



Introduction to Gyro International

Established 1912

"A Men's Social Organization exporting  
Fun, Fellowship & Brotherhood"

To Access More Information, go to

[www.Gyro.org](http://www.Gyro.org)



## **Welcome to Gyro International!**

Congratulations on your decision to join Gyro International, a Fraternity of Friendship for over 100 years. You have had the good fortune to have been invited by a friend to share in the world of Gyro fun and to forge new friendships that could last you for a lifetime. As a new Gyro member, this letter will inform you about the history of the organization, our structure and also help provide an insight into the values and culture of Gyro International.

### **Founders.**

Three college students, who graduated from Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1912, decided to form a club in order to stay in touch after leaving school. They adopted the gyroscope as their symbol and called their club Gyro. The gyroscope turns on an axis and is impervious to outside influences just as a true friendship remains no matter what is happening around the world. Clubs are in the United States and Canada with the first Club chartered in Cleveland, Ohio in 1912 and internationally with the addition of Toronto, Ont. in 1919.

### **Structure.**

We have three levels in the organization – Club, District and Executive.

At the Club level each club is able to operate within their own Constitution as long as it does not conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws of Gyro International or their Club's District. Dues are paid to support your Club, your District and Gyro International.

The affairs of Gyro are administered by a Board of Governors, which consists of Gyro Governor's from each District and the International Executive Committee. The Executive Officers include an Immediate Past President, President, 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents and Secretary-Treasurer. The Secretary-Treasurer oversees the organization's functions. The officers work on issues designed to improve the organization and promote the recruitment of new members.

There is a staff office in Painesville, Ohio that efficiently supports all Gyros with information, pins, certificates, and other items.

Conventions are the backbone of Gyro fun and friendship. An International convention is held annually, helping to bring together Gyro members from across North America while providing the opportunity for the Board of Governors to elect new Executive Council members and vote on any necessary changes to the Constitution and Bylaws.

District conventions are also held annually, creating the opportunity for members to meet somewhere closer to home while continuing to build and develop new Gyro friendships. Executive Officers serve as representatives to these District Conventions to help provide a link from Gyro International to the Club and District levels.

### **Circle of Friendship.**

Friendship is an enduring affection founded upon mutual respect and esteem. A Harvard study showed that being involved with other people could add considerably to a person's life span. You are encouraged to travel to other clubs for their installation or a social get-together. By attending District and International conventions you will be able to expand your circle of friends. You will get much more out of the organization if you get involved and serve in your club's administrative staff and perhaps later as a District officer.

### **General Information.**

The Gyro International Headquarters address is 1096 Mentor Ave., Painesville, OH 44077. The office manager is Sheila Kucera, and her email is (Sheila@gyro.org). Gloria Kostelnik is the other part-time employee, and her email is (Gloria@gyro.org). The office phone number is (440)352-2501. You are encouraged to sign into the Gyro website and use the Members Portal to access information about the organization and its members ([www.gyro.org](http://www.gyro.org)).

Gyro provides fun, activities, fellowship and creates great memories. If you think of someone who shares in your ideas, invite them to a club meeting. Once they see the Fraternity of Friendship firsthand, they will want to join your Gyro club and share in the fun times with you and others.

**Again, we welcome you into our Fraternity of Friendship!**



## WHAT DOES GYRO OFFER TO ME?

Many things!

The opportunity to participate at a Club, District and International levels.

Some of the benefits that are available, at all levels are:

- Friendship
- Fellowship
- Camaraderie
- Longer life
  - Travel
  - Billeting
- Gyroscope Magazine
  - Conventions
- Responsibility, Leadership, Recognition
  - Documentation
    - Awards
  - Good Vibes
  - Support
- No Obligations
- FUN



Dear New Member,

As President of **Gyro International**, I am delighted to welcome you to **Gyro**, a **Men's Social Organization**, focusing on fun and fellowship.

I hope the enclosed **New Members Kit** will give you a better understanding of Gyro's history and our **Mission, Vision, and Values**. I encourage you to, also, look at the Gyro website which will give you even more information about **Gyro International**. The website is: <https://gyro.org/>

To allow you to easily contact members, in your Club, or other Clubs when travelling, please be sure to use our secure, password protected, **Members Portal**: <https://members.gyro.org>

If you have any questions about your membership, please do not hesitate to ask your sponsor or Club President. You can also contact me at: [president@gyro.org](mailto:president@gyro.org)

I hope you will enjoy your involvement, in **Gyro**, so you will then reach out to some of your friends and encourage them to join our great organization.

