

Early Bird Registration closes
May 11, 2018

CONVENTION REGISTRATION OPEN

[CLICK HERE](http://www.edmontonpond.org)

Early Bird Registration closes
May 11, 2018



Edmonton Pond GAGGLES

www.edmontonpond.org



May/June 2018

Upcoming Events

Inter-Pond Golf Tournament
May 30, 2018

AGM
June, 2018

Grand Nest Convention
Edmonton
July 11-13, 2018

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Edmonton Pond Gaggles is published 5 times per year by the Edmonton Pond of the Honorable Order of the Blue Goose, International.

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Hi folks... As Chair of the organizing committee for the 2018 Grand Nest Convention, I am excited to give you a final update of what's in store for July 11 to 13. Over these three days, we expect 200 ganders, spouses and children to gather in our fine city and partake in fun activities, fellowship, and, of course, some formal business.

If you are a new Blue Goose member or even an aged gander, the convention is a great opportunity to learn more about the Honorable Order and to meet ganders from other ponds across North America. Also, if you are not yet a member but interested in joining the organization, then you can do so as we will be holding a very special initiation on Thursday, July 12. This will be a spectacle for sure, as the BC Pond is putting it on and they have been rehearsing a special version that will be sure to entertain.

Convention registration is already open: <https://www.edmontonpond.org/registration>. We encourage everyone to register for the entire 3-day convention to capture the best value as all events and meals are included for \$385 (price increases after May 11th). But, you can also register for individual events! Just follow the appropriate links on the registration web page. We have also made it affordable for families – registration is only \$50 for youth and children! The kids are going to have a blast because they will be spending time at both West Edmonton Mall and Fort Edmonton Park. **The early-bird registration deadline is May 11.** So, if you act fast, you can get in the draw for the early-bird prize, which is an embroidered quilt with the Blue Goose convention logo.

We are kicking off the convention on Wednesday, July 11, with a golf tournament at the Ranch Golf & Country Club. You can register individually or with a team of four. That evening, the geese will gather at the Welcome Party held at the Westin Hotel. Make sure to bring your goose band as it will get you entered into the prize draws. After opening ceremonies, initiation and memorial service on Thursday morning, we are holding an All-Industry Luncheon with a highly acclaimed speaker, Mr. Shawn Kanungo. This will be an event of interest for all in the local insurance community. On Thursday evening, a family dinner complete with Ukrainian entertainment will be held off-site and, on Friday, a family luncheon complete with Street Performers will make it memorable. The convention will wrap up with the Grand Banquet on Friday night with special entertainers that will be sure to keep the crowd roaring with laughter and dancing to the wee hours.

For those that don't want to travel far from the action, we have guaranteed room rates at the Westin Edmonton for \$169/night for double occupancy. There is a link on the registration web page to guide you to making your hotel registration.

In order to keep the registration fees low, we rely on fundraising to cover the majority of our convention budget. We have raised about \$160,000 in corporate sponsorships, Canadian Pond contri-

(Continued on page 2)



PMLG Happer talks about Convention at Masquerade Ball

(cont from p1)

butions, special events, personal donations, and other fundraising endeavours. Although we are in a good position, we are still shy of our target and welcome additional donations. We still have uniquely engraved goose bands for \$20 each, Northern Migration prints (\$50 for a print and \$150 for a gallery wrap), and Flight to '18 memberships for \$218 that also get you a pair of uniquely engraved coasters.

Halie Wispinski is a member of our committee and will be touching base with our sponsors to confirm that the benefits of each sponsorship are understood and utilized. If you are a sponsor and would like more information, then you may contact Halie at 780-934-3737 or hwispinski@wawanesa.com.

Make sure to follow Gordie the Goose in the next couple of months as he will be posting updates about the convention. If you have any questions about the convention or sponsorship, then please don't hesitate to reach me at 780-801-0715 or ahapper@cep-sintra.ca.

I look forward to spending time with you July 11 to 13, 2018!

... PMLG Andrew Happer

Last Flight—Gary Best



On April 30, 2018 the Edmonton Pond lost one of its longest serving and still very active members, PMLG Gary Best.

