

THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE GYRO CLUB OF SHERWOOD PARK



VOLUME: 50 EDITION: 7 DATE: NOVEMBER 22, 2023 EDITOR: Scott Brisbin

I WAS JUST THINKING: So now cocaine is legal in Oregon but straws aren't. That must be frustrating.

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The Club's Grand Poobahs:

President: **Nestor Slipchuk**

Vice President: **Don Greig**

Past President: **Bruce Copeland**

Treasurer: **Ted Ewanchuk**

Secretary: **Ray Davis**

Club. Admin. **Ray Davis**

Registrar: **Dorne Hunt**

Directors: **Gordon Stewart; Paul West; Sid Slade; Ted Ewanchuk**

Bulletin Editor: **Scott Brisbin**

Webmaster: **Ray Davis**

EDITOR'S RANT

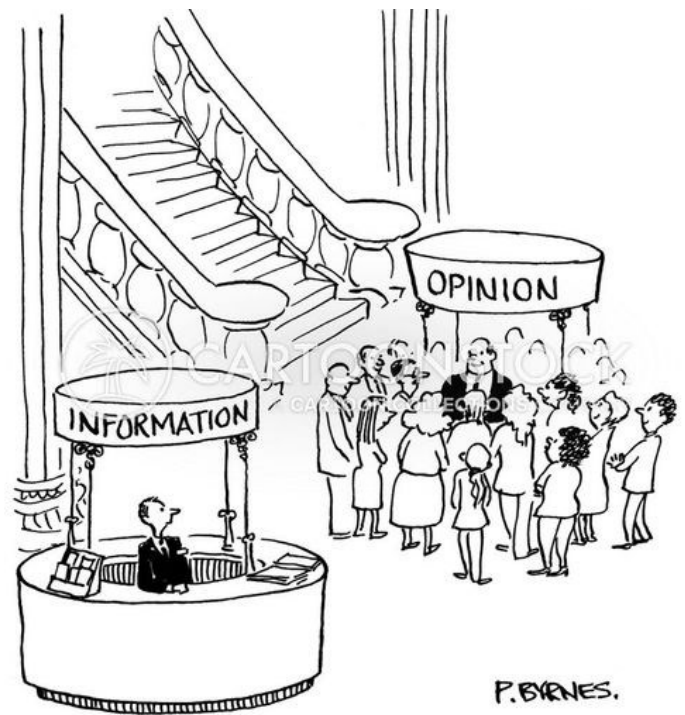
More and more I trust less and less of my perceived environment. Politicians have fabricated promises since the ruling heirarchy (self proclaimed monarchs, dictators or chiefs along with their inner circle) were the only political systems available. Surfs, soldiers or slaves, composed the masses. Then along came democracy. Perhaps the early democratically elected leaders had good intentions but I am pretty sure that, assuming there was a time restriction before they had to be re-elected, they would have to make promises they couldn't keep and that evolved into straight election campaign lies in order to remain in power. Fast forward to today when the grains of truth are getting hard to find and the electorate numbly assumes that reality without shock or surprise.

The Media has changed over the years as well. It was harder to mislead and push a harmful agenda when the news was "printed" in stone tablets and could come back to haunt you for millennia after your turn at power ended. I grew up trusting, as most of us did, what we read in the newspapers, then the radio to which TV News was added in the late 1950's in Canada. If it was in the paper or other "trusted" media, it had to be true. Gradually my skepticism began to creep in, first to my subconscious, and eventually into my conscious mind. My blissful naivety was decaying. Next came a jaded view of reporting in general. I was a live witness to events that, when I read the press reports or watched the TV

events that, when I read the press reports or watched the TV News coverage of what I had attended bore scant resemblance to what had actually happened. I started to lose my faith in media that I had trusted and respected my whole life. I decided to seek out “alternative” sources to my beloved Canadian big three newspapers (local and National), CBC radio and TV, CTV, and Global TV. I tried further left and right of my moderate upbringing, and ultimately even sampled what many would view as radical extremes. None of them spoke the real truth any more. Some were slightly closer to what I was looking for but none gained my unqualified trust.

Technology continued to make it easier to hoodwink the public. You couldn't trust that a photo, radio interview or a film clip, had not been altered to suit a particular perspective. Now we are facing the frightening future of Artificial intelligence or AI. Anything can be made to look and sound real and credible. You and I could have a conversation thousands of miles between us but actually feel that we were in the same room and were both real people, not holographic images.

