



**EDMONTON  
POND  
HISTORY**

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# Edmonton Pond History

## Birth

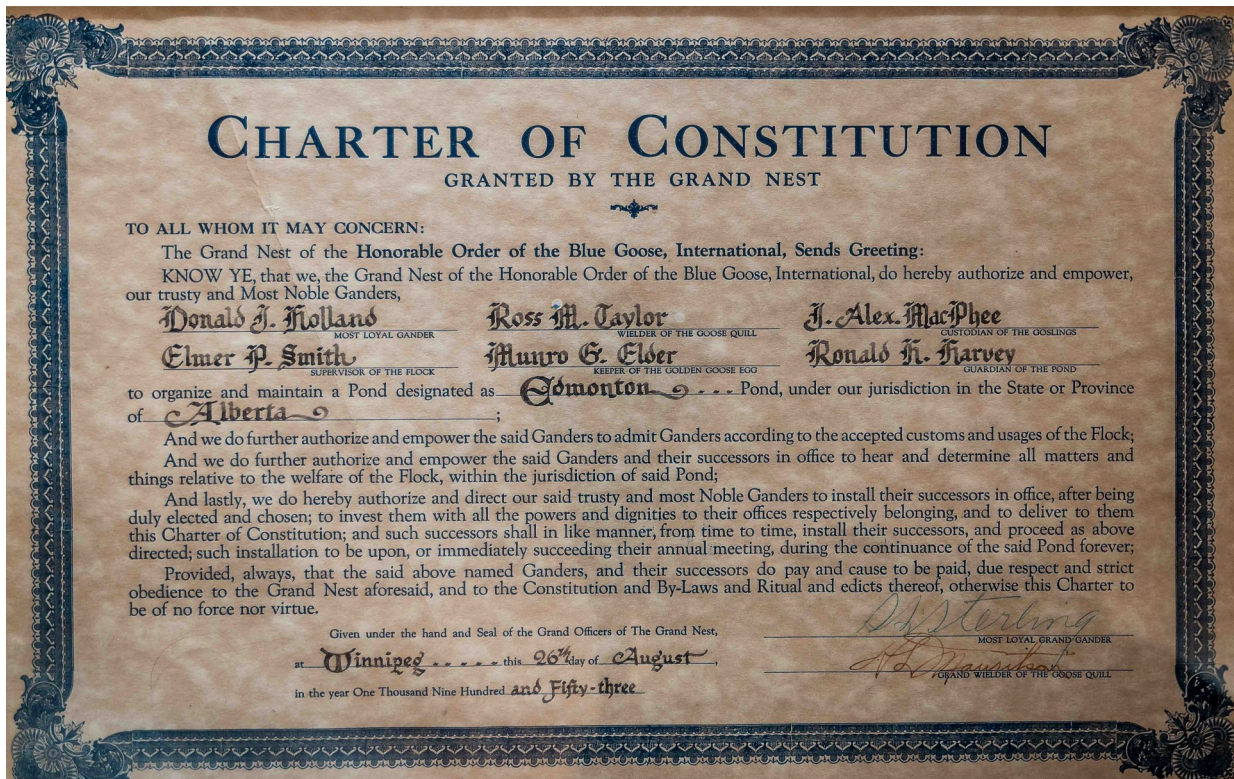
In the beginning there was a Puddle.

It is unclear when the Edmonton Puddle of the Alberta Pond of the Honorable Order of the Blue Goose, International was actually formed. The Alberta Pond was formed in Calgary and received its charter in 1916. Sometime after that sufficient interest developed in Edmonton to form a Puddle under the auspices of the Alberta Pond. What is clear is that by 1953, members of the Edmonton Puddle had made it known to Grand Nest that they had sufficient membership and wished to be a Pond, independent from the Alberta Pond.

At the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Grand Nest Convention, held at the Royal Alexandria Hotel in Winnipeg, MB August 25-27, 1953, the Edmonton Pond was granted its Charter. The very first Pond officers, as indicated on the Charter, were:

Most Loyal Gander (MLG)	Donald J. Holland
Supervisor of the Flock (SOF)	Elmer P. Smith
Wielder of the Goose Quill (WGQ)	Ross M. Taylor
Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg (KGGE)	Munro G. Elder
Custodian of the Goslings (COG)	J. Alex MacPhee
Guardian of the Pond (GOP)	Ronald H. Harvey

Over the years, the records from those early years of the Edmonton Pond have been lost so little is known of the activities, other than the locations of the Grand Nest Conventions. The following list of conventions over the first few years show the MLG at the time of the convention.



