



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

MICHIGANDER

Quarterly Publication of the Michigan Pond - Chartered 1906

VOLUME 19 ISSUE 1 • HOLIDAY PARTY ISSUE

Grand Rapids Holiday Party



Submitted By: Michigander Staff Reporter

The Grand Rapids Puddle held its annual Holiday Party on Wednesday December 19, 2018 at Quail Ridge Golf Club in Ada, Michigan, the site of several past year's annual golf outings. Twenty five members and guests enjoyed complimentary food and drinks thanks to the very generous donations from Corporate Sponsors: CRDN; Axiom Investigative Service; Chenard & Osborn; ERS; Loss Management Solutions; Nederveld Associates; Secret Wardle; Walworth & Nayh and Yeager, Davison & Day. During the party, Dick Chenard, Permanent Wielder of the Pond and Steve Carson, Most Loyal Gander of the Pond and Angela Meadows presented a check to Amanda St. Amour of the West Michigan Therapy Dogs in the amount of \$1480 representing the proceeds from the Puddle's 2018 golf outing. The highlight of the event was an ugly Christmas sweater contest and the honor went to Mike Case. Runners up included Melissa Lewis

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Upcoming Events



Thursday - August 1, 2019

Northern Puddle Golf Outing
Treetops Resort

Wednesday - August 14, 2019

Grand Rapids Puddle Golf Outing
Quail Ridge



Hope to see you soon!

2019/2020 Pond Officers

Most Loyal Gander • Steve Carson II 313-304-5665
Supervisor of the Flock • Connie Haddad 734-787-5922
Custodian of the Goslings • Russ Wendt 616-893-3445
Guardian of the Pond • Sharon Young 517-769-6193
Permanent Wielder • Dick Chenard 616-676-1960

Permanent Keeper • Joe Lothschutz 616-575-1122
Past Most Loyal Gander • Shanna Bryant 517-699-4551
Past Most Loyal Grand Gander • Joe Coccia 734-604-4883
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 • Shondell Granger 734-545-3432
Supervisor of the Flock • Michelle Kresnak 517-518-4625
Custodian of the Goslings • Tonya Edmunds 734-656-0090
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 • Sharon Young 517-769-6193
Supervisor of the Flock • Joe Fitzgerald 616-540-5006
Custodian of the Goslings • OPEN
Wielder of the Goose Quill • Denie Perkola 248-416-4192
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 616-676-1960
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 • OPEN
PKGGE • Jennifer Boughner 989-705-1732

The Blue Goose MICHIGANDER, published quarterly, is mailed to over 300 members.

Send an e-mail or correspondence for articles, to: Traci Barbier: tracib8795@comcast.net

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

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GR Holiday, cont'd

for "most creative" and Dick Chenard for "Rash Indulgence." Please support the sponsors of this year's event and plan on attending next year's Holiday Party. You have an entire year to find that perfect ugly Christmas sweater.



An open Letter to Life Members

Submitted By: Joe Coccia

When the Michigan Pond reports their membership numbers to the Grand Nest, it separates out active Members from Life Members. I would like Life Members and myself to be counted as "active" Members and willing to help in the government of the Michigan Pond. Many Michigan Pond Life Members have left the State or are of ill health and cannot participate in the annual events scheduled by our four Puddles; Lansing, Grand Rapids, Northern and Detroit. But there is one other way of participating in a way that greatly assists Our Beloved Michigan Pond. We can voluntarily pay the annual dues that our current active Members pay every July. Dick Chenard, our permanent Wielder sends out an annual dues notice and when the dues are paid, \$27 out of the \$55 is sent to Grand Nest and \$4 is sent to the Central Region. Last July three Life Members voluntarily paid dues and 100% of the amount paid went directly into the bottom line for the Michigan Pond. Many of us Life Members can afford to pay a minimum

of \$55 or more to be counted as "active" in a financial way. Remember, 100% of the amount donated goes directly to the Michigan Pond to help offset the annual events that are held to benefit its Members both active and Life. The cost of sponsoring these events continues to go up while attendance has gone down. So, when Dick Chenard sends out the annual dues notices, a zero balance is reflected and sent to our Life Members. I, along with John Zeldam, PMLGG and Bob Forbes, PMLG of the Michigan Pond would like you to join us and make a voluntary contribution. Any amount would be greatly appreciated.