Those attending the Blue Goose Christmas Luncheon this past December took the opportunity to celebrate Gary's 80th birthday as well as his 60 years in the Insurance Industry. And yes, he was still working!

In advance of the Christmas Luncheon, Gary's step-daughter Leslie McDougall (who herself followed Gary into a career as an adjuster), provided the following synopsis of Gary's work history:

Gary first delved into employment flipping burgers at George's Café when he was 16 yrs old. A lover of cars, he thought he could make it as a mechanic so he left high school early to work at Loveseth's Mechanics earning \$135 a month. If you know Gary and his "handyman" qualities, he didn't last long getting his hands dirty, so he went to his Dad on his hands and knees begging him to let him go back and finish High School, which he did. After graduation, he started work as an Independent Insurance Adjuster with Henry C. Runte & Co. Adjusters earning him \$125 a month. Between 1963 and 1993 his career took him to work as a partner at Rikstad Graham and Best, Mandrusiak Best Adjusters and Best & Hagen Adjusters. In 1993

Gary tried retiring, but found he missed his working life. So he opened Gary Best & Co. Adjusters which he still operates. Since 2000 and to this day, Gary is a contract adjuster in the Risk Management and Insurance team with Alberta Finance (editor's note—Gary retired from Alberta Finance Jan 18, 2018). This year Gary not only celebrated 60 years as an Adjuster, but also his 80th Birthday!

Gary was initiated into the Edmonton Pond in 1961. Gary was a very active member of Blue Goose right up to the time of his passing. He served two years as Most Loyal Gander from 1989 to 1991. He was Co-chair (along with PMLGG Trev Newitt) of the 1993 Grand Nest Convention that was held in Edmonton. For many years he served as a Trustee of the Pond Development Fund, only stepping down from that role two years ago. Having attended a number of Grand Nest Conventions over the years, he was enthused about the 2018 Grand Nest Convention in Edmonton and became a financial supporter. Consistently, over the years, Gary was a regular attendee at Edmonton Pond meetings and events. Gary never disappeared into the background: he could always be counted on to support Edmonton Pond activities. To know Gary was to know that Blue Goose was important to him.

On hearing of Gary taking his last flight, MLGG/PMLG Mark Robertson commented "a sad day for the Edmonton Pond to lose such a strong supporter of our Order. Gary was not only my skip in BG Curling for many years, he was the gan-

der who introduced and initiated me into the Order back in 1994."

In passing along his condolences to Gary's wife Joan and the family, Grand Wielder of the Goose Quill Terry Maloney remarked that he "had the privilege to know him due to BG for so many years. Looking back, how lucky I was to see him at your GN mid-year in Edmonton." Terry was referring to the PMLG Dinner during the Grand Nest Officers Mid-year meeting in Edmonton in April, 2017 where Gary was honored for his 50+ years of membership.

Our thoughts are with Gary's wife Joan, children David, Donald and Robert; step-children Leslie, Cheryl and Janet and their respective families.

Gary was one of those individuals who completely embodied the ideals of Blue Goose. We shall miss him deeply.

*Departed friend, our voice we raise,
In humble tribute, honor, praise.
With one accord our greetings swell;
Hail, Fellow Gander . . . and Farewell.*



Gary—1961



Gary—1980's



Blue Goose Annual Golf Tournament 2018

When: Wednesday, May 30, 2018

Where: Alberta Springs Golf Resort Shotgun: 10:00am

Cost/Person: Golf and BBQ \$150
Includes Golf, Power Cart, Dinner & Range Balls

Banquet: Alberta Springs Golf Resort
Dinner Start Time Approximately 3:00pm - 4:00pm
Prize Presentation Upon Completion of Dinner



General Info: The committee will match up foursomes for those registered as individually or in two's or three's.
If you are forming your own foursome, then only one application is necessary with all the information completed

.....
Application: Tear Off and Return Bottom Half with Payment

3.5% processing fee applies

Name	Pond/Vistor	Phone	Email

Cheque(s) attached for \$_____ Payable to: Blue Goose Tournament Suite 1000, 807 Manning Road NE
Send to: c/o Cunningham Lindsey Calgary, AB T2E 7M8

