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**MESSAGE FROM MIKE**



Happy New Year fellow Ganders as we welcome in 2013. I am glad that the Mayan's were wrong, we are still here, and I hope everyone had a joyful Christmas Season spent with family and friends.

Congratulations to **PMLG Mark Robertson** on being selected as our candidate for Grand Nest following a nomination process this Fall. This is one of the first steps towards hosting the Grand Nest Convention in 2018. More on Mark later in this issue.

Thank you very much to the Blue Goose executive who worked so hard to make the annual Christmas Luncheon another huge success. Once again we had chosen to support the E4C School Lunch Program and they provided us with a delightful bunch of carolers to sing for us. We were able to raise over \$4600 for the school lunch program. A heartfelt thank you to all who attended and contributed to the event's success. A special thank you to Tony Thibaudeau who graciously donated proceeds of his 50/50 win back to the school lunch program.

Looking forward we have the Blue Goose Poker Tournament coming up Wed Jan 30th at River Valley Place. Make sure you get your seat reserved early as we will be limiting entries to 48 spots. It is certain to be another great event!

We are also in the initial planning stages for another Scotch Nosing and our Charity Spring Gala. Watch for further news on these events.

I look forward to seeing you all at one of our future events and wish you a great 2013.

*... Mike Sherban, MLG*

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# EDMONTON POND

## POKER NIGHT

**Wednesday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

**Location: Kinsmen River Valley Place**

**Time: 6:00 pm**

**Dinner: \$20**

**Poker Tournament: \$25**

Please RSVP to Neil Miller at  
[edmontonpond@gmail.com](mailto:edmontonpond@gmail.com) or 780-458-2526

*Bounty Tournament limited to first 48 entries. Reserve your spot early!*

**Guests are welcome ... introduce them to the fellowship of Blue Goose!**

**Kinsmen River Valley Place  
(500 m West of Kinsmen Field House)**



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### UPCOMING EVENTS



|                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Poker Night ...   | January 30, 2013 |
| Scotch Nosing ... | February 2013    |
| Gala ...          | April 27, 2013   |
| AGM ...           | June 2013        |

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## CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Monday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012 saw 200 Ganders and guests fill the banquet room at The Royal Glenora Club. While enjoying a delicious turkey dinner and fine fellowship, attendees were entertained by the Nikamosisak (a Cree word for “songbirds”) choir from the Prince Charles Elementary School under the direction of Mrs. Shantelle Webb.

Arlene Thompson, representing the E4C School Lunch Program told some of the stories of children who benefit from the program and clearly outline why this program is so vitally important. Hunger makes learning harder. By providing a well-balanced lunch to a child, that child can concentrate on their schoolwork and not on their hunger. E4C's School Lunch Program serves over 400,000 meals to hungry children at 10 high-needs schools each year.

We would like to make special mention of **PMLG Tony Thibaudeau** who donated half of his winnings from the 50/50 draw back to the School Lunch Program. The ever-generous “Mr. T” then kept everyone entertained by bidding against himself to drive up the price of the signed Oiler’s Jersey that was being auctioned off.

We are thrilled to report that due to the overwhelming generosity of those attending the luncheon, we raised \$4615.00 for the E4C School Lunch Program.

**Over \$4600 raised!**

Thank you all for supporting our luncheon and this important cause! Our thanks also to the organizing committee led by **SOF Chris Miller**.

## SPECIAL THANKS

The success of events like our Christmas Luncheon would not be achieved without the outstanding generosity of our corporate sponsors. We are truly grateful for their support!

**BELFOR**

**Brownlee LLP**

**CAFO**

**Challenge Insurance Group Inc.**

**Crawford & Company (Canada) Inc.**

**Field Law**

**First General Services**

**FirstOnSite Restoration**

**Gardiner Appraisals Inc.**

**Lydale**

**New West Adjusters**

**Peace Hills Insurance Company**

**Portage Mutual Insurance**

**Roguski Metcalf & Co. Adjusters**

**ServiceMaster**

**ServPro**

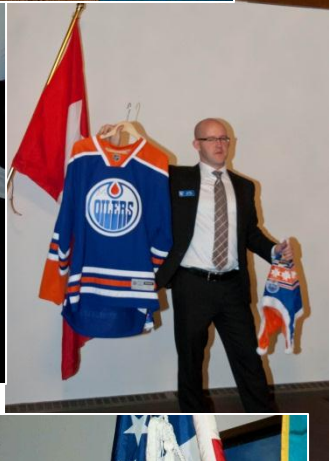
**Sintra Engineering**

**Spar Construction Ltd.**

**Townsend & Leedham Adjusters Ltd.**

**The Wawanesa Mutual Insurance Co.**





Click [HERE](#) for more pictures.

