

# **HISTORY OF THE GRAND NEST**

**Honorable Order of the Blue Goose, International**

**2007 – 2008**



**102<sup>ND</sup> GRAND NEST CONVENTION  
NIAGARA FALLS, ONTARIO CANADA**

**JACK F. FITCH**

**Prepared by:  
Barry L. Snyder, PMLGG  
Grand Nest Historian**

**Fallsview Sheraton Hotel, Toronto, Ontario, Canada----July 19-22, 2008**



The current and past Grand Nest officers started arriving on Saturday July 19<sup>th</sup> to be on time for their per-convention meeting that started Sunday morning. The meeting was held in the Cree Room. The Most Loyal Gander Jack F. Fitch presided. Grand Wielder Maloney called the roll. The following current officers were present. Grand Supervisor JoAnn M. Clark, Seattle Pond; Grand Custodian William Wasakanes, Penn Pond; Grand Guardian Joseph C. Coccia, Michigan Pond; Grand Keeper Art LeMaistre, Alberta Pond; Grand Wielder Terrance M. Maloney, Home Nest; Judge Advocate Robert Tayloe Ross, Virginia Pond and Grand Historian Barry L. Snyder, National Capital Pond.

The PMLGG's that were in attends were Keith Strochecker, Virginia Pond; Rex Clark, Settle Pond; John Bishop, Nova Scotia Pond; and George Harwood, Florida Pond.

Also, there was one guest in attendance, MLG Guy Charron from the Quebec Pond.

The year 2008 mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ontario Pond. The Pond was chartered June 28, 1908. It was at the Grand Nest Convention in Baltimore 2000, that the Ontario Pond decided in the year 2008 to host a Grand Nest Convention. Also, celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary.

What better place for the Ontario Pond to hold the Convention than on the banks of the Horseshoe Falls. At night the falls were lit up with colored lights and on certain nights there were fireworks displays. The Sheraton Fallsview Hotel and Conference Centre was overlooking the falls. The Ontario Pond offered the Ganders and their guest a full program of Blue Goose activities and fellowship during their visit. They could enjoy the City of Niagara Falls and its natural and other wonders. A walk along the Niagara Parkway with its spectacular views of the Falls and the Niagara Gorge. All along the Parkway you could see some of the most elegant floral gardens in the world. The Niagara Region was once a battleground where British and American troops fought. There were many historic sites in the area. The Niagara Region is also one of the finest wine producing areas in the world and home to over sixty wineries.

From all over the United States and Canada came one hundred and forty six Ganders and delegates; ninety-four guest; twenty youths and twenty-seven children. Some of the Ganders and guests arrived prior to the start of the Convention to see the beautiful sites in the area. Many met new friends that they will long remember. Those that have been coming to the Conventions for years enjoyed visiting with their old friends that they haven't seen for a year.

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**Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup>** The welcome reception was held with Cuban Flair as the Ontario Pond treated us to a 1950's carnival atmosphere, which included Cuban traditional dancers, salsa instruction and a forty piece drum workshop. Ganders and families were also treated by a special interpretive dance from Fiona Strohecher and an exhibition of timbale playing by Grand Guardian Joseph Coccia from the Michigan Pond.



The welcome party was held in the Oaks room at the hotel. Following the cocktail reception a buffet dinner was served.

The youth and the children enjoyed playing on the timbale as well as some adults.

**Monday, July 21<sup>st</sup>** At 8:30 AM the current Grand Nest Officers and distinguish guest marched in and took their proper places at the head table. The large gavel was dropped by MLGG Jack Fitch calling the 102<sup>nd</sup> Grand Nest Convention of the Honorable Order of the Blue Goose International to order. The three National Anthems were lead by Miriam Woorasooriya, the Star Spangler Banner; O Canada; and Advance Australia Fair. His Worship Mayor R. T. (Ted) Salci extended warm greetings to the members and guests of the Honorable Order of the Blue Goose International.

MLGG John Bishop of the Nova Scotia Pond gave the invocation. Alex Walker, MLG of the Ontario Pond welcome all those in attendance to the Niagara Region. Most Loyal Grand Gander Jack Fitch introduced the current Grand Officers and other distinguished guest at the head table. Jack than introduced the spouses of the current Grand Nest officers and all the Passed Most Loyal Grand Ganders and their spouses. He thanked his Co-chairs, PMLG Max Brugger and PMLG Christen Adelhardt for their efforts in putting together a wonderful program of events for the Ganders, spouses, guests and children.



Following the coffee break all those in attendance were invited to honor those Ganders that have taken their last flight. The Memorial Service was presented by the Michigan Pond. Gary Rogers constructed a large V shaped set that roses and a lighted candle were placed into when the dear departed Ganders name and the name of their Pond was called out. Gary read the names of the departed Ganders while Joe Lothschutz and Dick Chenard placed the roses and lit the candles. This was culminated by a Eulogy for two Past Most Loyal Grand Ganders. Marvin Wilson and Robert Rice.



## IN MEMORIUM PMLGG Marvin Wilson

We have lost a dear friend and colleague, Marvin P. Wilson, Jr. It is an honor for me to say a few remarks today about our friend who took his last flight on November 10, 2007, just after

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celebrating his 80th birthday. Marvin was a very special person. He was proud of his prominent southern heritage, his family, his education, and his more than 50 years in the insurance industry and the Blue Goose.

Marvin was born in Raleigh, North Carolina. He graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1948, with a B.A. in journalism, and where a street was named after his family.

He was employed by the North Carolina Fire Insurance Rating Bureau beginning in 1950. He served as Senior Special Agent in Wilmington, North Carolina from November 1954 to April 1964. While in Wilmington, he served as the President of the Wilmington Jaycees, both Secretary and Vice-President of the North Carolina Jaycees, and the National Director of the U.S. Jaycees. He returned to the Raleigh office in 1964. He held various positions within the company and eventually was appointed manager of the N.C. Joint Underwriters Association/Fair and Beach Plans until he retired in 1992.

Marvin became a member of our Honorable Order on February 7, 1952, when he was only 24 years old. Marvin was an active member of the Blue Goose for over five decades, holding the position of wielder of the N.C. Pond beginning in 1968. On May 1, 1993, he was inducted as a life member. In 1991, he was elected and served as the Most Loyal Grand Gander, representing the Southern Region. The convention was a grand moment for our Order, the Southern Region, the North Carolina Pond and for Marvin.

