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Edmonton Pond GAGGLES

www.edmontonpond.org

Sep/Oct 2017

Upcoming Events

Fall Kick-off Event
TBA

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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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HAILING FROM HALIE



Even the biggest of dreams remain the smallest of ideas without hard work. It is through hard work that our pond has been so successful over the years. We have accomplished phenomenal things together, and I look forward to what else we have yet to accomplish.

This year is going to be jam-packed with charity events and networking activities. Our newly installed executive committee is finalizing the calendar for the year, so please check our website for updates.

In addition to some of the regulars like the Christmas Luncheon and the Charity Gala, we also have some fresh new events added to our events calendar. You can expect to see an invitation shortly for our kick off party that will be happening in early October.

As you already know, the Edmonton Pond will be hosting the 2018 Convention next year in July. We will be sending you lots of information about that in the coming months. There are many opportunities to get involved with convention planning, so feel free to reach out if you are interested.

In closing: alone we can do so little, but together we can do so much. Thank you to our membership, to our participants, to our volunteers, to those of you who participate in our charity work, and to those of you who help out with the countless committees we have. Your effort does not go unnoticed. Enjoy the last couple weeks of summer and I look forward to seeing you all soon!

... Halie Wispinski, MLG

GRAND NEST CHECK-IN



Greeting fellow Ganders from your Grand Nest representative. Most of you would not be aware but due to health issues I was not able to attend this year's 111th Annual Honorable Order of the Blue Goose Convention in Savannah, Georgia. I was able to skype into some meetings, and able to attend the installation ceremony of the Grand Nest Officers to be able to provide a live acceptance speech as the incoming Most Loyal Grand Gander for 2017 – 2018. It was a small consolation for missing out on the convention which I dearly wanted to attend.

At this year's convention, as the incoming Most Loyal Grand Gander it was my responsibility to locate a replacement for the Grand Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg Randal Wilson who was stepping down from this Grand Nest position. You may not be aware but the following positions are now appointed and not elected: Grand Wielder of the Goose Quill, Grand Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg, Grand Historian and the Judge Advocate. Our Grand Wielder is Terry Maloney from Home Nest Wisconsin. Terry has provided this service to our order since 1988. Our current Grand Historian is PMLGG John Bishop from Nova Scotia pond, our Judge Advocate is PMLGG Lorena Kohruss from BC Pond (and Alberta Pond). It was my great privilege to have DMLGG, PMLG, and Permanent Wielder for Nova Scotia Pond – Archie Gillis as our newest Grand Nest member, the Grand Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg.

(Continued on page 2)

(cont'd from Page 1)

First of all, I would like all of you to notice that our Canadian Region is well represented on the Grand Nest. Of the 4 appointed position on Grand Nest we Canadians currently occupy 3 of them. Well done Canada.

I would like to share with you my thought process in appointing Archie as the GKGGE. Archie is one of those few ganders who has stepped up for his pond twice as Most Loyal Gander, 1980 and again 2010. He was appointed Permanent Wielder to the pond in 2008 and I had the pleasure of appointing him as a DMLGG (Deputy Most Loyal Grand Gander) in 2014. Every time Archie has been asked to step up for the pond or Grand Nest he has done so. I first asked him if he would step up as a DMLGG and he said yes he could do that. Then I asked him if he could step up and take over the Canadian representative on the Grand Nest financial committee and he said yes he could do that. As you can see there is a pattern here, every time Archie has been asked to step up he has done so. This last time I asked Archie if he would step up one more time to

become our Grand Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg, well this time he had to do some thinking on that, with approval of his pond and his wife he graciously accepted that responsibility. Archie is what I would consider a step up guy for the Honorable Order of the Blue Goose International.

My point is quite simple, when or if you're ever asked to step up for your pond, to take on some additional responsibilities, or become involved in some event or other, please

consider it a privilege and honor to be able to offer your help in support of your pond. In addition if anyone out there is interested in becoming more actively involved with our pond – please don't hesitate, contact either your Most Loyal Gander, or your Wielder – they would be more than willing to point you in the right direction.

