the many pleasures of attending an International Convention are the awards to deserving members, especially since I get to make the presentations. Of special note this year was the awarding of three Honor Keys. This was only the second time in my 38 years of Gyro activity that such has occurred. Over the years about 3/5s have gone to outgoing Presidents, the rest to random members. Most of that number were awarded in the early years - far fewer in the past 20 years. So when it does occur, it is a big deal. As conceived, the HK was intended to be the highest honor in Gyro. Some would argue that the Merit Award is the highest because it comes from one’s peers, and of course that is for service to either the club or district, or both. The argument for the HK is equally justified because it is for extraordinary service to all of Gyro. The individual contributions are lengthy, however in short form, the HK was awarded to 1) PDG Steve Anderson, Caloosa - a PDG in D-4 and now D-10, initiator of the Caloosa Club and a stimulator of new membership in the district; and 2) to PDG Ken Baker, Calgary, who among other things took on the responsibility as Financial Administrator and has installed the Gyro financial information into a software that offers minute details of our business in real time; and 3) to outgoing IPIP Mike McNally for his five years of service to the Executive Council. His award was unique in that the actual miniature working gyroscope, that is the HK, was the same one awarded to his father-in-law, PIP Don Heath. Another first in Gyro history.

The next annual convention will be held in Red Lake, Ontario. The theme is appropriately titled “Camp Gyro.” You will find flyers describing the events and amenities in this issue and online. The location is unique, but the access will require some early planning. You could drive from i.e. Minneapolis area - an 8 or 9 hour effort. The preferred method would be via Winnipeg, from which you could drive through Lake of the Woods - about a scenic 5 hour effort - or more conveniently, fly direct from Winnipeg to Red Lake via local airlines. The hosts highly recommend working through their local travel agent who can set up group charter rates to effect a lower overall cost. More exact details will be posted online and in future GyroScope issues. If you plan on attending, be advised to make arrangements early to insure the best possible travel experience.

Finally, the Interim in Savannah, Georgia. This will be the third time in recent years that Gyro has held an Interim in this city. Why? Because of the popularity of its offerings. This time the interim is in early February, so the weather will be even more moderate. Besides the Gyro business - for your free time this wonderful city offers countless opportunities to enjoy its heritage. It was America’s first planned city. Well maintained buildings dating to the very early 1700s, countless squares, parks and statues, restaurants, visible ghosts and cemeteries, and not the least, the locals graciousness, all contribute to its amenities. Revolutionary and Civil War reminders are everywhere. Just down the street from the hotel, you can visit the “Garden of Good and Evil.” The Executive Council will look forward to seeing you there. And hey, don’t forget to invite a friend to Gyro!
2015-2016 Annual Budget as approved at the AGM in Buffalo, NY, June 27, 2015

**Gyro International**

**Budget**

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<td>Bank charges</td>
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<td>1,411</td>
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<td>Convention -net</td>
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<td>(1,313)</td>
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<td>2,751</td>
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<td>2,919</td>
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<td>Presentations and awards</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>2,842</td>
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<td>1,973</td>
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<td>(261)</td>
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<td>303</td>
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<td>155,569</td>
<td>154,679</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>17,861</td>
<td>162</td>
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<td><strong>Other items</strong></td>
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<td>Uncollectible per capita dues</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(3,658)</td>
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<td>Reserve for Maintenance written off</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3,266</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Operating Income (loss)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>17,861</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>(134)</td>
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Before the year began, we knew that Gyro International would face many challenges. We had lost the Cincinnati club with its 160 members and the Canadian dollar had dropped in value against the US dollar. These two items combined with additional membership losses resulted in a year over year decrease in per capita dues of $21,000. This was partially offset by the generosity of one of our Gyro members who contributed $6,000 to help fund some of the 3rd Vice President’s travel costs. However, the net overall decrease in cash flows still totalled some $17,500.

Under the pressure of decreasing operating revenues it was necessary to reduce operating costs. This was done! Operating costs were reduced year over year by a whopping $35,000. Major cost reductions included $12,000 saved by the EC and Secretary Treasurer travelling less; $13,000 was saved by eliminating printed versions of the Gyroscope; office expenses were reduced by $3,500. The office staff reduced their hours during the summer which contributed $2,500 towards the reduction in costs. Even the conventions showed a $2,000 decrease year over year to benefit the bottom line.

Final result was a net operating profit of $17,861. Far more than expected! We had budgeted to basically break-even but if you compare budget to actual you can see that expenses were $13,000 less than what had been budgeted.

For the fiscal year 2015-2016, it was decided that all clubs would be invoiced only once a year (rather than semi-annually as in the past). Those invoices were issued in March this year. The benefit of going to “one-time billing” will be less administration required at both the Club and International levels. It also makes budgeting easier because the invoices issued in March reflect the annual revenue for the coming year. This year we will recognize income of about $11,662 (1/12 of the prepaid membership dues of $139,951 each month). In addition to this there will of course additional pro-rated dues from new members joining our Fraternity.

At April 30, 2015 there was $59,936 in the various designated funds. Little income (in the way of interest and dividends) has been earned by these funds this year. Perhaps this is due to a low interest environment or maybe the fact that there is no active management of the funds. I suppose in order to get a better rate of return one has to have a higher risk tolerance. Does Gyro have the appetite to take on risk?

Lifetime fund will be fully depleted in the 2015-2016 fiscal year. Letters were sent to Lifetime members this year to let them know that the fund is now depleted and to see if they would consider again voluntarily paying dues. At this time there are 70 lifetime members of which 25 are supporting Gyro by voluntarily paying dues.

Our challenges that we faced last year are not going away. We anticipate another significant decrease in cash flows this year. Holding expenses at 2014-2015 levels will be difficult. We continue to consider our financial alternatives.
From Ian Greig, PIP ...

Carl Hansen was a friend. More importantly to me, Carl was a friend of mine.

Joan and I met Carl and Chris in the 80's while we were both taking in as many International functions as we could.

Whenever I first saw Carl at one of these function I would inevitably say, “Carl, it's good to see you”. His reply was always, “It's good to be seen.” What a great line.

