

THE HONKER

Donna Digman | SERVPRO of Hunt Valley | P.O. Box 156 Cockeysville, MD 21030 | donna@servproofhuntvalley.com | 410-229-0012



• OFFICERS •

Most Loyal Gander:

Ian Jenkins
Restronics
ijenkins@restronic.com
301-682-9887

Supervisor of the Flock:

Jimmy Lanham
lanham1@verizon.net
301-904-9944

Custodian of the Goslings:

Patrick Bergin
Vericlaim, Inc.
pbergin@vericlaiminc.com
410-925-4850

Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg:

Jason R. Smith
Puroclean
smithj@puroclean.com
410-972-9733

Guardian of the Pond

Chip Cunningham
Evans Garment Restoration
Chip@EvansMA.com
410-579-1145

Wielder of the Goose Quill:

Michelle Fitzwater
CRDN of Baltimore and Southern MD.
michelle@schroedlcleaners.com
443-717-4143

NOVEMBER 2013



IN THIS ISSUE!

- Meeting & Events
- Oktoberfest Highlights
- Holiday Party Flyer / Wish List
- Thank you letter
- 2014 Convention Flyer
- 2015 Convention fundraiser info
- Community Board
- Memory Lane
- Breaking News

• Next Gathering •

Thursday November 7th, 2013
Open Social Hour
Open Dinner \$35.00 per person
5:30 pm Social Hour
6:30 pm Dinner & Meeting

• Location •

Dave & Busters
Arundel Mills
7000 Arundel Mills Cir
Hanover, MD. 210

Guest Speaker:
Mr. George Burgee

Topic:
A Shared Prospective on Claims.



2013 / 2014 UP COMING EVENTS • SAVE THE DATE

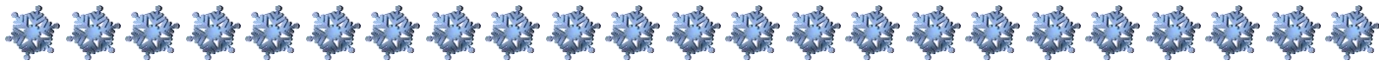
11/7/2013 Open Meeting	02/06/2014 Open Meeting	04/25/2014 Atlantic City Trip
12/17/2013 Annual Holiday Party	03/20/2014 March Madness	05/01/2014 Open Meeting
01/02/2014 Open Meeting	04/03/2014 Open Meeting	06/2014 Golf Outing

Information on events will be in future News Letters and are listed on our web page www.nationalcapitalpond.com on the events calendar!

Oktoberfest



Did you attend Oktoberfest? Thank you to all the members who made the journey to Frederick for our October monthly meeting aka Oktoberfest. Special thanks goes out to Restronic & Capezio for sponsoring the live entertainment and to Bill Olson and Allen Albrecht for the wonderful photos!



**The John Brenner
National Capital Pond
42nd Annual Charity Luncheon**
Benefitting
Children's National Medical Center &
DC Firefighters Burn Foundation

DOOR PRIZES! BASKETS OF CHEER! 50/50 RAFFLE!

Please join the National Capital Pond, Honorable Order of the Blue Goose International, in our effort to raise funds for the DC Firefighters Burn Foundation (DC FBF) and Children's National Medical Center (CNMC). You will enjoy fellowship, a delightful sit down lunch, as well as hear from a captivating Washington Redskins speaker. Each year this has been a very rewarding and enjoyable occasion, so plan now to join us and kick off the holiday season!

Tables will be reserved for tickets purchased in multiples of eight (8) at \$680.00 per table. Tickets are non-refundable. Tickets will not be available after Tuesday, November 29th, as Martin's Crosswinds requires advanced reservations.

Date: **Tuesday, December 17, 2013**

Place: Martin's Crosswinds
7400 Greenway Center Drive
Greenbelt, Maryland
(301) 474-8500

Times: 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hour (Open Bar).....12:00 p.m.
Opening Ceremonies and Memorial Service..... 1:00 p.m.
Lunch.....1:30 p.m.
Speaker.....2:30 p.m.
Door Prizes..... .3:30 p.m.