Attn: Tracey Irving

Credit Card #: _____ Expiry: _____ / _____ CCV: _____

Name on Credit Card: _____

DEADLINE WEDNESDAY MAY 18, 2018

****Applications without Cheques will not be accepted****

Space is limited to 120 golfers

Anyone wishing to sponsor a hole or donate prizes (Long Drive, Long Putt, etc.) please contact:

Tracey Irving

403-571-2050

403-807-8402 (cell)

tirving@cl-na.com

Josh Friesen

403-717-9434

jfriesen@rogersinsurance.ca

BLUE GOOSE 2018 Golf Tournament

Special EXCLUSIVE offer...

DISCOUNTED green fees...

9 Holes + Power Cart + \$10 Food Voucher for ONLY \$40

18 Holes + Power Cart + \$10 Food Voucher for ONLY \$70

Free Range Balls

ADVANCE tee-time bookings

HOTEL stay @ \$109.99 + tax

Single King or Two Queen

Free SHUTTLE to and from Alberta Springs

HOT Breakfast

10% Discount at Mohave Steakhouse

Tim Horton's - OPEN 24 Hours on site

For reservations and information

Special Code— CGBG18

Contact: Vimal Pillay (403) 967-0368

Email: GM@ramadareddeer.com



Keep Gaggles Alive

This will be the last issue of the Edmonton Pond Gaggles that I will be editing. If you feel there is value in this bi-monthly newsletter then please consider stepping up to the plate as the new editor.

Contact me for further information.

PMLG Neil Miller

edmontonpond@gmail.com

Thanks to all who
 donated silent auction
 items, and to all those
 who attended the
 Edmonton Pond
 Masquerade Charity
 Gala

in support of WICC.
 This year's Gala was held
 April 28th at the
 Marriott River Cree.



More photos at
edmontonpond.org/gallery



Photos by PMLG Neil Miller



EDMONTON POND DONATES TO E4C

MLG Halie Wispinski (R) presents a cheque to E4C for \$3,242.79. Thanks to all who attended the Christmas Luncheon last December and helped raise these funds for the School Lunch Program!



**ON SALE
NOW**

"NORTHERN MIGRATION"
Limited edition
print

All proceeds from the sale of this beautiful Alberta landscape, a creation of renowned photographer David Buzzee, support the 2018 Grand Nest Convention to be held in Edmonton.

To order, contact:
PMLG Neil Miller
edmontonpond@gmail.com
or
780-458-2526

13" X 19" print ... \$50
13" X 19" canvas gallery wrap ... \$150
other sizes available, please inquire

CAN'T ATTEND THE ENTIRE CONVENTION?



WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED!

**REGISTER FOR
INDIVIDUAL EVENTS AT
WWW.EDMONTONPOND.ORG/SHOP**

Offer open to Edmonton Pond members, guests and other members of the Edmonton Insurance Community.



Golf Tournament



2018 Grand Nest Convention
Honorable Order of the Blue Goose, International

The Ranch Golf & Country Club

Wednesday, July 11, 2018

Shotgun Start at 8:00 am

Cost: \$125

Register at www.edmontonpond.org/shop

Open to all in the Edmonton Insurance Community

PASSENGER LIST

Gary Best	Andrew Happer	Wayne Orchuk
Bob Bunker	Larry Heron	John Paris
Robert Burvill	Ken Lakhram	Mike Peck
Patrick Dasilva	Graham Laughton	Dan Rich
Dale Faulkner	Dave Luckwell	Mark Robertson
Lynne Fawcett	Terry Maloney	Robert Tayloe Ross
Cheryl Gardiner	David Manchester	Bill Sadler
Jim Gardiner	Neil Miller	Peter Scott
Archie Gillis	Brennen Mills	Angela Shears
Nanette Giraud	Marianne Nardulli	Tony Thibaudeau
Gray Insurance	Michael Nardulli	Ron Thompson
Steve Hambly	National Capital Pond	Frits Wortman



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FLIGHT TO '18 CLUB

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2018 GRAND NEST CONVENTION TO BE HELD IN
EDMONTON. CLUB MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE A
UNIQUE THANK YOU GIFT AS A KEEPSAKE.