Carl was always there with his distinguished probiscus, a huge smile and usually a can of beer. Always looking for a little mischief.

Carl was in the Seattle Club in those early days but we kept hearing about the new home they were building in Bellingham. This project took a lot of years but finally the move and the change in clubs was accomplished. They kept saying, “You have to come and see us!” Well, we finally took them up on that taking a detour on the way to the Camosun convention in Victoria. We spent the better part of three days sitting on their deck over looking Puget Sound, observing their own personal bald eagle perched high in an evergreen and whale watching. Essentially doing nothing but watching and talking Gyro. That is the way retirement is supposed to be spent.

During this visit it was decided that they had to return the visit. This was done during the Calgary Stampede a couple of years later. Calgary during Stampede week is pretty hectic so it was not anywhere near as relaxing as our visit there.

Carl was a lover of good quality western boots. During the 2006 International in Calgary (hosted by our Stampede City Club), Carl aske me if I new where there was a place he could procure a pair. The premier boot maker in Canada was within walking distance of the hotel. I think Carl came back with at least two pair.

I could fill at least a quarter of this magazine with Carl and Chris stories because there have been so many fun times in so many interesting places. Instead, I will just repeat what I started with.

Carl Hansen was a friend. More importantly to me, Carl was a friend of mine.

From Emil Baijot, PIP ...

It was my good fortune to have Carl as my friend for 56 years. As fate would have it, we met when starting our college major in Industrial Design at the U of Washington. We soon realized that our birthdays were close, we were married on the same day, same year and in a few weeks we were paired on the same design project. Elements that formed a lasting bond.

Over the years fate continued that bond - Carl was looking for a workplace change and as an art group supervisor at Boeing I was able to bring him on board. A few years later, I moved on and Carl replaced me and continued a long career at the company. Also his two children as teenagers spent summers working for us in Alaska.

Through the years we enjoyed many family gatherings, BBQ’s, and camping trips together. Eventually, upon our return from Alaska, our relationship became even more intense. He was always trying to get us interested in Gyro and giving in to his pressure, we finally agreed to join them for a Gyro weekend in Nanaimo. Suffice to say, it started with his car blowing up shortly after crossing the border on Friday, obtaining a loaner car, and ended with us literally being poured onto the ferry, late on Sunday night. We were hooked and as they say, the rest is history!

Carl not only had a passion for Gyro and fine cowboy boots, but he loved his cars - notably a 356 Porsche he restored, and later, his “rod” - built from a kit. In 2003, the four of us, along with the Randall’s decided we’d drive our convertibles to the Salt Lake City convention. We made it as far as the wine country in eastern Washington, when, in sort of a deja vu, Chris’ older Mercedes also blew up. We continued the trip with Chris and Carl in a rental.

Too many memories! Carl was a big part of our lives. He was not only my friend, he was also my buddy. I will miss him.
Once again the annual effort to offer alternative candidates and platform to the “good guys” who were officially nominated (by who knows who) for club office; with Good Guy Roy Smith leading the ticket as President. This year the “Good Guys” were barbershop singers. “Bad Guys” were Rappers. Barbershop singers had goofy mustaches, challenged bad guy rappers and their hoodies and bling. The barbershoppers used music from an “ancient Gyro Convention.” The singing of both groups, well let’s just say it was noisy. Both groups sang to the everyone and at each table trying to woo voters, though all votes were processed in a shredder. It was a long way from chads. As usual it was a zany funny costumed party.

Rapper/bad guy Damon Rodehorst even altered the Gyro song into these Rap Riffs.

Hell, NO Gyro, Roy Smith’s no friend of mine. 
Hell, NO Gyro, Roy Smith’s no friend of mine. 
Got his hand in my pocket 
If he pats your back best watch it. 
Hell NO Gyro! Roy Smith’s no friend of mine.

Gyro friends with your Gyro Spouses
Do you be men or do you be mouses? 
See these fools climbing up the Gyro ladder? 
They think they be good but we be badder! 
(reprise)

Gyro men bring your Gyro lasses
Come along and help us kick some good guy asses. 
They be sing shop songs and we be rappin’, 
We gotta shut them up and make this hip hop happen. 
(reprise)

- continued page 20
The Meaning of Gyro Friendship
- submitted by Dana Davidson, 1st Vice President

One thing that is heard from time to time by some in our Gyro Fraternity of Friendship Members, is that “we pay all this money in dues and what do we get for it?” There are two words involved here and they are “money” and “friendship”. Another two words that come to mind are “religion” and “politics”. The latter, we all know doesn’t work well together in discussions and nor should the first two words “money” and “friendship.”

Friendship is something that is felt, just like love is a feeling and we all know the power of love. Friendship is just one level below love. It also comes from the heart. Because friendship is not something that you can feel or touch or put in your wallet, some people are of the assumption that they are not getting value for their money. Friendship does not have a dollar value. It is invaluable. Members say that they are not getting value for their district and International dues just have to look no further than their own club. Would you have all these friends if it wasn’t for Gyro? Is there no value in that alone? It has nothing to do with value. It has all to do about just not wanting to pay the money, which by the way, when you combine District and International dues for the year is only $7.50 per month. Some Gyros spend that much at a coffee shop or for lottery tickets in one day without batting an eyelash and all you get is heartburn and disappointment. If you make the effort to be involved and engaged, as opposed to just showing up and not contributing, you will be a much happier person with a feeling of accomplishment and value, not to mention, enjoying and looking forward to your club meetings. If a club is struggling, on whose shoulders does that fall? Go no further than your own mirror at home and who do you see? That is your answer staring right back at you. District and International will help with all the information and resources to help you and your club and are just a phone call or email away.

