



# GYROLIFE



**GYRO - A FRATERNITY OF FRIENDSHIP**

***In Calgary since 1921***

**January 2026**



# 2025 Year in Review

As we turn the page to 2026, it's worth pausing to reflect on the remarkable year we've just shared together. True to our motto (*A Fraternity of Friendship*), 2025 was filled with fellowship, laughter, and memorable milestones.

## Events & Gatherings

- Tours & Talks:** From the Stampede's new Sam Centre and the BMO Centre expansion to engaging speakers on lifestyle planning, heritage preservation, and aviation history, our luncheons blended learning with camaraderie.
- Signature Traditions:** Crib Night, Spring Breakfast at Sirocco, Mini Golf at Oasis Greens, Lawn Bowling at Stanley Park, and the Annual Mixed Golf Tournament in Okotoks all drew enthusiastic participation and spirited competition.
- Special Celebrations:** Oktoberfest at Meadowlands Stables, the Past Presidents' Dinner, Founders Day Luncheon, and our Remembrance Day gathering reminded us of the deep traditions and values that bind us.

**Charity Bingo:** Once again, our annual bingo night was a resounding success, raising funds for charity while delivering fun, prizes, and plenty of laughs.

## Gyro Beyond Calgary

- Several members represented us at the **Gyro International Convention aboard the Grand Princess**, where sweeping governance changes were approved. Excitement is already building for the **2026 International Convention in Calgary (July 13–17)**, which we will proudly host immediately following Stampede week.

## Fellowship & Community

- We acknowledged members facing health challenges, offering support and encouragement.
- Social activities organized by the Gyrettes which include Dominos, Gin Rummy, and Canasta, added extra opportunities for connection.
- Throughout the year, humor, storytelling, and shared meals reminded us that Gyro is more than events; it's about friendship, care, and joy.

## Looking Ahead

2025 showed us once again that Gyro thrives when we come together. With the International Convention on our doorstep, 2026 promises to be another fun year in our club's history. Let's continue to celebrate our traditions, welcome new friends, and **keep the fun in Gyro!**

## Top 5 Highlights of 2025

- Ron Carter Honored** – Celebrated 50 years of membership, earning heartfelt applause and honorary dues-free status.
- New Faces** – Welcomed **Mark Washtock** into the club, strengthening our circle of friendship.
- Signature Fun** – Crib Night, Spring Breakfast at Sirocco, Mini Golf, Lawn Bowling, and the Mixed Golf Tournament kept traditions alive and laughter flowing.
- International Impact** – Members joined the **Gyro International Convention aboard the Grand Princess**, helping shape the future of Gyro governance.
- Community Spirit** – Annual Charity Bingo raised funds for local causes, while Oktoberfest, Founders Day, and Remembrance Day luncheons deepened our bonds.

# What's Happening in January

On January 7, Gyros will gather at the Horton Road Legion for lunch and good old fashion fellowship. After lunch, pool tables and dart boards will be open for our enjoyment. If you haven't already responded to the Evite please consider doing so with your YES or Regrets.

On January 22, Gyros, Gyrettes, and friends will gather at the Hotel Blackfoot for lunch, followed by a special presentation from Dean Tucker, Chair of WPC Energy Canada.

For those unfamiliar, WPC Energy Canada is a non profit, non political national organization based in Calgary and serves as Canada's official member committee of WPC Energy...a global forum committed to the sustainable management of the world's energy resources. Their mission is to provide reliable, fact based guidance on how Canada can achieve a secure, affordable, and

sustainable energy future, while upholding its reputation as a responsible global energy supplier. This promises to be a very informative event...and a particularly timely one, as conversations about energy now sit at the crossroads of environmental responsibility and economic opportunity. Dean's insights will be invaluable in helping us understand how Canada can navigate that balance in the years ahead.

On Wednesday, January 28, President Denis Couturier has made (and paid for) reservations for 40 people to attend Jubilations Dinner Theatre at 6:30 for the show "Let it Be Beatles". The subsidized cost to attend will be \$60 per person. This is always a fun venue and you can do yourself a favour by responding yes when you receive your Evite with complete details in early January.

For Gyro events after January refer to the Calendar on the our website. President Denis has tasked teams with planning upcoming Gyro events and once plans are in place, available details are posted to our club Calendar.



## New Year Resolutions

Be it resolved, that I will no longer call my afternoon nap a "nap." From now on, it will be known as "strategic horizontal thinking."

Be it resolved, that I will try to stay up past 9pm at least once this year...even if it's by accident;

Further be it resolved that I will try to remember why I walked into the room..if I can't remember, be it resolved that I will at least enjoy the walk;

# An Evening at the Winter Club

**O**n Sunday, December 14th approximately 70 Gyros, Gyrettes and friends gathered at the Calgary Winter Club to enjoy each others company and celebrate the season that is Christmas. Joining us from the Edmonton Gyro club was International Vice President Dunc Mills. Also, stopping by was Santa Claus who had been travelling from the Caribbean to his winter home at the North Pole. Following a

delicious catered meal Santa delivered presents to everyone (he forgot his Naughty List at the North Pole). With his work done, Santa, a busy guy this time of year, left the building.

At this point Joel Spire sat at his piano and began to share his music with the crowd. Some danced, some just listened, and all enjoyed the company of those who attended.



For lots more pictures taken by  
Thor Jepsen at the Christmas party  
check out our website!



The fire department has given the OK for Birthday boys to light all their candles this year as there is zero chance of forest fire in January. They do ask that you are EXTREMELY careful not to burn yourself when lighting the candles as there are expected to be long wait times in the hospital emergency rooms.

## Blowing out candles this month will be

Dave Jenner	January 5
Gary Cobb	January 18
Bruce Martin	January 20
John Petruic	January 24
Jay Likely	January 30
Garry Davies	January 30

# Gyro Conventions / Miscellaneous

The 2026 International Convention will be held right here in **Calgary, from July 13 to 17**. The event is hosted by Gyro International, and since it's happening on our home turf, **Alan Pentney** and I have been asked by the Executive Council to coordinate the details.

We'll likely need a helping hand as things ramp up.. so don't be surprised if you get a call as the date approaches! Because the convention follows immediately after the Calgary Stampede, there's been talk of encouraging Gyros from other clubs to arrive early and enjoy the festivities. Given the high demand and cost of accommodations during

Stampede week, we're exploring the idea of billeting visiting Gyros for a couple of nights.

I sent out an email to our club members before Calgary was confirmed as the host city, and a few responded positively. Now that it's official, we'll need to know who's willing to open their homes and help make this experience unforgettable. Preliminary details are available on both the International and Calgary website and will be updated as more information becomes available.

**To keep yourself informed of the upcoming events please refer often to the club calendar on our website.**

## ***More New Year Resolutions***

Be it resolved that I will continue to cheer for the Flames with optimism... or at least with realistic expectations;

Be it resolved that I get more exercise this year by parking further from the door...but not too far;

Be it resolved that I take more walks in Fish Creek this year, even if it's only to prove that I still can; and finally,

Be it resolved that (after my walks in Fish Creek) I treat myself to pie and ice cream at local restaurants, because, it is important to "support local business."

Ann and I wish you all a very Happy and Healthy New Year! Good luck with your New Year Resolutions...And let's not forget to "Keep the Fun" in Gyro.

Ken Baker, Bulletin Guy