The 2002 Convention in Raleigh was special, where Marvin and other members of the North Carolina Pond greeted all of us, whether we were from the Quebec Pond, the Arizona Pond or the Virginia Pond, with a warm, gracious and welcoming hug. Marvin will be remembered for his wit, his smile and endearing personality.

At the convention, and in his life, he treated all of us in the Blue Goose as members of his family. As Terry Maloney would say, he treated all of our children as though they were his grandchildren. During the Raleigh Convention, he was delighted to learn that he was a relative of Ed Morgan, PMLGG from Nova Scotia. The Raleigh Convention was a great celebration for Marvin's family, as his wife Gwynn, and daughter Vicky, who worked with other members of the North Carolina Pond to see that everyone felt welcome, and that the Convention went smoothly. We will be forever grateful to Marvin for sharing with us his love, charm and leadership. We will truly miss our dear friend, Marvin P. Wilson, Jr., PMLGG, and true gentleman!

Honored, departed Gander, we salute you and greet you in the silent hall of memory. Hail friend and farewell!

*Prepared for presentation during the Memorial Service at the 102<sup>nd</sup> Grand Nest Convention, by Robert Tayloe Ross, JA of the Virginia Pond. Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada.*



### IN MEMORIUM

PMLGG Robert Rice

December 20, 1916 -- April 21, 2008

“Even children follow’d with endearing wile, And pluck’d his gown, to share the good man’s smile” by: Oliver Goldsmith

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I remember Bob as a friendly, smiling MLGG at the 1984 Grand Nest in Denver, Colorado. We heard many stories of the ways their Pond raised money for the convention.

They conducted bingo games every Wednesday night for two years. Though Bob was sixty-seven at the time, he donned roller skates every week. Then he tooled around the hall selling “Pickles” also called Pull Tabs. He became known as the “Pickle Man.” Through his effort and skill on skates, he earned \$2,500 for the convention.

Bob was born in Topeka, Kansas and graduated from Kansas University. He married the love of his life Lillian on January 5, 1942. Bob is survived by: Lillian, daughter Sandra Brown, three grandsons and three great grandsons.

He served as an officer in the Army Signal Corps in Parson, Kansas. After WWII, he returned to work for the Kansas Inspection Bureau before joining Home Insurance Company, as a fire protection Supervisor. Bob and Lillian moved to Colorado in 1968 with the National Fire Insurance Company. He later started his own agency and retired in 1982.

He was elected MLGG at the Grand Nest convention held in Banff, Alberta Canada in 1983. Bob was a past president of the Kansas State Fire Protection Association and Past Commodore of the Shawnee Yacht Club. He was a member and deacon in his church, a member in American Legion Post #1, Orient Lodge #51, AF&AM, Topeka Scottish Rite and the Arab Shrine.

Bob and Lillian with Jerry and Bobbie Womack attended the 1976 Grand Nest in Hartford. They decided to tour Boston and drove to the Wharf where the USS Constitution was moored. They were in a van that the rear doors only opened from the outside. Bob was so excited to see the ship that he dashed out and up the gangplank, failing to hear Lillian shouting to let her out! He received a lot of teasing about this for years.

***Honored departed PMLGG Bob Rice, we salute you and greet you in the silent hall of memory. Hail, Friend and Farewell***

*Prepared for presentation during the Memorial Service at the 102<sup>nd</sup> Grand Nest Convention, by GSOF JoAnna Clark of the Settle Pond, with input from PMLG Jerry Womack of the Colorado Pond. Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada*

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MLG Fitch offered words of memory of his mother who also died this past year. Jack mentioned that his mother didn't understand what the Blue Goose was about, yet she would have fit in wonderfully with our fraternal Order being a woman rich in **Character, Fellowship and Charity**.

The Model Initiation as presented by the Quebec Pond in both French and English. They did a fabulous job demonstrating a formal initiation as monks. It was quite disturbing to discover that within our group there were three Ganders who did not know the secret word of our Order and they had to be escorted out of the room. With good humor, Patrick Kennedy thought for a moment he was in a Lion's Club meeting shouting our various passwords. Finally he remembered what Fraternal Order he was with at that moment whispered the correct answer to the Guards. He was allowed to stay in the room. Quebec did a wonderful job!



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The initiation team from the Quebec Pond were the following Ganders: Most Loyal Gander Guy Charon; Supervisor of the Flock Dianne Loyer; Wielder of the Goose Quill Cathy Hebert; Custodian of the Goslings Jacques Cuierre; Captain of the Guards Sylvie St-Amour; Guards were Claudette Projean and Pierre Lamoureux. The Admonition was given by Bruno Thurber, and PMLGG Marc Thurber gave the Charge.

**Tuesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>** MLGG Fitch called the meeting to order. Terry Maloney the Grand Wielder, called the roll to be sure all the delegates were present. He then announced anniversary dates of all Ponds celebrating their one hundred anniversary. Special congratulations to the Ohio Pond on their first year's anniversary.

The first order of business was the presentation to the GKGGE Art LeMaistre with a proclamation making him an Honorary Kentucky Colonel. PMLG Don Greeno presented this noting that if Art was going to represent the South, he ought to have a Title that was appropriate.

GWGQ Terry Maloney reported on a number of various items. He stated that dues have been paid on time by all the regions.

MLGG Fitch called upon GNH Barry L. Snyder for his report.

## **GRAND NEST HISTORIAN'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2008**

Many of you may not know, but the Grand Historian Paul E. Rudd compiled the first fifty years of the History of the Grand Nest of the Honorable Order of The Blue Goose International in August 1956. Here is a copy of that publication. We have a limited supply left if anyone is interested in having a copy, the cost is \$25.00. Copies will be available in the archives room.

In 2003 MLGG Richard Philippsen appointed me as the Grand Historian. When I gave my report at his Convention in 2004, I made a commitment, that I would start working on Vol. II, the next fifty-year History of the Grand Nest for the years 1956 through 2006.

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When I made this commitment I knew it would be a big task. It would take a few years researching all the old Grand Nest Bulletins, minutes and other sources to compile this book. Immediately I started to look around to see if I would be able to recruit Ganders that would help in this worthy project to preserve our rich History. If History is not recorded and preserved, it is apt to be lost and not available for accurate reference, especially after those who participated and made the History are no longer with us, as was mostly the case when the writing of this historical record was commenced.