Like anything these days, if you don’t use something the way it is meant to be used, or take advantage of what it has to offer, you don’t get the true value out of the product. Then, like we all so often do, is complain. If you embrace what true friendship actually is, you will enjoy Gyro at Club level, at a District Convention and then at an International Convention. This is a successful recipe for what friendship is all about. Just ask anyone who has ventured out of their comfort zone to a District or International gathering. Yes, there are costs involved like any other organization or association event and it is not to say that you should attend one every year. There are those who say that these conventions are for only the “Elite.” I can only say to you as just an average working stiff, Bullfeathers! I always made the time and saved the money to be able to attend and was welcomed with open arms and a handshake. Once I attended a District and then an International Convention, I was hooked. It brought a whole new perspective to the meaning of Gyro for us. We have been to places that we would never have visited if it wasn’t for Gyro. Gyro is not just your own club. It is truly International. We have clubs and friends all over North America. Gyro gives you the opportunity to travel and meet Gyro friends from coast to coast and most recently, Japan. It is hard to believe with the state of affairs around the world these days, we still have people who place no value on friends and friendship. Let’s face it, the older we get, our circle of friends inevitably shrinks and what could be more satisfying than a fraternity that perpetuates friendship, cultivates friendships and keeps us active and energized. It gives us a reason to look forward to every day and brings more meaning to our lives, a satisfying state of mind, if you will.

I have worked in “business” all my life. I wanted something as an outlet from my business stresses of the day. I found it in Gyro. Gyro does conduct business, as every organization does, but Gyro is not a “business”. It is a Fraternity of Fun and Friendship and I am proud to be a Gyro and make sure I mention “Gyro” to everyone I meet. Gyro is not for everyone, but if you are a Gyro, be proud of it. We should always work in a positive manner to improve the Gyro experience. Make suggestions, provide workable solutions, that’s what District and International Business Meetings are for. Speak to your District Governor or International Officer with any concerns or ideas. If you feel that Gyro is not for you or you don’t share the true meaning of our Fraternity of Friendship, maybe it is not for you and you should consider other options, but let’s hope it is and we can work together to strengthen and grow Gyro moving forward.

Not Getting Involved or Not Participating = No Value
Getting Involved and Participating = Value
District & International Dues = $$;
Friendship = Priceless!
On March 28th, the Lethbridge Gyro Club, District VIII, celebrated their 90th anniversary at the Lethbridge Golf and Country Club. Approximately 57 people attended this most enjoyable evening, with numerous guests from Calgary, AB, Sherwood Park, AB, and Nelson BC, as well as some former members from the Lethbridge area.

Doug Aspeslet, President and Past District Governor and his wife Linda, as well as Dorin Berlando, Master of Ceremonies and his wife Helen, with the assistance of others organized the special event.

A special dinner was served followed by a few short speeches. A slide show continued throughout the evening depicting many fun-loving members and memorable events over the years.

Lynne Carlson gave an excellent speech related to the history of the club. Not only did the members know how to party, since 1925, they also raised money to the tune of over $400,000.00 in financial donations to various organizations and enterprises in the City of Lethbridge. What an amazing accomplishment!

Lynne Penniket, Gyrette and wife of Roy Penniket, detailed the history of the Gyrette Club, which was spearheaded by Alma Lees in 1963, and has been very active since; a lot of fun and valuable social support for all.

Over the years, the club also had eight members step up as District Governors and one International President. Dr. Keith Lowings, PIP, and his lovely wife, Joan were in attendance. Some people had been members for more than 40 years and up to 57 years! The club provides fun and friendship and a lot of support to fellow Gyros and Gyrettes.

I brought greetings and congratulations on the ninety year milestone from Lonnie Turner, President Gyro International. I also provided a commercial to remind members of our upcoming conventions and added a bit of humor with a few jokes!

Several awards were presented including: a 90-year plaque for the club; Tak Okamura for 40 years as a member; and Doug Aspeslet for 25 years as a member.

Roses donated by Helen & Dorian Berlando were presented to all the ladies.

The following morning everyone gathered once again for a full breakfast buffet at the clubhouse and offer fond farewells.

Congratulations Lethbridge for 90 years of fun & friendship.

submitted by Dale Woodroffe, 2nd VP

The best kinds of friends, are the kind you can sit on a porch and swing with, never say a word, and then walk away feeling like it was the best conversation you’ve ever had!
To open the Friday night mixer, everyone - Wahinnies & Kanes - picked a random name badge with an Hawaiian name. It was not their own name. They had to find their name on a list that was posted, and then find the person who was wearing their real polynesian nom de plume, and exchange badges. For example: our International President “Alonzo” (aka Lonnie Turner) has the Hawaiian name of “Alonuko.” Betty Lou is “Peke Lou.” The process continued until everyone had their correct name. A great way for Gyros to meet and greet.

The Hawaiian alphabet uses vowels and consonants, giving them only 13 letters. Grunting and hand movements also work along with hip movements to communicate. Other names include: Alina, Pala Pala, Kokie, Kona, Elika, Kimo, Keoni, Malia and Komo.

Club reports during the business meeting reflected a strong support of the NRC committee’s “Fun cookbook of 271 ideas.” Each clubs calendar has been injected with new activities and events that will certainly enhance the Gyro experience for its members and provide a stage for recruiting new members.

The Saturday night formalities highlighted the installation of Gary & Dotti Ennis as Governor and First Lady, and Al & Elsa Sinicrope as Lt. Governor. IPIP Lonnie Turner just couldn’t say no and will serve as D-X Secretary-Treasurer. It was great seeing several new Gyros attending their first convention. D-X is alive and well!

Perhaps an investigation may follow as to why two Caloosa members won the 50-50 draw and the “early bird” draw for one free hotel night?

District X extends a warm invitation to all Gyro snowbirds and friends from any northern climate who fly south to thaw out for a while. Please contact us and join in our playful activities. There is a perch for everyone.
COME AND JOIN YOUR FELLOW GYROS FOR SOME SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY

Desoto Hilton Savannah, GA Ph. 1-912-232-9000
Room rates $125.00 + tax
Registration information and schedule coming soon
REGISTRATION FORM
2016 Gyro International Interim Meeting

February 8-12, 2016
Desoto Hilton Savannah, Savannah, GA ... 1-912-232-9000

Gyro: __________________________________
Address: _______________________________
State/Prov. _____________________________
Phone #: _______________________________
Club: __________________________________
Arrival date: ____________________________

Gyrette: __________________________________
City: _________________________________
Zip/Postal code: _______________________
E-mail: ________________________________
District: ______________________________
Departure date: _________________________

Room Requirement: You Must Make Your own Hotel Reservation. Number Above.
Room rate valid 3 days before and 3 days after interim. Mention Gyro!