Tote Fare,
Joe Coccia, PMLGG





Detroit Holiday Party

Submitted By: Michigander Staff Reporter

The Detroit Puddle held its annual Holiday party at the venerable and historic Dearborn Inn on Thursday December 13, 2018. Dave Beger and Steve Carson were Co-Chairs of the event that was attended by over 200 Members and guests. The Holiday Party has become a reunion of sorts where those attending come to see who is working where, who has been promoted, who has been demoted, who is in between opportunities, who has achieved their lifelong dream of retiring and of course, the health and well-being of everyone in the industry. Marion Mahoney and Bill Rouston, co-chairs of the Detroit Puddle Annual Golf Outing presented a check in the amount of \$7500 to the designated charity, Common Ground. Vickie Kennedy accepted the check and thanked the Blue Goose giving the attendees some background on the organization. The designated Charity for the Holiday Party are the Detroit Goodfellows. Frank and son Patrick Brady from the Goodfellows were in attendance to give some background on their organization and will be presented with a check representing the proceeds from the party at the Goodfellows annual meeting in January at the Detroit Athletic Club.

One of the highlights of the annual affair is the presentation of the annual "James Gleason Service Award." This award is in recognition of exemplary dedication to Character, Charity and Fellowship within the Detroit Puddle of the Blue Goose. Connie Haddad and Joe Coccia, previous recipients presented the 2018 award to Detroit Puddle Member, Frank Robison. Frank is always the first to volunteer for a committee and is vocal about his love for "giving back." He exemplifies all that is good in the Blue Goose and is a deserving honoree of this very prestigious award. And in speaking of Service, Past Most Loyal Grand Gander Joe Coccia, presented 10 year service award pins

to Connie Haddad and Michele Kresnak and a Life service award pin to Steve Carson Sr. of Vision Restoration and Building Company who recently retired. And finally Cindy Thelen, Independent Adjuster and owner of Agile Adjusters won the 50-50 raffle.

A special thank you goes out to the following Corporate Sponsors whose generous donations helped to make this annual event a success. Please patronize Classic Cleaners, Electronic Restoration Services, SunGlo, Hexagon General Contractors Services, LLC, Dan Poulsen, PRS Contents, Syndicate Claim Services, Guaranteed Furniture Services, Inc., Zolman Restoration, Fairlane Furniture Restorers, Charles L. Pugh Co. Inc., Donan Engineering Co. Inc., Cunningham, Felthouse and Hayes and Vision Restoration and Building Co., Inc.

The Detroit Puddle Annual Holiday Party is generally held on the second Thursday in December. Please make plans to attend next year so you can find out firsthand what is and what is not going on in the Insurance Industry. And to avoid being talked about behind your back!





Where Did It Come From?



A SHOT OF WHISKEY

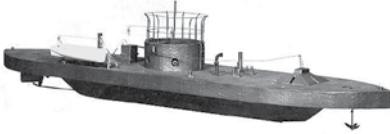
In the old west a .45 cartridge for a six-gun cost 12 cents, so did a glass of whiskey. If a cowhand was low on cash he would often give the bartender a cartridge in exchange for a drink. This became known as a "shot" of whiskey.

THE WHOLE NINE YARDS

American fighter planes in WW2 had machine guns that were Fed by a belt of cartridges. The average plane held belts that were 27 feet (9 yards) long. If the pilot used up all his ammo he was said to have given it the whole nine yards.

BUYING THE FARM

During WW1 soldiers were given life insurance policies worth \$5,000. This was about the price of an average farm so if you died you "bought the farm" for your survivors.



IRON CLAD CONTRACT

This came about from the ironclad ships of the Civil War. It meant something so strong it could not be broken.

