



TEXAS POND HONKER

August 2018

Character, Charity, Fellowship

DFW TEXAS POND

DATE: Monday, August 13, 2018

TIME: 5:30 p.m.

PLACE: On The Border



Come join us at “On The Border” 4855 Beltline Road, Addison, Texas 75254 (West side of the Tollway on Beltline). We are meeting in the private room on the west side of the restaurant.

We will be collecting school supplies for Community Partners of Dallas....see the article on them on page 2 of this newsletter for further details.

Appetizers for our August meeting will be sponsored by ElectroStar – Eddy Pokulda.



Listen Up” some words from our campfire cook – Roger Folts, MLG
Fellow Ganders,

It's been an exceptionally HOT July in Texas. July is almost over, so we are half way through the hottest part of the summer, let's hope for a cooler August.

The Officers met for a half day on July 30th to outline plans and goals for the 2018-2019 Texas Pond year. We will report

on that meeting to you'll during the August meeting. There will be opportunities during the coming year for different meeting places and themes, and we invite any suggestions you may have. Any suggestion that will help us “spread the brand” of the Blue Goose, and specifically the Texas Pond will be reviewed seriously and given all consideration. Any Officer will be glad to listen to any idea or suggestion you may have. The more details presented with a suggestion, the better.

Please consider volunteering to help us all by serving on a Committee, fresh faces & ideas always make for a better Committee. We appreciate you giving serious thought to serving where you feel you will make the most of your experience, and thus we all will benefit. Thank you in advance.

I personally am thankful for Jim, Sharon, and Jason who have stepped up to serve as Officers of Texas Pond. And Linda, John & Ashley that give us a well-rounded wealth of knowledge on all that is Blue Goose.

Together we all can make 2018-2019 a great year for Texas Pond.

Dues Time



Ganders and/or current Goslings (someone who has completed an application) you can pay your dues on-line via a credit card at our Blue Goose website: www.bluegoosetx.Org. Click the tab for Membership, choose the appropriate Pond/Puddle for which you are a member of and complete the information. Once completed this will take you to the PayPal screen to pay. If you have not completed an application, come to a meeting to obtain an application.

The option to pay by credit card will be available until September 30th. Dues on line via a credit card will be

\$55.00 for the year. Should you want to pay your dues via a check or cash the Texas Pond will accept dues for \$50.00 at the meetings or one can mail them to Linda Meik.



BACKtoSCHOOL2018

Remember the joy of getting a new set of school supplies?

At Community Partners of Dallas, our kids are not approaching the start of school with the same excitement and support. Many will go back to school wishing for a new backpack or new uniforms. **They just want to fit in.**

This year we will provide backpacks filled with age appropriate school supplies and new uniforms to more than 3,500 abused and neglected children.

You can make a difference.

Donate. School supply donations can be delivered to Community Partners of Dallas' Central Location anytime between now and **August 31st.**

SUPPLIES WE NEED THE MOST:

Backpacks	Safety scissors
Composition books	Highlighters
Glue bottles	Construction paper
Pencil pouches	Calculators
Index cards	Blue & black pens
Colored pencils (12 ct)	1"-2" Binders
Markers (10 ct)	Rulers
Notebook paper	8 Tab dividers

Or, if you prefer, make a donation, and we'll happily do the shopping for you. Because of our bulk purchasing, every \$1 donated is equal to \$6 worth of school supplies and uniforms!

Last Month

The Texas Pond did not meet in the month of July. Two of our fine Ganders flew North to the Grand Nest Convention in Edmonton. Here is a quick overview on the convention followed by some pictures.

Grand Nest Convention Summary from Texas Pond Delegate, Jim Mathew

This was the second national convention I've attending, but I felt that I was among friends that I've known for some time. On the first evening of our gathering I came across several familiar faces that I first met last year. I was humbled by the ease in which our members entered into conversation with each other in a spirit of fellowship.

As is our tradition, we kicked off the official convention the next day with a guard presentation of the Canadian and American flags with the rousing sound of pipes. A thoughtful invocation from Andrew Happer, PMLG-Edmonton, set the tone for the Convention: let's remember why we're here- Fellowship, Character & Charity.

Our keynote speaker the first day was Diane Brickner, President and CEO of Peace Hill Insurance Co. She gave an encouraging talk about her experience with service in the community after having been at the receiving end of generosity during a difficult time. Whether it's paying forward or paying it back, I love being a part of this organization because I know that giving is good for my soul.

During our lunch the same day we heard from Shawn Kanungo, a strategist featured in Forbes, The Globe, The Guardian and spoke at TEDX. He brought us an ominous warning: "Your job will be taken over by robots. So, evolve or die." Shawn was encouraging those within the insurance industry to embrace technology and be prepared to make hard decisions. I got to speak with Shawn after his talk and asked him a few questions. I sincerely took his message to heart and have actually started looking into some of his recommendations.

In the late morning we held the Initiation for Goslings. The theme- "Toke Faire" was a hilarious approach in light

of the fact that Canada is about to legalize marijuana. There were “Dudes” and “Wanna be Dudes” instead of Ganders and Goslings.

In the afternoon, we held our Regional Meetings. In the Southern Region we discussed some of the issues each Pond was facing and then members of each Pond offered recommendations. I will say, I felt our Texas Pond is doing a lot of good things and doing them right. But, there’s room for improvement and growth.

