



GYROLIFE



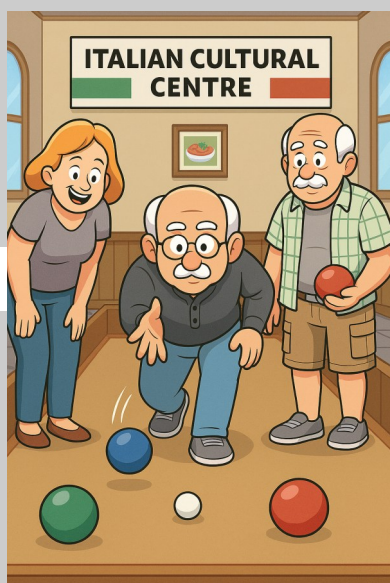
GYRO - A FRATERNITY OF FRIENDSHIP
In Calgary since 1921

November 2025

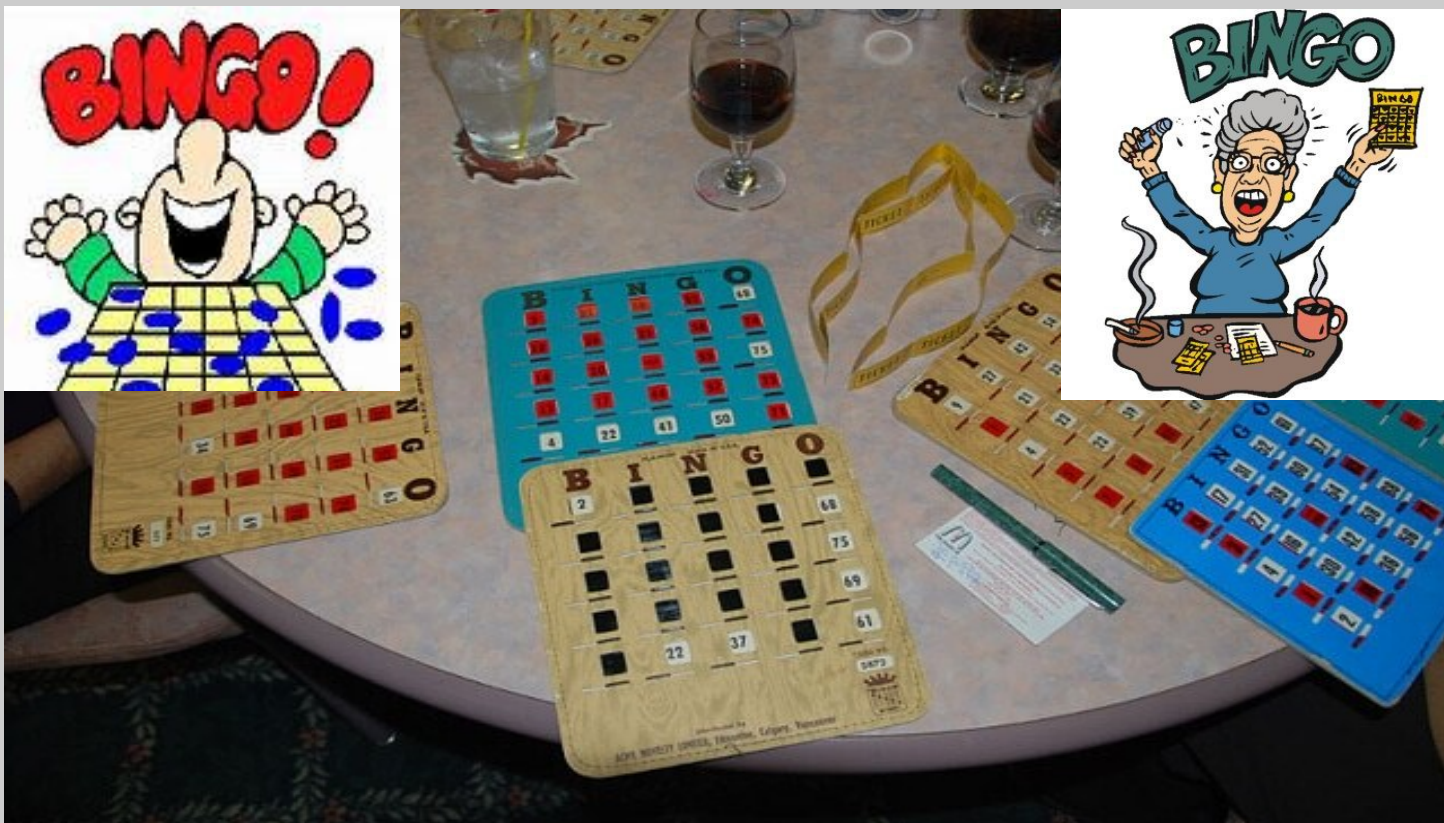
UPCOMING EVENTS



On Monday, November 10 we will meet at the Hotel Blackfoot for mixed luncheon. After lunch there will be a presentation on Canadians in the Royal Flying Corps during WW 1 given by Alison Mercer, senior curator, of the Calgary Military Museum. Please respond ASAP to the Evite you received and as always consider inviting a friend to Gyro



Join the Fred Shanks team on Tuesday, November 25, at 11am for fun on the BOCCE Court at the Italian Cultural Centre...followed by lunch at La Cantina. Order off the regular menu. This is a mixed event. LET'S GET OUT AND THROW SOME BALLS!



Annual Charity Bingo

Your Hosts: The Campbell Team

When: Wednesday, December 3, 2025.

Time: 5pm to 10pm (we will be eating supper before Bingo which starts at 7pm).

Where: Royal Canadian Legion, 9202 Horton Road SW.

Cost: \$20 per person, includes two cards (extra cards 3 for \$5) and your choice of Chicken Fingers, Cheddar Bacon Burger, Ruben Sandwich, or Soup & Sandwich (all served with Fries). Coffee and Tea are provided all evening at no cost. Also, a cash bar will be open all evening.

Each player attending the bingo should bring a prize they would happily take home if they won it themselves. We will have the normal 50-50 cash draw.

As in prior years, the net proceeds from the event will be donated to a charity favored by our President.

When you receive your Evite let us know how many of you are coming and what your dinner choice is.

AND REMEMBER, GUESTS (friends and family) ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

OKTOBERFEST—2025



By John Hodgson

