

# **HISTORY OF THE GRAND NEST**

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

**2012– 2013**



**107<sup>th</sup> GRAND NEST CONVENTION**

**Fairmont Le Chateau Frontenac**

**Quebec City. Quebec, Canada**

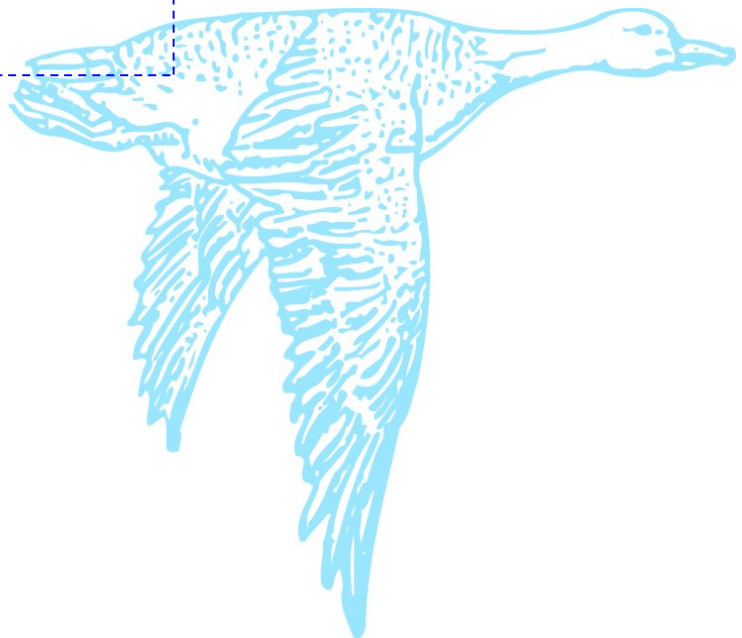
**July 9-12. 2013**

**MLGG Guy Charron**

Prepared by  
PMLGG John C. Bishop

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**Honourable Order of the Blue Goose, international**  
**Grand Nest Executive**  
**2012-2013**



Grand Supervisor  
John Paris



MLGG  
Guy Charron



Grand Keeper  
Linda Meik



Grand Custodian  
Bill Olson



Grand Wielder  
Terrance M. Maloney



Grand Guardian  
Randy Wilson



Grand Nest Historian  
Jerry Hale



Judge Advocate  
Robert Tayloe Ross

## Blue Goose Holds 107th Grand Nest Convention in Quebec City, Quebec July 9-12, 2013, Fairmont Le Chateau Frontenac

185 Ganders, spouses and guests, including 10 children from across the US and Canada journeyed to Quebec City to attend the 107th Blue Goose Grand Nest Convention from July 9-12, 2013. The convention has held at the spectacular Fairmont Le Chateau Frontenac in the heart of old Quebec-within easy walking distance of hundreds of shops, restaurants, and attractions.

### **Tuesday July 9, 2013**

The Convention kicked off with a short walk down Rue Saint-Louis for a spectacular Welcome Party at the Quebec Garrison Club.

The Garrison Club was established by the Canadian militia officers back in 1879. It's a private club for meetings and get-togethers of military and social groups. The military origins of the Club are represented on its grounds by pyramids of cannon balls and an old cannon.



Our group was set up outside under a tent, and everything was just perfect. We had a choice of duck, pork, salmon or tilapia for our entrees, and the dinners were cooked to order on outdoor grills. Music and dancing followed dinner, and it was a great way to catch up with old friends and start the convention.

### **Wednesday July 10, 2013**

After a full breakfast, the 107th Grand Nest Meeting was opened by MLGG Guy Charron as he introduced the head table, Grand Nest officers, Convention Chair Jacques Cuierrier, the Grand Nest wives, and the Honourable Order's PMLGGs.

A marching band named "Les Eclairs de Quebec" showed great showmanship as they entered the room playing the theme from Rocky, before presiding over the presentation of the colors and the U.S. and Canadian anthems. They exited the room playing Michael Jackson's "Thriller"

The invocation was given by Fr. Denis Belanger of the Notre Dame de Quebec Parish. He followed with a talk on the spiritual history of Quebec and told us that the parish was celebrating its 350th anniversary. We all recited a prayer together signifying spiritual growth.

Our speaker was Le Chateau Frontenac's Stephane Cote who congratulated Blue Goose on its longevity and welcomed us.

Grand Custodian Bill Olson, dressed as Francis Scott Key, gave us a history behind the Canadian flag and national anthem. He took some historical liberties as he stretched the truth by weaving in some little known Blue Goose connections along the way.

MLGG Charron introduced the Quebec Convention Committee and Grand Wielder Terry Maloney welcomed us (en francaise) and congratulated the Quebec Pond on its 100th anniversary.

Grand Nest Historian Jerry Hale pointed out an omission in the introduction of the Grand Nest Officers and called up Bob Partridge and Kevin Brady of the Hartford Pond to receive their Grand Nest Bartender symbols of office.

The Convention's Memorial Service was conducted by Lorena Kohlruess, Lynne Fawcett, and Isabel McNab of the Alberta Pond. As piano music softly played in the background, the name of each

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Pond was shown on a screen, and then announced, as members of that Pond stood in unison. If a Pond lost a member during the year, the name was displayed on a screen with a blue sky, white clouds, and images of geese in flight.

Three PMLGGs were eulogized. PMLGG George Harwood eulogized PMLGG Cliff Needham (1994) as “an ambassador of the Order in word and deed.” Grand Custodian Bill Olson eulogized PMLGG Dave White (1985) who incurred a significant personal debt to fund the convention during his MLGG year. The National Capital Pond started an annual golf outing to repay that expense. Penn Pond MLG Frank Marx eulogized MLGG Joseph W. Knowlan (1971), who at the time of his passing was the Order’s oldest living PMLGG.

The Memorial Service closed with the singing of the Blue Goose hymn and a screen of remembrance with alternating poetic verses of French and English as geese flew off into the horizon.

The Ontario Pond conducted a “1970’s discotheque” themed Model Initiation ceremony that was preceded by a crowd-pleasing introduction in the form of a French lesson. Our language instructor was Christine Fortier, who in a star-making performance played her role with equal parts of naughty schoolteacher and dominatrix. She led a rousing crowd participation lesson on English to French translations using words from the Blue Goose ritual as examples. Her final word was discotheque-and it was a clever transition to what happened

next.

The Ontario Pond marched in dressed in their 1970’s finest. We saw a nod to Billy Preston’s towering Afro, to John Travolta’s Saturday Night Fever white suit, and all manner of paisleys, sparkles, platform shoes, miniskirts, and bell bottoms. There was even a disco ball. Musical breaks during the ritual included songs by KC and the Sunshine Band, Sister Sledge, and Kool and the Gang. Twelve “super cool” goslings were initiated as they changed from “jive turkeys” to Blue Goose.