I have in my hand a bound copy of that History. The book also has pictures of those Ganders along with their bios; a list of PMLGG'S; the year the Convention was held and the Convention Site. For those that don't have a computer I have a limited supply of hard copies with me. The cost is \$25.00. The profit from the sales will go to the archives fund to help preserve our History.

The History is also on the Blue Goose web site. The web site is [bluegoose.org](http://bluegoose.org). Under menu you would click GN Histories and then click on the 1956-2006 History. This is a PDF file, which you can download. The PDF file has a table of contents. You can view it, if you have an updated version of Acrobat reader. You would click on bookmarks and it would give you a listing of the Convention Sites, year of the Convention, etc. This will take you immediately to that section. You can do a search from this file. If you want to find, for example everything pertaining to the National Capital Pond, you type National Capital Pond, immediately I found eighty-six results regarding the National Capital Pond.

DMLGG Dan Rich; PMLG Thomas Cattell and myself are in the process of fine-tuning the History and will be adding additional features over the next few months to the History on the web site.

I want to recognize those Ganders that devoted many hours of their time in helping with this major project that was undertaken, many hours of research and hard work went into this endeavor. Many of you here know these individuals, there are some that may not, please stand as I read your name and be recognized.

PMLGG John Bishop from the Nova Scotia Pond

PMLGG Rex Clark and his wife JoAnn Clark, Grand Supervisor from the Seattle Pond

PMLG Harold Faith from the St. Louis Pond. He is also the DMLGG for the St. Louis, Nebraska and Heart of America Ponds.

PMLG George Kinder from the St. Louis Pond

Linda Meik, DMLGG at large of the Southern Region and Wielder of the Texas Pond

Three of the Ganders are not present at this Convention. PMLGG Larry Lewer, from the Tennessee Pond; Dan Rich, DMLGG of the Eastern Region and PMLG of the Hartford Pond; and PMLG Tom Cattell of the National Capital Pond.

This past year William Lanier, Wielder of the North Carolina Pond took on a project to help raise funds for the Archives. He wrote to the individual Ponds for donations. He was able to collect \$335.00 for the archives from

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nine Ponds and two individuals. Thank you Bill for taking time out of your busy schedule to work on this endeavor. I want to thank the Ponds and those individuals that helped finance the Archives.

Again, we make an appeal to you Ganders that have items from past Grand Nest Conventions, if you wish to donate those items to the Grand Nest Archives, we would appreciate having them.

Cash donations are also welcome to help maintain the rich History of our Order.

Thank you MLGG Jack Fitch, Grand Nest Officers and Ganders for this opportunity to serve you.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Barry L. Snyder, PMLGG/GNH

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MLGG Fitch called upon the Judge Advocate, Robert Tayloe Ross for his report.

## **JUDGE ADVOCATE'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 2008**

Most Loyal Grand Gander, Grand Nest Officers and Ganders:

During this one hundred and second year of the Honorable Order of the Blue Goose International, the centennial year of the Ontario Pond, and others, your Judge Advocate is pleased to give you this report.

In particular, the Grand Nest continues to be active addressing the immediate and future challenges of the Order. The Grand Nest is focusing on critical issues about the organization as well as annual conventions. Short term, as well as long-term issues is being considered, including the potential reorganization of Regions, as well as the role of the Grand Nest, the Regions as well as the Ponds in putting on annual conventions. The Grand Nest has clarified and defined further the role of the DMLGG.

The Grand Nest continues planning for the future, including expansion and growth of the Order. Efforts are made to work within the structure established over the past one hundred years, but new ideas are welcome and will be considered by the Grand Nest. For example, The Grand Nest supported a booth at the PLRB meeting this year that was a grand promotion of the Blue Goose, brought hundreds of potential applicants to the table from around the U.S. and potentially Canada. For over one hundred years, the Constitution and Bylaws have been strong, and have been changed only to meet the times, opportunities and realities facing the Blue Goose. Fortunately, no significant legal issues have been raised over the past year and we hope for a smooth flight over the coming year.

As we endeavor to pursue our guiding principles of charity, character and fellowship, we must be mindful of the importance of increasing membership, expanding our reach within the insurance community and strengthening our leadership for the continued vitality of our Order.



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It has been a great honor and a distinct pleasure for me to serve the past year as the Judge Advocate of the Honorable Order of the Blue Goose International.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Robert Tayloe Ross, JA

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GKGG Art LeMaistre reported a positive budget and his appreciation for what is put into reviewing the Grand Nest expenses over the course of the year. He felt that Blue Goose funds were wisely spent and secure. The complete Operating Statement is printed in Volume 102 of the Grand Nest Bulletin.

Grand Supervisor JoAnn Clark called upon MLGG Jack Fitch for his report of his year in office.

## **MOST LOYAL GRAND GANDER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2008**

It has been a great privilege for me to serve as Most Loyal Grand Gander this past year, a privilege that was made possible by the generosity of the Ontario Pond, the support of my fellow officers and the membership of this organization in general.

I would like to first acknowledge the presence here today of three members of the Ontario Pond who between them have enjoyed membership in our Honorable Order for well over 150 years. I would ask that Jack Bremner, Bob Jackson and Dave Jackson all stand and be recognized. All Past Most Loyal Ganders of the Ontario Pond, these three Ganders have shown tremendous loyalty and dedication to our Honorable Order and have earned my thanks and yours.

I would not have taken on the offices of Grand Nest without the encouragement of Jack Bremner and Bob Jackson nor without the support and friendship of Max Brugger, the co-chair, together with Christine Adelhardt, of this Convention, the Permanent Wielder of the Ontario Pond and a tireless worker on the Pond's behalf. When I joined Blue Goose Max Brugger recruited me to the Pond executive and has supported all that I have done on behalf of the Order since.

Max is responsible for having assembled a terrific group of Ganders who have taken on the task of planning, organizing and putting on this Convention. Every member of the Convention Committee has worked hard and done a great job. Although this convention is just getting started, I am confident that it will prove to be one of the best in the history of the Order. Wilson Teixeira and Miriam Weerasooriya, who amazed me by singing the opening national anthems so beautifully, headed our marketing efforts and brought notice of this convention to every Gander through the logos, newsletters and website that they authored. Todd Stewart is hosting a wonderful Children's program, which promises to keep the kids happily engaged throughout the Convention. Harry Grewal has put together a golf tournament for 144 golfers at Thunder Waters, an internationally acclaimed course designed by John Daley, just down the street, which is completely sold out. Chris Giffin has organized live entertainment for all our events. Last night was just the opening act. Laurel DiMaso and Kathleen Davies have designed and organized the decorations for our events. And just to make sure we didn't lose sight of our fiscal responsibilities to the Pond and Grand Nest, our planning and execution are being closely monitored for us by Nick Angellotti, our accountant for this event.