When it is fast becoming a stretch to trust your five senses in order to verify what is happening in the real world, you can ask a lot of questions and not expect any answers. Jim Carey's movie “The Truman Show” comes to mind.



REPORT ON FOUNDERS NIGHT October 17th

This annual celebration of our founders was hosted this year by the Edmonton club and took place at the Derrick Golf and Country Club. The Sherwood Park club was represented by 12 Gyros and partners. There were 34 from the Edmonton Club.

After an excellent dinner our own **Ted Ewanchuk** was installed as **District VIII Lt. Governor**. If Gyro was a giant poker game, Ted appears to be going “All In”, holding most offices in the game at some point since he joined a few years ago, including Past President. He currently is club Treasurer, Director, and has now stepped outside the Sherwood Park table.

Bernie Kropp, with a long legacy of leadership in our club, spoke about the club’s history, comparing his own personal history in the club to the three founders over 100 years ago. Bernie did come dressed in 21st century attire.

Edmonton’s **Fred Schulte** gave a presentation outlining the timeline of the longer serving members of the Edmonton Club starting with the longest serving member **Marty Larson**.

The evening’s guest speaker, **Dr. Lorne Tyrrell**, an Edmontonian, respected around the world in the field of virology and many other areas, was introduced by Bruce Swanson. Dr. Tyrrell’s presentation was about the evolution of plagues and viruses throughout history and how vaccines are helping to win the war against them and saving millions of lives in the process.

Our thanks to the Edmonton club for all their efforts to make it a memorable evening.



Fred Schulte



Bernie Kropp

Contd.

FOUNDERS NIGHT contd.



Guest Speaker, Dr. Lorne Tyrrell receiving a presentation by Fred Schulte



Our new District VIII Lt. Governor, Ted Ewanchuk

CURLARAMA

Gyro Curlers came from North and South again this year on October 3rd to 5th to vie for the coveted trophy that nobody wants to actually take home and pay for the engraving.

Ray Davis supplied, a report complete with photographic evidence.

The team from Sherwood Park (Jim Malott, Dorne Hunt, Milt Lanes, Ray Davis and coached by Don Greig) worked hard and won all our games bringing home the A event final. Yahoo giant trophy and bottles of booze of choice.

Fun time was had by all, not as much frivolity as in past years, guess the age is catching up with us but it was fun and the honour of beating District Governor Dunc Mills in the final.



NEW MEMBER PROPOSALS:

Barry Thomlinson:

Barry is a retired farmer who was nominated by Sid Slade and seconded by Ray Davis. His better half is **Diane**. Barry first experienced the Gyro magic at the Horseshoe event September 21st and also joined us for Bocce Night on October 5th.

Key stats : e-mail turkbt@hotmail.ca Phone: (780) 922-3042

Blair Gallant:

Blair is retired and was also nominated by Sid Slade and seconded by Ray Davis and also attended the Horseshoe afternoon and the Bocce night.

He is married to Clare (Blair and Clare...must be a potential poem in there somewhere!)

Blair is reported to be a well organized fellow and has volunteered in Broadmoor Senior Golf as President.

Key stats: #76 52059 Rg Rd 220, Sherwood Park

e-mail: gallant.blair53@gmail.com Phone: (780) 668- 7418

Art Merrick:

We are very pleased to welcome back Art, who renewed his membership after some time away after his wife, Judy Taylor, passed away. Art was a very active member and his return is good news for his fellow Gyros.

**HOPE THIS
VIRUS SITUATION
GETS RESOLVED
BEFORE TICK SEASON
STARTS OR WE'LL BE
DEALING WITH
CORONA
WITH LYME**

NOVEMBER / MOVEMBER



MEANWHILE IN CANADA

Rumour is that the 338 MPs in Canadian Parliament plan to celebrate this Afghan hero who bravely fought against the Russians in the 1980s



How Canadians confuse the world:

- We measure outside temp in Celsius and oven temp in Fahrenheit.
- Length in meters and our height in feet.
- Cheese is weighed in kilograms but people are weighed in pounds.
- We speak like Americans, spell like Brits and randomly throw in French words.