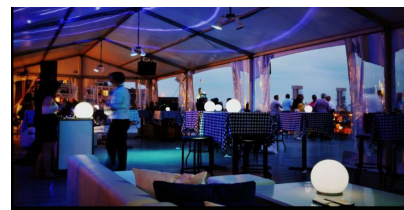


The All Industry Luncheon featured a charismatic address by ex NHLer, business consultant and motivational speaker Steven Finn. He played 12 seasons in the National Hockey League (most of them as a Captain or Assistant Captain) with the Tampa Bay Lightning, Los Angeles Kings, and Quebec Nordiques. Some of the themes he covered were keeping an open mind, confidence and mental toughness, the power of visualization, and seeking out and learning from the extraordinary visionaries you encounter through life. Finn was well qualified to give that last piece of advice, seeing that at some point in his career he played alongside Mario Lemieux and Wayne

Gretzky, perhaps the greatest players of his generation. Finn spoke eloquently on the nature of superstardom (magnetism and humility) and challenged us to realize that “all of you represent Wayne Gretzky to somebody.”

After the Luncheon, the regional meetings were held between 2:30 and 3:30, followed by several Grand Nest Special Committee Meetings between 3:30 and 4:30.

The evening’s Family Night Dinner was held at Espace 400e, and the venue was terrific. It’s a multi-level facility, with a large upper dining area, a lower section that acted as a bar and place for gaming tables, a large area under a canopy, and a perimeter deck area that gave you a gorgeous view of the harbour and the 10:00 PM laser/multimedia show that was projected on the side of the



building. George V Catering provided the food, and it was wonderful from start to finish. The large buffet stations included shrimp, scallops, sliders, steak, noodles, croquettes, the variety was endless everything was scrumptious, and the presentation was incredibly creative.

**Thursday July 11, 2013**  
MLGG Guy Charron called

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Thursday's meeting to order, thanked the regional officers for meeting yesterday and asked them to present their minutes as soon as possible. Next, Guy introduced the Deputy Most Loyal Grand Ganders from all the regions, and introduced Grand Wielder Terry Maloney for the roll call of delegates. Terry asked the first timers to stand and be recognized. Terry called the Ponds in alphabetical order, as the delegates from Alabama to Wisconsin checked in.

Grand Supervisor John Paris introduced MLGG Guy Charron to report on his year in office. Guy commented that his term passed very quickly. He thanked the Quebec Pond for selecting him as their Grand Nest officer, and also thanked the Convention Committee, convention planner, Jacque Cuierrier, and his wife, JoAnne for all of their support and patience during his term.

During his term as MLGG Charron attended the Michigan Pond's Christmas Luncheon and sang "O Canada" for 300 guests. He also attended the National Capital Pond's Christmas Luncheon, the April Grand Nest Mid Year in Salt Lake City (where he saw his first NBA game), and also in April he attended the Eastern Region NYC Cruise and visited the 9/11 Memorial.

Charron reported that membership is increasing and reminded us of the importance of adding younger members who are very web savvy, and he encouraged the Ponds to maintain their websites.

He also exulted that "the South is back", and acknowledged the accomplishments of Linda Meik, George Harwood, and Larry Lewer for revitalizing several Ponds. He closed by thanking his fellow Grand Nest officers and Terry Maloney. He was happy to have served as MLGG, and spoke fondly of Blue Goose's family oriented focus and the core beliefs present in our three precepts.

Grand Wielder Maloney's report praised the Southern Region for their "fine job in setting up strong pockets of membership throughout the region". He spoke about the GN website and how it is generating 10 membership inquiries per month that are sent to the DMLGGs for follow-up.

Membership is up 10% and he challenged everyone to understand that it is our responsibility to pass our love of Blue Goose to the newer generations. He urged all members to share their email addresses with the Grand Nest and commented that we don't email blast our members with any advertising, just Blue Goose information.

He warned our newsletter editors not to use any copyrighted materials. During the past year we ran a poem and that generated a legal inquiry. We have a liability policy for copyright infringement and golf outing liability. He also suggested that we get an insurance certificate from any caterer.

The ten largest Ponds were announced, with Michigan in the top spot, followed by Quebec, Ontario,

St. Louis, Hartford, Edmonton, National Capital, Nova Scotia, New York City, and Alberta.

Grand Historian Jerry Hale gave his report, thanked the Grand Nest for their support and said how honoured he was to serve as Historian. He said that we had a sad and uplifting year; we lost 3 PMLGGs, but we also saw growth spurts and renewed interest in Florida, Georgia, Ohio, Charlotte, and Providence. He reminded the Ponds of their obligation to write and record their history, update their websites, and send in their newsletters. He saw no indication that any Pond was recording their history over the past year. Jerry drove many displays from the Grand Nest archives to the convention, they are quite expensive to ship (around \$500), and they are set up for viewing. He was contacted by someone from London who wanted to donate a Blue Goose Jim Bean decanter.

Judge Advocate Robert Ross opened his report by saying there were no active lawsuits against the Honourable Order. He did stress that the copyright issue mentioned earlier by Terry was important. It may seem like an innocent issue where one of our newsletters ran a poem and credited its author, but it was found in a computer search and the Pond was sued. Even though our liability carrier responded, he cautioned us to be careful of using outside photos and material. There

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are lots of complicated issues with this matter, if anyone has a question about our insurance coverage, contact Terry Maloney for clarification.

A small matter handled by the Judge Advocate's office was the replacement of the word "secret" with "sacred" in the ritual. Robert urged everyone to modify and copies of the ritual you may have in your possession.

There were no referrals this year to either the Jurisprudence or Constitution and By-Laws Committees. Ongoing initiatives include efforts to quantify charitable activity to enhance marketing efforts and future expansion, bilingualism, and regional reorganization.

Grand Keeper Linda Meik thanked Terry Maloney and his family for the hospitality extended to her during her audit. Blue Goose had a new accountant this year, and Terry explained Blue Goose finances, revenues, expenses, and assets to both. Linda asked the Ponds to pay for their pins in a timely manner to reduce the corresponding Grand Nest expense. Pond dues are slow to make their way back to Grand Nest, and Linda reminded the convention that the Constitution says dues are payable in September. She urged the Ponds to make a payment in September and update as necessary as the year unfolds.

Convention Chair Jacques Cuierrier reported on the Golf outing and announced the winning team (for the third year in a row) was



Winning Tourney Team  
L to R Ryan Maloney, Lynn Fawcett, Mike Sherban, John Bishop

PMLGG John Bishop's team.

The Grand Nest Committee reports on Charity, Website Enhancement, and Communication followed. Linda Meik told us that it was "important to remember what we do". Based on information submitted by the Ponds, in 2012-2013 Blue Goose donated \$171,164 to charity—a pro-rated average of \$45 per member. Linda stated that all Ponds did not report their charitable activities. She reminded us that it's equally important to track all matters of charity, be they money, time, collections, gifts, etc. She said that our Ponds awarded \$7,750 in scholarships during the year. She asked for Ponds to submit photos of their charitable activities so she can consolidate them.

