



Honorable Order of the Blue Goose International • Editor: Traci Barbier

MICHIGANDER

Quarterly Publication of the Michigan Pond - Chartered 1906

VOLUME 16 ISSUE 4

Volunteers Assist the Goodfellows



Submitted By: Traci Barbier-Editor

One of the cardinal principles of the Blue Goose organization is charity. Charity is defined as: generosity and helpfulness especially toward the needy or suffering. The Blue Goose gives funds to many charitable organizations. The giving of time is another way that Blue Goose members give to charities. Once again, Connie Haddad led the volunteer efforts of the Detroit Puddle.

The Goodfellows, "no kiddie without a Christmas" campaign received the assistance of several members this year. The volunteer efforts helped the Goodfellows package gift boxes for children in need. Two days in October were spent at the Goodfellows warehouse. Volunteers worked to fill gift boxes with toys, books, candy and warm clothing. Volunteers filled over 2200 boxes in 2 days! The work done was greatly appreciated by the staff of the Goodfellows, who distribute

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Upcoming Events

February 17-19, 2017

Central Region Mid-Year Meeting
Cincinnati, Ohio

March 16, 2017

Michigan Pond Educational Seminar
Hyatt Place, Novi, Michigan



Hope to see you there!



July 11-14, 2017

Grand Nest Convention
Savanna, Georgia

August 16, 2017

Grand Rapids Puddle Golf Outing
Quail Ridge

2016/2017 Pond Officers

Most Loyal Gander • James Sluiter 616-455-5400
Supervisor of the Flock • Shanna Bryant 517-699-4451
Custodian of the Goslings • Steve Carson II 313-304-5665
Guardian of the Pond • Connie Haddad 734-787-5922
Permanent Wielder • Dick Chenard 616-676-1960

Permanent Keeper • Joe Lothschutz 616-575-1122
Past Most Loyal Gander • Shondell Granger 989-893-0137
Past Most Loyal Grand Gander • Joe Coccia 989-450-4820
Past Most Loyal Grand Gander • John Zeldam 256-638-1105

Detroit Puddle

Meets the second Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m.
Meeting locations vary each month.

Loyal Gander • Michelle Kresnak 517-518-4625
Supervisor of the Flock • Sheldon West 248-424-9088
Custodian of the Goslings • Matt Jarvis 586-634-8657
Wielder of the Goose Quill • Steve Carson II 313-304-5665

Lansing Puddle

Meets every third Wednesday at Leo's Lodge
on Jolly Road in Lansing.

Loyal Gander • Shanna Bryant 517-699-4451
Supervisor of the Flock • Marisa Potter 517-262-4413
Custodian of the Goslings •
Wielder of the Goose Quill • Sharon Young 517-769-6193
PKGGE • Steve Spalding 517-337-1771

Grand Rapids Puddle

Meets at different locations on different dates.
Contact PWGQ Dick Chenard for meeting details.

Loyal Gander • Karla Libolt 888-248-3148
Supervisor of the Flock • Joe Fitzgerald 616-540-5006
Custodian of the Goslings • Jim Sluiter 616-942-5009
PWGQ • Dick Chenard 616-676-0402
PKGGE • Joe Lothschutz 616-575-1122

Northern Puddle

Meets the first Wednesday of each month, meetings alternate
between BJ's Restaurant in Gaylord and different restaurants
in Traverse City. Contact an officer to confirm the meeting
location.

Loyal Gander • Mike Jenkinson 989-426-3483
Supervisor of the Flock • OPEN
Wielder of the Goose Quill • Juli Sauve 989-356-9800
PKGGE • Jennifer Boughner 989-705-1732

The Blue Goose MICHIGANDER, published quarterly, is mailed to nearly 500 members.

Send an e-mail or correspondence for articles, to: Traci Barbier: tbarbier@yourvillagecleaners.com

Send e-mail for address or employment changes to: Dick Chenard: biggoose@earthlink.net

Get the MICHIGANDER on the web: www.bluegoosemichiganpond.com

Volunteers Assist the Goodfellows

- cont'd

35,000 holiday packages each year to the needy children of Detroit and neighboring cities.



Thank you to everyone that volunteered and a special thanks to Connie for her efforts in organizing this event!



Oktoberfest Held at Dakota Inn Rathskeller

Submitted By: Traci Barbier Editor

The Detroit Puddle gathered on October 12th at The Dakota Inn Rathskeller for their annual Oktoberfest celebration. This venue was opened in Detroit on August 1, 1933, by Karl Kurz, and is owned and operated by the Kurz family to this day. This is the city's only authentic German beer garden, complete with oompah bands, polka contests and blue geese!



In addition to the initiation of new members, a lifetime member was also recognized. Past Most Loyal Grand Gander, Joe Coccia, was in attendance to present Rosie Abraham with her lifetime membership pin! Rosie's recent retirement and many years of membership in the Detroit Puddle made her eligible to be a lifetime member. Congratulations Rosie! Everyone in attendance enjoyed the genuine German fare and fellowship.