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There are others, of course, who also deserve recognition and thanks. Alex Walker, the current Most Loyal Gander of the Ontario Pond and the balance of the current executives, our sponsors who have generously donated to this event and, of course, my partners at Hughes Amys, LLP who have supported my involvement in Blue Goose and who have contributed generous financial support for this convention. Let me extend my personal thanks and yours to all those who have made this event possible through their hard work and generosity. The credit for the success of this convention is yours.

This past year has been both difficult and rewarding. It has been a year of change for me personally. I have moved my office and my residence. I have lost my mother, one of the dearest people in my life. Throughout the year I have enjoyed the support of my fellow officers and many other Ganders who I have come to know and whom I have corresponded with. Using the new communications facilities available to us through the Grand Nest website, with Terry Maloney's help, I have been able to communicate directly with Pond Wielders and with the Membership as a whole and individually. Although there were days when I regretted the amount of e-mail that came with the job, the ability that it provides for us to reach out to each other efficiently and effectively provides a great benefit. I would encourage all of you to make sure that your e-mail address is added to your Grand Nest record and is kept current. The savings in communication efficiency and cost is a significant benefit to our Order.

Although I was not able to travel as extensively as I would have liked to over this past year. I was very impressed with the reception that I did receive wherever I went. Fortunately I was able to attend the National Capital Pond Christmas lunch and the Michigan Pond Christmas lunch both of which were held the same week. These are both exceptional events which raise money for local charities and help promote our Order. If you ever have the opportunity to attend either I would encourage you to do so. Both events drew about 450 people this year and raised thousands of dollars.

My special thanks to Bill Olsen. Bill was kind enough to pick me up at the airport in Baltimore and drive me to my hotel. We had a delightful afternoon together swapping stories and drinking beer before attending a meeting and dinner of the organizing committee for the National Capital Pond Christmas lunch. The lunch, the next day, which goes on well into the late afternoon and is followed by a traditional poker night, was, of course, a great success. Given the late hour Bill Olsen stayed over night at the hotel and arranged to meet me the next morning for breakfast so that he could drive me back to the airport. Unfortunately and uncommonly, for Baltimore, it snowed early in the morning leaving traffic snarled and the roads treacherous. On an overpass, practically within sight of the doors to the departure lounge, Bill's big SUV started to slide uncontrollably into the oncoming lane and the path of approaching traffic. As my life flashed before my eyes, Bill did the only thing he could, pulled hard on the wheel and spun us off the road into the guardrail. Fortunately neither of us was hurt and although Bill's truck was damaged I think the biggest bruise was to his pride. Bill's quick reaction saved us from what might have been a far worse accident and I'd be happy to travel with him anywhere. In recognition of his service to me I am bestowing on him the title of Grand Chauffer. Thank you Bill for your generosity and your friendship.

The effort of our Ganders who devote their time and energy to raising funds for charity deserves recognition not only from us, but also from the industry and the community. Through big events like the National Capital Pond Christmas Lunch and the Michigan Pond Christmas Lunch and dozens of smaller events put on by Ponds throughout Canada and the United States, Blue Goose raises tens of thousands of dollars for various charities each year. I propose that each Pond should report its fund raising efforts; however modest, to the Grand Wielder

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each year I anticipate that the total will surprise and encourage us. The contribution that Blue Goose makes each year to others is significant.

While our membership has declined from what it once was we are not alone. Other service organizations have also found themselves losing members faster than they could replace them. This is in part a product of our national demographics. The good news is that there is a new generation of young people entering the insurance industry who are capable of bringing renewed vigour and enthusiasm with them. Our task is to recruit them to our cause. The wealth of experience and knowledge which our membership has represents a valuable resource to the next generation of insurance professionals who will be eager to join Blue Goose when they know about the benefits of character, charity and fellowship, which Blue Goose offers them. We are seeing a resurgence of interest in Blue Goose, which I believe, marks a turning point for our organization. I charge each of you with the responsibility of sharing your love of our organization with a suitable member of the insurance industry during the next year and bringing them into our flock. Doing so will benefit you both.

This is an exciting time for Blue Goose. I encourage all of you to embrace the challenges that lie ahead. Our Honorable Order has prospered for over one hundred years and its message of character, charity and fellowship is more relevant today even than in the past. The future is bright. For the last two years, Grand Nest has had a booth at the PLRB, one of the largest insurance industry conventions in the United States. The response to the booth has been overwhelming and many people have inquired about membership as a result. Continuing to promote Blue Goose at the national and international level should remain a priority. This year the PLRB will be meeting in Seattle, Washington and hopefully Blue Goose will be there.

It was a great pleasure to attend the mid year meeting of the Grand Nest Executive Committee in Reno, Nevada. The 103<sup>rd</sup> Grand Nest Convention will be held in Reno in July of 2009. The executive was all treated to a great weekend in Reno and I know the members of the Seattle Pond who have chosen Reno, as the site for their convention will do a wonderful job. As JoAnn Clark assumes the office of Most Loyal Grand Gander and in doing so becomes not only the first woman to hold this office but also the first spouse of a Past Most Loyal Grand Gander to do so, I encourage all of you to look forward to a year of renewal and growth for our organization and toward our 103<sup>rd</sup> Convention in Reno, Nevada. And I look forward to seeing all of you there.

Thank you for the privilege you have given me by letting me hold this office.

Jack F. Fitch  
Most Loyal Grand Gander

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Lorena Dunlop provided a report of the Jurisprudence Committee. She reports no issues this past year.

PMLGG George Harwood reported no issues for the Constitution and By-Laws Committee.

PMLG Nora Saldana recommended that the publication award be dropped and has proposed a name change for the committee to "Communications Committee". It is the intention that the committee will stay in contact with the Editors of the publications as well as the Wielders.

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Fred Fernandez reported for the Ways and Means Committee that these are resources of past convention financial information should any Pond or Grand Nest member need information. Many Ponds have volunteered for future conventions – the enthusiasm and support for future convention is strong.

PMLG Wendy Hubbard reported on the work of the Charity Committee.