Linda recognized several "Blue Goose Charity Heroes". She cited Jon Hale of the Hartford Pond for his touching reflections on the Sandy Hook shootings. Hartford's All Industry Gathering co-benefited the Sandy Hook First Responders. Linda also cited the Virginia Pond's Mary Kay Marchetti for her work and shared a touching note from the USO.

MLGG Guy Charron summarized the importance of charity by saying it's key to attracting new members. He also thanked Jon Hale for his work on the Sandy Hook benefit and the Eastern region NYC cruise.

Grand Supervisor of the Flock, John Paris, reported for the Website Enhancement Committee and spoke of the re-vamping Grand Nest website. Our values of Character, Charity, and Fellowship have been made more prominent, as have the links to the Ponds. He wants to add a "Charity" tab to promote all the charity work being done by the Ponds. The Utah Pond has a new website with tabs for "Pond Activity", "Convention Activity", and "Sponsors". Utah's convention finances are up to \$60,000 from "a humble start" and he thanked the 2014 Sponsors.

Grand Custodian Bill Olson's Communication and Marketing Report was next. In 2011, the Committee's report asked questions about how Blue Goose can better communicate with our Ponds, our Regions, and the general industry. He reported that communication has improved tremendously using social media, adding blogs to websites, and increased newsletter visibility. The Eastern region now has a regional newsletter that publicizes all regional events for those members that travel. Blue Goose's involvement

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with social networking sites such as Linked In and Face book have helped connect the organization to hundreds of people. We have had “Meet and Greets” at the PLRB Conference for at least three years, most recently a very well attended reception in Boston. The Eastern regional PLRB in Charlotte will be next, and we have big plans to leverage the upcoming Meet and Greet into growth for the North Carolina Pond.

He said that adding a Charity tab on the website is a major goal and can be used for recruiting, because charity and fellowship represents major components of marketing strategy. Bill said “we are all part of the claim process”, and he encouraged the members to reach out to all of the business partners they know; adjusters, attorneys, accountants, engineers, restoration contractors for recruiting.

He finished his report with recommendations, some of which included a focus on member retention, website creation and updating, partnering with other associations, participating in PLRB Meet and Greets (March 16-19, 2014 in Indianapolis), hosting educational meetings for CE Credits, using social media, and GN finding a budget line item for marketing and website assistance.

The morning’s program concluded with the presentation of the Grand Nest Awards. The **Membership Cup** for the greatest % of increased membership was won by the **Texas Pond**. The **Fellowship Cup** for the lowest % drops & res-

ignations was won by the **Manitoba Pond**. The **No Drop Out Cup**, awarded for no dropped members, was won by the **Penn Pond**. The **Peace Garden Award Cup**, awarded to the Pond with the most first time convention attendees, was won by the **Ontario Pond**. The **Link of the Year**, awarded to a Pond with an Outstanding Website, was won by the **National Capital Pond**. The **Gordon Crowther Charity Award**, for the Pond with outstanding charitable activities, was won by the **Edmonton Pond**, and the **Regional Challenge Cup**, awarded to the region with excellence in five combined membership criteria, was won by the **Southern Region**.

The Regional Charity Awards concluded the morning’s program. The **West Region** Charity Awards for the highest % increase and most new & reinstated members were both won by the **Oregon Pond**. The **Central Region** Charity Awards for the highest % increase and Most new & reinstated members were both won by the **Dayton Pond**. The **Southern Region** Charity Awards for the highest % increase and Most new & reinstated members were both won by the **Texas Pond**. The **Eastern Region** Charity Awards for the highest % increase and Most new & reinstated members were both won by the **New York City Pond**. The **Canadian Region** Charity Awards for the highest % increase was won by the **Quebec Pond** and the award for the Most new & reinstated

members was won by the **Saskatchewan Pond**.

### **Friday July 12, 2013**

After breakfast, the Utah Pond’s Bill Christiansen presented a preview of the 2014 Convention, to be held on Jul 22-26, 2014 at the Marriott Salt Lake City Centre. The room rate will be \$139/night. It will be the 167th anniversary of the Mormon pioneers settling in Utah in 1847, and one of the planned events will be the Days of 47 Rodeo at the Energy Solutions Arena. Transportation choices from the airport to the hotel will range from \$3 by rail to \$8 by shuttle. There is a “free fare” mass transit zone in the downtown area.

Quite a bit of information on the convention and Salt Lake City can be found at:

<http://www.bluegooseutah.org/>

We saw a promotional video that promoted many of the visitor sites, natural and man-made attractions of the area, such as Temple Square, Olympic Park, Gateway Plaza, museums, shopping, and an art centre. We learned that Salt Lake City has 140 restaurants, 60 bars, and 39 historic buildings. Golf will be at Mountain Dale Lake, and there will be an optional 2 1/2 hour historical tour.

After the presentation, Bill Olson led the group in the singing of “Happy Trails”.

Terry Maloney called the delegate

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roll call and asked all the Pond Wielders to stand and be recognized. Ken Miller made a formal motion that next year's Convention be held in Salt Lake City. The motion was seconded by Bill Christiansen, and it was accepted by acclamation.

Nominating speeches for the 2013-14 slate of Grand Nest officers ensued, and PMLGG John Bishop installed John Paris of the Utah Pond as the Most Loyal Grand Gander, Bill Olson of the National Capital Pond, Grand Supervisor, Randy Wilson of the St. Louis Pond, Grand Custodian, Linda Meik of the Texas Pond as Grand Guardian, and Mark Robertson of the Edmonton Pond as Grand Keeper. John Bishop and Grand Wielder Maloney presented the new officers with their Grand Nest pins and ribbons.

Mark Robertson, the Grand Nest's newest officer shared his thoughts with the convention. He thanked Jim Gardiner for nominating him, and said he was "truly excited to join the Grand Nest". He said that he loved see-

ing the younger members of the Canadian Region, and knows they will provide the Honourable Order with "new ideas, energy and enthusiasm". The 2018 Convention will be Edmonton.

Most Loyal Grand Gander John Paris' Address of Acceptance followed. He thanked PMLGG JoAnn Clark for helping the Utah Pond's effort to host a convention. He thanked Joe Coccia, Guy Charron, and Bill Olson for their confidence and encouragement. Salt Lake City last hosted a convention in 1974, and he is looking forward to 2014's convention, which will fall on the Utah Pond's Centennial year.

He thanked his wife Zelma for her years of support to the Pond and to Blue Goose. He thanked Guy Charron and all the Quebec Pond for a great convention.

John pointed out that "Blue Goose members are unique" and "our hearts are in the right place". We need to look no further than our Cardinal Precepts to know that. He also spoke about the importance of communication, and that how wide-

spread use of web sites and e-mail had made it "easier than ever" to bring us together and to get younger.

He said "it's important to continue to do what we do best" and that is charity. John pledged "to do what needs to be done to keep us successful". He congratulated Mark Robertson on his appointment to the Grand Nest, and closed with "see you in Salt Lake City".