**How do you prevent Canadian bacon from curling?
Take away their tiny brooms.**

BILLIARDS NIGHT November 9th

A great crowd of Gyros showed up for Caffrey's famous Fish and Chips and a rousing evening of Billiards. It started early and ended in time for those of us with lingering masochistic tendencies to head home and watch the Oiler game. President Nestor Slipchuk schooled many of us on a couple of Billiards rules we had not heard about. He plays in a Billiards league, so we believed him, and it was corroborated by a few others who claimed similar superior knowledge about the game. All that knowledge did not produce the assumed winners. The A side was won by Ted Ewanchuk and John Williams. The B side winners were Dunc Mills and Yours Truly so skill only goes so far it appears. Many thanks to Lawrence Zalasky and Sid Slad who kept things generally organized and ensured a calm that I don't remember from the pool halls of my youth.



A side winners

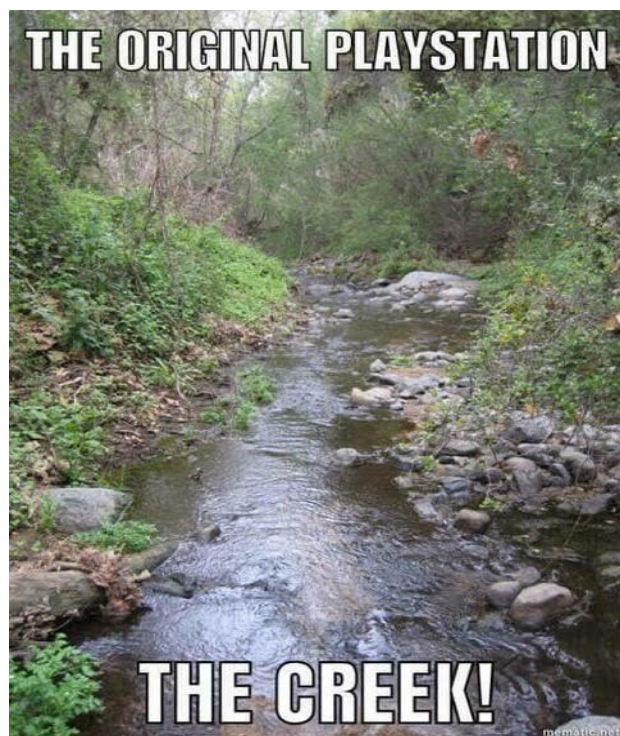
John Williams and Ted Ewanchuk



B side winners

Scott Brisbin and Duncan Mills

COMPUTER CONFUSION



Most people are at the age where they are using their phones to document the good times in their lives. I'm at the age where I use my phone to take pictures of labels that I can't read and use my phone to enlarge the print so that I can read it.



Practical Advice:
If all the toilets in your house are occupied and you are waiting for one to be free, switch off the wi-fi.

MEANWHILE NOT IN CANADA



THOSE WERE THE DAYS

We never worried about our TV being stolen in the '80s...



It took four people just to move it a few inches to the left.

Mount Rushmore - 1929 vs 2013



A boy enjoys his ice cream as he sits on a sea mine washed up on the beach at Deal in Kent, February 1940



Couple roller skating. Berlin, Germany 1905

SIGNS OF OUR TIMES



AGING GRACELESLY

Courtesy of Bill Carter:

1. After loving my parents, my siblings, my spouse, my children and my friends, I have now started loving myself.
2. I have realized that I am not "Atlas". The world does not rest on my shoulders.
3. I have stopped bargaining with vegetable & fruit vendors. A few pennies more is not going to break me, but it might help the poor fellow save for his daughter's school fees.
4. I leave my waitress a big tip. The extra money might bring a smile to her face. She is toiling much harder for a living than I am.
5. I stopped telling the elderly that they've already told that story many times. The story makes them walk down memory lane & relive their past.
6. I have learned not to correct people even when I know they are wrong. The onus of making everyone perfect is not on me. Peace is more precious than perfection.
7. I give compliments freely & generously. Compliments are a mood enhancer not only for the recipient, but also for me. And a small tip for the recipient of a compliment, never, NEVER turn it down, just say "Thank You."
8. I have learned not to bother about a crease or a spot on my shirt. Personality speaks louder than appearances.
9. I walk away from people who don't value me. They might not know my worth, but I do.
10. I remain cool when someone plays dirty to outrun me in the rat race. I am not a rat & neither am I in any race.
11. I am learning not to be embarrassed by my emotions. It's my emotions that make me human.
12. I have learned that it's better to drop the ego than to break a relationship. My ego will keep me aloof, whereas with relationships, I will never be alone.
13. I have learned to live each day as if it's the last. After all, it might be the last.
14. I am doing what makes me happy. I am responsible for my happiness, and I owe it to myself. Happiness is a choice. You can be happy at any time, just choose to be!