PMLGG Marc Thurber from the Quebec Pond, suggested the Grand Nest consider the Most Grand Bartender seat become a rotating Officer seat. He acknowledged the work of Bob Partridge and Kevin Brady and asked everyone to think about whom to nominate for the position at the next Convention.

It may have been the Ontario Pond's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, but it was the convention goers who received the present. Everyone was treated to an over-the-top birthday party beyond your wildest imaginations. The Ontario Pond outdid themselves with a room full of great music featuring the sounds of Grove Yard. In help honoring this momentous occasion, Marilyn Monroe emerged from a huge birthday cake wearing her classic white dress and sang happy birthday to the Pond. Her appearance added to the evening's highlights as she graciously mingled with the crowd stopping frequently to pose for photographs.



**Wednesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>** The Seattle Pond members performed a skit to demonstrate the highlights of next years' convention in Reno, Nevada. JoAnn Clark announced that the special convention rate would be \$69.00 per night (double occupancy, plus tax). The room rates are very reasonable and should attract many Ganders and guests. They were unanimously approved to host the Grand Nest Convention in 2009.



PMLGG Barry L. Snyder installed the newly elected Grand Nest Officers. MLGG JoAnn Clark, became the first woman ever elected to our Order's highest office. Her many years of service to Blue Goose leaves no question that she is qualified to lead this great fraternal Order. Ten years prior her husband, Rex Clark held the office as the Most Loyal Grand Ganders. The Convention was held downtown in Seattle, WA. in 1999.

Next to JoAnn Clark is Grand Supervisor William Wasekanes; Grand Custodian Joseph C. Coccia; Grand Guardian Art LeMaistre; and Grand Keeper Guy Charron.

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PMLGG Barry L. Snyder with the assistance of the Grand Wielder Terry M. Maloney presenting the current Grand Nest Officers with their Officer's pin. PMLGG Snyder presents PMLGG Jack F. Fitch with this PMLGG Pin and his Life Membership Plaque.



### ADDRESS OF ACCEPTANCE 102<sup>ND</sup> GRAND NEST CONVENTION – JoAnn Clark

I am honored to be the first woman national officer of this fine organization. Thank you for continuing to open your doors to the wealth of membership available in this industry. We survive because we change with the times.

I thank my wonderful and steadfast husband, Rex for always being there to help and support me. Even though he knows I have a hard time saying no to requests to volunteer. Seattle Pond deserves a big Thank You for taking on yet another Clark, for yet, another Grand Nest. It should be known as the Convention Pond; having sponsored 1949, '79, '99 and coming up 2009.

Fraternal organizations offer many opportunities for self-development and growth. Blue Goose is at the top of the list for fellowship. For some reason, that I don't know the why or wherefores, is that the insurance and related industries have wonderful people in it. One of the attractions we have is personality, who can forget us when they hear our names and titles. Isn't it marvelous that we can create a smile and chuckle just by telling folks about us. We constantly hear about downsizing, outsourcing and other indications that globalization is creating different ways of conducting business.

We are extremely fortunate in Blue Goose because we are not over structured. We do not have to worry about real estate, numerous employees or excess overhead. We are lean, but certainly not mean. This is the basis for growth in the current business community. Because we allow each chapter to determine its own number of meetings, the choice to be a puddle or Pond, and very little paper or computer work, we are geared to current needs. We provide friendship, fun and charity work. Charity work gives us a good feeling by helping others in need. However, when I was promoting this aspect of our organization, someone commented lots of places offer



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opportunities to help others. Yes, this is true. So how is Blue Goose different? What can we do to overcome and answer this response?

As mentioned our industry is undergoing some tough times that affect all of us. So, how can we offer an alternative to a hard day at the office... By stressing that yes, we do meet, work and help others but we also have fun while doing it. We are people that like people and it shows in the wonderful friendships we have established over the years.

We are very unique by having a family convention, showing that we support good values. Encourage your members to attend our Grand Nest Conventions. Like-minded folks gather together to enjoy a family vacation. Yet with the added enjoyment of the “kids” having fun at what they like to do, while the parents enjoy other activities. This is all happening in the same place at the same time. And all of the preparations are done for you by the sponsoring Pond.

Complacency can invade your group, we are happy, we are ok is not the answer to the future. If you are not adding members you will be facing a big problem. Transfers, age and illness will take their toll; you need to increase your membership, to stay viable and interesting. We need to develop serious and working committee on setting up sponsors and outside sources of funds. This group would also suggest ideas for some internal revenues to increase income. With our interest in getting our message out one venue that is giving us positive results is PLRB. This is expensive for us but a necessary way to acquire members and visibility to the industry and corporations. Grand Nest needs to hear from you if you have suggestions of ideas let us know, we will try to respond to any submissions.

*“Ideas are a dime a dozen- people who put them into action are priceless.”* source unknown.

I hope you will make a concerted effort to attend Grand Nest--- when “Seattle Rides to Reno”, July 19th to 22nd 2009. I am looking forward to a busy and productive year for Blue Goose, thank you for your support energy and friendship.

Faternally,  
JoAnn M. Clark, MLGG Seattle Pond



## NEW GN OFFICER--GUY CHARRON, GKGGE

Grand Nest Officers and Ganders, I am very proud and honored to have been elected to the Grand Nest as The Grand Keeper at the 102<sup>nd</sup> Convention held in Niagara Falls, Canada and to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ontario Pond.

I wish to thank my Fellow Ganders from the Québec Pond who choose me to represent them in this great opportunity.

## GRAND NEST HISTORY

These conventions are a good way to meet great people, socialize and make lifelong friends. The Order makes us humble, respectful, and helps us to encourage new Ganders to join. All of us look forward to attending each convention year after year.

Again, a big thank-you and I look forward to serving the Honorable Order of the Blue Goose for the next five years and will make Québec City in 2013 a great Convention for all.

Let's talk about me personally. I have been married to my wife Johanne for thirty-three years and we have one daughter named Karolyn who we are extremely proud of.

I have my FCEP (Fellow Chartered Insurance Professional). I have been in the Insurance Industry for approximately forty-four years. I started in 1964 working for an Insurance Automobile Broker and then in 1970 I continued my career with an Insurance Company called Commercial Union as an Asst. Mgr. in the Automobile Dept. for a few years then moved on to becoming a Commercial Lines Underwriter. In 1976, I moved on to Allstate Insurance Company as Marketing Manager in the Commercial Lines for Twenty-three years. My present position for the last seven years is with a Direct Church Mutual Insurance Company as Manager New Business & Communications.