Registration fee pays for: Last Night Buffet, Refreshments & Entertainment

REGISTRATION FEE MUST ARRIVE AT
GYRO INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS IN PAINESVILLE, OHIO
NO LATER THAN JANUARY 10, 2016

Mail to:  Office Manager
Gyro International
1096 Mentor Ave.
Painesville, Ohio 44077

E-mail: sheila@gyro.ws
Phone: 440-352-2501

DON’T DELAY ... DO IT NOW!
“The Pirates of Panorama, Gathering to Celebrate, Gyro friendship”.

1. Car rally
2. Pirates in District VIII
3. IPDG Dave & Bonnie Deroos
4. Too much Rum
5. New Governor Alan and Tara Pentney
6. Boccie Tournament - Gyrettes won
7. Lethbridge Club - winners of man-mile award
8. Secretary Ken & Ann Baker with Dale Woodroffe, 3VP

-submitted by Dale Woodroffe
CAMP GYRO

Gyro International and District VII Convention

July 11th-17th 2016

Join us in beautiful Red Lake, Ontario and discover all the north has to offer!

Registration
(US funds at par)

Early Bird Rate
$220 per person

After March 1st 2016
$240 per person

*Early bird rate includes entry into a draw for an Original Aboriginal Woodland Painting

Register with the attached form or online at the Gyro International website

Accommodations

A block of rooms has been set-aside at the Super8 Hotel in Red Lake for the low rate of $120 a night with free continental breakfast, internet, and parking. Please call to reserve your room and ask for the gyro rate.

Phone: 1-807-727-8888

Camp Activities

• World-class Fishing
• Golfing: on the most northerly 18-hole golf course in Ontario!
• Boat Tours
• Float Planes
• Gold Mine Tour
• Aboriginal Powwow
• Arts and Crafts
• Heritage Centre Tours
• Campfires
• Fireworks

Plus a Northern style hospitality room & many more fun activities you won’t want to miss!

Visit tourismredlake.ca for additional information about Red Lake!
Join us for some small town Northern hospitality at
CAMP GYRO on McKenzie Island
In beautiful Red Lake, Norseman Capital of the World!
July 11th-17th 2016
This isn't like the summer camp your parents sent you to...

Contact Information
Ted and Annwyl Shewchuk
Box 1013
Red Lake ON,
POV 2M0
Telephone: 807-735-2801
Email: campgyro@gmail.com

Recommended Travel Agent:
Contact Karen Pace at Red Lake
Travel to arrange discount travel rates, including charters, into Red Lake! 1-800-465-3305

TRAVEL INFORMATION
Driving to Red Lake (in miles):

- Chicago, IL 880
- Des Moines, IA 788
- Duluth, MN 410
- Indianapolis, IN 1065
- Kansas City, MO 980
- Minneapolis, MN 947
- Milwaukee, WI 810
- Omaha, NE 928
- Fort Frances, ON 248
- Kenora, ON 167

- 18 -
I am very pleased to report that the application to join Gyro International (GI) was approved on June 27. The Past District Governors and existing Governors voted in favor of this decision as well. The sponsoring club is the Fresno Gyro Club, and the seconding club is the Blacklake Gyro Club. At the President's Ball on Saturday night, June 27th, the Japanese Flag was on a pole along with those of the United States and Canada. The new Gyro International Officers were installed the same evening.

The idea for forming a club in Tokyo was a result of a conversation Past International President Larry Duba had with Chad Kreller. Chad is the son of David and Angela Kreller (Fresno Gyro Club), and Chad has lived in Tokyo for many years. He was in Fresno visiting his parents in early December 2013. Larry told him that he might want to consider forming a Gyro club with some of his friends so that they could then form new friendships in the United States and Canada. There could be some great travel opportunities as well when attending conventions. Chad said that he thought he could ask a few friends to get together and find out their interest.

A group initially started inviting others to attend lunch or dinner gatherings. Later, picnics were held where the families could bring their children. This really helped improve the attendance, since the people are younger, still working, and many have children. The group decided to join Gyro International in the summer of 2014, so a proposed Constitution and Bylaws was reviewed and other requirements were coordinated.

Since David Kreller was going to visit the club in January 2015, I asked him to officially install Kay Ogiyama as the club's first President as he had already been filling this role. Now that the Executive Council has approved the Chartering of the Club, tentative plans are to have Dale Woodroffe (Mary Ann), 2nd Vice President of GI, officially install all the officers during a personal trip at their expense that is planned for late August and early September. The Charter and other items will be presented to the Tokyo Gyro Club at that time.

Initially, the new club has six new charter members and five existing members of other Gyro clubs. The new members are as follows: Kay Ogiyama, Chad Kreller, Thomas Patridge, Emmet Parker, Thomas Donnelly, and Ryan Booker. The existing Gyro members are as follows: 1. David (Angela) Kreller, Larry (Alice) Duba and Jim (Mary) Vaughan of the Fresno Gyro Club, California. 2. Dale Woodroffe (Mary Ann), Stampede City Gyro Club in Calgary, Alberta, Canada and 3. Ron Hart (Louise), Vancouver Gyro Club British Columbia, Canada. It is expected that this club will grow as they see some interaction by communications and visitors as well as based on the experience their members will have once they have attended an International Convention.

The new club will be its own District XIII. They will pay the same amount of GI dues as other members. I have been honored to be requested by Chris Snyder, President GI, be a Representative and Liaison on behalf of Gyro International to this newly formed club. I will continue to help coordinate with the officers of the club as well as existing members who may wish to travel to Japan and meet members and make new friends.

I am attaching some pictures as follows: Kay Ogiyama being installed initially in January by David Kreller; members at a luncheon, and many attending a membership drive at a picnic. Also, there is a picture of the three flags being shown at the recent President's Ball.