Lastly since I am on the topic of Step up Ganders, we have one very special gander in our midst here in Edmonton, PMLG and Permanent Wielder Neil Miller. Neil is also what I would consider a Step Up Gander. Neil would never tell or boast about his many contributions to our Honorable Order and believe me there are many. The most recent recognition for all that Neil does is being named the 1st ever Gander of the Year for the Canadian Region at this past convention in Savannah, Georgia. Please join me in congratulating Neil for being the Gander of the Year. We greatly appreciate all his efforts and everything that he does for the Honorable Order of the Blue Goose International and our Edmonton Pond.

Well that's about it for me and the report from Grand Nest.

*PMLG Mark Robertson
Most Loyal Grand Gander*



Newly elected Grand Nest Officers MLGG Mark Robertson (via Skype), GGON Michael Smith, GSOF Kim Bilibrey, GCOG Dan Rich

Photo by Neil Miller



**EDMONTON POND RAISES FUNDS FOR
MEALS ON WHEELS EDMONTON**



Photo by Neil Miller

PMLG Mike Sherban makes presentation to Caitlin Fleming (L) and Ashleigh Parry of Meals on Wheels Edmonton

2018 Convention



It's that time of year when kids head back to school and summer holidays are fading behind us. Our minds are shifting back into work mode and, for those on the 2018 Convention Planning Committee, we are

getting even closer to hosting the Grand Nest Convention in July 2018.

This summer was eventful for the committee. In July, several of us attended the 2017 Convention in Savannah, Georgia. This provided a fresh opportunity for us to see how another convention was organized and to collect ideas we could use to enhance our hosting of next year's convention. We also had a 30-minute time slot to make our formal presentation to the convention delegates and attendees. Our PowerPoint presentation showcased Edmonton and provided an overview of what could be expected in 2018. The presentation was complete with photographs of the city and local festivals. It also highlighted the Westin Hotel and the two locations, West Edmonton Mall and Fort Edmon-

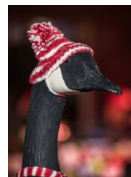
ton Park, that spouses and kids would be visiting. We touched upon the surrounding areas and tourist attractions that could be incorporated as part of a trip to Alberta. We distributed customized convention pins and 72-Hour Guides to the City of Edmonton. These components of the presentation created an engaging profile of the City of Edmonton and the activities to expect in and around the City next July. We received several positive comments afterwards saying that we did an excellent job convincing ganders to trek northward and visit Edmonton. So, we believe that we are off to a good start on promoting our convention.

This past spring, we introduced Gordie the Goose as our convention mascot. He traveled with us to Savannah and made quite a splash at the Convention. He attracted a lot of attention not only from convention delegates but also from Savannah locals. He's been busy about all his escapades on social media. Make sure to follow Gordie to keep in the know:

Facebook: <http://facebook.com/GordieGoose>

Twitter: @GordieTheGoose

Instagram: gordiegoose



My report would not be complete without mentioning the progress we've

made in relation to fundraising. To date, we have raised close to \$140,000 from corporate sponsorships, individual donations, Fight to '18 memberships, goose bands, Northern Migration prints, Canadian pond contributions and other event raffles. Although we have made great progress, we are still shy of our target. We are doing our final push over the next several months to solicit at least another \$30,000 to ensure we can put on a great convention as planned. Our corporate supporters and individual donors are listed elsewhere in this Gaggles. If you haven't yet made a commitment, then please consider doing so. We will be reaching out to the insurance community over the next several months. Please contact me at ahapper@cep-sintra.ca for more information on how you can contribute.

Our committee continues to meet monthly. We are now needing individuals to assist in organizing smaller aspects of the convention. We would love to have others come and help out. Our next meeting will be on September 12th at 4:45 p.m. Please contact Andrew Happer at ahapper@cep-sintra.ca if you would like to get involved!

... PMLG Andrew Happer
Convention Chair

PASSENGER LIST

Gary Best	Michael Nardulli
Patrick Dasilva	National Capital Pond
Cheryl Gardiner	Wayne Orchuk
Jim Gardiner	John Paris
Archie Gillis	Dan Rich
Nanette Giraud	Mark Robertson
Andrew Happer	Bill Sadler
Terry Maloney	Tony Thibaudeau
Neil Miller	Ron Thompson
Brennen Mills	Frits Wortman
Marianne Nardulli	



Now BOARDING

FLIGHT TO '18 CLUB

JOIN THE CLUB WITH A \$218 DONATION TO THE 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 state coasters as a thank you.



