

BLUE GOOSE CHARITY GALA

Saturday, May 10, 2014

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Edmonton Pond

GAGGLES

www.edmontonpond.com

March/April 2014

Upcoming Events:

Initiation Night
April 8, 2014

Charity Gala
May 10, 2014

AGM
June, date TBA

Grand Nest Convention
July 23—27, 2014
Salt Lake City, Utah

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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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PUB NIGHT AND MINI-OLYMPICS

February 20th saw Ganders and guests gather at Shanks Sports Grill in west Edmonton for our Pub Night and Mini-Olympics.

While replays of the day's Olympic events showed on the large screens all over the venue, the enthusiastic group participated in some "Olympic Games" of our own. Cars crashed as they sped around the race track, amazing pool shots were made, puts were sunk, and bowling pins fell as participants enjoyed snacks, fellowship, and maybe even a little libation.

The final verdict on the evening was that it should become a yearly event. So stay tuned and hone up your race car driving skills!

More photos from the evening can be found on our website on the Gallery page edmontonpond.com/gallery.

MESSAGE FROM MIKE

Hello Ganders. I hope you have stayed warm this past month as old man winter seems to be in a foul mood. But all is not bad as the Winter Olympics gave us all something to watch on TV.



Our executive hosted an Olympic Pub night at Shanks on Feb 20th with 28 members and guests having a great time sippin suds, snackin on appies and exaggerating their scorecards in an attempt to be the Gold medal team. Lots of fun had by all and definitely an event we need to have again next year.

Looking forward to the months ahead, we are expanding the pond membership. Several young goslings have been sponsored and are needing to be initiated. So mark your calendars for April 8th, in the Blatchford room at the Chateau Nova Kingsway where we will need to complete an initiation and bolster our ranks.

Also on the horizon as the days start to get longer, (yes Spring is coming) is the Blue Goose Gala which is just around the corner. May 10th at the River Cree we shall gather in fellowship and raise funds for another worthy cause. This year we will be supporting "The Home Next Door" charity. Make sure to get your tables booked as this event is sure to sell out again.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our next event, and hopefully in warmer temperatures.



... Mike Sherban, MLG



GRAND NEST NUGGETS

Hoping that all you ganders out there are keeping warm in this frigid February and March weather we are experiencing.

It is with saddened heart that I inform you that we as a Canadian Region just lost one of our Ponds. New Brunswick Pond is disbanding. They are currently trying to either formulate a puddle under Nova Scotia Pond or simply have their membership absorbed into the Nova Scotia Pond. Either way they have fallen upon difficult times trying to maintain a pond with decreased memberships and a lack of members willing to take on leadership roles. We must look upon this as a learning experience so that we provide support and leadership within our own ponds. This turn of events drives home the importance of diligently petitioning our industry for new members. We all must

take our turn at providing leadership within our ponds and not fall into the habit of relying upon the same few ganders who continually volunteer to provide us with that leadership. We acknowledge and greatly appreciate their efforts but we need to make a concerted effort at replenishing those roles with new ganders willing to step up to the challenge.

Okay, enough doom and gloom and onto happier events. This year's annual mid-year meeting of Grand Nest will take place in New Jersey. At that meeting the Grand Nest will vote upon the petition for Pond Charter by the Mid-Missouri Puddle. They have grown to 34 active members and anticipate being over 50 members strong by the time the convention roles around in July. The new Pond will be formerly introduced at this year's Utah Convention.

Further, the Ocean State Puddle (out of Rhode Island) is now reporting growth to 29 members with continued efforts to

gain new memberships. Their ultimate goal is being able to support and formulate their own Pond.

So congratulations are in order for our Ganders down south with their drive to increase memberships and ponds.

On another side note. Most of you may have heard the weekend of March 7th, 8th and 9th is the 50th Annual Blue Goose Men's Curling Bonspiel. This event taking place in Banff where it was held continuously for several years in the past until being moved to Richmond BC. Our Grand Custodian of the Ganders Randall Wilson from Missouri is flying in to Calgary on the 7th and heading to Banff to take in this special event.

Well "that's all the news that was the news that is the news today" from Grand Nest at the moment. So stay safe and try and stay warm until winter has moved on.

...Mark Robertson, GKGGE



BLUE GOOSE
2014 CHARITY GALA

Tickets \$100.00 PER PERSON
Tables of 10 are available for purchase

Please join us for a wonderful night of dining, entertainment, and auctions. The evening will include a jazz band, an artist creating a live painting to be auctioned off, silent and live auctions, a booze raffle and a cash bar.