Yours in Gyro Friendship,

*Dan Durbin*

Daniel Durbin

International President





## YOU'RE AMONG FRIENDS



From the Gyro Principle came three key words:

- **POWER** - Symbolizes the power of our friendships in our human relationships.
- **POISE** - Demonstrates the steadiness of friendship in times of trial.
- **PURPOSE** - Keeps the balance wheel of friendship in men's lives.

### Our Mission

The mission of the Friendship Fraternity we all know as GYRO shall be as stated in our constitution:

- The promulgation of friendship among men of all states, provinces, and nations.
- The cementing of relationships and establishment of cooperation between all Gyro clubs wherever situate.
- The preservation and extension of principles and ideals of this organization.

## OUR VISION

- Gyro affords men of character the opportunity to nurture friendships and exchange ideas in an open environment.
- Gyro will become the "organization of choice for these men in an era of decreasing discretionary time.
- Gyro welcomes men of character from all walks of life.

## OUR VALUES

The Member ... the underlying strength of the fraternity:

- A Gyro is a Gentleman.
- His word is his bond.
- He respects the rights, property, and sensitivities of others.
- He refrains from using his membership for promoting personal commerce.

The Organization ... Gyro gatherings are a vehicle for celebrating friendship:

- Gyro gatherings are a venue for the free exchange of ideas.
- Every Gyro has the right to have his opinion heard and respected.
- Guests and visiting Gyros are treated with respect.

You may contact Gyro International directly as shown below, or any of our local clubs via [www.Gyro.org](http://www.Gyro.org).

Gyro International

1096 Mentor Avenue

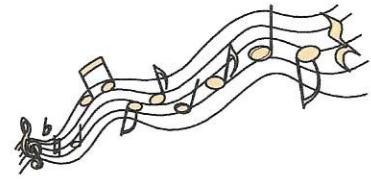
Painesville, Ohio 44077

Phone: 440-352-2501, Fax: 440-352-3883

## HELLO, GYRO!

HELL - O, GY - RO YOU'RE A FRIEND OF MINE,  
 HELL - O, GY - RO YOU'RE A FRIEND OF MINE, WITH YOUR  
 HAND IN YOUR POCK-ET AND YOUR LITTLE CHAIN AND LOCKET  
 HELL - O, GY - RO YOU'RE A FRIEND OF MINE. AND HE  
 LIVES DOWN IN OUR AL - LEY

## GYRO SONGS



In the Gyro past,  
 often the membership  
 might well - in the  
 spirit of comaraderie  
 - break into song with  
 a selection from the  
 Gyro Song Book.

Most of those songs  
 and parodies have  
 faded away, however  
 these two are still  
 honored and are  
 often sung at Gyro  
 gatherings.

Also, at joint  
 Canadian and  
 United States  
 gatherings,  
 anthems of both  
 countries are  
 sung by those  
 assembled.

## Cheerio

Words by  
 STANLEY BENNETT

Music by  
 FRASER ALLAN

**Tempo di Marcia**

Cheer-i - o, old top, Cheer-i - o, Are we down heart - ed? No! Then  
 life's worth while if we can smile No mat - ter where we go. Come and  
 Join our mer - ry throng, And we'll sing a Gy - ro song. For we  
 don't care a rap who you are, old chap, Cheer-i - o, old top, Cheer-i - o.

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 Canada 1923 by The International Association of Gyro Clubs.



## HELLO GYRO



Hello Gyro - you're a friend of mine  
Hello Gyro - you're a friend of mine  
With your hand in your pocket  
And your little chain and locket  
Hello Gyro - you're a friend of mine  
And he lives down in our alley

Over the years many of us have wondered about the words of our **"Hello Gyro"** song. It is sung often at Clubs, Districts and International. Several years ago some research was done to try and put in writing the original meaning of the words. Some of the long time Gyros who were sons of Gyro members put together the following meanings.

As you know gyro was founded by three college buddies, two of whom were fraternity brothers, resulting in the first two lines, **"Hello Gyro, you're a friend of mine."**

The third line, **"With your hand in your pocket,"** tells us that members of this organization do not have a hand out asking for something but rather dig deep to offer assistance to fellow members. We do not use our Fraternity for personal business gains.

At the time the fraternity was established (1912) the clothing style almost always included a vest. Since wristwatches were not very common, pocket watches were swagged to the other side where a small knife or some other item kept it in place. The "key" from your fraternity was worn in the center of this chain, thus the line **"And your little chain and locket."**

The first group of gyros met in the Alley Bar in Cleveland explaining the last line of the song, **"And he lives down in our alley."** Unfortunately, the Alley Bar no longer exists so a nostalgic trip to our roots is not possible.