I joined the Honorable Order of the Blue Goose in 1974 and became Most Loyal Gander in 1978 and attended my first Convention in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Then again in 1996, I was Co-Chairman at the 1998 Convention in Montreal and Most Loyal Gander from 1999 to 2001. I am fortunate again to be the Most Loyal Gander for 2008 and 2009. I have attended to this date ten Conventions and looking forward to attending many more.

I wish to thank everyone again and I look forward to serving the Honorable Order of the Blue Goose for the next five years.

Guy Charron, GKGGE  
(Ti-Guy)

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After the Grand Nest business meeting we all met in the Oaks North room for a family luncheon. The afternoon was free to enjoy the sites. The current Grand Nest Officers and PMLGG's met for their Post-Conference meeting in the Mount Carmel room.

The final evening was celebrated with the Grand Ball, which culminated the many years of exhausting work by the Ontario Pond members. The lobby and dinning room were decorated with attractive floral arrangements. Attendees were treated with a selection of flute pieces during the cocktail reception and then by Terri Oliver and her seven-piece band "Sugga" complete with two dancers.

**Thursday, July 24<sup>th</sup>** a continental breakfast was served. Ganders, guests and friends said their goodbyes as each one traveled back home. Some of them stayed a few days longer in the area to enjoy this beautiful country.

# GRAND NEST HISTORY

Our beloved Order congratulates and thanks PMLGG Jack F. Fitch all members of the convention planning committee, their spouses and families, and the Ontario Pond for a successful Grand Nest Convention

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## PRE CONVENTION MINUTES JULY 20, 2008 SHERATON HOTEL – NIAGRA FALLS, ONTARIO

1. All GN current Officers in attendance.
2. PMLGG's Keith Strohecker, Rex Clark, John Bishop, George Harwood and Guest Guy Charron in attendance.
3. MLGG Fitch led discussion on the need to gather all of the Charity work done by our Ponds. He felt we raise as a group \$250,000-\$500,000 each year. This can be a very useful tool when it comes to recruitment. He also led discussion on the fact that in 1988 registration was \$365 and now in 2008 the registration is lower when in fact the cost of living would easily double. This is also an important marketing tool to people considering attending our conventions. While Ontario is on target, this needs to be understood.

**West** – Seattle is ahead of budget. JoAnn Clark will visit Colorado for their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary then visit Utah who is considering hosting 2014. California is showing some promise to become a Pond.

**East** – Their regional meeting is Feb. 09. This is truly a regional effort to host 2010.

**Central** – Grand Rapids is the 2011 site at the Amway Grand Hotel. A contract with them is now being negotiated thru our meeting planner.

**South** – Alberta is using C. Adelhardt as a meeting planner. This process has yet to start. Final thoughts, if only our most active members each recruited 1 member our organization would improve and grow.

4. Presentation of Awards were approved.
5. Officers nominators were approved.
6. PMLGG Barry Snyder will install the new GN Officers.
7. Art LeMaistre provided his written Audit report. Alternative investments will be analyzed.
8. Committee changes were discussed. Publication committee will be more inclusive and called the Communication Committee. Charity will be given a form fill link to allow each Pond to tell GN what "good works" they do. Joe Coccia and JoAnn Clark will create this. The Future Convention funding needs to begin to create some financial support. PMLGG Hale and Reith chair this group. GN Officers indicated this has to be our number 1 priority.
9. There will be no convention survey per MLGG Fitch.
10. An amendment to Canadian Relief will be proposed by Alberta next year.
11. MLGG Fitch spoke in favor of continued use of the PLRB attendance. This is "branding" our organization as "alive and well".

# **G R A N D N E S T H I S T O R Y**

12. GNH Snyder introduced the new book summarizing the second 50 years of Blue Goose. This is on our web-site. This was a tremendous effort by a number of Ganders led by GNH Snyder. Thank You!
13. JA Ross presented the updated Constitution and By-Laws. GWGQ Maloney will email this to the Ponds.
14. Georgia's charter removal will be delayed until September depending on their resolve.
15. GWGQ Maloney led discussions on improving our marketing of our conventions. We need to "sell" this bargain. Fuel and air travel costs will continue to put pressure on our members' attendance. Delegate expense funds need to be emphasized.
16. Parchments will replace our plaques as awards.
17. GWGQ Maloney will continue to send reminders to the Ponds that the IRS990-e postcard must be completed starting this year.
18. DMLGG certificates were issued for our 2009 deputies.

Respectfully Submitted  
Terry Maloney, GWGQ

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## **POST CONVENTION MINUTES JULY 23, 2008 SHERATON HOTEL – NIAGRA FALLS, ONTARIO**

1. All current GN Officers present led by MLGG JoAnn Clark. PMLGG's Rex Clark, Keith Strohecker, Marc Thurber, George Harwood, John Bishop and Jack Fitch were also present.
2. MLGG JoAnn Clark appointed JA Robert Ross, GNH Barry Snyder and executed the GWGQ contract with Terry Maloney.
3. Bank cards and resolution were signed by MLGG JoAnn Clark and GWGQ Terry Maloney
4. Bill Wasekanes made a motion, second by Guy Charron that GN Officers convention for Ontario be paid. Passed Unanimously.
5. The 2008-2009 budget was approved unanimously showing a \$1418 surplus.
6. The mid-year Executive meeting was set for April 17-19, 2009 in Philadelphia, PA.
7. GKGGE Guy Charron will attend the annual Audit meeting in Milwaukee, WI in June 2009.
8. GKGGE Charron will furnish a photo, a signature, and an autobiography to GWGQ Maloney.
9. Roll calls for the Regional meetings were provided by the GN Officers. All minutes will be forwarded to GWGQ Maloney.
10. Discussion on committees and changes were led by MLGG JoAnn Clark. A new committee named the Communication committee will be led by Joe Coccia. This is intended to encompass all levels of communication and or publication, web sites, membership, e-mails etc. The Charity committee will be chaired by PMLG Thomas Toal. GN wants to develop a total value and effort report to be shared as a marketing tool. There will be a much stronger effort to jump start the National Fund raising committee headed by PMLGG Gerry Hale and Chris Reith. A committee to improve continuity from year to year on Pond fund raising for conventions will be headed by GGN Art LeMaistre.