Email edmontonpond@gmail.com for details.

**Flight to '18
Club Members
will receive a
pair of beautiful
slate coasters
as a thank you.**



Flight to '18 Coasters



Flight to '18 Club

We thank the following members who are already on board:

Gary Best
Bob Bunker
Bob Burvill
Patrick Dasilva
Dale Faulkner
Lynne Fawcett
Cheryl Gardiner
Jim Gardiner
Archie Gillis
Nanette Giraud
Gray Insurance
Steve Hambly

Andrew Happer
Larry Heron
Ken Lakhram
Graham Laughton
Dave Luckwell
Terry Maloney
Dave Manchester
Neil Miller
Brennen Mills
Marianne Nardulli
Michael Nardulli
National Capital Pond

Wayne Orchuk
John Paris
Mike Peck
Dan Rich
Mark Robertson
Robert Tayloe Ross
Bill Sadler
Peter Scott
Angela Shears
Tony Thibaudeau
Ron Thompson
Frits Wortman

Add your name to the list. Contact Neil Miller at edmontonpond@gmail.com for details

Or go to

edmontonpond.org/get-onboard



2018 Grand Nest Convention Sponsorship Levels

Diamond Corporate Sponsor - \$10,000 (limited to 1 per Industry Segment)

- 🏌️ Recognition as a Diamond Sponsor for the convention
- 🏌️ Banner recognition on convention page of edmontonpond.com website
- 🏌️ Half page ad in the Edmonton Pond Gaggles in all editions leading up to the convention
- 🏌️ Full page ad in 2018 program including choice of location (offered in order of sponsorship confirmation)^{1,3}
- 🏌️ 2 complimentary foursome entries in convention golf tournament
- 🏌️ Space available for your exhibit booth at the convention
- 🏌️ Acknowledgement board at convention recognizing you as a Diamond Sponsor
- 🏌️ 4 tickets to Welcome Reception
- 🏌️ 4 tickets to the All Industry Luncheon
- 🏌️ 4 tickets to the Grand Banquet & Ball
- 🏌️ Recognition at convention golf tournament

Platinum Sponsor - \$5000

- 🏌️ Full page ad in 2018 program;
- 🏌️ 1 foursome entry in convention golf tournament
- 🏌️ Space available for your exhibit booth at the convention
- 🏌️ Choice of Platinum Level event sponsorship at the convention^{1,2,3}
- 🏌️ Special recognition on convention page of edmontonpond.com website
- 🏌️ 2 tickets to the Welcome Reception
- 🏌️ 2 tickets to the All Industry Luncheon
- 🏌️ 2 tickets to the Grand Banquet & Ball
- 🏌️ Recognition at convention golf tournament

Gold Sponsor - \$2,500

- 🏌️ 1/2 page ad in 2018 program;
- 🏌️ 2 complimentary golfer entries in convention golf tournament
- 🏌️ Space available for your exhibit booth at the convention
- 🏌️ Choice of Gold Level event sponsorship at the convention^{1,2,3}
- 🏌️ Recognition on convention page of edmontonpond.com website
- 🏌️ 2 tickets to the Welcome Reception
- 🏌️ 2 tickets to the All Industry Luncheon
- 🏌️ Recognition at convention golf tournament

Silver Sponsor - \$1000

- 🏌️ One quarter page in 2018 program
- 🏌️ 1 complimentary entry in golf tournament **OR** 2 tickets to either Welcome Reception or All Industry Luncheon
- 🏌️ Choice of Silver Level event sponsorship at the convention^{1,2}
- 🏌️ Special recognition on convention page of edmontonpond.com website
- 🏌️ Recognition at convention golf tournament

Bronze - \$500

- 🏌️ Business card size ad in convention program
- 🏌️ Acknowledgment at convention as a sponsor