PMLGGs John Bishop, Jerry Hale, and Marc Thurber "analyzed" Guy Charron's year in office as MLGG. Thurber said Guy was a true Blue Goose in heart and is "committed to the cause we cherish". He spoke of Guy's qualities-how he is sociable, has a good sense of humour, his tolerance, how inspirational he is, and how he is "someone we like to be around and laugh with". Grand Wielder Terry Maloney presented Guy with his PLMGG pin and plaque.

The Family Luncheon was held at Beauport Beach where we

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enjoyed a barbeque lunch and dance lessons.

That evening, the Convention culminated with a cocktail reception and Grand Nest Ball. The Banquet Band was 1945, a seven-piece swing band of 5 musicians and 2 female vocalists.

The Quebec Pond hosted an outstanding convention and we were all impressed by the glorious beauty of Le Chateau Frontenac and Quebec City. We are very grateful to Convention Chairs Jacques Cuierrier, and the Quebec Convention Committee for their efforts to plan and produce such a successful and thoroughly enjoyable event.

Respectfully Submitted-Dan Rich

### Grand Nest Committees

Charity

GN Advisor-Linda Meik

Jurisprudence

GN Advisor-Robert Ross

Constitution and By-Laws

GN Advisor-Robert Ross

Marketing

GN Advisor-Bill Olson

Convention and Budget Oversight

GN Advisor-John Paris

**Committees**  
that make a difference

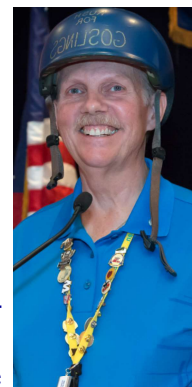
## Rush For Goslings

Grand Guardian Randy Wilson initiates the first ever  
"Rush for Goslings"

A program to attract new Ganders to the Order was introduced at the Quebec City Grand Nest Convention. A pocket sleeve was offered to Ganders present that would commit to a Rush Event in the upcoming year. The idea was to have the Ponds and Puddles promote Blue Goose



by holding special evenings (Rush Parties) to attract new members. If Ganders brought a prospective member to the event, qualifying for membership adhering to the Blue Goose membership criteria, and any prospective member who completed an application during the night, both would be entered into a special draw for prizes. Some Ponds jumped on board by holding a membership drive/beer tasting events, Oktoberfest events and golf outings. Randy recommended holding Rush Parties to explain who and what Blue Goose is, including the charity work we do. He recommended the best way to create the event would be to establish a Rush Chairman and Regional Rush Directors, assigning duties and responsibilities who would be responsible for spreading the information about the idea. It was a way to have fun, meet new friends, a way to give back and foster integrity all the time introducing prospective members to the Order. He also suggested anyone who had been a member and want to be reinstated who be eligible for the prize draw as well. If Ponds wanted to go all out they could design a commemorative pin for all attendees with extras to trade at their first Grand Nest convention. Grand Nest would provide a recorded message from the MLGG or Grand Wielder to play at the event. **Rush For Goslings** was well received by all in attendance and promised to be a great success in the recruitment of new members to Blue Goose.



**Randy showing us the Rush for Gosling helmet he had fashioned for the occasion.**



"Rush for Goslings in 2014"

## Grand Nest Officers 2012-2013



**Pictured Left to Right:** Bill Olson, Gerry Hale, Lynn Maloney, Terry Maloney, Libby Wilson, Randy Wilson, Zelma Paris, John Paris, Laurie Ross, Robert Ross, Linda Meik, Guy Charron, Johanne Charron



## 2013 Past Grand Nest Officers at Quebec



**Pictured Left to Right:** PMLGG Rex Clark, PMLGG, JoAnn Clark, Courtney Coccia, PMLGG Joe Coccia, Gary Kohlruss, PMLGG Lorena Kohlruss, PMLGG Guy Charron, Johanne Charron, JoAnne Hale, PMLGG Jerry Hale, PMLGG Marc Thurber, PMLGG John Bishop, PMLGG George Harwood, Donna Harwood



## **Most Loyal Grand Gander Report 107<sup>th</sup> Grand Nest Convention Guy Charron, MLGG 2012-2013**

Grand Nest Officers, Delegates, Ganders and Guests;

Before starting, I would like to say a few words in French

Aujourd'hui, je tiens encore a remercier l'Étang du Quebec de m'avoir choisi pour etre Officer du Grand Nid et subsequence le Tres Grand Feal Jars. L'année de mon terme a passé tres vite et pour moi ce fut une remarquable experience en plus d'avoir rencontrer des member des autres Etang. J'ai pu constater que l'Ordre Honorable de l'Oie Bleu Internationale est tres bien connue et respectee. Egalement, je dois remercier le support Durant ces dernieres annees du Comite Convention qui a travaille regulierement soit Marc, Diane, Sylvie, Patrice, Johanne, Claude, Annie et notre planifactrice Julie Massicotte qui a travaille tre fort pour que le tout soit parfait. J'aimerais specialement remercier mon grand ami et Responsable de la Convention Jacques Cuierrier qui a mis beaucoup d'heures ces deux dernieres annees et a toujours ete la pour me seconder. En resume, je crois que nous sommes tres fier d'avoir travaille at pris le temps de bein planifier notre Convention dans la Ville de Quebec. Merci encore a vous tous. Je dois aussi remercier ma chere epouse qui m'a supporte et aide Durant ces cinq dernieres annees. Elle a ete tres patiente avec moi et m'a encourage constamment temps. Merci mon Amour.

Today, I would like to thank again the Quebec Pond for selecting me to become a Grand Nest Officer and subsequently the Most Loyal Grand Gander. My term as MLGG has passed so quickly and it has been a remarkable experience and a successful year in regards to meeting members of the other Ponds. I have noticed that the Order if the Blue Goose, International is well known and respected.

It would go without saying that I have to thank the support I received from the Convention Committee that have worked very hard over the years planning this event. Thanks to Marc, Diane, Sylvie, Patrice, Johanne, Claude, Annie and our event planner Julie Massicotte who worked very hard to make this Convention perfect. I would especially like to thank my good friend and our Convention Chairman Jacques Cuierrier who has worked many hours these last two years and has always been there to support me. Overall, I believe that we are very proud of the work and time it took to plan this Convention in Quebec City. Thank you all again.

I would also like to thank my wife who has helped and supported me these five years. She has been very patient and encouraging during that time. Thank you my Love.

As your MLGG, one of my accomplishments was to visit as many ponds in the US and Canada during my term. In early December 2012 at the invitation of Joe Coccia and the Michigan Pond, I attended their Annual Christmas Dinner where I met members of their adjoining puddles and we discussed matters such as communication, membership and our Quebec City Convention. The next day, I was also invited to their Annual Xmas Charity Event. I was given the honour to sing all by myself the National Canadian Anthem in front of 300 people!!! Thanks to Joe for supplying me with the words in English seeing as I am use to singing them in French. Overall it was a great experience and I thank the Michigan Pond.