Thanks, Bill. We miss you.

TRUTH BEATS FICTION, and that's the truth

(Do you hear that, politicians?)



SAD NEWS PAGE

By now we are all getting over the shock of the news that two of ur long time members and Gyro friends have passed away.

Bill Carter, a purveyor of joy, support and fun at Gyro functions for the past 37 years, left this world on November 7th. after suffering a stroke on November 5th. He had been in declining health and hospitalized for a couple of weeks and not responding to emails and calls before his stroke. At least a few Gyros visited him in the week or so before he passed.

Close friends such as Jim Malott, Rikke Dootjes and many others who have holidayed with Bill and Jeannie over the years and th rest of us who socialized and enjoyed their company here at home are all saddened by his passing. He joined Gyro in 1986. We smile as we recall his unique sense of humour that he used with his fellow Gyros, notably as he performed as auctioneer at our annual fundraising auction. He served the club as president and a number of other key functions. We are sad, as well for his family. But the bright side is that he is out of pain and has rejoined Jeannie in the beyond.

On the evening of November 7th our friend and fellow Gyro, **The Honourable**

Peter Elzinga passed away after a long battle with autoimmune problems ending with Leukemia. Peter first joined Gyro in 1986, left after a number of years due to overwhelming professional commitments and rejoined in 2018. Upon his return, he took a keen interest in the club and was to become president two years ago when his health prevented him from continuing in tha role. Many of us have known Peter for many years. Allan Blaiken and I would meet with him over coffee regularly over the past couple of years as we identified and solved the province's, country's and world's problems. However, both of us have known him for at least four decades. His life in Conservative politics at the national and provincial level, both as a party leader and an elected member, made him a household name in our area, and to some extent across the country. A large portrait of Peter hangs in our own Sherwood Park Museum and Archives. We will miss his quiet wisdom, sense of humour and eagerness to serve throughout his life. Our deepest condolences go out to Pat and his family. Rest in peace, my friend.

DID YOU KNOW? and POSITIVE THOUGHTS

Did You Know:

POPEYE

" Few people know that Popeye's character (Arm wrestle) really existed. His real name was Frank " Rocky " Fiegel, born in Poland in 1868. he emigrated with his family to America where in 1887 he joined the Navy.

When he was with children he held the pipe with the corner of his mouth and told them the antics of his youth, often boasting of his physical strength and loudly claiming that spinach is the food that makes him invincible.

Popeye's character creator Elzie Crisler Segar was born in Chester and was one of the children who had the privilege of hearing " live " the stories of the former sailor."

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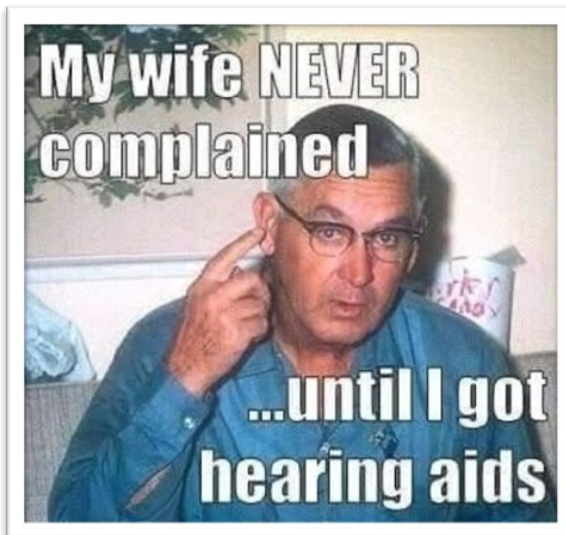
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Positive Thought:



GYRETTE GIGGLES



When you forget to drink your morning coffee



NEVER LEAVE HOME WITHOUT A KISS, A HUG AND AN 'I LOVE YOU.' THEN REMOVE THE DOG HAIR FROM YOUR MOUTH AS YOU WALK TO THE CAR.



KID'S KOMEDY

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O

When I was little, I didn't care what I wore. I just went along with what my parents chose.

When I look in old photo albums, I realize that they didn't care either.

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A little girl asked her brother "What is love?"