## GRAND NEST CANDIDATE NAMED

The Edmonton Pond is executive is pleased to announce that, as a result of our recent nomination process, **PMLG Mark Robertson** has been named as our candidate for Grand Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg.



Selecting a candidate for Grand Nest is one of the first steps towards hosting the Grand Nest Convention in 2018. After the Edmonton Pond expressed its support at last June's AGM to host the 2018 Convention we expressed that intention at the Canadian Regional meeting at the convention in Calgary in July. The other Canadian ponds in attendance gave their support and approval to our bid.

Mark will be formally nominated for the position of Grand Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg at the 2013 Grand Nest Convention to be held in Quebec City from July 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>. Should he be elected then he would work his way through the Grand Nest chairs, culminating in becoming the Most Loyal Grand Gander. Edmonton Pond would host the convention in July 2018 at the end of Mark's term as MLGG.

Mark has been a very active member of Blue Goose since joining in 1984. He was MLG of the Edmonton Pond in 2006/07 and has been instrumental in the success of our charitable events. Mark's warmth and friendliness comes through whether it be on the curling ice, meeting Grant MacEwan students at a Pond dinner, or at Grand Nest Conventions. Mark has attended 3 Grand Nest Conventions including participating on the Model Initiation Team at the convention in Calgary last summer.

His Insurance career began in 1982 with Royal Insurance as a commercial lines underwriter before moving on to their marketing department in Edmonton in 1985. In 1987 Mark moved to Smithers, BC to begin a career as an Insurance Broker before returning to Edmonton

in 1990 as the manager of the Continental Insurance office. Returning to the broker side of the business in

*Mark's career spans Insurer and Broker side of the Insurance Business*

1992, initially with MacIntyre Agencies, Mark is currently with Challenge Insurance Group Inc. Mark holds a B. Comm. (U of A) as well as the CIP and CAIB professional designations.

Without question PMLG Robertson exemplifies the Blue Goose precepts of Character, Charity, and Fellowship. He will be a wonderful representative of the Canadian Region on Grand Nest!

## LAST FLIGHTS

On November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012 our friend and colleague **Brian Chatwin** took his last flight. A well respected lawyer, Brian was a 28-year member of Blue Goose. Our thanks to Vaughan Cox for providing the following remembrances of his friend and partner:



*"Until five days before Brian died from cancer on November 1st he was expected to return to work at Chatwin LLP, the law firm he founded in 1979 with Nina Foster. The one battle he couldn't win lasted four months. His untimely death at age 61 was a great loss especially to his family and also the insurance and legal professions.*

*Known by most to be short and to the point, unassuming, intelligent, skilled in his craft, honest and a hard worker, and also known by many to be generous and kind and someone who always remembered your family history, your problems and the car you drove...Brian was in many ways "one of a kind" and a real character. Emails from his fellow lawyers described him as a "straight shooter...the epitome of integrity (you could take his word to the bank)...a big man with a big personality...[and] a rarity in our industry that became folklore long before his death". Insurance clientele noted sadly that he would be "missed immensely".*

*To his family, firm, friends and clients and even those in the legal profession on the other side of a file, he'll indeed be missed. In particular, Brian leaves to mourn his loss his devoted wife Sandy, three loving children Jody, Adam and Jake and a grandson Reid along with Brian's mother Eliza-*



*beth, sister Bonnie and his brother Robert. He was predeceased by his father Vic in 2006.*

*A Celebration of Life was held at the Old Timer's Cabin on November 8<sup>th</sup> with about 250 people sharing some humorous and heartfelt stories about Brian along with some Lemon Hart Rum. Farewell to a good partner in the practice of law, an even better friend, and someone I had the privilege of working with for over 28 years."*

*... Vaughn Cox (Chatwin LLP)*



We are also saddened to report the passing of **Al Lake**. Al took his last flight on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012 at the age of 89. A member of Blue Goose for 53 years, Al joined the Manitoba Pond in 1959. In 1984 Al relocated to Edmonton and his membership transferred to the Edmonton Pond. A Naval veteran, Al was retired from the Royal Insurance Company and was still residing in Edmonton at the time of his passing.