Then the next week, at the invitation of Bill Olson and the National Capital Pond, I attended their Annual Charity Event which is known as the John Brenner National Capital Annual Charity Event. Again a wonderful experience to meet fellow ganders and see how our Blue Goose Organization is so well recognized and respected. I would especially like to thank Bill Olson who chauffeured me around to visit Washington,

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DC. Thanks to the National Capital Pond for inviting me.

In April 2013, I attended our Mid-Year Meeting in Salt Lake City. The meeting was a success. John Paris was a great host and I attended my first ever NBA basketball game. It was great. Salt Lake City is a beautiful city with the Rockies in the background. The city is so beautiful that I hope all will attend the National Convention in 2014. Thank you Utah Pond for your invitation.

At the end of April, Johanne and I were invited by Jerry Hale of the Hartford Pond to attend an Eastern Region Event which included members of all their Ponds. It was a New York City Lunch Cruise with a spectacular view of New York City. We also visited Ground Zero. We really enjoyed our day and we thank all the members of the Eastern Region for their hospitality.

Unfortunately, I was invited by the BC and Ontario Ponds but could not attend. I would also like to thank them for their invitation.

Membership is increasing which is very important to continue the success of the Blue Goose Organization for many more years. It is also important to keep approaching the younger generation in the insurance industry to become new members. They are the future of Blue Goose. I also would like to stress the fact that this younger generation is using the Web more and more. The Grand Nest has redone their Web Site for that purpose and now sixty percent of our Ponds have a Web Site, therefore I encourage any Ponds who do not have a Web Site, to do so as this is a great communication tool. I would like to thank the Communications and Marketing Committee especially Bill Olson and Dan Rich in particular who have contributed their time to the success of this project.

The Southern Region is back. The Grand Nest Officer of that region, Linda Meik, has done quite a job and should be congratulated and let's not forget George Harwood and Larry Lewer also for their contribution. The South is back and we have witnessed an increase in membership and re-vitalization of several Ponds. We hope that the Georgia Pond can rise again. Overall, it is good news and we must now concentrate on doing the same with the Western Region.

I also would like to thank the Grand Nest Officers present and past who have supported and kept me focused: John Paris, Bill Olson, Randy Wilson, Linda Meik, Robert Ross, Jerry Hale, Lorena Kohlruss and Joe Coccia.

Oh! Did I forget someone, Oh my Goodness, my most Loyal Employee Terry Maloney, please excuse me, how could I. I've known Terry since 1997, and during these years we have developed a friendship. He has always been there to help me in keeping me focused on doing a good job for the Order. Terry is the Blue Goose. I truly respect Terry and I am proud to say he is a good person and is respected by everyone in the Blue Goose and I am grateful to have met you. Now your former employer, I want to say thank you and I Love You Man!

Overall, I am happy to have accepted this challenge and it was a great opportunity to meet other members and to see that Blue Goose is such a great Organization. It is family oriented and guided by three principles which are charity, character and fellowship. These principles should be followed in our daily lives.

Thank you all for having giving me this honour and I hope I met with all your expectations during my term as your Most Loyal Grand Gander. Merci a tous pour cet honneur.





**Newly Elected Most Loyal Grand Gander Acceptance Speech  
107th Grand Nest Convention  
John Paris, MLGG 2013-2014**

Thank you Past Most Loyal Grand Gander Charron.

Grand Nest Officers, Delegates, Ganders, and Friends. I am honoured to be here today to accept the Orders' office as your next Most Loyal Grand Gander for 2013. I appreciate the importance of the position you have placed with me and promise to do my best for the Order and to make 2013 a great successful year.

I would first like to thank PMLGG JoAnn Clark. She worked very hard getting the Utah Pond to accept holding the 2014 Grand Nest Convention and her efforts and results are greatly appreciated. I also had many conversations with Terry prior to making the announcement and he has shown his full support. After I made the announcement, Joe Coccia shook my hand said I'm watching your back. Lorena has also shown exceptional interest along with Bill, Guy and many many others.

I also would like to thanks co-convention chairmen PMLG Ken Miller and PMLG Bruce Christensen. They never doubted for a minute that we should hold the 2014 convention and that I should be the candidate. I also thank the many others that have contributed their time and money to make this a successful convention. Holding the convention was discussed openly at our meetings for 4 months. With strong positive and negative comments made at the end of the 4th month, Ken Miller called for a vote and it passed 21 to 4. I was probably more shocked than anyone in the room but very excited to hold a Grand Nest Convention on the Utah Pond's 100 year Anniversary. Thank you Utah Pond Ganders for your confidence and support. This was perfect timing as our last Utah Pond Grand Nest Convention was in 1974. I'm sure some people in this room remember the Hotel Utah in Salt Lake City.

I would also like to thank my wife Zelma. She has shown full support for me and the Utah Pond the entire time and has been involved in all fundraising and other events. From cooking with Pat Christensen, Ginni Miller and others at our golf tournament, to selling items at our annual yard sale, to donating \$214 to become a member of our 2014 club.

We now have 46-2014 club members. Many are from outside the Utah Pond, people sitting in the audience today with the confidence and desire to make our convention a little better. For that we thank you because it has made a huge difference. We have held 50/50 drawings at the convention every year and have split \$1,600-\$1,800 with the lucky winner every year. This shows support rarely seen in any organization.

*(Continued on page 16)*

*(Continued from page 15)*

The people of the Blue Goose are definitely unique and different than any other organization I have ever been associated with. I have made many new friends in my association with Blue Goose and value every single one of them. I made a comment last year that I would like to have a Blue Goose tie. Phillip Sbar from Collingswood New Jersey heard me make the comment and mailed me a Blue Goose tie which I am wearing.

Guy, thank you for running a fantastic convention. I think I can speak for all of us, we had a great time and sincerely appreciate the efforts of you and the Quebec Pond.

Being a fraternal organization consisting of insurance and insurance related members, the Blue Goose is very unique and it's the people that make it so great. With the precepts of character, charity and fellowship, it shows our heart is in the right place with helping others that are not so fortunate at the top of the list. Although it's very important for our organization to grow, it's equally important to continue our success.

Communication is very important. Communicating with each other and getting the word out about the Blue Goose. With websites and email it is very easy for us to communicate, to find out what other Ponds are doing that makes them a success. If you don't have a website, I'm sure you have heard from Bill Olson and encouraged to get one. It brings us closer together.

New younger membership is important but continuing to do what we do best is equally important. To be a successful puddle or pond. To be a successful member of your Puddle or Pond. I promise as your Most Loyal Grand Gander to continue to dedicate my efforts to make this a successful organization. I will listen to you and do what I can to help with your success. I'll stand alongside my fellow Grand Nest Officers and Deputy Most Loyal Ganders who have agreed to take on the responsibilities of the Grand Nest. We will do what is right for the Order remembering that we represent you.

As my first formal duty, I am proud to announce the appointment of the new Grand Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg. Congratulations to Mark Robertson. You will be a great addition to the Grand Nest Officers and I look forward to the 2018 convention.

