

COACHELLA VALLEY GYRO CLUB HISTORY

The Executive Council, while at the International Interim Convention, held in Savannah, Georgia in January 2011 approved the Chartering of the Coachella Valley Gyro Club, District IX, in southern California. The installation of officers was held at Mimi's Café, in La Quinta on February 19th. Larry Duba (Fresno Gyro Club), Gyro International 2nd VP installed the new officers as follows: President: Roger Lindley; Vice President: Tim Allen; Secretary: Justin "Curt" Curtis; Treasurer: Jack Jutte; Associate Treasurer: Bill Hamson; Directors: Terry Fauteux, Leigh Simpson, and Mike Wagg. PIP Jim Roberts presented the Club's Charter to Roger Lindley. John MacDonald, Governor District IX, presented the gavel to Roger. Dan Gaddis, President of the Sponsoring Blacklake Gyro Club gave a welcome speech. Larry Duba, on behalf of the Fresno Gyro Club that earlier had seconded the chartering of the club, presented a large gavel to Roger that Ed Fernandes had made. Part of inscription on the gavel was "Keep the Fun in Gyro". John DeYulia was recognized as the editor and publisher of the Coachella Valley Gyro Club's bulletin titled "Dateline". Dateline reflects that dates are a primary agricultural product of the valley. John is also the Webmaster for the new club.

The Club is the 248th Gyro Club established, since our founders started the Fraternity of Friendship in 1912. Although the Club initially consists of existing members of other clubs in Canada and the United States, it is hoped that local residents will be invited to join the club as local contacts are made. The motto, "Gyros Without Borders" reflects the fact that members travel to the area during the fall, winter and spring months from both countries.

At the installation there were 60 people present including a couple of guests. The Club was formed by 21 Charter members as follows: Tim Allen, Curt Curtis, John DeYulia, John Di Tomasso, Larry Duba, Terry Fauteux, Bill Hamson, Chuck Hawthorne, Wayne Heikkala, Chuck Hose, Jack Jutte, Bernie Kropp, Roger Lindley, Keith Mabin, Val Pohl, John Rayson, Jim Roberts, Leigh Simpson, Pat Sullivan, Mike Wagg, and John Walton.

Later, PDG Roger Lindley (Blacklake Gyro Club) was presented the James Hubbell Award for getting the Coachella Valley Gyro Club started.

The current Club officers are as follows: President - Leigh Simpson, VP - Mike Wagg, Secretary - Dave Hart, Treasurer - Tim Allen and Immediate Past President - John Rayson.