We would all like to congratulate the new Gyro members for joining our wonderful Fraternity of Friendship which is dedicated to Friendship and Fun!
It was the coldest winter ever. Many animals died because of the cold. The porcupines, realizing the situation, decided to group together to keep warm. This way they covered and protected themselves; but the quills of each one wounded their closest companions.

After a while, they decided to distance themselves one from the other and they began to die, alone and frozen. So they had to make a choice: either accept the quills of their companions or disappear from the Earth.

Wisely, they decided to go back to being together. They learned to live with the little wounds caused by the close relationship with their companions in order to receive the heat that came from the others. This way they were able to survive.

The best relationship is not the one that brings together perfect people, but when each individual learns to live with the imperfections of others and can admire the other person’s good qualities.

Painsville Election Night, cont. from page 10

We're the Gyro bad boys in this election.
Better vote for us as your selection.
Say “Hell no!” to the shop boys and yes to rappin’
Cast your vote for us and make it happen.
(reprise)
The Rapper performance did not change the outcome (thank goodness). Good guy Roy Smith and his club officers were elected, to the relief of everyone. Rappers were banished to wherever rejected rappers go to sulk. This is a crazy but wonderful annual tradition in the Painesville club. Such fun.

Tokyo Gyro Club Prospects, cont. from page 19
The ladies & men of the Rochester Gyro Club were adorned with fancy bonnets & hats, the buffet table was laden with hearty hors d'oeuvres, the mint juleps were flowing, and festive ambiance filled the air in anticipation! With 75 members & guests in attendance this was a great beginning for the viewing of the Kentucky Derby Race on the big screen television in the Hahnemann Club at the Highlands of Pittsford! Congratulations to "Best Bonnet Winner" Linda Wayland-Smith & "Best Hat Winner" Tom Lennox! And, to all the winners who wagered on American Pharoah!

Bartender Tom Lennox serving his famous Mint Juleps to Bob Kessler, Elmer Humes and Geddy Reiinis

Dick Field organized a lunch for the San Jose Gyro Club, and it was held at the Hawgs Seafood Bar in Campbell. There were 14 members of the San Jose Club and four guests. Barry Swenson had two guests Don Huntley and Jim Miller. Gordon McDonald was a guest of Steve Gossett. After much socializing, lunch was served, and the conversations continued. Dick Field introduced Larry Duba (IP 2012-13) as a guest, who is a member of the Fresno Gyro Club as well as the Coachella and Central Coast Clubs.

After lunch, President Ed Kaufman called on Larry to say a few words. Larry took advantage of this opportunity to pass on greetings from Ed Henderson, District IX Governor. He, also, provided information about upcoming District and International Gyro Conventions, and he encouraged members to attend to meet and make new friends as well as to go places they might not travel to on their own. Larry also spoke about the progress being made to establish a Gyro Club in Tokyo, Japan.

President Ed Kaufman announced that the annual barbeque party would be held at Bill and Sarah's home on August 8th. A few members told some hilarious jokes, and the members slowly left the gathering of friends.
“Oryg Gyro, St Paul, celebrated its 50th anniversary on June 19, 2015. We honored three individuals (PDG Bill Langford, Jim Gesell, and Ed Stringer) who were charter members at its founding. Chuck Field, PIP, was the MC. Over 100 members and spouses enjoyed the black tie festivities. Ross Anderson, District VII governor, installed the new officers and brought greetings from the District and International. He was introduced by Blanton Bessinger, Oryg member and D-VII Lt. Governor.”

MEMORIAL DONATIONS TO THE FUNDS

The persons below have been memorialized, or otherwise honored, by contributions to the Gyro Memorial Fund between February 2014 and May 2015

Kirk Downing, Buffalo / Dorothy Charlton, Clinton / D-I Deceased Gyros & Gyrettes
Gordon Fuller, Rochester / Brian Winston, Cleveland Heights / Gary Fox, Clinton
Jay Friedman, Rochester / Peter Heinrich, Rochester / Kenneth Stuart, Truro
George (Bud) Abell, Windsor / Bonnie Knowlton, Mt. Diablo (Oakland) / Sid Neal, Tampa
Ben Munro, Sherwood Park / Jim Hyland, Youngstown / Carl Hansen, Bellingham

Also memorialized by contributions to the Betterment Fund, January 2015 - May 2015

In Memory of: PIP George (Bud) Abell, Windsor
Gyro International has a new Mission Statement, along with supporting statements of Vision & Values. As the Storyline suggests - you helped create it at the Annual General Meeting in Buffalo June 22-28!

The Mission Statement Committee: Tim Wright, Alan Pentney, & Randy Tarrier (Chair), held a seminar with about 30 other Gyros during one of our scheduled training sessions. The discussion lasted over 2 hours; the results were fantastic!

The group session began with a presentation on Mission statement “best practices,” and a short “how to write” a Mission statement. In a nutshell, it means that once we determined our organization's key values, we established the Vision statement as “our desired future position,” based on those values. The Mission statement defines who we are, what we want to be known for, and its purpose is “how we make our vision a reality.” Using the current Mission, Vision, & Values statements as a basis, the group submitted their suggestions as to what best described the intent of those ideas in up-to-date language. There was some healthy debate over content & wording, but eventually, the group arrived at a consensus.

**MISSION**

An international organization that provides a setting for our members and friends to socialize and have fun.

**VISION**

Gyro is the first choice for men seeking to enjoy fun events with their friends, without the requirements common to other organizations.

**VALUES**

Gyro's:

Belong to a mens' social organization founded in 1912

- Value our friends as more than acquaintances
- Are committed to fun
- Are men of character with diverse backgrounds
- Relax and enjoy each other's company at interesting venues
- Enjoy events for couples too

Gyros enjoy the benefits of their membership without any of the following requirements:

- Fundraising
- Community service projects
- High dues
- Mandatory attendance at all events
- Engagement in business networking

The website and Facebook pages have been updated to reflect our new statements. Once again, thanks to all of you who participated in this process, job well done!
Sunday - The convention opened with a few Gyros arriving in anticipation of the week's festivities. Buffalo opened the hospitality suite Sunday evening to start things off.