Edmonton Pond Charter

GRAND NEST CONVENTIONS					
Year	Edmonton Pond MLG	Convention Site	MLGG	Dates	Hotel
1953	Donald Holland	Winnipeg, MB	S. L. Sterling	Aug 25-27	Royal Alexandria Hotel
1954	John Devoin	San Francisco	John Henry Martin	Aug 24-26	Fairmont Hotel
1955	Bruce Dodds	Kansas City, MO	A. B. Young	Aug 9-11	Muehlebach Hotel
1956	Ron Harvey	Milwaukee, WI	R. L. Wiseman	Aug 19-23	Schroeder Hotel
1957	Jim Buchanan	New Orleans, LA	Jules Simoneaux	Aug 26-28	Roosevelt Hotel
1958	Trevor Newitt	Banff, AB	R. L. Fenerty	Sep 1-5	Banff Springs Hotel
1959	Munro Elder	Los Angeles	Mark A. Wells	Aug 2-6	Hotel Statler

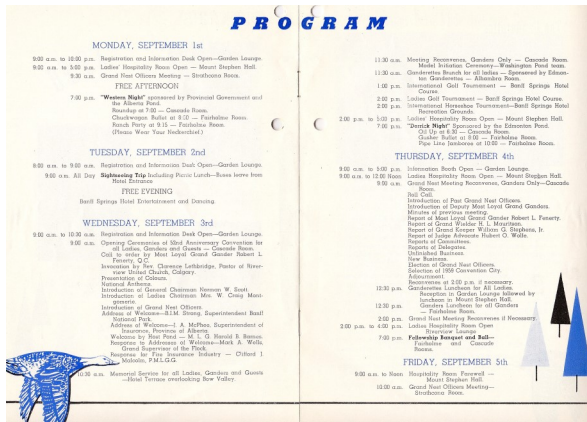
One interesting note about these years relates to the first Grand Nest Convention to be held in Alberta, hosted by the Alberta Pond in 1958 at the Banff Springs Hotel. The Edmonton Pond MLG at the time of the convention was Trevor Newitt. Trevor would later become the Most Loyal Grand Gander of our order and preside over the first convention hosted by the Edmonton Pond 35 years later in 1993, held at the Westin Hotel in downtown Edmonton.

Attending the 1958 Convention with MLG Newitt were Leonard Aldridge, James Buchanan, John DeVoin, Bruce Dodds, Gerald Evans, Reg Fuller, Scott Laidlaw, J. Alex MacPhee, John Todd, Roy Watson, L. R. Williams, and Robert Woolner.

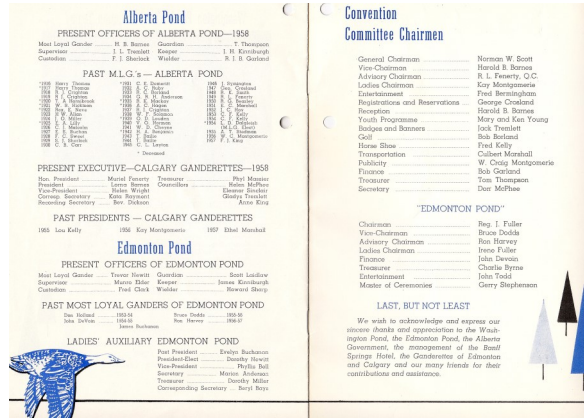
Members of MLG Newitt's executive for the 1958/59 year were SOF Munro Elder, COG Fred Clarke, GOP Charlie Byrne, KGGE Howard Sharp, and WGQ Jim Kinniburgh.



1958 Grand Nest Convention Program



1958 Grand Nest Convention Program



1958 Grand Nest Convention Program

## The '60's

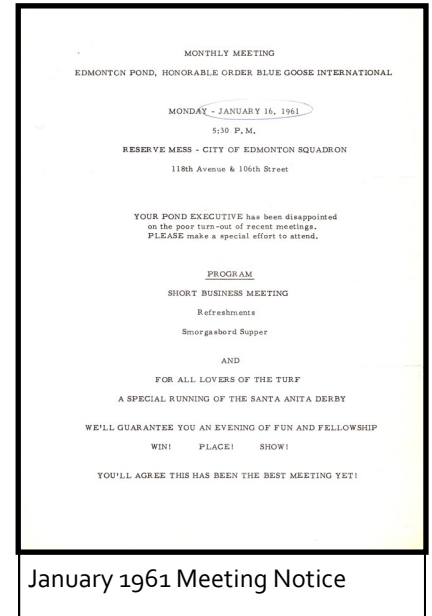
The decade of Peace and Love were a blur for many. Such is the case for the Edmonton Pond archives as few records can be found relating to these years.