Al will be remembered by his loving wife of 66 years, Helen, his children, Monica, Harold (Kathy), Terry, Allan (Linda), his grandchildren, Steffanie (Aaron), Andrea (Paul), Sarah (Steve), Dawn (Jason), Shan (Ryan), Andrew and Brianna and his great-grandchildren, Benjamin, Kallie, Matthew, Darianne and Bryden.



*Honored, departed Ganders, we salute you and greet you in the silent hall of memory. Hail, friends, and farewell.*

#### AROUND BLUE GOOSE ...

**Hartford Pond** collected a mountain of toys for donation to charity.



**Texas Pond** has formed a Puddle, to be known as the Flamingo Puddle, in Sarasota, Florida.

The **Portland Pond** raised \$160.60 for the Oregon Food Bank at their recent Roller Derby Jam.

The **National Capital Pond** held a charity holiday luncheon in Baltimore in support of the Children's Medical Center, Washington, DC.

#### DID YOU KNOW... ?

**Q.** *What's the difference between a Pond and a Puddle?*

**A.** *The short answer would be size. According to the Constitution of the Honorable Order of the Blue Goose, International, in order to be granted a Charter a prospective Pond must demonstrate that the prospective membership numbers at least 50.*

*A Puddle may be formed under the sponsorship of an existing Pond. According to the Blue Goose Constitution, 'Puddles' may be formed by Ganders residing in a city remote from the Pond headquarters. These Ganders may band themselves together into an organization for the promotion of good fellowship, acts of benevolence among its members and furthering the interests of the Pond to which its members belong.*

*The Puddle officers are the Loyal Gander, Puddle Supervisor, Puddle Wielder, and Puddle Guardian. Alternatively, a Puddle may elect to adopt alternative names for the Puddle officers, specifically "Big Toad" (instead of Loyal Gander), "Polliwog" (instead of Puddle Supervisor), "Croaker" (instead of Puddle Wielder), and "Bouncer" (instead of Puddle Guardian).*

*In Alberta, the Lethbridge Puddle was formed under the sponsorship of the Alberta Pond. Perhaps the most distant puddle formed was the Australian Puddle which is under the sponsorship of the Hartford Pond.*

## Future Grand Nest Conventions

| Host                  | Location       | Date            |
|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Quebec Pond           | Quebec City    | July 8-12, 2013 |
| Utah Pond             | Salt Lake City | July 2014       |
| National Capital Pond | TBA            | July 2015       |
| St. Louis Pond        | St. Louis      | July 2016       |
| Southern Region       | TBA            | July 2017       |

### ON THE MOVE?



Please remember to send your updated contact information to

[EdmontonPond@gmail.com](mailto:EdmontonPond@gmail.com)

## CONTACT US:

### Most Loyal Gander

Mike Sherban  
FirstOnSite Restoration  
780-717-1051  
[msherban@firstonsite.ca](mailto:msherban@firstonsite.ca)

### Supervisor of the Flock

Chris Miller  
Sintra Engineering  
780-420-1551  
[cmiller@sintraeng.com](mailto:cmiller@sintraeng.com)

### Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg

Harvey Heinz  
Roguski Metcalf & Co. Adjusters  
780-465-7708  
[hheinz@rm-adjusters.com](mailto:hheinz@rm-adjusters.com)

### Custodian of the Goslings


Sarah Hirst  
Intact Insurance  
780-428-7544  
[sarahmariehirst@gmail.com](mailto:sarahmariehirst@gmail.com)

### Guardian of the Pond

Keegan McLennan  
Roberts McClure Insurance  
780-439-4357  
[keegan.mclennan@robertsmcclure.com](mailto:keegan.mclennan@robertsmcclure.com)

### Permanent Wielder of the Goose Quill & Gaggles Editor

Neil Miller  
780-458-2526  
[EdmontonPond@gmail.com](mailto:EdmontonPond@gmail.com)

|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
|  | <b>Honorable Order of the Blue Goose International</b><br><b>Application for the Edmonton Pond</b><br><b>(Application fee of \$50.00 must be attached)</b> |  |  |
|  | <b>New Membership</b><br>(New Membership Date)<br><input type="checkbox"/>   | <b>Reinstatement</b><br>(Reinstatement Date)<br><input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Flight</b><br>(Flight Date)<br><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) _____<br>Print Sponsor's Name | _____ | Sponsor's Signature |
| (2) _____<br>Print Sponsor's Name | _____ | Sponsor's Signature |
| (3) _____<br>Print Sponsor's Name | _____ | Sponsor's Signature |

**Pond use only Dated: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved: \_\_\_\_\_**