Initiation Held at Oktoberfest

Submitted By: Traci Barbier Editor

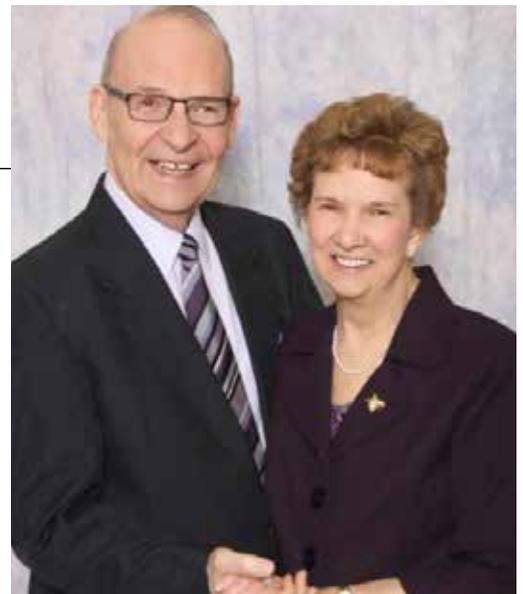
The Detroit Puddle initiated seven ganders prior to the Oktoberfest. The initiation team of Dave Beger, Traci Barbier, Michelle Kresnak, Dick Chenard, Connie Haddad,

Tim Ford, Bill Rouston, Jeff Schaf, Chuck Dexter, Joe Coccia and Frank Robison assembled to welcome Shaun Quinn, Steve Hislop, Tim Hohl, Matt Turnbull, Emily Laursen, Tonya Edmunds and Jeff Bigelman into the flock.

Peggy Zeldam Passes Away

Submitted By: Traci Barbier-Editor

Although Peggy Zeldam was not an official member of the Blue Goose, she was known and a friend to many in the organization. Peggy, the beloved wife of Past Most Loyal Grand Gander John Zeldam, passed away on October



30, 2016 in Rainsville, Alabama at the age of 76. Peggy is survived by her husband, John, 2 daughters Debora Craig (husband Neal), Tamara Rolling (husband David) and grandchildren Alyssa, Andrew and Christopher.

Monday a.m.

Dear Dick and the entire Michigan Pond,

Thank you so much for your expressions of love and sympathy in the aftermath of Peggy's sudden and unexpected passing from death to eternal life with her living, loving God.

The flowers you provided were very beautiful and much appreciated.

Please give my warm greetings to all the Ganders.

God Bless,
John

*Perhaps you sent a lovely card,
Or sat quietly in a chair,
Perhaps you sent a floral piece,
If so we saw it there,
Perhaps you spoke the kindest words,
As any friend could say,
Perhaps you were not there at all,
Just thought of us that day,
Whatever you did to console our hearts,
We thank you so much whatever the part.*

The family of
John & Peggy Zeldam



CALLING ALL ANGELS

Giving Children Hope

Detroit Puddle Golf Outing

Submitted By: Traci Barbier-Editor

The Links of Novi was the site of the Detroit Puddle's Annual Golf Outing this year. The event was held on Monday, August 1st and the proceeds will benefit Calling All Angels. Laura Bostick, founder, says this about the charity.

In 2004, Calling All Angels (CAA) was founded based on our beliefs that no child should go hungry, no child should live in fear, that every child should have a safe and comfortable place to lay their head at night and that every child deserves a place to call home and a family that loves them!

Our vision is to continue to raise awareness of the dark and devastating reality of child/youth hopelessness, pain and suffering, rare and overwhelming disease and illnesses, shattered homes and broken bones.



Our mission is to make a difference by spreading as much love, hope and joy to every child and their family as possible. In the last 12 years, with the help of many loving hearts and hands, we have made a tremendous

difference in the lives of many, many children/youths. Our supporting team of Angels have given us the opportunities to create lasting memories and



provide basic living essentials to many – but our mission is far from over, there are still many that need our help. We are seeking donations and volunteers that truly care and are willing to help us continue making a difference. Calling All Angels is a village of Angels filled with hope and love to share with children in need. We need you to join our village as an Angel, to help and enable us in supplying joy and hope to every child possible!

The event was once again very well attended. Co-chairs Michelle Kresnak and Josh Miller did an excellent job securing sponsorships and putting together this event. Thank you to all the sponsors and everyone in attendance.