The decade started with MLG Fred Clark presiding, followed by Roy Watson in 1961/62. It appears that by then the Blue Goose Curling League had formed. It also appears that curlers had their priorities straight as the Pond received a letter from Gander Rickstad requesting all Blue Goose curling league skips have their teams arrive promptly by 8:30 am on Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1961 as the Grey Cup game started at 11:00 am (Winnipeg Blue Bombers beat Hamilton Tiger Cats 21-14 in OT).

According to the 1961 roster, membership stood at 74 Ganders. Among the Goslings initiated that year was Michael Hirst. Mike's son Tom and granddaughter Sarah would later become members (1992 & 2011 respectively).

Pond meetings were generally held monthly from September through June each year at the 700 Wing. Meetings generally dealt with plans for Pond activities. For example, the January 22, 1962 meeting featured discussions on the Scholarship Fund, Benevolent Fund and planning for a Costume Ball in February.

It appears that in most, if not all, years the Pond sent at least one delegate to the Grand Nest Convention. With the exception of 1968, the identities of those delegates is not known. In 1968, Arnold (Spud) Moir and Jack Portas attended the convention in Vancouver, BC.



GRAND NEST CONVENTIONS					
Year	Edmonton Pond MLG	Convention Site	MLGG	Dates	Hotel
1960	Fred Clark	Detroit, MI	E.C. Sauley	Aug 7-12	Sheraton, Cadillac
1961	Roy Watson	New York, NY	Robert F. Stumph	Aug 6-11	Statler Hilton Hotel
1962	Howard Sharp	Atlanta, GA	William G. Stephens	Aug 26-31	Dinkler Plaza Hotel
1963	Jack Portas	Toronto, ON	Frank Chandler	Aug 25-29	Royal York Hotel
1964	John Todd	Portland, PR	Lester Large	Aug 16-21	Hilton Hotel
1965	Charles Leamonth	St. Louis, MO	Earl Hannan	Aug 8-12	Chase Plaza Hotel
1966	Frank Boyce	Baltimore, MO	Kenneth Carmody	Aug 21-25	Lord Baltimore Hotel
1967	Grant Duncan	Miami Beach, FL	George H. Brussel	Aug 13-18	Americana Hotel
1968	Don McCann	Vancouver, BC	Harry Cutler	Aug 18-23	Hotel Vancouver
1969	Arnold (Spud) Moir	Phoenix, AZ	Frank L. Hunter	Aug 10-14	Del Webb's Town-house



1964 Grand Nest Bulletin



Unidentified curlers circa 1966

*To all Ganders – Greetings.*

On the next page of this important message you will find a “Combined Application for new Membership” and an “Application for Reinstatement”.

At Grand Nest, Portland, the By-laws were changed to allow certain other segments of the Insurance industry to become eligible for membership in Blue Goose, namely — certain premium finance company employees and full time college Insurance professors.

In addition, an important concession was made to bring back into the fold “drop-outs”. This does not require payment of delinquent dues, but rather payment of current dues. There is a deadline, namely April 15th, 1965.

While we increased new membership in 1964 quite substantially, this was more than offset by “drop-outs”. It is imperative that we improve our position by a combination of new memberships and reinstatement of drop-outs. Our aim is a combination of the two, with the hope that at Grand Nest in 1965 we can report at least a 30% net increase in membership.

This should not be too difficult to come by if each and every Gander will carry the application with him and do his utmost to obtain one new member and reinstate one drop-out. Your Grand Nest officers and the membership committee are vitally interested in this program. Further, Grand Nest is making plans for a new approach to our ideals which we hope will be closely allied to our business of Insurance and should enhance our status in the Insurance industry.

Please do your best to bring about this target — a friendly word — a direct approach, and a little persuasion will do the trick.

Good luck,  
Your Grand Nest Officers.

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

..... Most Loyal Gander  
..... Pond

Dear Sir: Entertaining a high regard for the aims and objects of the Honorable Order of the Blue Goose, International and promising to abide by the Constitution and By-Laws, if admitted to Membership, I hereby submit my application for membership in the ..... Pond.

Enclosed find \$..... to cover Initiation, Grand Nest per capita, membership emblem, and dues for the current year ending June 30, 19.....

Name ..... Place of Birth .....

Date of Birth ..... Occupation past 6 months .....

My Title ..... In employ of .....

Business Address .....

Residence .....

Address for mail .....

Were you ever a member of any other Pond? ..... If so, what Pond? .....

Date ..... 19..... Applicant .....

Vouched for by three Ganders: .....

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Current Dues .....