PASSING THE BUCK / THE BUCK STOPS HERE

Most men in the early west carried a jack knife made by the Buck knife company. When playing poker it was common to place one of these Buck knives in front of the dealer so that everyone knew who he was. When it was time for a new dealer the deck of cards and the Knife were given to the new dealer. If this person didn't want to deal he would "pass the buck" to the next player. If that player accepted then "the buck stopped there".



RIFF RAFF

The Mississippi River was the main way of traveling from north to south. Riverboats carried passengers and freight but they were expensive so most people used rafts. Everything had the right of way over rafts which were considered cheap. The steering oar on the rafts was called a "riff" and this transposed into riff-raff, meaning low class.



COBWEB

The Old English word for "spider" was "cob".



SHIP STATE ROOMS

Traveling by steamboat was considered the height of comfort. Passenger cabins on the boats were not numbered. Instead they were named after states. To this day cabins on ships are called staterooms.

SLEEP TIGHT

Early beds were made with a wooden frame. Ropes were tied across the frame in a criss-cross pattern. A Straw mattress was then put on top of the ropes. Over time the ropes stretched, causing the bed to sag. The owner would then tighten the ropes to get a better night's sleep.

SHOWBOAT

These were floating theaters built on a barge that was pushed by a steamboat. These played small towns along the Mississippi River. Unlike the boat shown in the movie "Showboat" These did not have an engine. They were gaudy and attention grabbing which is why we say someone who is being the life of the party is showboating".



OVER A BARREL

In the days before CPR a drowning victim would be placed Face down over a barrel and the barrel would be rolled back and forth in a effort to empty the lungs of water. It was rarely effective. If you are over a barrel you are in deep trouble.

BARGE IN

Heavy freight was moved along the Mississippi in large barges pushed by steamboats. These were hard to control and would sometimes swing into piers or other boats. People would say they "barged in".

Where Did It Come From, cont'd

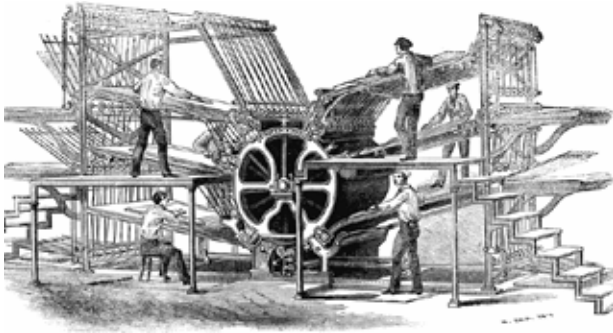
HOGWASH

Steamboats carried both people and animals. Since pigs smelled so bad they would be washed before being put on board. The mud and other filth that was washed off was considered useless "hog wash".



CURFEW

The word "curfew" comes from the French phrase "couvre-feu", which means "cover the fire". It was used to describe the time of blowing out all lamps and candles. It was later adopted into Middle English as "curfeu", which later became the modern "curfew". In the early American colonies homes had no real fireplaces so a fire was built in the center of the room. In order to make sure a fire did not get out of control during the night it was required that, by an agreed upon time, all fires would be covered with a clay pot called-a "curfew".



BARRELS OF OIL

When the first oil wells were drilled they had made no provision for storing the liquid so they used water barrels. That is why, to this day, we speak of barrels of oil rather than gallons.



HOT OFF THE PRESS

As the paper goes through the rotary printing press friction causes it to heat up. Therefore, if you grab the paper right off the press it is hot. The expression means to get immediate information.

Thought for the Day...

Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall.

- Confucius



The Grand Nest Officers for 2018-2019

Seated L to R: Lorena Kohlruss, Judge Advocate; Wendy Knizet, Grand Guardian; Kim Bilbrey, Most Loyal Grand Gander; Linda Meik, Grand Keeper.

Standing L to R: Michael Smith, Grand Custodian; John Bishop, Grand Historian; Dan Rich, Grand Supervisor and Terry Maloney Grand Wielder



Members and Guests attending the annual Lansing Puddle Holiday Party.