I thank you for your vote of confidence but most of all, I thank you for your friendship and hope to see you all in Salt Lake City next year.



**GKGGE-Address of Acceptance  
107th Grand Nest Convention  
Mark Robertson, GKGGE 2013-2014**



Firstly I would like to thank my friend PMLG (Edmonton Pond) Jim Gardiner for the nomination, and PMLG (Edmonton Pond) Mike Sherban for seconding the nomination and PMLG (Manitoba Pond) Kevin Wallis for closing the nomination. I would also like to thank the Honourable Order of the Blue Goose, International, Edmonton Pond, for electing me to be their representative to the Grand Nest Executive.

During the course of this convention I have been asked by several ganders if I felt excited at the prospect of being elected to the Grand Nest. I have to say that as the convention progressed I felt the excitement and enthusiasm build. What really grabbed my attention and caused the most excitement came during our regional meetings. It was the young delegates representing Nova Scotia, Ontario, Quebec, Saskatoon, Manitoba and BC ponds that really sparked my excitement. Their discussion and responses to the age old questions of “why join” the Blue Goose and “how new members to their ponds joined” was enlightening and brought renewed optimism for the future of our order. When we hear stories the likes of Brennan Mills the delegate from Saskatchewan who recalled his attendance at previous conventions with his father and family. How he enjoyed participating in the youth programs offered at those conventions and now being a delegate himself and bringing his young family to this convention. Seeing the family continuity within the order really brings the excitement and enthusiasm for the future of our order.

I am excited at the prospect of being a member of the Grand Nest Executive for the coming five years. I am looking forward to having the opportunity to meet with each of you and to get to know you all a little better.

I would like to thank all of you for this opportunity to serve as your representative on the Grand Nest Executive. I am looking forward to the many challenges ahead and will work to fulfill the Order’s expectations of me.

Thank you all for your support and we in Edmonton hope to see you all in 2018.





## **GKGGE-Biography**

### **Mark Robertson, GKGGE 2013-2014**

Born in 1956 and married to Peggy Robertson.

Graduated in 1980 from the University of Alberta with a Bachelors degree in Commerce. Completed my Associate in the Insurance Institute of Canada in 1987. Completed the Canadian Accredited Insurance Broker designation in 1989.

Started my career in the insurance business in September 1982 with the Royal Insurance Company as a commercial lines underwriter in Calgary, Alberta. Moved into the marketing department and to Edmonton, Alberta in the spring of 1985. In 1987 Peggy and I moved to Smithers, British Columbia to begin a career as an Insurance Broker. We moved back to Edmonton the Spring of 1990 taking on the position as manager for the Continental Insurance office in Edmonton. Decided to make another foray into the broker side of insurance in the fall of 1992 with McIntyre Agencies becoming a partner/owner in 1994 until the business sold in the fall of 2007 to Challenge Insurance Group Inc where I continue to work to this day.

Joined the Honourable Order of the Blue Goose, International in November 1994 and served as Most Loyal Gander of the Edmonton Pond in 2006. I was fortunate to attend the 2006 Grand Nest Convention in Milwaukee Wisconsin for the 100th year celebration and subsequent conventions in 2009 (Reno, Nevada) and 2012 (Calgary, Alberta). Have served in the past on several committees for the Edmonton Pond including the Charity Luncheon/Charity Gala and most recently the Convention 2018 Feasibility Committee.



Parliament Hill, Quebec

**July 8-July 12, 2013**  
**Annual Convention and Meeting**  
**Report of the Judge Advocate**  
**Year ending July 1, 2013**



Most Loyal Grand Gander, Grand Nest Officers and Ganders:

During this Annual Meeting of the one hundred and seventh year of the Honourable Order of the Blue Goose, International, I am pleased to give this report to you as the Judge Advocate.

It has been my great pleasure to serve again as the Judge Advocate under the administration of Guy Charron as the Most Loyal Grand Gander. He has been a dedicated leader of our Order. MLGG Charron has paid close attention to every Region and he has worked closely with Grand Nest Officers to address important issues facing our Order, such as potential growth of Ponds, charity, website enhancement, communications as well as marketing of our Order, future conventions and international finding issues. While doing so, he has fostered enthusiasm, growth and humour within our Order.

While the Grand Nest has been very active over the year 2012 through 2013, there have been no issues referred to the Committee on Jurisprudence. The Constitution and By-Laws Committee received and evaluated one proposed amendment, which involved membership. The proposal, however, was tabled by the Grand Nest.

As always, the Grand Nest continues to focus on the Order's charitable activities and ways to quantify our efforts. Charity goes hand in hand with marketing efforts, which will translate into the expansion of the Blue Goose. The Grand Nest has also focused on the Regional structure of the Order as well as efforts to make Grand Nest forms "bi-lingual."

As we endeavour 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.

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

Fraternally,  
Robert Tayloe Ross  
Judge Advocate, PMLG



## Report on MLGG Guy Charron's Term 2012-2013

### Committee:

**Marc Thurber, PMLGG**

**Jerry Hale, PMLGG-Grand Historian**

**John C. Bishop-PMLGG**

Dear Grand Nest Officers, Ganders,

With assistance of my fellow Grand Nest Officers, PMLGG and Grand Historian Jerry Hale and PMLGG John Bishop, we have analyzed MLGG Charron's report for his term and are now submitting respectfully our report as requested.

First and foremost, I personally, and on behalf of the Quebec Pond and the Canadian Region, sincerely wish to apologize for initially have nominated Guy to the Grand Nest in Niagara Falls in 2008.

To Grand Wielder Terry Maloney, you must be congratulated for having spent 2012-2013 under the 'control' of Guy Charron. His 'power trip' is now over. Us from the Quebec Pond have a very good idea of what kind of pressure and treatment you had to go through during this last year and at this time, you must be feeling very much relieved.

I am also very relieved and my dear friend and Chairman of this Convention Jacques Cuierrier must now be feeling great that this is all over. I am very tired and Jacques also is. Close supervision of Guy was a very demanding task. Always trying to pick up the pieces and making sure that errors are not committed or that embarrassing situations created by Guy's actions are repaired and excused. I won't go into details of things that have occurred such as what happened in Salt Lake City or singing of the Canada National Anthem during his attendance at the Annual Christmas Charity Event in Michigan as Guy stated in his report.

But now seriously.

When I personally approached Guy in late 1996 before attending the 1997 Grand Nest Convention in Atlanta, I wanted Guy to join our Committee for the 1998 Convention in Montreal because I knew that Guy would be a great addition to our 'Team'.

Guy had been very much involved in the Quebec Pond in the 70's and we knew, at that time, that he was a true 'Blue Goose' at heart and very much involved for the cause that we all cherish in our precepts Charity, Fellowship and Character.

Guy is a person that attracts attention. He is sociable, has a very good sense of humour and great tolerance as you have often been witnessing during his term as a Grand Nest Officer.

To Jacques Cuierrier and myself, Guy was, and still is, an infinite source of inspiration as he creates his own material for us to notify and correct.