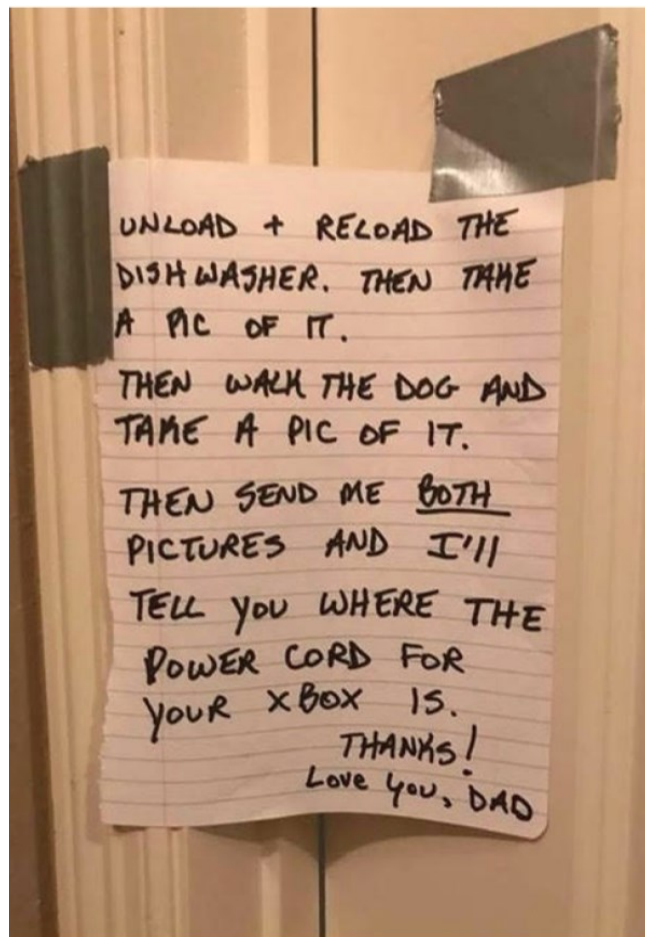
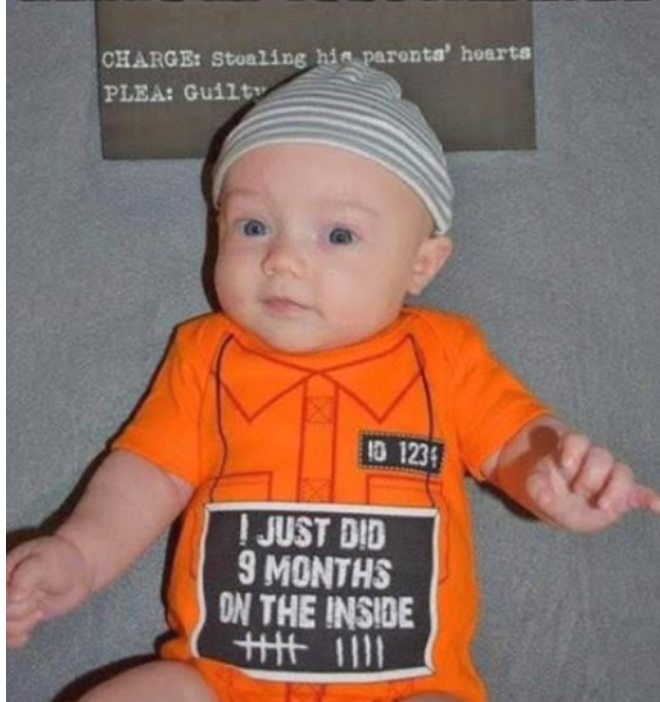


He replied: "Love is when you steal my chocolate from my lunch bag everyday... and I still hide it in the same place."

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PROBABLY THE GREATEST NEWBORN COSTUME EVER



ANXIETY MEDICINE

In these uncertain times it is easy to let your anxiety start to creep up. Perhaps while we are in various forms of lock-down, some images from our amazing world will help



Alberta

Norway 🇳🇴



Hmmmm....

I Love This Japanese Doctor

Q: Doctor, I've heard that cardiovascular exercise can prolong life. Is this true?

A: Heart only good for so many beats, and that's it... Don't waste time on exercise. Everything wear out eventually. Speeding up heart not make you live longer; it's like saying you extend life of a car by driving faster. Want to live longer? - Take nap.

Q: Should I reduce my alcohol intake?