Monday - Gyros began arriving. The EC held their meeting before the BOG meeting scheduled for Tuesday. The Past District Governors held their meeting Monday afternoon, also in preparation of the BOG meeting. Monday night were dine around with the EC, district officers and their wives. Afterwards, socializing continued in the hospitality suite.

Tuesday - The BOG meeting started at 8:30 lasting until 10:00. There was a brief adjournment and then the meeting resumed from 10:00am until 12:00 without only the governors present. After lunch the meet resumed with the EC and governors. After the meeting, the hospitality suite was opened for more socializing before diner and the dine arounds and back to the hospitality suite.

Wednesday - had a leadership seminar for the men scheduled for the morning and a ladies luncheon scheduled for 12:00. After dinner on your own, the evening's entertainment was a trivia contest in the hospitality suite. It was well attended and enjoyed by all.

Thursday - everyone got up bright and early with a fire alarm at the hotel around 7:00 am. No, a Gyro didn't pull a fire alarm. It was later revealed that someone on the fourth floor hung a hanger from a sprinkler head (?)! Everyone was flushed out of the hotel into the bright early sun - seeing everyone in pj's was sight to behold. The day moved along with a work session and the ladies coffee scheduled for the morning. The afternoon was free time for sightseeing before the dinner cruise on the Miss Buffalo river boat. The boat cruised up the Niagara River, turned back to go through a lock to raise the boat and then back to the dock. During the cruise we went under the Peace Bridge spanning New York and Canada. The dinner on board was very good with an open bar, always a treat to Gyros. An enjoyable evening with lots to see.

Friday - Friday dawned bright and sunny. Mostly a quiet day. District III had their annual business meeting chaired by Tim Miskolczi. Tim ran an efficient meeting with a number of issues discussed, quiet remarks from the assembled club officers and adjournment in a timely manner. The afternoon was free for site-seeing before the evening festivities. The theme for D-III installation dinner was 'The Roaring 20's”. The idea was for all the guests to dress in 1920's attire. Gyros, as usual, did not disappoint. There were more flappers, zoot suits, and gangsters then one could count. The party started outside the ballroom with a picture booth where you could get 4 pictures for a quarter (no quarters were requested this time). Everyone then went to their dinner tables for the start of the installation. The officers were piped in by Dan McCue, the national anthems were played by Saxman Slim. The invocation was given by Jim Wyrobek, Dave Anderson and Jerry Kelly toast the Queen and the President, Dana Davidson toasted the Gyrettes and Barbara Dukoc did the Gyrettes response. After dinner, the District III officers were installed by then 3rd international vice president Dale Woodroffe. Installed were Past governor Tim Miskolczi, Governor Steven Glamuzina, 1st Lt. Governor Ned Barber, and Secretary/Treasurer, Jim Wyrobek. After the acceptance speeches, Mike McNally and Dana Davidson presented an Award of merit to Ross Beer of the Toronto Club.

Following the installation, Saxman Slim took over for the music and dancing. The dance floor was filled with flappers, zoot suits, and gangsters until the last song at 11:00. During the dance, a conga line formed led by the Canton Clubs own Carol Hahn. The last number was particularly pleasing to the D-I contingent from Ohio as the number was “Hang on Sloopy” by the McCoy's from the early 1960's, which is now the theme song for The Ohio State University marching band. Of course the D-I contingent did “O-H-I-O” for national NCAA football champions Ohio State University. All in all, a great party enjoyed by all.

Saturday - this day dawned with the anticipated rain and cooler weather. Since most of the day's events were indoors the rain didn't present a major problem. The AGM started at 8:30 am and was over by 10:30 am making it one of the quickest AGM's in a long time. Among the items discussed were the appointment of Tim Wright, Governor of D-I, as International Membership Director, approval of the new charter for the Tokyo club, awards that will be presented at the installation banquet, awards for club expansion, and best bulletins. Also announced was the slate of international officers: Lonnie Turner as immediate past president, Chris Snyder as President, Dana Davidson as 1st Vice President, Dale Woodroffe as 2nd Vice President, and Matt Johnson as the new 3rd Vice President. The slate was unanimously approved by
The afternoon events included a Jim Beam Poker tournament held in the hospitality suite and bus tours of Buffalo. Even though it was raining, there were enough Gyros that wanted to go on the tour, that 2 tours were scheduled. The installation dinner started with the tradition of pipping the past international presidents and the current international officers into the ball room. Then followed the toast to the piper Dan McCue by PIP Michael McNally; then welcoming remarks by Michael, the Canadian and U.S. national anthems led by Becky Horning, the toast to the President by D-VI governor Dan Durbin, the toast to the Queen by PIP Ab Nightingale, the toast to the ladies of Gyro by PIP Tom Lennox, and the response by Beverly Heath, and the invocation by D-I Governor Tim Wright.

Following the scrumptious dinner, the presentation of the international awards and installation of the officers and remarks took place. 3 honor keys were announced and 2 presented by S/T Emil Baijot. Emil announced that PDG Steve Anderson, who unfortunately was unable to attend the convention was to be awarded the Honor Key for his service to Gyro. PDG Ken Baker was then awarded an honor key for his service to Gyro. Ken and his lovely wife Ann came up for the presentation. IPIP Michael McNally was next to receive the Honor Key for his service as an international officer. The presentation was special in that the key he was presented with was the same key that is late Father-in-Law PIP Don Heath was presented with when he served as International President. To say that the presentation was emotional would be an understatement. These awards were followed by the installation of the international officers, speeches, the presentation of the Sommelier Cup to new 3rd Vice President Matt Johnson, and finally, closing remarks and an end to the formal festivities. Following the receiving line, the New York Rockin' Revue played to a full dance floor for the rest of the night. Great band and great party again!