Later in the evening we went to a Ukrainian Culture Center where we were entertained with traditional dances, food, including cabbage wrap, perogies, and jello-shots!!!. I had the pleasant opportunity to sit with Michael Peck from Calgary, who had his two handsome boys with him. I got to talk to him about all of his hiking adventures in Calgary with his wife and boys and the very real dangers that wild animals in Canada present. There be grizzlies here.

The next day we held more meetings covering a number of issues such as our budget, voting for new Officers, and our Charity Report. Dan Rich of the Hartford Pond made an excellent point. If anyone wants to see what Blue Goose is about, read our Charity Report. It’s impressive.

Our final event together was the Dinner Banquet. It was a lovely evening of food and entertainment. I got to sit w/ Archie Gillis and his wife of the Nova Scotia Pond. Here’s a man who’s been with the organization for years and his love clearly shows. These Conventions really brings together from around the continent those who bleed blue. If you want to know the Blue Goose more, I encourage you to attend these Conventions. They’ve been instrumental in my understanding the purpose of this organization and I look forward to attending many more Conventions in the future.

Now for a peak at the convention via pictures:



Looking down the street of Edmonton



Ukrainian Family Dinner – Ukraine is known as the bread basket of the Soviet Union. Today 1 in every 5 Albertan can claim a Ukrainian ancestry.



Looking across the river from the hotel in Edmonton



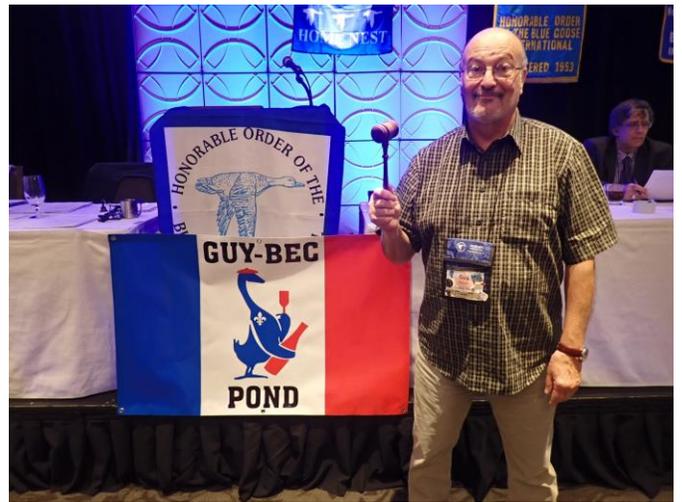
Ukrainian dress commonly associated with Ukrainian dance.



Ukrainian Dancers



Virginia and Texas enjoying the Ukrainian Evening



A creation of a new Pond in the Yukon Territory!



This is one of two Awards presented to the Texas Pond: The Most New & Reinstated members for the Southern Region in 2017-2018; and, the Texas Pond tied with the Edmonton Pond for the Communications Award.



The new Grand Nest Officers for 2018-2019 being installed by PMLGG Joe Coccia. Left to right: Kim Bilbrey, MLGG; Michael Smith, GCOG; Dan Rich, GSOF; and Wendy Knizek, GGON.



30 years as the Honorable Order of Blue Goose International Grand Wielder. The Grand Nest Officers presented Terry Maloney with a bottle of 30-year-old scotch.



Our young attendees with Gordy the Goose

Next month, a glimpse into the "Race To Indy" 2019 Convention will be presented, so stay tuned.



All the Officers dressed up for the Grand Ball. Back Row L to R: Michael Smith, GCOG; John Bishop, Grand Historian; Dan Rich, GSOF; Terry Maloney, GWGGQ. Front row L to R: Lorena Kohlrus, Judge Advocate; Wendy Kinezk, GGON; Kim Bilbrey, MLGG; Linda Meik, KGKGE.

Thoughts to Ponder

"Correction does much, but encouragement does more."
Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

"One life is all we have and we live as we believe in living it." Joan of Arc

"The world is becoming more complicated every day, my fellow citizens. No man ought to be foolish enough to think that he understands it all. And, therefore, I am glad that there are simple things in the world. One of the simple things is principle. Honesty is a perfect simple thing." Woodrow Wilson



See what's cooking for the Texas Pond Blue Goose 2018-2019 Year!

AUGUST MEETING - DALLAS
5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS
SECOND MONDAY AUGUST 13, 2018
ON THE BORDER, ADDISON, TX



SEPTEMBER MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

SECOND MONDAY SEPTEMBER 10, 2018

ON THE BORDER, ADDISON, TX

OCTOBER MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

SECOND MONDAY OCTOBER 8, 2018

ON THE BORDER, ADDISON, TX

NOVEMBER MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

SECOND MONDAY NOVEMBER 12, 2018

ON THE BORDER, ADDISON, TX

DECEMBER MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

SECOND MONDAY DECEMBER 10, 2018

ON THE BORDER, ADDISON, TX

Wielder of the Goose Quill - Linda Meik

(M) 682-715-5341 lindameik9@gmail.com



“During any of the Texas Pond events, photos and videos may be taken for the benefit of HOBGI – Texas Pond. By attending, you consent to the taking of these images and to the use of your likeness within the images for HOBGI’s use, including but not limited to promotional, charitable and commercial, among other uses.”



Texas Pond Officers

2018 – 2019

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Guardian of the Pond – Jason Znoy (W) 469-23-4318

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Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg – John Sterrantino

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And

Ashley Hansen (w) 817-788-3008 ashansen@aol.com