Another Successful Holiday Party hosted by The Lansing Puddle

Submitted By: Holly Petroff

There wasn't a blue 'bird' to be found at the 2018 Lansing Puddle Holiday soiree. Upwards of 40 members and guests dressed in their holiday best on December 5, 2018 to share in the gift of giving this holiday season. We appreciated the professionalism and attention to detail that Michigan State University, Kellogg Center in East Lansing again exhibited. The Lansing Puddle Members were again honored to support three very deserving organizations with the proceeds generated by their 2018 annual events:

The Child and Family Charities, <http://www.childandfamily.org>, (previously known as Gateway Youth Services and Angel House), boasts six (6) divisions and 17 programs, offering a full-spectrum of support to over 7,000 children, youth and families each year in the mid-Michigan area. The primary mission is to strengthen and support children, families, and individuals in the greater Lansing community.

The Capital Area Human Society <https://cahs-lansing.org>, was selected by the Lansing Puddle because of their mission to promote the humane treatment of companion animals through protection, placement, education, and operates as a "no Kill" animal shelter succeeding in finding forever homes for 3,785 animals in 2018.

The third Charity benefitting from the Lansing Puddle Holiday Party was the VFW National Home for Children <https://www.vfwnationalhome.org>. They were founded in 1925 in Eaton Rapids, Michigan and is a place where families left behind by war could remain together, keeping the family circle intact even when their serviceman didn't come home. Each party guest this year happily contributed to the Santa Shop on behalf of the VFW. The children that live here work hard all year earning 'money' to buy gifts for their families. The Lansing Puddle of the Blue Goose is proud once again to contribute to the ongoing needs of these important Charities.

Not to 'tweet' our own horn, but the Michigan Pond won the Gordon Crowther Charity Award for 2018. The Gordon F. Crowther Charity Award pays homage to the extensive time and dedication put in by the Members of the Michigan Pond towards charitable efforts in the local communities. It is a wonderful honor not to be taken lightly. The Michigan Pond sure knows how to 'wing' friends and influence people, with donations over \$40,000 just over the last three years.



Jeri Martinez (VFW National Home for Children), Shanna Bryant-Mikolic (Master of Ceremonies and Servepro), Steve Spalding (Permanent Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg), Sharon Young (Lansing Puddle Most Loyal Gander).



Registration Table with Holly Petroff and Tami Bosworth (McCardel Restoration), Shanna Bryant-Mikolic (Master of Ceremonies and Servepro), Sharon Young (Lansing Puddle Most Loyal Gander).



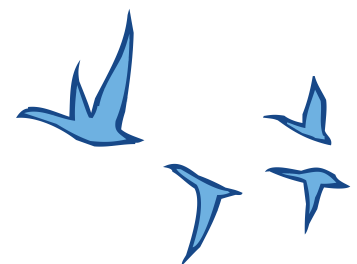
Kira Alexander and Andrea Calabrese (Child and Family Charities), Sharon Young (Lansing Puddle Most Loyal Gander), Shanna Bryant-Mikolic (Master of Ceremonies and Servepro), Steve Spalding (Permanent Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg)



Julie Wilson (Capital Area Human Society), Sharon Young (Lansing Puddle Most Loyal Gander), Shanna Bryant-Mikolic (Master of Ceremonies and Servepro), Steve Spalding (Permanent Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg).



Steve Carson Presenting the GORDON F. CROWTHER CHARITY AWARD for the Michigan Pond.



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For more information on the Honorable Order of the Blue Goose, please visit: www.bluegoose.org

The 2019 Grand Nest Convention sponsored by The Dayton Pond and the Central Region will be held in Indianapolis, Indiana on July 16-19, 2019. For an in depth look at the agenda and hotel information, please go to www.Bluegoose.org.

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FIRE WIND WATER

Final Flight



Life member John Heyboer took his final flight on January 4, 2019. John was a proud Blue Goose Member for 66 years!



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Flight					
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HAVE YOU EVER BEEN A MEMBER OF ANOTHER POND? Yes or No			IF YES, WHERE		
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