Cost: \$85.00 per person
\$680.00 per table of (8) eight

RSVP by Tues. November 29th to: George Burgee, GBurgee@JohnsEastern.com or (410) 290-3942 x3202

Make checks payable to: National Capital Pond

All checks must be received by Friday November 29th for your name to be printed in the program.

Mail to: Johns Eastern Company, c/o George Burgee, 7135 Minstrel Way, Suite 202, Columbia, MD 21045

Please include your donation(s) for Children's National Medical Center and/or the DC Firefighters Burn Foundation.

**** PLEASE BRING DOOR PRIZES WITH YOUR BUSINESS CARD ATTACHED ****

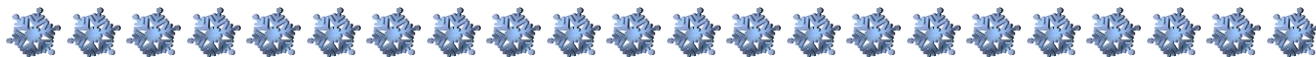
Name: _____ **Company:** _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Total Number of Lunch Tickets: _____ x **\$85.00 = \$** _____

CNMC Pledge: \$ _____ **DC FBF Pledge:** \$ _____ **GRAND TOTAL:** \$ _____





Dr. Bear®'s Closet 2013



INFANTS

- Musical toys
- Rattles
- Infant mirrors
- **Music boxes and interactive toys**

- Baby blankets
- **Activity centers**
- Soft/squeeze toys
- Baby books

- Picture books
- **Crib mobiles**
- Pop-up toys
- Play telephones

- Teething toys
- Infant videos
- Stuffed toys
- Infant toys



TODDLERS

- Wooden puzzles
- **Bubbles**
- Toy tape players

- Stack toys
- **Musical books**
- Blocks

- Plastic trucks
- **Board books**
- Push/pull toys

- Medical kits
- Duplo building blocks
- Stuffed toys

- Sesame Street and other popular character toys

- Dolls, diversity is appreciated in doll selection

- Little People, such as those made by Fisher Price and Little Tykes

- Fisher Price doll house, people, furniture, and accessories

SCHOOL AGE

- School supplies
- Connect Four
- Candy Land
- Wall-mount basketball hoops
- Barbie dolls and clothing
- DVDs, G and PG rated

- **UNO Cards**
- Chutes and Ladders
- Monopoly Jr.
- Scattegories
- Notebook dividers

- Checkers
- Trouble
- Scrabble Jr.
- Handheld electronic games

- Memory
- Sorry
- Boggle Jr.
- Books

- **Matchbox cars**
- **Play-doh**
- Disney character items
- Dolls, diversity is appreciated in doll selection

- **Bubbles**
- **Arts and crafts sets**
- Model kits, snap tight
- **Coloring books, activity books, word find books**

- Legos/Lego model sets
- Magna Doodles
- Paint sets, non-toxic
- Construction paper
- Wooden models
- **Crayons/markers/colored pencils**

- Stuffed animals
- Etch-A-Sketch
- Action figures
- Playing cards
- **Gimp**
- Card games (Old Maid, Go Fish)

ADOLESCENT

- Books and magazines
- Boggle
- Jenga
- Hangman
- Portable CD players with CDs
- Model kits, snap tight
- Make-up sets
- **Hand-held electronic games**
- **Word search, crossword books, Sudoku**

- **Wii Fit**
- Scattegories
- Sorry
- Battleship
- Stationery



- Scrapbook materials
- Manicure kits
- Bicycle helmets
- Footballs, soccer balls, baseball bats and balls, wall-mount basketball hoops

- **UNO Cards, all versions**
- Scrabble
- Life
- Chess and Checkers
- Movie theatre gift cards
- Diaries/journals
- Baseball caps
- Nerf balls
- Grooming kits (girls/boys)

- Monopoly
- Clue
- Pictionary
- DVDs, PG and PG-13
- Art sets
- Barbie dolls and clothing
- Pencils/colored pencils
- Gift cards





D.C. FIREFIGHTERS BURN FOUNDATION

P.O. Box 4565 • Washington, DC 20017

October 4, 2013

National Capital Pond HOBGI
PO Box 554
Chesapeake Beach, MD 20732

Dear Leadership and Member of the National Capital Pond HOBGI :

On behalf of the DC Firefighters Burn Foundation I would like to take a moment to say thank you for you generous donation of \$6,491.00. Your gift will allow us to continue to provide funding for the many programs that we offer burn survivors from around the Washington metropolitan area. Firefighters and members of the Burn Center have a special empathy for burn survivors. No other group witnesses more of the devastation that fire wreaks on the human body and spirit.