¹ First sponsorship confirmation gets first choice

² As per Event Sponsorship Schedule to be finalized prior to Convention, subject to availability, in order of sponsorship confirmation

³ Date of sponsorship confirmation shall be the date full payment is received, or date of final payment if made in instalments

Please make cheques payable to "2018 Blue Goose Convention"

FUTURE GRAND NEST CONVENTIONS

<i>Host</i>	Location	Date
<i>Edmonton Pond</i>	Edmonton, AB	July 11-13, 2018
<i>Dayton Pond</i>	Indianapolis, IN	July 16-19, 2019
<i>Hartford Pond</i>	TBA	TBA 2020
<i>Florida Pond</i>	TBA	TBA 2021

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- **ProSurance™ IBA** - Insurance for Insurance Brokers & Agents
- **ProSurance™ PRO** - Insurance for Professionals
- **ProSurance™ RES** - Insurance for Recruitment, Employment, & Staffing Agencies
- **ProSurance™ SURE** - Insurance for Surveyors & Estate Agents
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 PRESIDENT



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PMLG Jim Gardiner

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Without the contributions of the following Edmonton Pond members, this edition of Gaggles would not have been possible. Our thanks to ...

PMLG Andrew Happer

CHANGING JOBS?

Remember to send you new contact details to
edmontonpond@gmail.com

GAGGLES ADVERTISING RATES:

Full Page Ad	\$135/single issue \$600/yr (5 issues)
Half Page Ad	\$85/single issue \$350/yr (5 issues)
Quarter Page Ad	\$50/singe issue \$200/yr (5 issues)
Business Card	\$35/single issue \$125/yr (5 issues)

CONTACT US:

Most Loyal Gander

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780-643-5451
hwispinski@wawanesa.com

Supervisor of the Flock

Scott MacDuffie
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(780) 428-7544
scott.macduffie@intact.net

Wielder of the Goose Quill

Jorge Gonzalez
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780-231 - 8872
jorge@canadarestorationservices.com

Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg

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Jennifer Marsh
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Guardian of the Pond


Sapreet Buttar
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Permanent Wielder of the Goose Quill & Gaggles Editor

Neil Miller
780-458-2526
EdmontonPond@gmail.com

Website

www.edmontonpond.org

 Edmonton Pond	Honorable Order of the Blue Goose International Application for Membership (Application/dues fee of \$60 must be attached)		
	New Membership <input type="checkbox"/>	Reinstatement <input type="checkbox"/>	Flight <input type="checkbox"/>

Last Name:		First Name:	M.	Name you go by:	
Birthdate:		Spouse's Full Name:			
Address :			City:	Province:	Postal Code:
Home Phone #:	Cell #:	Home email address:			
Employer:		Work email address:			
Occupation:		Work phone number:			

I prefer correspondence be sent to my
☐ **Work email**
☐ **Home email**

Have you ever been a member of another pond? [] YES [] NO If "YES" what pond? _____
 Flight to _____ Pond from _____ Pond and has paid dues for the
 fiscal year ending _____. If officer, position held: _____ Dates: _____

In accordance with CASL I give my consent to receiving emails from the Honorable Order of the Blue Goose, International and/or The Edmonton Pond. I understand that I may opt out at any time by contacting edmontonpond@gmail.com [] YES [] NO

Date:	Applicants Signature:
-------	-----------------------

New Member Must Be Vouched for by Three Ganders:

(1) _____ Print Sponsor's Name	_____
(2) _____ Print Sponsor's Name	_____
(3) _____ Print Sponsor's Name	_____

Mail application and cheque for \$60 payable to
Edmonton Pond to:
 Scott MacDuffie
 c/o Intact Insurance
 700, 10830 Jasper Ave.
 Edmonton, AB T5J 2B3

OR

Email application to scott.macduffie@intact.net and pay fee online via **PayPal**. Go to the Membership page of our website edmontonpond.org and click on "**Buy Now**" button.

Note: Application is not complete until Application fee/dues have been paid.

Pond use only: Dated: _____ Approved: _____ WGQ