Now and for the future, we will be missing Guy as a member of the Grand Nest Executive but we will be keeping a close eye on him as a PMLGG.

Guy, thank you so much for being who you are. Someone that we like to be around with and to laugh with. You are now a new PMLGG of this Honourable Order and will be remembered for what you have accomplished.

We love you! Tote fair!





## History of the Quebec Pond

As prepared by  
PMLGG Marc Thurber

On June 6th, 1914 the Quebec Pond of the Honourable Order of the Blue Goose International was created for a successful and useful career.

The order of the Blue Goose was eight years old before the idea of inaugurating a Pond in Quebec was given expression. The honour of pioneering the movement lies to the credit of the late W. S. Davis employed by the North British & Mercantile Insurance Company.

In May 1914 Mr. Davis called likely to be interested in the was decided to form a Pond and necessary Charter.



together a meeting of the of gentlemen movement, during which meeting it apply to Grand Nest of the Order for the

The first officers elected were:

W. S. Davis, as Most Loyal Gander  
A. M. Boucher, Supervisor of the Flock  
W. A. Wilson, Custodian of the Goslings

E. J. Beauvais, Guardian of the Pond  
W. A. A. Watt, Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg  
F. A. Jennings, Wielder of the Goose Quill

On June 6, 1914 the Pond was formally inaugurated by the installation of the Officers and the initiation of 33 members. The event took place at the Viger Hotel on that Saturday night as the initiation was done during the afternoon at the Place Viger presided over by Past Most Loyal Gander G. P. Payne assisted by other officers of the Ontario Pond.

So about thirty five field men and officials of insurance companies became members. At the dinner, blue was the principle colour of the decorations and a unique centerpiece was a live blue goose on a center table to which was attached streamers of blue ribbon from all parts of the entire room.

The first members to be initiated were ganders J. M. Lowe, C. H. Jost and John Harris. From that humble beginning the Quebec Pond has grown to a membership of three hundred ninety five (395) from 1914 to 1950.

It will be remembered that the installation of the first Quebec Pond officers was conducted by Officers of the Ontario Pond which was the first Pond formed in Canada. The friendship and most helpful relationship between these two Ponds continued through the years and again today.

As many Ponds across Canada and the United States, the Quebec Pond has lived and survived because of its precepts Charity, Fellowship and Character. The membership has fluctuated throughout its one hundred years of existence.

In the 1970's the Quebec Pond membership was in the vicinity of 100 members who gathered in a few annual events such as Christmas Dinners, Wine and Cheese cocktails and the everlasting golf tournaments. The actual (2012-2013) Most Loyal Grand Gander Guy Charron was involved actively during

*(Continued on page 22)*

*(Continued from page 21)*

those years in organizing the golf tournament a few times with Wielder of the Goose Quill, John Brighton, who was the Quebec Pond 'leader' holding the Pond together with many duties such as treasurer and historian. John will always be remembered as an important figure for the survival of our Pond.

Personally, I have been involved for the last 30 years and have seen and participated in so many events, each of which will be remembered forever. Along with my cousin, Bruno Thurber, who has held the position of Most Loyal Gander for quite a few terms and also as Deputy Most Loyal Grand Gander, we have seen the Quebec Pond expand from approximately ninety five (95) members to almost four hundred (400) from 1982 to 1998. In 1985 as a Quebec Pond Officer and actively involved, I created the Quebec Pond bulletin 'The Flock' in its English version and 'L'Envol' in its French version in order to keep our growing membership participating in the events that we were organizing and many of which became incredibly popular such as our 'Casino Nights' and our 'Cruise Nights' simulating and international cruise across different countries. All of these events were to raise funds to give to different charities in need of support financially.

I will always remember attending my first Grand Nest Convention in 1988 in Toronto along with most of the Quebec Pond Executive officers. From 1985 to 1988 the Quebec Pond membership was in a very exciting mode of expansion and well supported by its members and sponsors. Our goal was to bring the Grand Nest Convention to Montreal in 1993 and to do so we had to get our chosen candidate Most Loyal Gander Julien Mongeon elected as a Grand Nest Officer for the position of Grand Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg (GKGGE). We had been preparing all of our promotional materials and even had a booth at the Toronto Convention. What we learned during that Convention was that we have to be much more prepared in advance to get a 'Canadian Region' candidate elected as a Grand Nest officer. Even though we did not succeed in getting our candidate elected I would say that the Quebec Pond really became an important 'member' of this very large 'family' of the Honourable Order from then on.

Our next attempt to get a Grand Nest Convention in Montreal came up in 1993 where the convention was held in Edmonton, Alberta. Prior to attending that Convention I was honoured to be the chosen candidate to be elected to Grand Nest. With a continuous support from the Quebec Pond Executive members and other Ponds of the Canadian Region I was finally elected to Grand Nest and proud to be able to bring the Grand Nest Convention to Montreal in 1998.

The Quebec Pond kept organizing major events from 1993 to 1998 with a strong and very united group of members, namely my cousin Bruno Thurber, my long time friend Jacques Cuierrier (PMLG and DMLGG), Guy Charron (MLGG), Gilles Dupuis (1998 Convention Chairman), Jacques Lemarbre (PMLG), Diane Loyer (PMLG) and, our Quebec Pond Wielder for many years Carole Belanger, Real Emery, Sylvie St-Amour, Claudette Projean and many more who are still keeping our Quebec Pond leading this Honourable Order along with other Ponds across Canada and the United States.

In 2008 the Ontario Pond held the Grand Nest Convention in Niagara Falls, coinciding with their Centennial anniversary (!908-2008). It is prior to that Convention that the Canadian Region and the willingness of our strong Quebec Pond that we have decided to get elected as Grand Nest officer, Guy Charron, and therefore to be able to host another Grand Nest Convention in the Quebec province, this time in Quebec City held at the Chateau Frontenac.

In hosting another Grand Nest Convention in quite a short period of time, 1998-2013, clearly shows how

*(Continued on page 23)*

(Continued from page 22)

strong and united the Quebec Pond officers, its members and supporters have been for the last thirty years or so. This will be remembered forever in the History of our Pond and also in the History of this great Honourable Order of the Blue Goose International.

Tote Fair!



## A bit About the Host City

**Quebec City**, capital of the province of Quebec, Canada, is one of the oldest European settlements in North America.

Quebec City was founded by the French explorer and navigator, **Samuel de Champlain** in 1608, commencing a string of French colonies along the St. Lawrence River, creating a region named “Le Canada”. Prior to the arrival of the French, the location that would become Quebec City was the home of a small Iroquois village called, “**Stadacona**”.<sup>1</sup> Jacques Cartier, a French explorer, was the first European to ascend the St. Lawrence Gulf, claiming “le Canada” for France (and the coming addition of the newly founded “l’Acadie”- known today as the Province of Nova Scotia) to create a dominion known as “New France”.