**EDMONTON POND
RAISES FUNDS FOR
E4C**



Photo courtesy of Keegan McLennan

MLG Keegan McLennan presents \$3500 cheque to E4C School Lunch Program

Flight to '18 Coasters



Flight to '18 Club

We thank the following members who are already on board:

**Gary Best
Patrick Dasilva
Cheryl Gardiner
Jim Gardiner
Archie Gillis
Nanette Giraud
Andrew Happer**

**Terry Maloney
Neil Miller
Brennen Mills
Marianne Nardulli
Michael Nardulli
National Capital Pond
Wayne Orchuk**

**John Paris
Dan Rich
Mark Robertson
Bill Sadler
Tony Thibaudeau
Ron Thompson
Frits Wortman**

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

AGM

The 2016/17 Pond year wrapped up with the AGM held June 19, 2017 at the Faculty Club on the UofA campus. Those in attendance enjoyed a great view and a very fine dinner.

The meeting kicked off with the initiation of 7 new members. We welcome Sapreet Buttar, Robin Chuchmuch, Blaine Kovacik, Samantha Lightning, Ashleigh Rutherford, Jerrod Sharphead, and Ivy Spero to the Edmonton Pond.

As the formal business meeting commenced, MLG Keegan McLennan reviewed the past year's Pond activities and events. Various committee reports were presented, several items of new business were dealt with and Delegates to the 2017 Grand Nest Convention in Savannah (Tracy Fata and PMLG Andrew Happer) were appointed.

The meeting concluded with the election and installation of our new Pond Officers:

MLG Halie Wispinski
SOF Scott MacDuffie
WGQ Jorge Gonzalez
KGGE Steve Strna
COG Jennifer Marsh
GOP Sapreet Buttar



PMLG Andrew Happer (L) installs new Pond Officers: (L-R) MLG Halie Wispinski, SOF Scott MacDuffie, KGGE Steve Starna, COG Jennifer Marsh, and GOP Sapreet Buttar



Photos by Neil Miller



SPRING GALA

The Edmonton Pond annual Spring Gala was held again this year on May 6th at the Edmonton Marriott at River Cree Resort. Attended by some 200 Ganders and Guests, the event raised \$12,500 for Meals on Wheels Edmonton.



More photos on
Gallery page
Edmontonpond.org

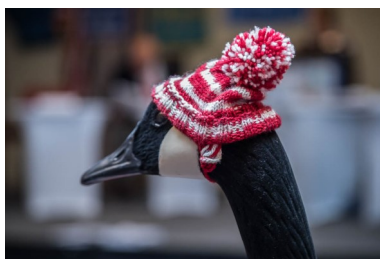


Photos by Neil Miller



2017 GRAND NEST CONVENTION—SAVANNAH, GA

This past summer PMLG Andrew Happer, PMLG Neil Miller, MLG Halie Wispinski and Tracy Fata (along with Gordie the Goose) attended the 111th Grand Nest Convention. Along with the regular convention activities, the Edmonton Pond contingent made a presentation on the 2018 Grand Nest Convention in Edmonton.



More
convention
photos on our
[website](#).



Photos by Neil Miller

Don't sit on the sidelines.

There are many ways you can participate in Blue Goose activities and the Edmonton Pond will be all the better for your help! Some examples:

Help organize the annual Spring Charity Gala—contact PMLG Mike Sherban

mike.sherban@ca.belfor.com

Get involved organizing the 2018 Grand Nest Convention—contact PMLG Andrew Happer

ahapper@sintraengineering.com

Flex your creative or journalistic muscle—help with Gaggles—contact PMLG Neil Miller

edmontonpond@gmail.com



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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.

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edmontonpond@gmail.com
or
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13" X 19" print ... \$50
13" X 19" canvas gallery wrap ... \$150
other sizes available, please inquire



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	TBA 2019
<i>Hartford Pond</i>	TBA	TBA 2020
<i>Florida Pond</i>	TBA	TBA 2021

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PMLG Neil Miller
PMLG Mark Robertson

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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 ...

MLG Halie Wispinski

PMLG Andrew Happer

PMLG Keegan McLennan

PMLG Mark Robertson

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)

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Permanent Wielder of the Goose Quill & Gaggles Editor

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

Website

www.edmontonpond.org

	Honorable Order of the Blue Goose International Application for the Edmonton Pond (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:		

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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