



Blue Goose Alberta Pond IN FORMATION



October 2016
News Bulletin

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MLG's Message

Welcome back fellow ganders. I trust that you enjoyed the long, lazy days of summer. We have faced many economic challenges over the past year or so in our province and industry and I see our fellowship as an opportunity to gather with old friends, meet new people, and exercise charity in various and innovative ways. As this new year is upon us I look forward to growing our pond and engaging our members as your Most Loyal Gander.

Over the past few years, our esteemed PMLG, Mike Peck, has been the backbone of our pond, generously committing so much of his personal and professional time to ensuring the continued success of our pond. As his commitments continue to grow and pull him in different directions, we encourage all of our members to consider what they can contribute to our pond.

The Edmonton Pond will play host to the 2018 HOGBI Convention and I encourage our pond members to be involved in participating and brainstorming ways to assist them in showcasing Alberta, Canada as we endeavour to help as much as possible, particularly with fundraising.

If your contact information has changed over the last year or so, please make sure we know where to find you so you don't miss anything.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your MLG.

Your Most Loyal Gander

Ann Marie Graziano

Upcoming Meetings

We look forward to seeing you at our next **Initiation Meeting** which is being held on October 17th. We encourage all new applicants to attend the initiation is the next one is not scheduled until April 2017!

Note: New members to be initiated are not required to pay for dinner, but do need their membership Fee of \$75.00.

October 17th dinner meeting & Initiation

Location:	Danish Canadian Club	Time:	5:00 cocktails
	727 – 11 Ave SW		5:30 meeting
Cost:	\$30 for dinner		6:30 dinner

RSVP to Mike Peck at mpeck@sintraeng.com

Just a reminder that if you confirm your attendance and cannot attend, payment is still required. Thank you.

Upcoming Dates to Remember, with more information to follow:

- Wine Tasting.....November 17, 2016



Where:Willow Park Wine & Spirits

Time: 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

This year’s theme will be Jewels of the Sea Down Under featuring selections from Australia, New Zealand as well as South Africa. Stay tuned for further details.

- Christmas meeting/Bottle Bingo.....November 28, 2016
- Calgary Women’s Centre Toy Room Volunteer Shift..... December 2016
- General Meeting February 6, 2017
- General Meeting/Initiation April 10, 2017
- Jurgen Mausch Pool Tourney..... TBD
- AGM..... May 15, 2017
- Golf June 1, 2017
- Lobster Night..... June 7, 2017

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Past Event Recap

Annual Blue Goose Lobster Night, June 8, 2016 held at the Inglewood Golf and Curling Club:

Despite the terrible losses suffered in Ft. McMurray that prompted an urgent response from insurers and many in the industry, this year's Lobster Dinner had sold-out attendance as it has for the past several years. The Inglewood Golf and Curling Club did a spectacular job hosting the event again this year and the usual cocktail hour was busy with sponsors serving mussels, oysters, and seafood chowder. Proceeds from the event will go toward Brown Bagging for Calgary's Kids as well as to help support our Pond to the North (Edmonton Pond) in their hosting of the 2018 Convention. Thanks to all the sponsors from the event that included the following:

- Sintra Engineering Inc.
- Alberta Fire and Flood
- ServiceMaster Calgary
- Specs
- Belfor Restoration
- ClaimsPro
- SAMAC Engineering
- Western Site Technologies
- Alberta Jewelry Claims
- Stantec Consulting
- Century Roofing
- Steeped Tea by Samantha Stephens

Jurgen Mausch Memorial Pool Tourney: held on May 25, 2016 at The Hidden Spot



The 2016 Jurgen Mausch Memorial Pool Tournament was held on May 25th at The Hidden Spot. There was a turnout of over 20 players competing in doubles play and a few spectators taking in the action. Fun was had by all in attendance, but it was Allan Akins and Jon Andrasz who repeated as champions, walking away with bragging rights and the Mausch "Cup". As in past years, all proceeds will be donated to the Women in Need Society. Thank-you again to our sponsors: Alberta Fire and Flood, Westcan Appraisals, and Collision Analysis.

Blue Goose Golf Tournament: held on June 2, 2016 at Lacombe Golf and Country Club

The Golf Tournament this year may have seen the effects of the Ft. McMurray fires as the turnout was down slightly over past years. Held again at the Lacombe Golf and Country Club, the weather was perfect and everyone went home with a prize or gift card for the pro-shop. Thanks to Eugene Way and Rob Keith from the Edmonton Pond for hosting it this year. Sadly, the Edmonton Pond took the prize for bragging rights with an overall low net score of 74.5! The Alberta Pond will be hosting the Golf tournament for the next 2 years and we would love to have some members help out with this event, so please contact MLG Ann Marie Graziano at annmarie@grazianoinvestigations.com if you are interested.

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Calgary Women's Centre Toy Room

On the afternoon of December 9, a group of 10 ladies attended to the Women's Centre of Calgary with a load of toys & gifts, where we were successfully able to help some women "shop" for Christmas presents for their children as well as a small gift for themselves. The Women's Centre helps provides support to women in need in the areas of Basic Needs (i.e. bus tickets or food), Technology, Legal Clinic, Toy Program, Social Inclusion Support, Taxes, and Lifelong Learning as well as being involved with Social Issues Work, Network and Coalition Work, and Girl Power Summer Camps. Our afternoon at the centre was apparently unusually slow, but I believe a good time was had by all.



2016 Grand Nest Convention, St. Louis:

This year our delegates for the St. Louis Grand Nest Convention were ganders Lynne Fawcett and Stanley Winter. We greatly appreciate Lynne and Stanley representing our Pond and Reporting back to us on the happenings there. Some highlights from the convention are:

- The number of Regions has been changed from 5 to 4 and so this means the Canadian Region will be up for hosting the convention again in 2022!
- The entire Blue Goose International consists of almost 3,700 members, is made up of 41 Ponds and 25 Puddles.
- The amount in funds donated by Ponds over the past several years on a per capita basis has been increasing, and this year we achieved \$90 per member which is a huge achievement!
- Total Charitable donations for the entire organization exceeded \$240,000 last year

Next year the Convention will be held in Savannah, Georgia, and we hope that all of you consider attending a convention in the next few years.

Contact Us

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer for any of the committees or events please don't hesitate to contact any of the members below.

2016-2017 Executive Members

- **MLG** Ann Marie Graziano
(Most Loyal Gander)
Email: annmarie@grazianoinvestigations.com
- **WGQ** Tracy Irving
(Wielder of the Goose Quill)
Email: tirving@cl-na.com
- **SOF** Isabel McNab
(Supervisor of the Flock)
Email: isabel.mcnab@ctplc.com
- **COG** John MacIver
(Custodian of the Goslings)
Email: jmaciver@mjmbarristers.ca
- **KGGE** Michael Peck
(Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg)
Email: mpeck@sintraeng.com
- **GOP** Tim Martin
(Guardian of the Pond)
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