CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON SELLOUT SUCCESS

DETAILS ON PAGE 2

Edmonton Pond

GAGGLES

www.edmontonpond.com

January/February 2014

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Pub Night
February, Date TBA

Grand Nest Convention
July 23-27, 2014
Salt Lake City, UT

INSIDE:

Christmas Luncheon

Contest

2014 Convention

Member News

Membership Application

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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MESSAGE FROM MIKE

Hello Ganders and Seasons Greetings to you all.

I want to start by thanking my executive team for pulling off another great Christmas Lunch this past Dec 9th. I felt bad about missing it, but former Edmonton Pond Executive member Sarah Hirst, her husband and I were in Mexico looking at starting our own puddle there … ha ha. However on a serious note it was again another great event and $5,760 was raised for the E4C School Lunch Program.. Give yourselves a big pat on the back for your generosity. A special thank you to Rob Keith who won the 50/50 and promptly donated it back to the charity. Well done!

I hope everyone had a safe and happy Holiday Season, with eyes forward on another great year ahead. Look for our next event (Pub & Games Night) coming in February.

… Mike Sherban, MLG

GRAND NEST NUGGETS

The Holiday Season has come and gone with everyone enjoying too much turkey and dressing I am sure. It's on to 2014 and hopefully all the good news it brings over the next 12 months.

Most of you Ganders will have received notices that registration is open for the 2014 Convention to be held in Salt Lake City, Utah this coming summer. I would encourage all Ganders to look seriously at attending this convention. It is being held within easy driving distance from Edmonton and has some very interesting sights to see along the way. It could turn into a fun and educational family experience with a stop at Yellowstone National Park along the way. Looking south of Salt Lake you will see that there are several State and National Parks that can easily be visited within a day's drive. Oh, and for those who have never travelled through the great state of Utah – just to put aside the myth about it being a dry state, they do have alcohol readily available and served in local restaurants and establishments. It is, after all, part of "The West" with cultural similarities to our own Alberta.

Speaking of Conventions, our turn here in Edmonton is coming up in 2018 and the planning committee has been working diligently on several front line issues. Projects currently underway include finding a venue, researching convention planners, developing fund raising strategies (always a challenge) and creating a theme. And you can see that we now have a contest in place for all Ganders to participate in and win not only the prize, but also the more important "Bragging Rights". So give it some thought. Write some ideas down and get your suggestions in to Wielder Neil Miller for a chance to win.

(continued next page)

(cont'd from P1)

News from Grand Nest

There will be a mid-year meeting held in New Jersey with your Most Loyal Grand Gander, Grand Wielder, and Grand Supervisor and Grand Custodian in attendance. This meeting is scheduled to review the preparations for the 2015 convention being hosted by National Capital Pond. Not to steal their thunder, but in 2015 the convention will be held on a Cruise Ship heading out of New York Harbor and sailing off to beautiful Bermuda. So you might want to keep an eye on that convention as one to attend.

There is word of several puddles opening up down south of the border which is always exciting to see as it develops new memberships and most importantly sparks renewed interest in our order. There are new Puddle's being formed in Northern Virginia (Manassas), Middle Missouri, and even some discussion around Southern California and Rhode Island. Interest in the Honorable Order of the Blue Goose International is increasing and we are seeing new membership drives from a large number of ponds yielding some good numbers.

The three cornerstones of our order - Character, Charity and Fellowship - seem to play as large a role today as they did back in 1905.

Wishing you all a very happy and prosperous New Year in 2014

… Mark Robertson, KGGE

CHARITY CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

The annual Edmonton Pond Charity Christmas Luncheon on December 9th started off with the Nikamosisak Choir from Prince Charles School entertaining the sold out crowd.

A traditional Christmas dinner followed during

which guests purchased 50/50 tickets and participated in table raffles for some great prizes generously donated by a number of firms (see a list of prize donors on Page 3).

MC Chris Miller (Supervisor of the Flock) introduced Arlene Thompson, Program Coordinator for the E4C School Lunch Program. Through several examples of children who arrive at school having had no breakfast and with no lunch, she outline how important our donation is to their organization. The bottom line for the program is that children learn better if their bellies are full.

The spirit of Christmas could not have been better demonstrated than by PMLG Rob Keith donating his sizeable win from the 50/50 draw back to the charity.

$5,760 raised for E4C

Our thanks to Rob, to all who attended the luncheon, and to our corporate sponsors. Through the generosity of all, a total of $5, 760 was raised for the E4C School Lunch Program!