All of the proceeds from the auctions and raffle will be directed towards
The Home Next Door

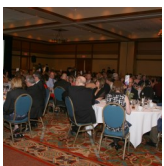
SATURDAY, MAY 10, 2014
6:00 PM Cocktails
7:00 PM Dinner

RIVER CREE - EDMONTON MARRIOTT BALLROOM
300 East Lapotac Boulevard
Edmonton, AB

RSVP BY APRIL 15, 2014
Adrienne at alee@sintraeng.com or 780-801-0729
Send payment payable to:
Blue Goose - Edmonton Pond
c/o Sintra Engineering
10620 - 105 Avenue, Edmonton, AB T5H 0L2

GALA DATE ANNOUNCED

May 10, 2014 will see the Edmonton Pond holding its 5th annual Blue Goose Charity Gala, once again at the Edmonton Marriott at River Cree Resort. This year's event will raise funds for the Rocky Forest Daycare, part of The Home Next Door.



As a result of the evening galas over the past 4 years, and the charity luncheons which pre-dated them, the Edmonton Pond has raised over \$160,000 for various charities. Most importantly, the

event showcases the generosity of the Edmonton Insurance community.

The Home Next Door is operated by WINGS of Providence. The nonprofit organization provides "transitional programs and independent living in a safe, secure, supportive and healthy environment for women with children who have experienced family violence" (source: WINGS website). Opened in June, 2012, The Home Next Door provides 30 fully furnished apartments to assist women with children who have experienced

violence in their transitioning to independent living.

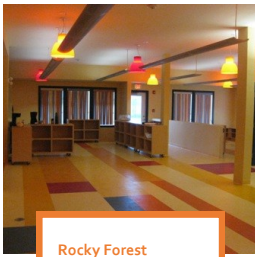
As Gala Committee member Zoanne Campbell explains, "the process is that the Mothers and children go from a crisis centre to WINGS of Providence where they receive counselling and support to learn how not to continue the cycle of abuse. They then have the ability to move to The Home Next Door."

The next step for WINGS is to open the Rocky Forest Daycare.. The daycare

... continued next page

Over
\$160,000
raised to
date

looks after only the children of the mothers living in The Home Next Door, while those women are working or pursuing their education.



Rocky Forest

More information can be found on the [WINGS of Providence web-site](#).

Tickets for the Gala are now on sale. This event has sold out every year so make your reservation early. Ticket prices and ordering information are contained in the Gala ad on page 2.



APRIL INITIATION NIGHT

Join us on Tuesday, April 8th for our initiation night at the Chateau Nova Kingsway (159 Airport Rd.) Help welcome new members into our Pond.

At press time we have 5 Goslings waiting to take their first swim. If you know of someone who would make a good Blue Goose member, an application form is attached at the end of this newsletter or under the "Membership" tab on our website [edmontonpond.com](#).

Cocktails are at 5:30 pm, dinner at 6:15 pm with the initiation ceremony to follow. The cost is \$40 per person. RSVP to [edmontonpond@gmail.com](#).



NAME THAT CONVENTION

We will continue accepting entries into our "Name That Convention" contest until the end of May. Let your imagination run wild to come up with a theme, slogan and logo for the Grand Nest Convention to be held in Edmonton in 2018.

Details are in the notice to the right. Winners will be announced at the AGM in June.



NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Our Pond Executive is happy to announce Life Memberships in Blue Goose for Ron Galigan and PMLG Wally Benkendorf. Both gentlemen

INITIATION DINNER & CEREMONY

Tuesday, April 8, 2014

Cocktails: 5:30 pm

Dinner: 6:15 pm

Ceremony to follow

\$40 per person

Blatchford Room, Chateau Nova Kingsway

159 Airport Rd.

RSVP to [edmontonpond@gmail.com](#) by April 3rd



Enter to WIN!



Get your creative juices flowing. Create a theme with a slogan along with a logo for the 2018 Blue Goose Convention to be held in Edmonton and WIN PRIZES!


Contest Rules:

- Entries must be emailed to [edmontonpond@gmail.com](#) and must be received before midnight on May 31, 2014. An individual may submit as many different themes with slogans and/or logos as they wish.
- Prizes will be awarded as follows:
 - ✿ Winning theme with slogan - \$50 Gift Certificate
 - ✿ Winning logo design - \$50 Gift Certificate
- The 2018 Convention Committee will pick a panel of judges whose decision will be final.
- Winner(s) will be announced at the Edmonton Pond AGM in June 2014.
- Winning entries become the property of the Edmonton Pond. The 2018 Convention Committee reserves the right to use the winning entries as submitted or modify as necessary for use in publicizing the 2018 Grand Nest Convention of the Honorable Order of the Blue Goose, International.



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- **WEB** - Insurance for Online Retailers & Web Publishers

• **PLUS MUCH MORE!** Check out our website for a full list of what we have to offer:

www.riskcan.ca

were initiated into Blue Goose in June 1988 and have been active members ever since. PMLG Benkendorf served as MLG of the Edmonton Pond in 2002/03.