**APPLICATION FOR RE-INSTATEMENT**

..... 19.....

..... Most Loyal Gander

I hereby petition to be re-instated in the ..... Pond.

Sign here .....

I hereby certify that Gander .....  
paid his dues for the current year in accordance with the By-Laws and is now in good standing.

Approved .....  
Wielder of the Goose Quill

Most Loyal Gander

New P.O. Address ..... By Whom employed .....

City and State .....

Occupation and Title .....

Note: This application to be filed with Grand Wielder of the Goose Quill.

Application Form circa 1964

## The '70's

In 1970, Trudeau was half-way through his first term as Prime Minister, Nixon ordered the invasion of Cambodia, computer floppy disks were introduced, and the Beatles broke up.



Here in Edmonton, times were also “a changing”. At the Pond executive meeting in July 1970, meeting dates for the 70/71 year were finalized with the venue moving to the Montgomery Legion. Inexpensive meals and drinks made the venue very popular. PMLG Fred Clark was appointed as permanent Wielder/Keeper. Mike Hirst had been elected MLG at the Pond’s AGM.

The first Grand Nest Convention of the 1970’s was in Toledo, Ohio at the Commodore Perry Hotel. Bob Dowling represented the Edmonton Pond.

At the September 28 Pond meeting, PMLG Trev Newitt explained the purpose of the Benevolent fund including the annual contribution of \$1 per member and pointed out that the Pond was \$1000 in arrears. The fund balance was \$1,788.97.

The Blue Goose Curling league kicked off a new season at The Shamrock Club on October 24, 1970. A few days earlier, at the monthly Pond meeting, it was reported that the Edmonton Pond would be hosting the annual Inter-Pond Curling Bonspiel in Banff and that accommodation had been reserved at the Voyager Hotel. The “entertainment” at that October meeting was a debate on the “Pros and Cons of the Proposed Edmonton Omniplex” featuring Alderman Dave Ward and candidate Julian Kiniski. A rousing 55 members turned out for this meeting.

During the November 19, 1970 meeting and Initiation, 10 Goslings were initiated into the Honorable Order including Larry Gardiner (father of PMLG Jim Gardiner and grandfather to Cheryl Gardiner) setting off a second “three generation membership” in the Edmonton Pond.

December 17, 1970 saw the PMLG Reception at the Royal Glenora Club. At the January Pond meeting, organizer Bill Butler reported that while the event was a social success, the Pond lost \$489 due to no-shows. At that same January meeting John Heard reported on an inter-pond hockey tournament to be held in Red Deer. A bus had been chartered to transport players and spectators at a cost of \$10/person (included transportation and refreshments).

During the winter of 1971, Gary Best won the Edmonton Pond curling league however a Vancouver rink dominated the bonspiel in Banff.

At the May meeting Pond membership was reported to stand at 103.

June 10, 1971 was the annual Inter-pond Golf Tournament held at the Red Deer Golf & Country Club. \$12 bought you a round of golf followed by a banquet at the Capri Hotel.

The 1970/71 year ended with the AGM on June 7th. MLG Hirst in his report noted that attendance had ranged from 20 to 55 members per meeting with an average of 40. He further commended Bill Butler on a great job of organizing the PMLG dinner. In addition, the hockey tournament in Red Deer and the Pond curling league had both been very successful. Of concern, Hirst noted that the Pond was in a tight financial position and would have to find ways to raise additional funds in the next year. At the conclusion of the meeting a slate of officers consisting of MLG Ken Walker, SOF Ken Turner, COG Bill Butler, GOP Bob Dowling, KGGE Bryan Robinson, and WGQ Tom McGregor was elected. PLLG Howard Sharp conducted the installation of officers.

That summer MLG Ken Walker attended the Grand Nest Convention at the Chalfonte-Haddon Hall in Atlantic City, NJ.

The Montgomery Legion continued as the site for meetings the following term. At the September meeting MLG Walker provided a report on the convention. He was pleased to see that many Ganders and their families regularly attended the GN Convention every year. 3 resolutions were defeated, one of which would have removed “white” from membership requirements. This “color amendment” generated a lot of discussion at

the convention. As well, there was a major concern expressed about the drop in membership of HOGBI to approximately 1000.

Blue Goose curling began on October 9th with 4 sheets of ice at the Royal Glenora Club at a cost of \$35 per rink. Also, at the monthly meeting in October 12 Goslings were initiated.

1971 concluded with the annual PMLG Reception at the Capilano Motor Hotel. Tickets cost \$22 per couple.

Edmonton Pond membership at the start of 1972 stood at 120, comprised of 3% Company personnel, 34% adjusters, 15% agents and brokers, 9% legal, and 10% other.