# GRAND NEST HISTORY

JA Robert Ross will oversee Jurisprudence and Constitution and By-Laws committees. MLGG Clark will contact Guy McCarthy of the Arizona Pond to serve a 3 year term on the Jurisprudence committee. Convention planning will be chaired by Bill Olson of National Capital Pond. GGN Art LeMaistre will do oversight. MLGG Clark will summarize all of these assignments and send them to GWGQ Maloney to disseminate.

11. A web-site connection to the GN site will be tried to be set up for Charity and marketing.
12. The GN Officers approved all expenses the Seattle PLRB conference in March 2009.
13. MLGG JoAnn Clark confirmed the Reno convention date of July 18-23, 2009.
14. GNH Barry Snyder is going to share the job descriptions for Pond Officers with GN. Former liaison reports gathered by GGN Art LeMaistre will share his information with GN. GWGQ Maloney will be the "Gatekeeper" for these items to share with Ponds.
15. MLGG JoAnn Clark received a consensus to send out a letter to LIFE members asking for their voluntary contribution to the International directly. GWGQ Maloney will do mailing since most LIFE members lack e-mail. A letter of explanation to the Ponds will supersede this mailing

Respectfully Submitted,  
Terry Maloney, GWGQ

## MOST GRAND NEST CONVENTIONS ATTENDED TWENTY-FIVE OR MORE YEARS (THROUGH 2008)

|  |  |
|--|--|
| 40 Phillip J. Simpson, PMLGG                               | 33 William J. Wasekanes, Grand Supervisor) |
| 36 Bruce B. Bolton, PMLGG (24 Gander, 12 youth)            | 31 Walter Bennett, PMLG                    |
| 35 John B. Gravensine, PMWGQ (34 Gander, 1 youth)          | 31 Nancy J. Bennett (17 Gander, 14 spouse) |
| 33 Ivar H. Awes, PMLGG                                     | 28 Don Grott, PMLGG                        |
| 34 Rex W. Clark, PMLGG                                     | 26 Clifford C. Needham, PMLGG              |
| 34 JoAnn M. Clark, Grand Supervisor (15 Gander, 19 spouse) | 26 George Hardwood, PMLGG                  |

## Historical Highlights

**Grand Nest Convention  
October 3, 1916  
Hotel La Salle, Chicago, Illinois**

J. Ross Stewart of Toronto, Canada, presided, and pointed out that there were nearly 1,800 members and added, "This growth and its continued strength is most gratifying, but why the growth and why the strength? I can give no better answer than that contained in lines written by a noble Gander away back in 1909!"



# GRAND NEST HISTORY

“Should you ask me what she stands for,  
What is the signification,  
Of that name we all revere so,  
I should answer, I should tell you  
That to us she stands, for Union,  
Brotherhood and kindly feeling,  
Loyalty to one another  
Toting fair in all our dealings.”

His Highness made official visits to five Ponds during the year. Arkansas and Utah Ponds surrendered their Charters during the past year, while Mississippi Valley Pond at St. Louis has been chartered and installed. This leaves twenty-one Ponds.

The total membership is 1,796, a net increase of 106. The cash balance on hand \$2,131.44.

After the usual rotation of officers, E. D. Marr, Missouri-Kansas Pond, was elected Grand Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg and Paul E. Rudd, Wisconsin Home Nest was elected Grand Wielder of the Goose Quill.

Most Loyal Grand Gander Carlisle, Illinois Pond, in his Thanksgiving message to the Ganders, stressed the good fellowship that binds the men in our business firmly together in real spirit of brotherhood. All stand on one platform. He warned, “I have heard it stated, that the Order is now at its zenith, which means the extreme height of success and prosperity, and that hard work will be necessary to keep it from falling.” He set the goal at 2,000 members for 1916-1917.

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## **Grand Nest Convention Toronto, Canada 1962-1963**

The fifty-seventh Grand Nest Convention was on August 25 to August 29, 1963, with MLGG Frank Chandler presiding. It was held at the Royal York Hotel, Toronto, Ontario, Canada and sponsored by the Ontario Pond.

MLGG Frank G. Chandler  
GSOF Lester L. Large  
GCG Earl S. Hannan  
GGN Kenneth S. Carmody  
GWQ Jack Gravenstine  
GKGGE George H. Brussel  
JA P. Albert Bienvenu  
Historian Charles L. Beale

# GRAND NEST HISTORY

MLGG Chandler commented on the pride in our Order for having a family convention with seventy children attending. The Grand Wielders report listed a membership of 12,490 ganders. The Ontario Pond conducted the Model Initiation, and the photo shows them in white dinner jackets and dark trousers and several with plaid shoulder sashes. The Ontario Pond also performed the Memorial Service.

The report of the Constitution & By-laws Committee mentioned an amendment to extend membership to Professors, Assistant Professors and Associate Professors of a fully accredited university who have substantial duties in teaching courses of Fire and Casualty insurance at said university. The committee being of the opinion that the said proposed amendment is not to the best interest of the Order, refrained from recommending to the Grand Nest Officers its adoption. Since this report had not been presented for approval to each member of this committee it was proposed that its adoption be postponed until the 1964 Grand Nest meeting. An amendment to increase dues was passed.

The Committee on Jurisprudence put forth a motion that was seconded by the delegates. That the Constitution and By Laws Committee be instructed to prepare a constitutional amendment, to be submitted to the Ponds in accordance with our Constitution, whereby virtue of such amendment employees engaged by finance companies who restrict their activities to financing insurance premiums be eligible for membership in this organization. It carried. The same committee put forth a motion that a similar amendment be drawn making college professors who spend their time teaching insurance be eligible for membership. Carried. Note both of the above amendments to be voted on for approval or rejection at Portland in 1964.

Gander Cox of Heart of America Pond advised that his Pond would donate a trophy for annual competition to be awarded to the Pond having the lowest drop in membership.

The last order of business was the installation of officers conducted by PMLGG R. I. Fennerty. The following are the new officers. MLGG Lester L. Large, GSOF Earl S. Hannan, GCOG Kenneth S. Carmody, GGN George H. Brussel, GKGGE Harry Cutler, Vancouver, BC Pond and GWQ John (Jack) B. Gravenstine.

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## **Grand Nest Convention Toronto, Canada 1987-1988**

The 82<sup>nd</sup> Grand Nest Convention was on August 27 to August 31, 1988, with MLGG Gordon C. Crutcher presiding. The Convention was held at the Royal York Hotel, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Sunday, Aug 28: This day was reserved for an all day excursion to Niagara Falls. The buses left late morning and the guides upon the buses provided informative information throughout the trip to the Falls. We were all treated to a boat trip on the “Maid of the Mist” allowing us to view the Falls “up close and wet”. The evening was topped off with a wonderful meal at either the Minolta or Skylon revolving restaurants in the sky, overlooking the Falls. It was then back on the buses for the trip home.