2017

HONORABLE ORDER OF THE BLUE GOOSE INTERNATIONAL MICHIGAN POND EDUCATIONAL LUNCHEON

March 16, 2017

POINT/COUNTERPOINT DISCUSSION OF CURRENT INSURANCE INDUSTRY ISSUES

SPEAKERS:

Mike Fabian

of Fabian, Sklar & King, P.C.
Attorney for the Insured

Phillip Yeager

of Yeager, Davison & Day P.C.
Attorney for the Carrier

Ethan Gross

of Globe Midwest
Public Adjuster

Clare Wasek

of Vericclaim
Independent Adjuster

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<https://squareup.com/market/bluegoosedetroitpuddle>

\$30.00 per person – Member Rate

\$40.00 per person – Non-member Rate

\$150.00 Table of 6 – Member Rate

\$200.00 Table of 6 – Non-member Rate

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12:00 noon – Luncheon

12:30-4:00 pm – Guest Speakers

4:00-6:00 pm – Networking Reception



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Quail Ridge hosts Grand Rapids Puddle

Submitted By: Traci Barbier-Editor

The Grand Rapids Puddle held its 26th Annual Golf Outing on August 17th. Several charities will benefit from the proceeds of this event. The charities this year are: God's Kitchen, Kids Food Basket, Special Olympics, West Michigan Therapy Dogs, Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America and Disability Advocates of Kent County.

One of the highlights of this event is the attendance of many of the therapy dogs! The day started with a quick moving storm, followed by sunny skies for the remainder of the event.

Chairpersons for this event were Craig Sluiter, Karla Martin and Dick Chenard. They would like to thank all the sponsors, attendees and volunteers for their support. Congratulations to the winning foursome this year of Jim and Craig Sluiter, Tim Reilly and Ken Remign.





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THANK YOU!



Membership Pin Presented

Submitted By: Traci Barbier-Editor

Joe Lothschutz holds the position of Permanent Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg for both the Grand Rapids Puddle and Michigan Pond. Joe is also a delegate for the Central Region. James Sluiter, Most Loyal Gander, had the honor of presenting Joe with his 25-year membership pin. Congratulations Joe and thank you for your continued dedication and support of the Blue Goose!

Thought for the Day...

We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.

- Winston Churchill

International Charity Report 2015-2016

Excerpt from Mark Robertson, Grand Custodian of the Ganders Annual Report

Charity is woven into the fabric of the Honorable Order of the Blue Goose International. Charity is the building block which we use to aide in the development of our two remaining principles of Fellowship and Character. This year the charitable amount per member breaks down to \$87.69! Grand totals for our organization this year were as follows:

Cash Donations	\$242,279.00
Items Donated	\$ 78,401.00
Scholarships	\$ 11,300.00
Volunteer Hours	2180

The Michigan Pond was a big contributor towards these totals. The Michigan Pond ranked number 3 behind the Ponds from Quebec and Edmonton with these totals:

Cash Donations	\$ 32,566.00
Items Donated	\$ 10,000.00
Volunteer Hours	328

Congratulations to the entire organization! Thank you to all members that contribute, in many ways, throughout

each year and make the Honorable Order of the Blue Goose International an organization truly dedicated to the cardinal principle of charity.



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2016 Year in Review

Submitted By: Traci Barbier Editor

Happy New Year! The New Year is a time that many make resolutions and look forward. It is also a time to reflect and remember the prior year. What will the history books say about 2016? No matter who you supported in the election, most are thankful that it is over! That state of affairs in our cities, country and the world overall could certainly be improved. At the start of 2017 we are hopeful that positive changes will come about in the New Year. We also recall the events of the previous year and think about those we lost in 2016.



Here is a look back:

January

- American hostages freed by Iran
- State of emergency declared in Flint Michigan due to elevated lead levels in the drinking water
- David Bowie dies at age 69
- Glenn Frey dies at age 67

February

- Justice Antonin Scalia dies at age 79
- Uber driver kills 6 in Kalamazoo Michigan
- Peyton Manning wins 200th game. Super Bowl 50

March

- Garry Shandling dies at age 66
- Nancy Reagan dies at age 94

April

- Queen Elizabeth II celebrates her 90th birthday
- Prince dies at age 57
- Merle Haggard dies on his 79th birthday

May

- Morley Safer dies at age 84

June

- Brexit-Britain votes to leave the European Union
- "The Greatest" Muhammad Ali dies at age 74
- Pulse Nightclub shooting in Orlando 49 killed and 53 injured



2016 Year in Review, cont'd

July

- Sniper targets Dallas Police. 5 officers killed and 9 wounded
- 3 Baton Rouge Law Enforcement Officers killed
- Pokemon GO App released

August

- Simone Biles wins 5 medals at Rio Olympics, 4 of them gold
- Michael Phelps ends his career as the most decorated Olympian with 28 total medals, 23 of them gold
- Ryan Lochte robbed.....maybe
- Gene Wilder dies at age 83

September

- Angelina Jolie files for divorce from Brad Pitt
- Arnold Palmer dies at age 87

October

- Kim Kardashian robbed in Paris
- Creepy clown phenomenon
- Bob Dylan wins Nobel Prize

November

- Chicago Cubs win the World Series ending a 108 year drought
- Donald J. Trump wins presidential election
- Fidel Castro dies at age 90

December

- Alan Thicke dies at age 69
- Zsa Zsa Gabor dies at age 99
- George Michael dies at age 53
- Carrie Fisher dies at age 60
- Debbie Reynolds dies at age 84

Happy New Year!

Looking forward to great 2017!



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