The year kicked off with a visit on Feb 24, 1972 from MLGG Browne E Boulton from Louisville, KY. His visit involved a luncheon at the Edmonton Club and attendance, as a guest of the Edmonton Pond, at the Alex MacPhee retirement dinner that evening where he offered the Pond's congratulations to the retiring Superintendent of Insurance.

That was followed, on March 11th, by a hockey tournament between the Edmonton and Alberta Ponds in Red Deer. A bus was chartered for the cost of \$3.50 per person. Sadly, Alberta Pond prevailed with a 7-3 score.

At the regular meeting in March 1972, Gander Greenaway reported to the 27 members and 1 guest in attendance that our Pond Banner had been reconstructed and cleaned.

MLG Ken Walker's year in office concluded with the AGM on May 15th, 1972 at the Montgomery Legion. He reported that membership had increased 22% to 122 and that the Pond had a solvent financial picture. The new Pond officers for the following year installed by PMLG Frank Boyce were: MLG Ken Turner, SOG Bill Butler, COG Bob Dowling, GOP Bryan Robinson, KGGE Tom McGregor, and WGQ Ron Thompson.

A change in meeting venue was made from the Montgomery Legion to the Army, Navy and Air Force Club on 105th Street just off of Jasper Ave. At the October meeting, 4 new Ganders were initiated, Gander Ted Bridgeman reported that curling was underway on Saturday mornings at the Royal Glenora Club, and Gander Larry Gardiner along with PMLG Don McCann gave a talk on their trip to Russia for the Canada-Russia hockey tournament.

In addition to curling, Edmonton Pond members also met Saturday mornings at the Stony Plain arena for informal hockey games organized by Dave Manchester.

1972 wrapped up with a November Hospitality Night at Molson's Edmonton House and a December PMLG Reception and dinner at the Saxony Motor Hotel on Stony Plain Road. 180 people attended the December event paying \$12.50 per couple.

The Pond newsletter, known as "Goose Facts or Feathers" kept members up-to-date on activities, marriages, deaths, and the activities of the Ganderettes (or Ladies Auxiliary).

1973 started with a cribbage tournament in January at the AN & AF Club. In April the Blue Goose Curling season wrapped up with a mini-bonspiel. The team of Dale Hagen, Bud Townsend, Sid Schmidt and Nigel Mullen emerged victorious. The regular season league winners were Hugh Owens, Dave Cassidy, Ray White and Bill Pullar.

Another inter-pond hockey tournament was held in Red Deer on Mar 24, 1973 with the Alberta Pond again emerging victorious with a 4-2 win.

1973 marked an important change for Blue Goose. For sometime controversy had swirled over the inclusion of the word "white" in the eligibility requirements for membership. At the February meeting, Edmonton Pond members voted unanimously to support a constitutional amendment that would remove "white" from eligibility requirements and to notify Grand Nest of the Pond's views. While other Ponds did likewise, there was opposition to the change from at least one Pond. The constitutional amendment was put to a vote at the Grand Nest Convention in Montreal in the summer of 1973. Edmonton Pond's delegate to the convention, Bryan Robinson, reported back to the Pond that the amendment was passed. Additionally, membership eligibility was broadened to include "insurance personnel" rather than the more restrictive "fire insurance personnel".

The slate of officers elected for 1973/74 at the May AGM had to undergo a slight revision in September upon the resignation of SOF Dowling. The revised pond officers were MLG Bill Butler, SOF Bryan Robinson, KGGE Tom McGregor, WGQ Ron Thompson, COG Harvey Lambert, and GOP Dave Manchester.

In the fall of 1973 both Edmonton Pond hockey and curling resumed. Monthly meetings continued to be



held at the AN & AF Club.

In 1974 the Pond Newsletter was renamed to Goose Gaggles. Major news items included Guardian Manchester's report that Edmonton Pond had emerged victorious in the inter-pond hockey tournament and Gander Gary Best's report of an excellent curling bonspiel.

At the AGM in May, 1974 MLG Bryan Robinson, SOF Tom McGregor, KGGE Ron Thompson, WGQ Harvey Lambert, COG Dave Manchester and GOP Bruce Brodie were elected as Pond Officers for 1974/75.

The first mention in Pond Archives of an inter-pond Golf Tournament in Red Deer occurred in 1974 referencing a tournament held on Jun 6, 1974. The Tournament was held at the Red Deer Golf & Country Club with dinner following at the Capri Motor Inn.

