



Edmonton Pond

GAGGLES

www.edmontonpond.com



November/December 2013

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Charity Christmas Luncheon
December 9, 2013

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

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MESSAGE FROM MIKE

Snow has hit the ground and some fortunate Ganders will have flown South for the winter, or plan on doing so. We who hold fast to the banks of the Edmonton Pond despite the weather continue to have fun and make the best of all the events we have at this time of year. Our recent Blue Goose Poker Tournament was held on Nov 6th at the ATB Arts Barns. 34 Ganders and guests battled it out for Bounties and the final prize while enjoying a beverage and beef on a bun. When the chips fell to a single pile, PMLG Andrew Happer of Sintra Engineering came away from the table as the big winner.

Now put away the Pumpkins and start the Christmas music: our next event is fast upon us. The annual Christmas Luncheon is going to be held Dec 9th at the Royal Glenora.

Doors open at 11:30 and table space is limited so contact Neil Miller ASAP as this event sells out every year. Don't miss it as we will again have live entertainment during the meal.

I hope to see you all there and wish you safe travels in the upcoming month.

... Mike Sherban, MLG



GRAND NEST NUGGETS

Greetings fellow Ganders from your Grand Nest connection.

You may be asking yourselves what is Grand Nest? Well, Grand Nest functions very similar to your own local pond. We have a Most Loyal Grand Gander (this year it's John Paris from Utah Pond), a Grand Supervisor (Bill Olson from National Capital Pond) Grand Custodian (Randy Wilson from St. Louis Pond), Grand Guardian (Linda Meik from Texas Pond), and Grand Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg (Mark Robertson from Edmonton Pond).

As you can see all of these positions reflect the same officers you elect each year at our own Annual General Meeting. However, each of these officers comes from a different region of North America. Our Most Loyal Grand Gander is from the Western Region which will host the 2014 Blue Goose Convention. Grand Supervisor Bill Olson is from the Eastern Region, Grand Custodian Randy Wilson is from the Central Region, and Grand Guardian Linda Meik from the Southern Region will host conventions in 2015, 2016 and 2017 respectively. That leaves yours truly from the Canadian Region hosting the 2018 convention. Similar to our own local pond, each executive member moves up the ladder culminating at the position of Most Loyal Grand Gander the year their region hosts the convention.

The Grand Nest Executive is charged with seeing to the overall health and wellness of the entire Order of the Blue Goose International and in doing so it also encompasses the following positions: a Grand Wielder Terry Maloney from Wisconsin Home Nest, a Judge Advocate Robert Ross and a Grand Historian Jerry Hale.

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POKER NIGHT

Ganders and guests gathered in the lobby of the ATB Arts Barns in the Old Strathcona area on the evening of November 6th for the annual Edmonton Pond Poker Night. The venue provided a comfortable setting for the informal beef-on-a-bun buffet. With appetites satisfied, players took their places at the tables for the main event.



MLG Mike Sherban explained the rules for the evening and the first hands were dealt. While there was

prize money to be earned by the top 5 finishers, along the way players earned a bounty each time they knocked another player out of the game.



One by one, or in some cases two at a time, players were eliminated until it was down to the final 3 of Joe Chivers, Mark Robertson, and Andrew Happer.

In the end it was a battle of Grand Nest v Pond officer as GKGGE Robertson and PMLG Happer matched poker faces.

Ultimately Andrew Happer emerged victorious.



Our thanks to all Ganders and guests who turned out on a frosty Fall evening to contribute to a very successful night.

For more photos of the evening go to edmontonpond.com/gallery

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

The annual Edmonton Pond Charity Christmas Luncheon is set to go on December 9th at the



Royal Glenora Club. With a view out over the snowy river valley, Ganders and

guests always find this to be a delightful start to the Christmas season.

The beneficiary of this year’s event is once again the E4C – Edmonton School Lunch Program. Continuing the tradition of the past several years you can expect to enjoy fine music sung by a school choir to accompany your meal.

