



# TEXAS POND HONKER

January 2018

Character, Charity, Fellowship

## DFW TEXAS POND

**DATE: Monday, January 8, 2018**

**TIME: 5:30 p.m.**

**PLACE: Sloan & Williams**

2018 New Year Kick Off Event



**Dig out your Western Attire; Put on your Boots & Kick Up those Heels!!!!!!!!!!**

The Honorable Order of Blue Goose International  
– Texas Pond invites you to join us on Monday,  
January 8, 2018 from 5:30 pm to 9:30 pm

## SLOAN & WILLIAMS

## WINERY & TASTING ROOM

EST. 2014 - GRAPEVINE, TX

401 South Main Street, Grapevine, TX 76051



**Lite Appetizers; Wine, Outlaw Cider, Bellinis**



**Live Music**



**Scratch Off**



**Silent Auction**



**Raffles**

Register to attend at [www.bluegoosetx.org](http://www.bluegoosetx.org)

\$20 advanced registration until January 4, 2018; after that date & at the door registration is \$35. Please note, spouses and guests are welcome to attend and partake of the fun.

**Proceeds from event benefit:**

**Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children and  
The Blue Goose Texas Pond Scholarship Fund**

**Sponsors for this event are:**

**NELSON**  
F O R E N S I C S

  
**Crawford**

 **SHARPLINE**  
ALLOCATIONS



**CHAPMAN CONSULTING**  
Experts in Healthcare Claims Resolution

**BCS**

**BUCHANAN CLARKE SCHLADER LLP**  
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## *Root Tooting Texas Pond Sheriff - MLG, Jim Mathew*

One of my favorite quotes is, "Don't say, 'That's the way I am- it's my character.' It's your lack of character!" With the New Year, it's a good time to reflect upon our personal growth and establish goals for upcoming year. I believe this coincides with one of our cardinal elements- character. When I speak of character I consider the classical virtues like justice and temperance. Watching and reading the news, we see various segments of our society are racked by scandal. There's not only an indifference towards character or merely the lack thereof. It seems the problem is far worse: contempt for the idea of character. Some people seem to believe that power, wealth or fame excuses the need for character. But even people who live more ordinary lives can fall into this trap when they become too familiar with those around them believing it (familiarity) excuses the expectation of good character.

Certainly, as insurance professionals the importance of character can't be stressed enough. Many of us are vested with a great degree of discretionary authority, which requires careful consideration and exercise of character. In our individual private lives there are even more occasions to exercise character. Further, there shouldn't be two versions of ourselves- one in the office and one at home. Instead, we should aim to be congruent in both. So, let us try to improve upon ourselves everyday every year. Cast off the excuses such as "I'm too stuck in my ways, or this is just the way I am." Dig deep and demand more of ourselves.



## **THE TEXAS POND WEB SITE**

Every month we update items on our website and in addition, this is where you can obtain all past newsletters. Also, did you know you can join our Facebook and LinkedIn groups via our website.

## *Last Month*

Appetizers for the December meeting were provided by Roger Foltz.

Last month we had to make a quick change in meeting locations. The Texas Pond assembled for some Holiday merriment at Cantina Laredo.

We also collected new or slightly used books for Scottish Rite Children's Hospital and accepted donations for NTFB. Our Charity Chair stated that this was the biggest collection of books, games or puzzles that the Texas Pond has collected for Scottish Rite.

For NTFB we collected \$1,220. This was sent to NTFB where it was matched from funds sponsored by the Beaumont Foundation and Sammons Enterprises, Inc. This means that this Holiday Season the Texas Pond help supply 7,320 meals to families in the North Texas and surrounding areas.







The Holiday Merriment was kicked off with folks coming in their UGLY Christmas Seaters or ties and showing off their fashion sense!



The Judges recognized 4 winners in the Texas Pond Holiday Fashion Show: Left to right: Matt Arnold – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place; Caesar Mercado – 4<sup>th</sup> Place; Trish Acosta – 1<sup>st</sup> Place; and Roger Foltz – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place.