In August 1974 the Grand Nest Convention was held in Salt Lake City, UT with SOF Tom McGregor being the Edmonton Pond delegate. Several issues were discussed at the Canadian Regional meeting the convention . 1) A Canadian Insurance Curling Championship had been formed between a group in Ontario and Quebec with the first competition slated for March 1975. There was discussion about expanding this as there was already a similar bonspiel held amongst the western ponds. 2) A suggestion from the Quebec delegates that each Canadian pond collect \$0.50 per member which would be put towards the next Canadian convention. Delegates were asked to discuss the idea with their respective ponds. 3) There was discussion about changing the singing of "God Save the Queen" at conventions and meetings should be changed to "Oh Canada". Ponds were asked to discuss this and if sufficient Canadian ponds were in favor a constitutional amendment would be drafted for the 1975 convention.

An amendment raising Grand Nest Dues from \$4.50 to \$5.50 was passed at the Convention.

During the Fall of 1974, meetings continued at the A.N. & A.F. Club with Det. Norman Koch speaking on the Criminal Investigation Department with particular reference to arson. November's meeting was an Initiation Night with special guest, lawyer Sharon Harper, speaking on the subject of professional liability. The year wrapped up with a PMLG Dinner at the Mayfield Inn at a cost of \$10/person.

As follow-up to the Grand Nest Convention, considerable correspondence flowed between C.L. Layton, Chair of the Alberta Pond Constitution and By-Laws Committee and MLG McGregor, Canadian representative on the GN Constitution and By-Laws Committee about changing the singing of "God Save the Queen" to "Oh Canada" at meetings. GGN G.E. (Ed) Morgan had asked Canadian Ponds for feedback and, if enough were in favour, a constitutional amendment would be drafted to present at the 1975 Convention. Alberta Pond urged Edmonton Pond to join them in opposing the change; however, in February Pond Executive advised GGN Morgan that Edmonton Pond was in favour of the change.

Early in the year a revised newsletter, now called Goose Gaggles and edited by Lord Thompson II, made it's appearance.

Monthly meetings in 1976 kicked off with Don Plummer, President of Jedco Ltd., speaking about jewelry. Following meetings included a social night and a pub night featuring darts and cribbage.

A ski trip, organized by Bill Holt, took place in February. The package include CN Rail to Jasper Park Lodge, transportation, hotel, and lifts all for the sum of \$60 for skiers and \$43 for non-skiers.

The Blue Goose year wound up with the Golf Tournament in Red Deer and the AGM. Pond Officers for 1975/76, elected at the AGM, were MLG Tom McGregor, SOF Ron Thompson, COG Bruce Brodie, GOP Bill Ward, KGGE Harvey Lambert, and WGQ Dave Manchester.

In August, SOF Ron Thompson attended the Grand Nest Convention held at the Radisson South, Minneapolis MN.

During the Fall of 1975, the curling league started their new season with 8 rinks. At the end of November, 45 Ganders and wives attended the PMLG Dinner at the Convention Inn South.

A highlight of the monthly meetings in the Winter/Spring of 1976 was special guest speaker John Primrose, Alberta Marksman and Olympian, at the April meeting.

Other highlights were the AGM on May 17 and the annual golf tournament on June 5th. At the AGM, MLG Ron Thompson, SOF Harvey Lambert, WGQ Bruce Brodie, KGGE Dave Manchester, COG Jim Ross, and GOP Sam Steele were elected and installed as Pond Officers for the 1976/77 year.

Over the summer, Pond Delegate SOF Harvey Lambert attended the Grand Nest Convention in Hartford, CT.

In the Fall of 1976, regular meetings moved to the Montgomery Legion in downtown Edmonton.

The February 17, 1977 monthly meeting and Initiation Night saw 5 new members join the Edmonton Pond. At the March meeting, guest speaker Dave Lindsay of Peat Marwick gave a timely talk on Income Tax. The term wrapped up, as usual, with the AGM at the end of May and the annual Golf Tournament on June 2nd. Golf at the Red Deer G & CC and dinner at the Capri Motor Inn cost \$22 per person.

Dave Manchester attended, as the Pond Delegate, the Grand Nest Convention at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Houston, TX.

The Pond continued to meet on a monthly basis through the Fall of 1977 at the Montgomery Legion. The annual PMLG Dinner and Dance was held December 15th at the Convention Inn South. For \$35/couple, member and guests enjoyed dinner and dancing the night away to the sounds of "The Brass Trend".

Guest speaker Douglas Martin, Manager of Tax and Insurance for G.C.O.S. (Great Canadian Oil Sands), spoke on "Ft. McMurray Oil Sands Development—Past and Future" at the January 1978 meeting. Monthly meetings continued through the Winter and Spring, wrapping up with the AGM in May and the Golf Tournament in June. SOF Bruce Brodie was our delegate at the Grand Nest Convention held that summer at the Hotel Nova Scotian in Halifax, NS.