This event sells out every year so be sure to make your reservation early. Details can be found on the next page, or 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



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](#).

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During the course of the year there are several committees formed to aid and assist our organization. These committees comprise not only the current Grand Nest executives but also several Past Most Loyal Grand Ganders willing to continue their personal commitment to our Order and any Deputy Most Loyal Grand Ganders from the various regions as appointed by our current Most Loyal Grand Gander. These various committees are involved in maintaining our order, researching issues which are brought to the attention of the executive, and normal day to day running of our international Order.

As your representative to the Grand Nest I will endeavor to provide you, the members of our pond, with updates and information from the Grand Nest. Certainly should any of you Ganders have issues or questions regarding our Order which you feel should be brought to the attention of Grand Nest feel free to contact me with your concerns.

Lastly, and I will be like a broken record on this one – Conventions – please consider attending future conventions. They are a great experience and can be family oriented as well. Most conventions are held in locations that the majority of us would never have the opportunity of visiting on our own. What better way to experience a new city and region than with friends and acquaintances from the

Honorable Order of the Blue Goose International. Come and join the fun and companionship which our annual conventions provide. Next one up is just a couple of days drive south in Salt Lake City: a true Western Hospitality City setting alongside the Rocky Mountains. My wife Peggy and I are already planning

our adventure south to Salt Lake with a side trip to Yellowstone National Park which neither of us has ever been to. Just an example of the things to see and do on route to the 2014 convention.

(KGGE Mark Robertson)

**HONORABLE ORDER OF THE
BLUE GOOSE INTERNATIONAL**

BLUE GOOSE EDMONTON POND
Presents the Annual

CHRISTMAS CHARITY LUNCHEON
BENEFITTING THE E4C – EDMONTON SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM

Date: Monday, December 9, 2013
Location: Royal Glenora Club – Braemer Room
Time: 11:30 am – Doors open
12:00 pm – Lunch
Cost: \$50.00 per person
\$550.00 per table (11 per table)

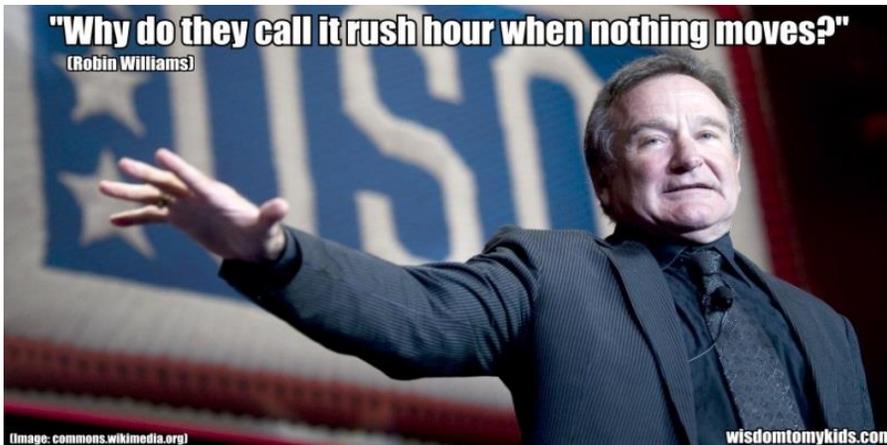
Prize donations are welcome

Please RSVP by December 2, 2013 to
Neil Miller edmontonpond@gmail.com 780-458-2526

This event sells out each year. Book early to avoid disappointment. Send your cheque,
payable to Blue Goose Edmonton Pond, to

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

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



ON THE MOVE? 

Please remember to send your updated contact information to
EdmontonPond@gmail.com

CONTACT US:

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Permanent Wielder of the Goose Quill & Gaggles Editor
 Neil Miller
 780-458-2526
EdmontonPond@gmail.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