The **Constitutional Act of 1791** divided Canada into an “Upper”, English-speaking colony, and a “Lower”, French-speaking colony. Quebec City was made the capital of **Lower Canada** and enjoyed more self-rule following the passage of this act. The city’s industry began to grow, and by the early 19th century it was the third largest port city in **North America**. **Lumber** was the largest export of the city at this time. The business boom continued for most of the century and Quebec City began welcoming thousands of immigrants.

In 1917, the construction of the **Quebec Bridge**, connecting the north and south banks of the **St. Lawrence River**, was finished. To this day, it is the largest **cantilever bridge** in the world, though two collapses of the centre of the bridge during construction cost over 80 workers their lives.

During **World War II**, two **Allied Forces** conferences were held in the city. The **first**, held in 1943, assembled **Franklin Delano Roosevelt**, president of the United States of America; **Winston Churchill**, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom; **William Lyon Mackenzie King**; Prime Minister of Canada and **T. V. Soong**, Chinese Minister of Foreign Affairs. The **second conference** was held in 1944 and Churchill and Roosevelt participated. The conferences were held at the **Citadel** and nearby **Chateau Frontenac**.

On January 1, 2002, surrounding towns were incorporated into the existing city. The “New Quebec City” includes 11 former municipalities: **Sainte-Foy, Beauport, Charlesbourg, Sillery, Loretteville, Val-Belair, Cap-Rouge, Saint-Emile, Vanier**, and **Lac Saint-Charles**, in addition to the original Quebec City.

(Source Wikipedia)

<sup>1</sup>.^ab Burnsted, J. M. Canada’s Diverse Peoples: A Reference Sourcebook, Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO



## *Statistically Speaking and Award Winners*

### Top 10 Ponds-# of Members 2012-2013

1.	Michigan	312
2.	Quebec	295
3.	Ontario	259
4.	St. Louis	179
5.	Hartford	159
6.	Edmonton	156
7.	National Capital	151
8.	Nova Scotia	137
9.	New York City	129
10.	Alberta	125

### Charity Report

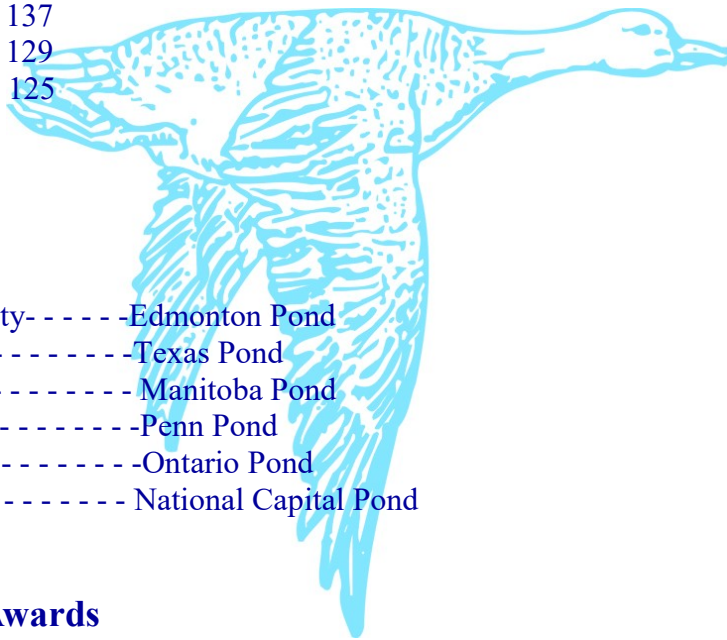
Eastern Region==\$46,359  
 Central Region==\$43,267  
 Canadian Region==\$61,265.45  
 Western Region==\$1,660  
 Southern Region==\$18,613.53  
  
 Grand Total Cash-\$171,164.98

### 2012 Award Winners

Gordon F. Crowther Charity- - - - -Edmonton Pond  
 Membership Award- - - - -Texas Pond  
 Fellowship Award- - - - -Manitoba Pond  
 No Drop Out Award- - - - -Penn Pond  
 Peace Garden (First Time)- - - - -Ontario Pond  
 Link of the Year- - - - -National Capital Pond

### Regional Challenge Awards

East Region	New York New York	- - - - - 12-Most New and Reinstated - - - - - 10.34%-best % increase
West Region	Oregon Oregon	- - - - - 13-Most New and Reinstated - - - - - 48.15%-Best % Increase
South Region	Texas Texas	- - - - - 37-Most New and Reinstated - - - - - 57.81%-Best % Increase
Central Region	Dayton (second year in a row) Dayton (second year in a row)	- - - - - 42-Most New and Reinstated - - - - - 43.75%-Best 5 Increase
Canada Region	Quebec (second year in a row) Saskatchewan	- - - - - 38-Most New and Reinstated - - - - - 20.59%-Best % Increase



# Photo Gallery



**Les Éclair de Quebec marching into the Opening Ceremony**



**Enjoying the day are Dianne Loyer, PMLGG John Bishop, Sylvie Stamour and MLGG Guy Charron**



**Quebec Pond Members enjoying the Quebec Grand Nest Convention**



**Cannon at the Quebec Garrison Club, site of the opening Welcome Party**

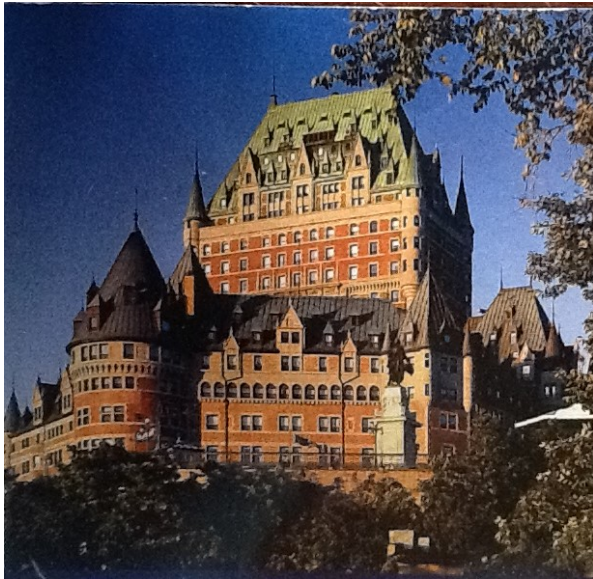


**L to r PMLGG's Joe Coccia, Mark Thurber and Grand Guardian Randy Wilson**



**Whose backyard are we in anyway!**





**Fairmont Le Chateau Frontenac**



**Members of the winning golf team with  
Convention Chairman Jacques Cuierrier**



**Ganders and guests enjoying  
a day on the St. Lawrence  
River**



**Blue Goose Jim Beam Rum  
Decanter**



**Grand Nest Officers hard at work in  
Quebec**



**Grand Nest Officers and their Spouse  
hard at play in Quebec**



**Gander Garrett Maloney**





**Convention Logo on  
Drink Jar**



**Grand Keeper Linda Meik with Convention  
Chairman Jacques Cuierrier**



**Grand Wielder Terry  
Maloney sinking a big putt**