Every year we provide financial support for burn research, rehabilitation, treatment, and education programs for The Burn Center at Washington Hospital Center. The foundation is also proud to provide survivor support programs for burns survivors through our Children's Burn Camp, financial support for survivors to attend the annual World Burn Congress, monthly survivor support meetings and programs, and several other activities throughout the year. Anytime a firefighter from around the Washington metropolitan area receives a burn in the line of duty our family assistance program provides meals, hotel rooms, and transportation for the firefighter's family while they are hospitalized. Your donation will have an impact on lives of countless burn survivors and their families from around our area.

The DC Firefighters Burn Foundation is a Non-Profit 501 (c) (3) organization as established by the Internal Revenue Service. All donations may be deducted as a charitable donation. Our 501 (c) (3) Tax Identification number is 20-2220579. Please keep this letter for your tax records.

Again, thank you for your support!

Sincerely,

Jason Woods
President
DC Firefighters Burn Foundation



Come Visit Our Nest in the Wild, Wild West!



The HOBGI 2014 Convention is coming to Salt Lake City!

The 2014 Convention will be held July 22nd through July 26th. Start making your plans now!

As the region's hub for commerce, transportation, medical services, research, higher education, and cultural attractions, Salt Lake is a vibrant, modern metropolis. The walkable downtown convention district features 170+ restaurants, cafes, brewpubs, and nightspots.

Don't miss your chance to visit. Some Salt Lake City Convention activities will include:

[Tour of Historical Salt Lake](#)
[Temple Square](#)
[Clark Planetarium](#)
[Hogle Zoo](#)
[This is the Place Heritage Park](#)
[Shopping](#)

Sincerely,
The Utah Pond

Visit our site at www.bluegooseutah.org

**REGISTER DURING THE MONTH OF
DECEMBER** and receive a registration
package from the Utah Pond!

The package includes:

- One hour, complimentary genealogy session
- \$25 registration fee discount
- Free city tour valued at \$25
- Complimentary bottle of wine, courtesy of PEC Meetings Company

For Questions, contact: John Paris
parisinsurance@msn.com
+1 801-250-6743

NATIONAL CAPITAL POND

Honorable Order of the Blue Goose International

P.O. Box 554

Chesapeake Beach, Maryland 20732

DEAR GANDERS AND FRIENDS,

PLEASE HELP THE NATIONAL CAPITAL POND AND THE EASTERN REGION RAISE MONEY FOR THE 2015 GRAND NEST CONVENTION BY BUYING OR SELLING THESE RAFFLE TICKETS.

- FIRST PRIZE IS A 5 DAY CRUISE FOR (4) PEOPLE TO BERMUDA ON ROYAL CARIBBEAN.
- SECOND PRIZE IS A 5 DAY CRUISE FOR (2) PEOPLE TO BERMUDA ON ROYAL CARIBBEAN

IT CAN BE USED FROM 2014 THRU 2016 OR USE IT TO ATTEND THE 2015 GRAND NEST CONVENTION IN JULY 2015. CRUISE PACKAGES WILL BE BOOKED THRU ALWAYS TRAVEL AGENCY TOWSON, MD.

THE DRAWING DATE WILL BE 07/26/2014 AT THE 2014 GRAND NEST CONVENTION IN SALT LAKE CITY, UT

THE TICKETS SELL FOR \$10 EACH OR \$100 FOR BOOK OF TEN

BE A CONVENTION SPONSOR! BUY A BOOK OF TEN AND GET A FREE BUSINESS CARD SIZE AD IN THE CONVENTION PROGRAM.