Check out the Gallery page on our website for more photos from the luncheon.

Roger Thomson (E4C), MLG Sherban

On December 20th, MLG Mike Sherban presented a cheque in the amount of $5,760 to E4C for the funds raised at the luncheon.

NAME THE CONVENTION

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. Examples of past slogans have been "Quebec Nuit & Jour" (Quebec 2013), "Alberta Bound" (Calgary 2012), "Michigan Migration" (Grand Rapids 2011) and "Billy Penn in 2010" (Philadelphia 2010). This summer Salt Lake City is using "Visit Our Nest in the Wild, Wild West".

$50 Gift Cards will be awarded for the winning Theme with Slogan and the winning Logo. Design the whole package (theme, slogan and logo) and win a $100 Gift Card!

The contest closes on May 31st with the winner(s) to be announced at the 2014 AGM in June. Details are on Page 4.

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

2014 CONVENTION

As the snow swirls about why not turn your thoughts to attending the Grand Nest Convention next summer in Salt Lake City, UT. All Ganders, spouses and children are invited to attend what promises to be a lot of fun and fellowship.

The Marriott Salt Lake City Center will be the host hotel with room rates at a very reasonable $139 per night.

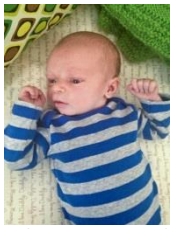
While members take part in the Grand Nest meetings, some great activities have been planned for spouses and children.

A golf tournament on the morning of July 23rd will kick off 4 days of activities with the "Days of '47" Welcome Party taking place that evening. Over the next 3 days kids will visit various attractions including a planetarium, amusement park, heritage park and zoo. As well, various tours and a luncheon are in store for spouses.

For more information click HERE.

A FUTURE GANDER?

On November 20, Gander Ryan Yarmuch and his wife Erin welcomed 8 lb, 12 oz Drew William Yarmuch into their lives.



Our congratulations to Ryan and Erin on this happy event.

If you know of any special announcement or achievement of an Edmonton Pond member, please pass it along to edmontonpond@gmail.com

ADS INTRODUCED TO GAGGLES

With the dawning of a New Year, we are introducing advertising for the first time to the Edmonton Pond Gaggles. Highlight your business and at the same time support the 2018 Grand Nest Convention to be held in Edmonton. 100% of advertising revenue goes to the 2018 Convention Fund. For more information contact edmontonpond@gmail.com .

Edmonton Pond
Charity Christmas Luncheon
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Spar Construction Ltd.
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Wawanesa Mutual Insurance Company

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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ON THE MOVE?

Please remember to send your updated contact information to

EdmontonPond@gmail.com

JIM GARDINER
PRESIDENT

GARDINER APPRAISALS
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5119 Lansdowne Drive N.W.
Edmonton, Alberta T6H 4L1
jim@gardinerappraisals.ca

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For details, contact:
edmontonpond@gmail.com

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

Come Visit our Nest in the Wild, Wild West!

Enjoy your free day in Salt Lake City during the 2014 convention!

Stop in Temple Square to see the world-renowned gardens surround the 35 acres of the headquarters of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. These gardens include 250 flower beds, more than 165,000 bedding plants, and over 700 varieties of plants from all over the world. The gardens are redesigned every six months and replanted by hundreds of volunteers.

Or – when in Salt Lake City, the Mormon Tabernacle is also a must see. You may not be able to stop in for a concert, but thirty-minute organ recitals are given in the Tabernacle Monday through Saturday at 12:00 noon and Sundays at 2:00 p.m. Performances are by the Tabernacle organists and guest organists.

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

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
Mike Sherban
ServiceMaster Restore
780-443-4338
mike.sherban@svmrestore.ca

Supervisor of the Flock
Chris Miller
Sintra Engineering
780-420-1551
cmiller@sintraeng.com

Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg
Harvey Heinz
Roguski Metcalf & Co. Adjusters
780-465-7708
hheinz@rm-adjusters.com

Custodian of the Goslings
Keegan McLennan
Roberts McClure Insurance
780-439-4357
keegan.mclennan@robertsmcclure.com

Guardians of the Pond
Zoeanne Campbell
Belfor Property Restoration
780-455-5566
zoeanne@BelforCanada.ca

Cheryl Gardiner
Gardiner Appraisals Inc.
780-886-2884
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) ☐	**Reinstatement** (Reinstatement Date) ☐	**Flight** (Flight Date) ☐

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 ☐	Business ☐		

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