Monday, Aug 29: Breakfast was sponsored by the Manitoba Pond followed by the Opening Ceremonies called to order at 8:45am by MLGG Crutcher. The Shrine Colour Guard and Pipe Band of Rameses Temple, Toronto

# GRAND NEST HISTORY

performed the presentation of colors of Canada and the United States followed by the singing of “O’Canada” led by Jean Dore, PMLGG or the Quebec Pond and “America” eloquently led by GGN John Zeldam.

Invocation was given by the Rev. Ridley Williams. He has been a member of Blue Goose for 40 years and his father was also a Blue Goose member.

MLGG Crutcher then introduced those seated at the head table, followed by introductions of the spouses of the Grand Nest Officers. He then introduced the PMLGGs and their wives who were in attendance....the largest such gathering in anyone’s memory.

Barry Robinson, MLG, Ontario Pond and Co-Chairman of the Convention welcomed all to Toronto and the Convention.

PMLGG/GNH Browne Bolton then made a special presentation in behalf of all the current and past Grand Nest Officers to GWGQ J. B. Jack Gravenstine for his many years of service to our Order, serving as GWGQ since 1962, longer than any other former GWGQ.

The Memorial Service followed, conducted by members of the Ontario Pond, accompanied by a Scottish bagpipe.

The Model Initiation was conducted immediately prior to our luncheon by members of the National Capital Pond, dressed in formal attire. Their performance was masterful to say the least.

Following lunch, the annual MLG, WGQ and Delegates Meeting was held with the AGWGQ Terry Maloney introducing the Grand Nest computer system. It is hoped that it will be fully operational by the end of the year. He also introduced our new line of Blue Goose jewelry through our new jeweler, Erffmeyer & Son, Inc.

Despite the considerable expenditure involved for this system, we are leaving Grand Nest in good financial condition. Tight financial controls, plus that most welcome increase in dues last July, helped produce a surplus of some \$10,000. ..enough to pay for the computer hardware. Most of my traveling was done at no expense to the Order, which also helped in a modest way.

This has been a year of transitions in the most important of all the Grand Nest offices, the office of Grand Wielder. Every MLG knows his most important Officer is the Wielder. We were doubly blessed this year to have two Wielders working for the Grand Nest. They both discharged their duties so admirably that it is sad to now be losing the services of one of them.

GWQ Jack Gravenstine has left an indelible impression on both the office he held longer than any of his predecessors, and the membership at large. Those of us who have had constant contact with Jack could not help but be enriched by the warmth and character of this most dedicated Gander.

But by the time this Convention is over, the Order will have a new Grand Wielder, Terrence Maloney. This very likeable Irishman offers both a “gift of gab” and the talent to carry out his assigned tasks with distinction. I feel the Grand Nest Officers have chosen wisely. Terry has frequently demonstrated this past year that he is the ideal man for the job.

# GRAND NEST HISTORY

GWGQ Gravenstine then gave his annual report, revealing a corrected membership as of 6/30/87 of 8,518 and a membership as of 6/30/88 of 8,605; an increase of 87 members. Once again this is premised upon only about 50% of Ponds reporting, however even with late reporting, it appears we will have an increase of 19 members. He then recognized the top ten Ponds for new and reinstated members as follows: Manitoba (21); Nova Scotia (22); Wisconsin (23); Kentucky (25); New Brunswick (27); Regina (28); Arizona (36); Michigan (38); St Louis (40); and Quebec (66).

Brief reports were given by the Grand Nest Historian; for the James Group Service; and the Charity Committee. The Constitution and Bylaw Committee advised that the Georgia Pond's amendment to eliminate the word "male" from our membership eligibility requirements will be proposed in the general business session.

Constitutional Amendments: JA Palmerton advised that it requires two-thirds majority to pass a constitutional amendment. The Georgia Pond delegate, seconded by the Minnesota delegate, proposed an amendment to eliminate the word "male" from membership eligibility. Roll call vote was taken, resulting in 36 for and 70 opposed with two abstentions, motion failed.

This year's election proved to be an exciting event with two candidates being nominated for the position of GKGGE: Julien Mongeon of the Quebec Pond and Trevor Newitt of the Edmonton Pond. The nominations proceeded accordingly with a secret ballot for the position of GKGGE. The secret ballot produced a vote decidedly in favor of Trevor Newitt resulting in the following slate of officers:

|       |                                   |
|-------|-----------------------------------|
| MLGG  | Harry Merrifield, California Pond |
| GSF   | Timothy Holland, Bay State Pond   |
| GCG   | John Zeldam, Michigan Pond        |
| GGN   | Bruce Bolton, Kentucky Pond       |
| GKGGE | Trevor Newitt, Edmonton Pond      |

PMLGG Ed Morgan, Nova Scotia Pond, conducted the installation of officers.

The final banquet and ball commenced at 6:00pm with cocktails and a dinner followed by listening and dancing to the Big Band Sounds of Henry Cuesta and his orchestra.

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## WANTED!

### PLEASE DONATE

- **Blue Goose Jewelry** (pins, medals, ribbons, badges, etc.)
- Grand Nest **convention gifts items** (ladies and men)
- Old Grand Nest **trophies and awards** (membership, charity, golf, etc.)
- Old Blue Goose **costumes** (ritual teams, fun events, etc.)
- Old **Grand Nest Bulletins**
- Old **Grand Nest Convention programs**

**Please assist us in "rebuilding" our Grand Nest archives.** We are only interested in items that have a general interest to all Blue Goosedom, not just one Pond. **Please provide us with origin and history of each item to be donated.** If you can help us, contact the Grand Historian.

# GRAND NEST HISTORY

## 2007 --- 2008 GRAND NEST OFFICERS



Most Loyal Grand Gander  
Jack Fitch



Grand Supervisor  
JoAnn M. Clark



Grand Custodian  
Bill Wasekanes



Grand Guardian  
Joseph C. Coccia



Grand Keeper  
Art LeMaistre



Grand Wielder  
Terrence M. Maloney



Judge Advocate  
Robert Tayloe Ross



Grand Nest Historian  
Barry L. Snyder