A: Oh no. Wine made from fruit. Fruit very good. Brandy distilled wine, that means they take water out of fruity bit so you get even more of goodness that way. Beer also made of grain. Grain good too. - Bottoms up!

Q: What are some of the advantages of participating in a regular exercise program?

A: Can't think of one, sorry. My philosophy: No pain...very good!

Q: Aren't fried foods bad for you?

A: YOU NOT LISTENING! Food fried in vegetable oil. How can getting more vegetable be bad?

Q: Is chocolate bad for me?

A: You crazy?!? HEL-LO-O-O!! Cocoa bean! Another vegetable! It best feel-good food around.

Q: Is swimming good for your figure?

A: If swimming good for figure, explain whale to me.

Q: Is getting in shape important for my lifestyle?

A: Hey! 'Round' is also a shape!

Well.. I hope this has cleared up any misconceptions you may have had about food and diets.

Hmmmm Contd.

Finally, the Japanese Doctor summed up: Look mister, Life should NOT be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in an attractive and well-preserved body, but rather to skid in sideways - Beer in one hand - chocolate in the other - body thoroughly used up, totally worn out and screaming "WOO-HOO, what a ride my life was"!!!!

Eat whatever you like because you will still DIE, don't allow motivational speakers deceive you.

1. The inventor of the treadmill died at the age of 54.
2. The inventor of gymnastics died at the age of 57.
3. The world bodybuilding champion died at the age of 41.
4. The best footballer in the world Maradona died at the age of 60.

BUT

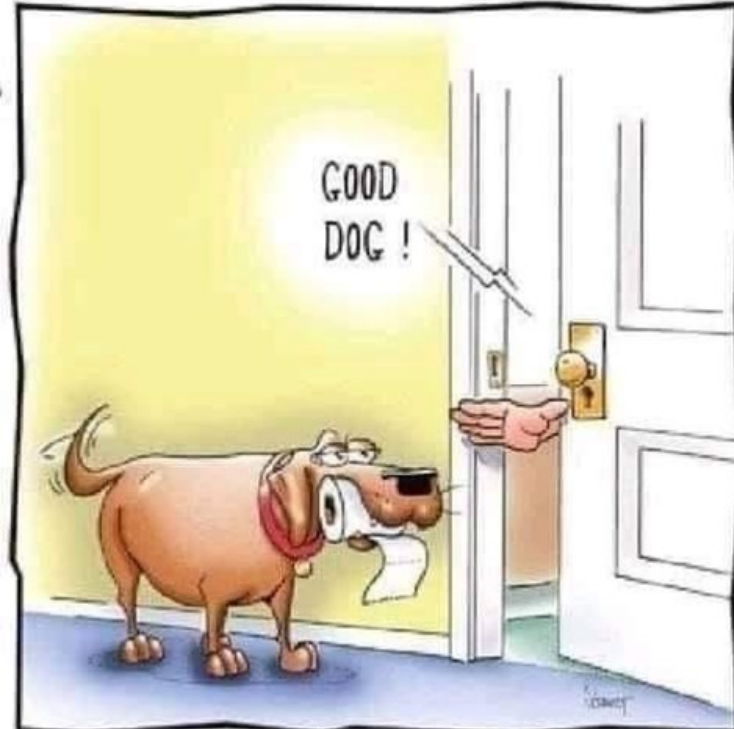
5. The KFC inventor died at 94.
6. Inventor of Nutella brand died at the age of 88.
7. Imagine, cigarette maker Winston died at the age of 102.
8. The inventor of opium died at the age of 116 in an earthquake.
9. Hennessey Cognac inventor died at 98.

How did these doctors come to the conclusion that exercise prolongs life?

The rabbit is always jumping up and down but it lives for only 2 years and the turtle that doesn't exercise at all, lives 400 years.

So, take some rest, Chill, stay cool, eat, drink and enjoy your life.

ANIMAL INSTINCTS



PERHAPS THE MOST NOBLE OF ALL RESCUE ANIMALS: THE LAVATORY RETRIEVER

SNICKERS AND GUFFAWS



**They said bring a dessert
and a game to the party...**



Nailed it!



GYRO FRIENDSHIP PICTURE OF THE WEEK



AND THE LAST WORD....

A word to our American friends from your Northern neighbours:
Try inviting as many family members and friends as you can for your Thanksgiving dinner. Then introduce politics into the festive table talk. Try to avoid physical violence. With luck, you will be able to shorten your Christmas gift list significantly and save yourself a bundle.