**CHECKS ARE PAYABLE TO: BLUE GOOSE CONVENTION 2015
MAIL THE STUBS, YOUR BUSINESS CARD AND CHECK TO:**

**MR. BILL OLSON
VERICLAIM INC
PO BOX 412
NEW MARKET, MD 21774**

THANK YOU,

THE 2015 CONVENTION COMMITTEE

BILL OLSON, PMLG – 443-562-7250
GENE NEWMAN, PMLG – 410-350-6310
MICHELLE FITZWATER, PMLG – 443-717-4143
JIM KERN, PMLG – 410-952-0114

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cell: 410.688.0649
fax: 410.879.0124

Licensed in MD, Washington D.C., PA, DE, & MA

The Blue Goose Directory will be available to members via E-Directory this year and will no longer be in print form. Another change is with advertising, we will not be offering advertising in connection with the Directory. Instead, it will be offered in the monthly Honker and will be available in a variety of sizes ranging from business card to full page to suit your marketing budget. This is a much better 'Bang for your Buck' because the honker is sent out each month to all of our Members with your ad in it each and every time!!



CRDN of Greater Metropolitan
Washington D.C.

A Division of Bergmann's Cleaning

ALEX F. BERGMANN
Sales/Marketing Manager
alex.bergmann@crdn.com

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Dena Mullin
Office Manager

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Jefferson, MD 21755
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FAX 301-682-9126
www.restronic.com
dmullin@restronic.com

Did you know advertising in the
Honker supports our Pond?

Now Soliciting Blue Goose Advertisers

“Are you looking for an affordable way to advertise to the Insurance Restoration Industry? The National Capital Pond publishes their newsletter monthly, 12 times per year. The newsletter is distributed to all of our members, over 140 people, each month. This is a great way to support our Pond and to make this marketing opportunity enticing we are offering several levels to fit each marketing budget.”

Advertising can be as small as a business card up to a full page.

Advertising Fees are as follows per year:

- **Business Card** \$ 240.00
(For only \$20.00 a month you can get your information to how many people?)
- **Quarter Page** \$ 600.00
- **Half Page** \$ 900.00
- **Full Page** \$1,200.00

If you would like to advertise your company in The Honker; please contact Barb Markuski at Capezio Contractors, Inc.

301-404-5758

Barb@CapezioContractor.com

Send your business card via jpeg to Donna Digman @ donna@servproofhuntvalley.com along with a hard copy to Donna Digman 1203 63rd Street Rosedale, MD 21237



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Director of Fire Investigations

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Website: www.iacus.com

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Suite 14
Patchogue, NY 11772

Tel: 631.289.0200
Fax: 631.289.0223
Cell: 301.904.9944

**Take a stroll down memory lane.
The History of the Honorable Order of the Blue Goose!**

The 1906 San Francisco Earthquake occurred on April 18, sending shock waves through the insurance industry, threatening to destroy its entire existence. With this gloom hanging over the industry, the group was actually founded as a one time joke to initiate three new unsuspecting insurance field men into a fake lodge, the *Ancient and Honorable Order of the Blue Goose*, during the Wisconsin Fieldmen's Meeting on the evening of June 19, 1906 at the Oakwood Hotel in Green Lake, Wisconsin.



Apparently the "joke" involved a lot of alcohol induced planning together with some twisted minds. The name "Blue Goose" was taken from a saloon near the campus of the University of Wisconsin in Madison.

Only the real joke was on the perpetrators, as the "fake lodge" soon grew to thousands of members throughout the USA and Canada. International Headquarters are maintained near Milwaukee, Wisconsin at the *Wisconsin Home Nest*.

Each chapter convenes at its own *Pond* in most American states and Canadian provinces. Each Pond has six officers: *Most Loyal Gander*, *Supervisor of the Flock*, *Custodian of the Goslings*, *Guardian of the Pond*, *Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg* and *Wielder of the Goose Quill*. Some Ponds are further split into *Puddles*, where there are multiple cities in each state or province, and at one time one Puddle even had a *Pothole*. A fledgling group was even started in Australia.

Blue Goose is governed by the *Grand Nest*, with each Pond sending two delegates, and which then elects a group of officers, one each from each of the five regions.

The Order promotes fellowship among insurance professionals and charitable giving. Although the official international charity is *Special Olympics*, each Pond is free to support whatever local charitable endeavor they choose such as food donations, clothing drives, and donations of time and service to charitable causes.