**Sunday** - Everyone enjoyed the morning farewell breakfast, saying their good byes and getting packed for their return trips home. The consensus was that it was a great convention hosted by Buffalo and we’ll see you all in Savannah in February. Many thanks again to Buffalo and a well-run convention. Lots to do, a great hospitality suite, and for outstanding parties on Friday and Saturday nights.
Buffalo Convention - Lake Erie Dinner Cruise
- photos by Larry Duba
Director of Membership Initial Work

Most of the New Era Committee (NEC) recommendations addressed membership issues, either directly (e.g., fun and interesting clubs), or indirectly (e.g., task leaders toward measureable outcomes for clubs). So in a practical sense, the Director of Membership is largely a natural extension and continuation of the NEC effort.

The new GI Mission Statement (see website) will be emphasized. It will clarify Gyro’s unique market niche/market position/unique selling proposition (USP). Member benefits will be clear; especially our values that separate us from service clubs.

While the project is in the very early stage of planning, obviously the general goal is to stabilize and grow membership. Specific objectives and strategies will be developed. A few strategies being considered are: Give Gyro digital and printed material a new 21st Century look; create templates to make club management easier (e.g., newsletters, club profiles/digital brochures, websites); establish imperatives for member retention; identify effective strategies for high potential target markets; reduce redundancy of marketing communications materials; review and recommend slogans and headlines; upgrade marketing communications on the GI website; produce training materials (video, digital, print) for use at the club and district level; explore the use of distance learning/meeting technology; recommend software for club management; upgrade new member kits; periodic brief “how to” messages to clubs; consider redesign of Gyro pins and identity items; expand membership reporting to clubs; ultimately produce a Gyro Retention and Recruitment Manual.

It should be noted finishing all of the above would be a herculean task given resources provided, so it is really a “wish list.” Again, the final strategic marketing plan, the blueprint for action, has not been established or discussed in depth. It is unlikely most of the ambitious project list above could be completed in a calendar year.

The GI Membership Committee is being formed. The DM is an unpaid two-year appointment reporting directly to President Snyder and EC. Costs to Gyro should be at a minimum. Timothy W. Wright, Sr. (Painesville), Governor District 1, has been elected Director of Membership.
During World War II the combatants moved more tons of petroleum products than of all other war material combined. The mainstay of the enormous oil-and gasoline transportation network that fed the war was the oceangoing tanker, supplemented on land by pipelines, railroad tank cars, and trucks. But for combat vehicles on the move, another link was crucial—smaller containers that could be carried and poured by hand and moved around a battle zone by trucks.

Hitler knew this. He perceived early on that the weakest link in his plans for blitzkrieg using his panzer divisions was fuel supply. He ordered his staff to design a fuel container that would minimize gasoline losses under combat conditions. As a result the German army had thousands of 'Jerrycans', as they came to be called, stored and ready when hostilities began in 1939.

The jerrycan had been developed under the strictest secrecy, and its unique features were many. It was flat-sided and rectangular in shape, consisting of two halves welded together as in a typical automobile gasoline tank. It had three handles, enabling one man to carry two cans and pass one to another man in bucket-brigade fashion. Its capacity was approximately five US gallons; its weight filled, forty-five pounds. Thanks to an air chamber at the top, it would float on water if dropped overboard or from a plane. Its short spout was secured with a snap closure that could be propped open for pouring, making unnecessary any funnel or opener. A gasket made the mouth leak proof. An air-breathing tube from the spout to the air space kept the pouring smooth. And most important, the can's inside was lined with an impervious plastic material developed for the insides of steel beer barrels. This enabled the jerrycan to be used alternately for gasoline and water.

Early in the summer of 1939, this secret weapon began a roundabout odyssey into American hands. Paul Pleiss, an American engineer, was finishing up a manufacturing job in Berlin. He persuaded a German colleague to join him on a vacation trip overland to India. The two bought an automobile chassis and built a body for it. As they prepared to leave on their journey, they realized that they had no provision for emergency water. The German engineer knew of and had access to thousands of jerrycans stored at Tempelhof Airport. He simply took three and mounted them on the back of the car.

The two drove across eleven national borders without incident and were halfway across India when Field Marshal Goering sent a plane to take the German engineer back home. Before departing, the engineer compounded his treason by giving Pleiss complete specifications for the jerrycan’s manufacture. Pleiss continued on alone to Calcutta. Then he put the car in storage and returned to Philadelphia.

Back in the United States, Pleiss told military officials about the container, but without a sample can he could stir no interest, even though the war was now well under way. The risk involved in having the cans removed from the car and shipped from Calcutta seemed too great, so he

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**INTERESTING TRIVIA FOR THOSE GYROS WHO STILL REMEMBER WWII**

- submitted by Steve Anderson

During World War II the combatants moved more tons of petroleum products than of all other war material combined. The mainstay of the enormous oil-and gasoline transportation network that fed the war was the oceangoing tanker, supplemented on land by pipelines, railroad tank cars, and trucks. But for combat vehicles on the move, another link was crucial—smaller containers that could be carried and poured by hand and moved around a battle zone by trucks.

Hitler knew this. He perceived early on that the weakest link in his plans for blitzkrieg using his panzer divisions was fuel supply. He ordered his staff to design a fuel container that would minimize gasoline losses under combat conditions. As a result the German army had thousands of 'Jerrycans', as they came to be called, stored and ready when hostilities began in 1939.

The jerrycan had been developed under the strictest secrecy, and its unique features were many. It was flat-sided and rectangular in shape, consisting of two halves welded together as in a typical automobile gasoline tank. It had three handles, enabling one man to carry two cans and pass one to another man in bucket-brigade fashion. Its capacity was approximately five US gallons; its weight filled, forty-five pounds. Thanks to an air chamber at the top, it would float on water if dropped overboard or from a plane. Its short spout was secured with a snap closure that could be propped open for pouring, making unnecessary any funnel or opener. A gasket made the mouth leak proof. An air-breathing tube from the spout to the air space kept the pouring smooth. And most important, the can's inside was lined with an impervious plastic material developed for the insides of steel beer barrels. This enabled the jerrycan to be used alternately for gasoline and water.

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eventually had the complete vehicle sent to him, via Turkey and the Cape of Good Hope. It arrived in New York in the summer of 1940 with the three jerrycans intact. Pleiss immediately sent one of the cans to Washington. The War Department looked at it but unwisely decided that an updated version of their World War I container would be good enough. That was a cylindrical ten-gallon can with two screw closures. It required a wrench and a funnel for pouring.