Our Pond archives hold very little information about the balance of 1978 other than mention of the annual PMLG Dinner and Dance in December at the Four Seasons Hotel.

Following regular meetings through the winter and spring of 1979 the Pond held its AGM on May 15th. As usual, the annual Golf Tournament followed on June 14th with a change in venue to the Sylvan Lake Golf Course with dinner at the Capri Hotel in Red Deer.

The decade wound up with the PMLG Dinner at the Convention Inn South on December 13, 1979.

GRAND NEST CONVENTIONS					
Year	Edmonton Pond MLG	Convention Site	MLGG	Dates	Hotel
1970	Mike Hirst	Toledo, OH	Howard L. Dobbs	Aug 9-12	Commodore Perry
1971	Ken Walker	Atlantic City, NJ	Joseph W. Knowlan	Aug 16-18	Chalfonte-Haddon Hall
1972	Ken Turner	Louisville, KY	Browne E. Boulton	Aug 6-10	Executive Inn
1973	Bill Butler	Montreal, QC	A. J. Macdonald	Aug 19-22	Chalfonte-Haddon Hall
1974	Bryan Robinson	Salt Lake City, UT	Roland G. Lett	Aug 11-14	Hotel Utah
1975	Tom McGregor	Minneapolis, MN	Ivar H. Awes	Aug 10-13	Radisson South
1976	Ron Thompson	Hartford, CT	Gordon C. Crowther	Aug 15-18	Sheraton Hartford
1977	Harvey Lambert	Houston, TX	Stanley Spore	Aug 8-11	Hyatt Regency
1978	Dave Manchester	Halifax, NS	Ed Morgan	Aug 13-16	Hotel Nova Scotian
1979	Bruce Brodie	Seattle, WA	Charles Palmerton	Aug 11-14	Washington Plaza

## The '80's



In the 1980's Terry Fox began and ended his run, "Oh Canada" became our national anthem, the metric system was adopted, Jeanne Sauvé became our first female Governor General, and the Loonie was introduced. And the Edmonton Pond kept rolling along.

Meetings continued to be held at the Montgomery Legion. At the Initiation Night meeting in February, 1980, SOF Jim Ross gave a presentation on the Seattle Convention which was followed by a discussion as to how best to support Calgary's convention in 1983. Later that Spring, at the first AGM of the new decade, the Pond Officers for 1980/81 were elected and installed. The new officers were MLG Jim Ross, SOF Merv Granlien, KGGE Mel Langager, WGQ Dale Faulkner, and COG Ken Griffith while Bruce Brodie became the newest PMLG.

The October dinner meeting was held at the 700 Wing with special guest speaker Edmonton Eskimo great Rolie Miles. That was followed by an Initiation Night back at the Montgomery Legion in November. And at the end of November, as reported in *Goose Gaggles* (still edited by Lord Thompson II) a very successful PMLG Dinner was held at the Edmonton Country Club for the princely sum of \$40 per couple.

1981 kicked off with Ted Byfield, publisher of *Alberta Report*, as guest speaker at the January meeting, giving a talk on Canadian Relations—East and West. In February 1981 members heard a by a group promoting the Grant MacEwan College Insurance Program. At the March meeting, committees were struck to organize Edmonton Night to be held August 29, 1983 at the Grand Nest Convention in Banff. This would be our Pond contribution to the Convention being hosted by the Alberta Pond.

Of interest, at the April 1981 meeting and cribbage night, it was reported that Edmonton Pond membership stood at 175 comprised of 30% from Company ranks, 28% Agency, 22% Independent Adjusters, 9% Lawyers, and 11% Retired.

In June of that year, a bargain price of \$15.50 got you a round of golf followed by dinner at the Capri Motor Hotel in Red Deer at the annual Blue Goose Interpond Golf Tournament, chaired by Jack Sugden.

Skipping ahead to 1982, Pond members welcomed guests MLGG King Luck of Birmingham, Alabama and GSOF Dennis Ellergodt from Calgary to the February meeting. Their visit was timely with the 1982 Grand Nest Convention being held in Birmingham and the 1983 Convention in Banff. The following month, members heard a presentation on Structured Settlements from guest speaker Robert J. Baxter of Baxter Structured Annuity and Insurance Inc. of Toronto. The year continued with a cribbage tournament night, AGM, the annual Golf Tournament, and rounding off with the PMLG Dinner & Dance at the Edmonton Golf & Country Club in November.