Congratulations to both Ron and Wally and we look forward to seeing them at future events!



CHARACTER, CHARITY AND FELLOWSHIP

.....are the **Cardinal Elements** upon which The Honorable Order of the Blue Goose, International was founded.

The Blue Goose is a fraternal organization dedicated to the promotion of high ideals and professional standards, encouraging all members to achieve a closer understanding of the Golden Rule and inculcating the virtues of character, charity and fellowship.

Blue Goose is a fellowship that develops lifelong friends and creates a mutual trust and understanding that does not require a written code of ethics. It has been said that we are the "fun side of the property and casualty insurance industry." We would hope so. Good fellowship is a large part of Blue Goose, but the organization's commitments are not limited to having a good time.

Today, the Blue Goose contributes more time, energy and money to charities and insurance educational activities than any other fraternal organization in the industry. Today, we are practicing all three: building character, enjoying the fellowship with our friends, and Charity. All three certainly needed in today's world.



STAND OUT



Your ad could appear here.

For details, contact:
edmontonpond@gmail.com

Future Grand Nest Conventions

Host	Location	Date
Utah Pond	Salt Lake City	July 23-27, 2014
National Capital Pond	NYC to Bermuda Cruise	July 2015
St. Louis Pond	St. Louis	July 2016
Southern Region	TBA	July 2017
Edmonton Pond	Edmonton	July 2018

Come Visit our Nest in the Wild, Wild West!



Can you drink in Utah? Absolutely, yes...even on Sunday!

Like other major cities, Salt Lake has bars, brewpubs, and restaurants that serve alcohol seven days a week. The "membership requirement" to enter bars was removed in 2009. If you're over 21 you can walk into a bar, order a drink, and enjoy.

In Salt Lake City, Bars are open from 11 am to 2 am. Restaurants can serve liquor, wine, and heavy beer (over 4% by volume) from noon to midnight. Cheers!

Alcohol will be available throughout the HOBGI Salt Lake City Convention.

Register now so you will not only be able to enjoy the convention, but also explore the numerous taverns Utah has to offer!

Early Bird Registration January 1 – May 14, 2014	Final Registration May 15 – June 22, 2014
Members/Spouses \$350	Members/Spouses \$370
Youth/Children \$225	Youth/Children \$250
Register now at www.hobgiregister.com	

For convention questions, contact:
John Paris
801.250.6743
parisinsurance@msn.com

For registration questions, contact:
Kaitlyn Herbst
414.376.6516
kaitlynh@pecpros.com

CHANGING JOBS?

Remember to send you new contact details to

edmontonpond@gmail.com

Save the Date
JULY 2015
Blue Goose Convention Cruise
NYC to BERMUDA
— 5 DAYS —
www.nationalcapitalpond.com
BLUE GOOSE CONVENTION 2015

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:

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Guardians of the Pond

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cheryl@gardinerappraisals.ca

Permanent Wielder of the Goose Quill & Gaggles Editor

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

Website

www.edmontonpond.com

	Honorable Order of the Blue Goose International Application for the Edmonton Pond (Application fee of \$50.00 must be attached)		
	New Membership (New Membership Date) <input type="checkbox"/>	Reinstatement (Reinstatement Date) <input type="checkbox"/>	Flight (Flight Date) <input type="checkbox"/>

Personal Information

Last Name		First Name	MI	Nickname
Birthdate		Spouse's Full Name		
Home Address		City	Province	Postal Code
Home Phone # with Area Code	Home Fax # with Area Code		Home e-mail Address	

Professional Information

Employer Name		Work e-mail Address		
Work Address		City	Province	Postal Code
Work Phone # with Area Code and Ext.		Work Fax # with Area Code		
Does ICS deliver to:		Home <input type="checkbox"/>	Business <input type="checkbox"/>	

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

Applicant's Signature:

New Member Vouched for by Three Ganders

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

Pond use only Dated: _____ Approved: _____

INSTRUCTION FOR APPLYING FOR MEMBERSHIP
EDMONTON POND
HONORABLE ORDER OF THE BLUE GOOSE, INTERNATIONAL

If you work within the Property and Casualty Insurance Industry, we welcome you to apply for membership in the Edmonton Pond by following the following steps:

1. Complete the Application form on the reverse.
2. Have your application vouched for by 3 existing members (Ganders) of Blue Goose.
3. Mail your completed application, along with a \$50.00 cheque payable to **Blue Goose Edmonton Pond** (for application fee and current year's dues) to:

Edmonton Pond
54 Arbor Cr.
St. Albert, AB
T8N 3R1

4. When your application is received you will receive confirmation and further notice once the date of the next Initiation Ceremony has been established.

For further information contact the Edmonton Pond at edmontonpond@gmail.com or go to our website www.edmontonpond.com