That one jerrycan in the Army's possession was later sent to Camp Holabird, in Maryland. There it was poorly redesigned; the only features retained were the size, shape, and handles. The welded circumferential joint was replaced with rolled seams around the bottom and one side. Both a wrench and a funnel were required for its use. And it now had no lining. As any petroleum engineer knows, it is unsafe to store gasoline in a container with rolled seams. This ersatz can did not win wide acceptance.

The British first encountered the jerrycan during the German invasion of Norway, in 1940, and gave it its English name (the Germans were, of course, the “Jerries”). Later that year Pleiss was in London and was asked by British officers if he knew anything about the can's design and manufacture. He ordered the second of his three jerrycans flown to London. Steps were taken to manufacture exact duplicates of it.

Two years later the United States was still oblivious of the can. Then, in September 1942, two quality-control officers posted to American refineries in the Mideast ran smack into the problems being created by ignoring the jerrycan. I was one of those two. passing through Cairo two weeks before the start of the Battle of El Alamein, we learned that the British wanted no part of a planned U.S. Navy can; as far as they were concerned, the only container worth having was the Jerrycan, even though their only supply was those captured in battle. The British were bitter; two years after the invasion of Norway there was still no evidence that their government had done anything about the jerrycan.

My colleague and I learned quickly about the jerrycan's advantages and the Allied can's costly disadvantages, and we sent a cable to naval officials in Washington stating that 40 percent of all the gasoline sent to Egypt was being lost through spillage and evaporation. We added that a detailed report would follow. The 40 percent figure was actually a guess intended to provoke alarm, but it worked. A cable came back immediately requesting confirmation.

We then arranged a visit to several fuel-handling depots at the rear of Montgomery's army and found there that conditions were indeed appalling. Fuel arrived by rail from the sea in fifty-five-gallon steel drums with rolled seams and friction-sealed metallic mouths. The drums were handled violently by local laborers. Many leaked. The next link in the chain was the infamous five-gallon “petrol tin.” This was a square can of tin plate that had been used for decades to supply lamp kerosene. It was hardly useful for gasoline. In the hot desert sun, it tended to swell up, burst at the seams, and leak. Since a funnel was needed for pouring, spillage was also a problem.
Allied soldiers in Africa knew that the only gasoline container worth having was German. Similar tins were carried on Liberator bombers in flight. They leaked out perhaps a third of the fuel they carried. Because of this, General Wavell's defeat of the Italians in North Africa in 1940 had come to naught. His planes and combat vehicles had literally run out of gas. Likewise in 1941, General Auchinleck's victory over Rommel had withered away. In 1942 General Montgomery saw to it that he had enough supplies, including gasoline, to whip Rommel in spite of terrific wastage. And he was helped by captured jerrycans.

The British historian Desmond Young later confirmed the great importance of oil cans in the early African part of the war. "No one who did not serve in the desert," he wrote, "can realize to what extent the difference between complete and partial success rested on the simplest item of our equipment—and the worst. Whoever sent our troops into desert warfare with the [five-gallon] petrol tin has much to answer for. General Auchinleck estimates that this 'flimsy and ill-constructed container' led to the loss of thirty per cent of petrol between base and consumer. … The overall loss was almost incalculable. To calculate the tanks destroyed, the number of men who were killed or went into captivity because of shortage of petrol at some crucial moment, the ships and merchant seamen lost in carrying it, would be quite impossible. After my colleague and I made our report, a new five-gallon container under consideration in Washington was canceled.

Meanwhile the British were finally gearing up for mass production. Two million British jerrycans were sent to North Africa in early 1943, and by early 1944 they were being manufactured in the Middle East. Since the British had such a head start, the Allies agreed to let them produce all the cans needed for the invasion of Europe. Millions were ready by D-day. By V-E day some twenty-one million Allied jerrycans had been scattered all over Europe. President Roosevelt observed in November 1944, “Without these cans it would have been impossible for our armies to cut their way across France at a lightning pace which exceeded the German Blitz of 1940.”

In Washington little about the jerrycan appears in the official record. A military report says simply, "A sample of the jerry can was brought to the office of the Quartermaster General in the summer of 1940.”

Richard M. Daniel is a retired commander in the U.S. Naval Reserve and a chemical engineer.
Gyro Distric IV
Yorke-Brimacombe Golf Tournament

Saturday, August 1st, 2015
Carson Hot Springs Golf and Spa Resort*
Elk Ridge Golf Course
372 St. Martins Spring Road, Carson, WA 98610

* Special Room Rates Available at the Resort
Registration will close June 1st

Check In - 10:30am-11:30am
Luncheon - 11:00am-12:00pm
Golf Tournament - 12:00pm-5:00pm
Cocktail Hour - 6:00pm-7:00pm
Banquet Dinner - 7:00pm-9:00pm

COST
(per person, includes tax and gratuity)

Golf - US $80
(includes green fees, cart, snack, and four drink tickets)
Buffet Lunch - US $25
Buffet Dinner - US $45
Golf, Lunch, & Dinner Package - US $150
Lunch and Dinner Package - US $70

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Future Deadlines for the GyroScope
September 30 / December 24

DISTRICTS

August 28-39, 2015 ................................................................. District II Convention
Des Moines, Iowa

September 18-19, 2015 ............................................................ District I Convention
Marion, OH

September 25-27, 2015 ............................................................ District VI Convention
Holiday Inn, Truro, NS

September 25-27, 2015 ............................................................ District IV Convention
Prince George, BC

October 1-4, 2015 ................................................................. District VII Convention
Duluth, MN

November 5-8, 2015 ............................................................... District IX Convention
Pismo Beach, CA

October 17-19, 2014 ............................................................... District IX Convention
Murphy, California

May, 2016 ................................................................................ District X Convention
May, 2016 ................................................................................ District VIII Convention

INTERNATIONAL

February 2016 ................................................................. International Interim
Hilton DeSoto Hotel, Savannah, GA

June 2016 ................................................................. International Convention
Red Lake, ON - District VII

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