Fifty-three Gyros and Gyrettes/Ladies experienced a fabulous Oktoberfest celebration on Sunday afternoon, October 5th held at Paul and Cathy Skinner's Meadowlands Stables. The weather outside was cool and crisp but it was warm and inviting inside the horse stable which had been spectacularly transformed into a Bavarian biergarten for the event.



Attendees mingled and socialized while enjoying snacks and drinks served by bartender Dylan

Rooney, the Skinner's grand nephew. Beverages included German red and white wines and authentic style German beer obtained from the Fahr Brewery in Diamond Valley. The Brewery also generously loaned us beer steins for the event. Fitting with the occasion, live musical entertainment was provided by a Mr. Bob Scherle who performed a wide selection of tunes on his accordion. The festive spirit encouraged dancing which was expertly led by Georges Palardy. His playing concluded with "Happy Birthday" for Barb Mills. Mr. Scherle, a native of Switzerland but longtime Calgary resident, praised Gyro's Oktoberfest as one of the best such events that he had attended.

Games of physical skill were contested with the team of Bob Ulrich/John Petruic winning the bean bag toss and Larry Fenton the ladder ball competitions. Wisely, it was decided not to hold the obstacle race which would have had contestants running an outdoor obstacle course while holding liquid filled beer steins.



(continued from page 3)

A delicious meal of German culinary fare was served buffet style in the biergarten. The food consisted of bratwurst, spaetzle and sauerkraut followed by whipped cream topped apple strudel for dessert. During dinner, the door prize winner was drawn with Gary Stephen holding the lucky ticket for a genuine German porcelain beer stein.

The wonderful afternoon concluded with words from Calgary club president Denis Couturier including a thank you to those who participated in organizing the event but particularly to Paul and Cathy Skinner.