Our International Charity Report for FY July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013, reports that the organization gave a reported **\$171,164.98** in cash donations to various charities. Some Ponds did not submit reports. Ponds also gave hundreds of man-hours to charitable endeavors, plus unknown quantities of donations-in-kind of books, clothing, food, games, toys, etc. Additionally, Ponds gave scholarships totaling **\$7,750**.

Blue Goose has an annual *Grand Nest Meeting* of delegates, which is a Summer convention held at various locations throughout the USA and Canada, where its members (*Ganders*) and their families meet for fun and fellowship. There is usually a large class of new members (*Goslings*) initiated at that meeting. The Cardinal Principles of the order are *Character, Charity and Fellowship*. There's a secret *key honk* (password) and a secret *salutation* that have existed since the flight of the first Blue Goose on June 19, 1906.



“The Oakwood”, Green Lake Wisconsin
Birthday Place of the Ancient and Honorable Order of The Blue Goose

GRAND NEST OFFICERS 1906-1907



Walter E. Atwater
(Center)

Most Loyal Grand Gander

W.E. Golden
(Upper Left)

His Highness Supervisor of
the Flock

George A. Roberts
(Lower Left)

Grand Keeper of the
Golden Goose Egg

Walter W. Conklin

Grand Custodian of the
Goslings

Hot Off the Press!



Hot Off the Press!



New Members! The Pond is growing! Please take the time to welcome our new members!

Help Wanted Seeking employment listings! New to the HONKER!

We got some news for you! We have tossed around the idea of having a Help Wanted / Seeking employment section within the Honker which also can be added to our website and Facebook page as posts!

We think this is a wonderful idea; this is a fast and growing industry and most of the time companies do hire within the industry.

This would be a FREE service for the members of our pond.

Send your postings to donna@servproofhuntvalley.com. Our only request is when the job has been filled please contact us to take the posting down.

Also, if your company is holding an event such as a blood drive, ce class etc. WE CAN SPREAD THE WORD in our newsletter. Send your details to donna@servproofhuntvalley.com



**2013-2014
Please contact
Michelle
Fitzwater to
pay your due!**

**HAVE YOU PAID
YOUR DUES?**

Important Reminders!

- ☺ Please pay your 2013 - 2014 dues.
- ☺ Read your Honker and send us feedback.
- ☺ Have you contacted Barb to become an advertiser for the National Capital Pond?
- ☺ Make sure you send in your reservation for November's meeting.
- ☺ Luncheon money is due no later than 11/29/13.

Save the Date

JULY 2015

Blue Goose Convention Cruise

NYC to BERMUDA

5 DAYS

www.nationalcapitalpond.com

BLUE GOOSE CONVENTION 2015

Start Planning Now!

More information will follow in the next coming months!



Happy Birthday to YOU!

- 11/5 – Norris Gearheart
- 11/8 – Chris Smith
- 11/9 – Rich Batterton, Carl Bergmann
- 11/11 – Chip Cunningham, Jim Lippert
- 11/14 – Tiffany Barrett
- 11/16 – Craig Roswell
- 11/17 – Ric Key
- 11/20 – Jim Atkinson
- 11/22 – Phelan Fowler
- 11/23 – Peggy Gurick
- 11/27 – Nick Catanzaro
- 11/28 – Gary Little



Nova Puddle Charter Members



Penn Pond Initiation Team

NEW MEMBERS



Now is the time!

Do you have someone in mind to become a member of the NATIONAL CAPITAL POND?

Go to: www.nationalcapitalpond.com for the membership application.

National Capital Pond Gives to Charities!

The recipient must be:

A not-for-profit organization: and endorsed by a National Capital Pond member in good standing

Donations not to exceed one \$500 award per quarter.

Donations are to be made in:

- February (1st Quarter)
- May (2nd Quarter)
- September (3rd Quarter)
- November (4th Quarter)

For an application go to <http://nationalcapitalpond.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/National-Capital-Pond-Charity-Committee.pdf>



We hope you have enjoyed this copy of The Honker.

Please remember to visit our new web site and like us on Facebook. If you should have any questions, concerns or comments you may contact any board member and committee members with a simple click on the contact us link. We work hard to make the National Capital Pond what it is today and we cannot do it without you!



www.facebook.com/nationalcapitalpond?ref=hl