Meetings continued to be held at the Montgomery Legion through 1983. The year started off with an Initiation Night in January. Monthly dinner meetings continued through the Winter and Spring with the AGM and Cribbage Night held in May. And as usual, the annual Golf Tournament followed in June.

August 28-31, 1983 saw the Alberta Pond hosting the Grand Nest Convention in Banff, Alberta. Registered Ganders from the Edmonton Pond included MLG Dale Faulkner, Jim Gardiner (including future Gander, daughter Cheryl), Ron Harvey, Mike Hirst, Albert Kanters, Mel Langager, Trev Newitt, Charlie Phillips, and Roy Watson. Our Pond hosted a very successful Edmonton Night at the Convention.

Guest speaker Detective Garry Jones of Crime Stoppers highlighted the November 15 meeting.

1984 started off with an Initiation Night in January. A special event in March was a Casino Night held at the Victoria Golf Clubhouse. An admission fee of \$12 entitled guests to \$2,500 of funny money to wager and a gourmet beef-on-bun dinner for sustenance. The 1983/84 Blue Goose year wrapped up with the AGM in May and the annual Golf Tournament on June 7th. By then, the cost for golf at Sylvan Lake followed by the banquet at the Capri Hotel in Red Deer had risen to \$38.

GRAND NEST CONVENTIONS					
Year	Edmonton Pond MLG	Convention Site	MLGG	Dates	Hotel
1980	Jim Ross	Westbury, NY	Alfred Kregel	Aug 10-13	Island Inn
1981	Merv Granlien	Milwaukee, WI	Douglass G. Snyder	Aug 15-19	Hyatt Regency
1982	Mel Langager	Birmingham, AL	King Luck	Aug 14-19	Birmingham Hyatt
1983	Dale Faulkner	Banff, AB	Dennis Ellergodt	Aug 28-31	Banff Springs
1984	Mike Leedham	Denver, CO	Robert J. Rice	Aug 5-8	Marriott South
1985	Randolph Langley	Washington, DC	David E. White	Aug 11-14	Mayflower Hotel
1986	Tony Thibaudeau	Omaha, NB	Lyle C. Johnson	Aug 17-20	Red Lion Inn
1987	Neil Miller	Orlando, FL	Jerry Simpson	Aug 9-13	Hyatt Regency
1988	Don Munro	Toronto, ON	Gordon Crutcher	Aut 14-18	Royal York
1989	Gary Best	Long Beach, CA	Harry Merrifield	Aug 5-9	Queen Mary

# EDMONTON POND MLG's

Donald Holland	53-54	Mel Langager	82-83	Andrew Happer	11-12
John DeVoin	54-55	Dale Faulkner	83-84	Mike Sherban	12-13
Bruce Dodds	55-56	Mike Leedham	84-85	Mike Sherban	13-14
Ron Harvey	56-57	Randolph Langley	85-86	Chris Miller	14-15
James Buchanan	57-58	Tony Thibaudeau	86-87	Harvey Heinz	15-16
Trevor Newitt	58-59	Neil Miller	87-88	Keegan McLennan	16-17
Munro Elder	59-60	Don Munro	88-89	Halie Wispinski	17-18
Fred Clarke	60-61	Gary Best	89-90	Halie Wispinski	18-19
Roy Watson	61-62	Gary Best	90-91		
Howard Sharpe	62-63	Graham Laughton	91-92		
Jack Portas	63-64	Dave Wallace	92-93		
John Todd	64-65	David Buzzeo	93-94		
Charles Learmonth	65-66	Jim McLennan	94-95		
Frank Boyce	66-67	Jeff Schmacher	95-96		
Grant Duncan	67-68	Jim Gardiner	96-97		
Don McCann	68-69	Ed Cannon	97-98		
Arnold (Spud) Moir	69-70	Bill Holt	98-99		
Mike Hirst	70-71	Steve Coolidge	99-00		
Ken Walker	71-72	Eugene Way	00-01		
Ken Turner	72-73	Rod Goruk	01-02		
Bill Butler	73-74	Wally Benkendorf	02-03		
Bryan Robinson	74-75	Rob Keith	03-04		
Tom McGregor	75-76	Ken Lakhram	04-05		
Ron Thompson	76-77	Mark Hughes	05-06		
Harvey Lambert	77-78	Mark Robertson	06-07		
Dave Manchester	78-79	Martin Moran	07-08		
Bruce Brodie	79-80	Mike Downs	08-09		
Jim Ross	80-81	Kent Swanson	09-10		
Merv Granlien	81-82	Andrew Happer	10-11		