This Gander, Roger Foltz, came decked out in a complete Holiday suit.

He was the 2<sup>nd</sup> Place winner in our fashionable



Pug'ly & Ugly!



Note on Ms. Emily's sweater is an adorable picture of a Pug!

One of our newest Ganders, dug deep in her closet to assemble her best look for the Season!

Trish Acosta was our 1<sup>st</sup> Place Winner.

Congratulations Trisha!



## Thoughts to Ponder

"The greatest gift of life is friendship, and I have received it." - **Hubert H. Humphrey**

"All our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them." - **Walt Disney**

"Always be a first-rate version of yourself, instead of a second-rate version of somebody else."  
- **Judy Garland**

"Great leaders don't set out to be a leader.... they set out to make a difference. It's never about the role and always about the goal." **Dr. Travis Bradbury**



## Calendar of Events 2017- 2018 Blue Goose Year

### **FEBRUARY MEETING - DALLAS**

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS  
**SECOND MONDAY FEBRUARY 12, 2018**  
**ON THE BORDER, DALLAS, TX**

### **MARCH MEETING - DALLAS**

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS  
**SECOND MONDAY MARCH 13, 2018**  
**ON THE BORDER, DALLAS, TX**

### **APRIL MEETING - DALLAS**

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS  
**SECOND MONDAY APRIL 10, 2018**  
**ON THE BORDER, DALLAS, TX**

### **MAY MEETING - DALLAS**

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS  
**SECOND MONDAY MAY 8, 2018**  
**ON THE BORDER, DALLAS, TX**

**12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT**  
**BEAR CREEK COUNTRY CLUB**  
**JUNE 8, 2017 8:30 A.M. SHOTGUN**

### **JUNE MEETING - DALLAS**

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS  
**SECOND MONDAY JUNE 12, 2018**  
**ON THE BORDER, DALLAS, TX**

### **JULY MEETING - DALLAS**

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS  
**SECOND MONDAY JULY 10, 2018**  
**ON THE BORDER, DALLAS, TX**

### **GRAND NEST CONVENTION**

**EDMONTON, CANADA**  
**JULY 11 – JULY 13, 2018**



## Texas Pond Officers

### **2017 – 2018**

**Most Loyal Gander** – Jim Mathew – (C )469- 569-2246 [jim.mathew83@gmail.com](mailto:jim.mathew83@gmail.com)

**Supervisor of the Flock** – Roger Foltz (C) 214-914-3733 [Rbfoltz@aol.com](mailto:Rbfoltz@aol.com)

**Custodian of the Goslings** – Bryan Pope (C) 214-354-1649 [bpope@vinlaw.com](mailto:bpope@vinlaw.com)

**Guardian of the Pond** – TBD

**Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg** – John Sterrantino  
(w) 972-931-8307 [johns@williamsripa.com](mailto:johns@williamsripa.com)  
And

Ashley Hansen (w) 817-788-3008 [ashansen@aol.com](mailto:ashansen@aol.com)

**Wielder of the Goose Quill** - Linda Meik  
(M) 682-715-5341 [lindameik9@gmail.com](mailto: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."*



**REMEMBER GO REGISTER TO  
ATTEND THE NEW YEAR KICK  
OFF EVENT! COME DRESSED IN  
YOUR WESTERN ATTIRE.**

**We are** a fraternal organization of individuals who work in the insurance related industry.

**We are** home office executives, field claims reps, auditors, underwriters, general adjusters, agents, brokers, investigators, contractors, regulators, appraisers, salvors, attorneys, engineers, and a host of others.

**We meet** socially, and not as a part of any insurance or industry group. Our mutual link is the career experience we have in our chosen field

**Blue Goose** offers the opportunity to meet and know individuals from the U.S. and Canada, and to be involved with worthwhile charitable endeavors resulting in lasting, long-term friendships and a sense of generous accomplishment.