Pictures by Denis Couturier

To view more pictures of this event go to our Website



GYRO CLUB OF CALGARY EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT

Denis Couturier

VICE PRESIDENT

Ken Schubert

PAST PRESIDENT

Zig Doborzynski

TREASURER

John Hodgson

SECRETARY

Larry Fenton

DIRECTORS

Doug Campbell

John L'Ecuyer

Phil Wadsworth

Fred Shanks

WEBMASTER / PHOTOGRAPHER

Thor Jepsen

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR
CLUB VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:**

calgarygyroclub.com

I ***t's time to start thinking about attending the Annual Gyro Christmas Party hosted by the Stampede Club.*** Details are still being worked on but, we do know that it will be held at the Calgary Winter club on Sunday, December 14 and that dance music will be provided by Joel Spire. Further details will be forthcoming in an Evite.

FOUNDERS LUNCHEON

Founders Day Luncheon – October 24, Hotel Blackfoot

Story by John Hodgson, AI, and Ken Baker

Past President Zig Doborzynski welcomed 25 Gyros and Gyrettes to the annual Founders Day Luncheon. Following lunch, John Hodgson introduced the guest speaker, fellow club member Ken Baker, offering a glimpse into Ken's personal journey.

Ken grew up on the family farm near Sedley, Saskatchewan. Rather than following a farming path, he pursued studies at the Saskatchewan Institute of Technology, earning a degree in Accounting. In 1967, he accepted a position with Revenue Canada and relocated to Calgary. By 1976, Ken had established his own successful tax and accounting practice. More significantly, shortly after arriving in Calgary, Ken met Ann Bonokoski. They married in 1969 and have since built a close-knit



family: a son residing in Colombia, and a daughter, grandson, and granddaughter here in Calgary.

Ken's presentation, assisted by Thor Jepsen, offered

an engaging overview of the Calgary Gyro Club's website. He explained that the original site was designed and maintained by former (and now honorary) member Gary Cull. After Gary's move to British Columbia, Thor with his technical expertise and Ken with his knowledge of the Gyro organization took on the responsibility of the website. Recognizing the need for modernization, they redeveloped the website using current software, officially launching their "baby" in 2017.



Editor's Note: I briefly spoke about the founders of Gyro International and highlighted how the website includes information about the founders of the Gyro Club of Calgary. On Sunday, October 26, I joined the ladies for a tour of Union Cemetery. During the tour, Denis Couturier pointed out a gravestone of particular relevance to our club—that of original charter and founding member Clarence H. Lougheed.

During the presentation, Thor projected the website's homepage onto a screen for all to see. As Ken walked through the site's features, Thor navigated in real time, showcasing the club's

calendar of events and an impressive 25-year archive of newsletters and photographs.

Thanks to Thor's ongoing dedication to maintaining and updating the site, it remains one of the finest—if not the finest—websites in all of Gyro.

Ken also shared heartfelt reflections on his Gyro journey, recalling how he was first introduced to the club in 1995 by tax client Bill Schultz. After attending a luncheon meeting and returning two weeks later, Ken soon became a member. Thank you, Bill, for "inviting a friend to Gyro."

GYRO CONVENTION

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.

Have you heard this one?

Paddy McCoy, an elderly Irish farmer, received a letter from the Department for Work & Pensions stating that they suspected he was not paying his employees the statutory minimum wage and they would send an inspector to interview him.

On the appointed day, the inspector turned up.

"Tell me about your staff," the inspector asked Patty.

"Well," said Patty, "there's the farmhand, I pay him €240 a week, and he has free room and board. Then

there's the housekeeper. She gets €190 a week, along with free room and board.

There's also the half-wit. He works a 16 hour day, does 90% of the work, earns about €25 a week along with a bottle of whiskey and, as a special treat gets to sleep with my wife."

"That's disgraceful," said the inspector, "I need to interview the half-wit."

"That will be me then," said Patty, "what else do you want to know?"

The 2025 –2026 Roster books will be available for distribution at the Annual Charity Bingo. Hope to see you there!

That's all for this month, Ken Baker, Bulletin Guy