



TEXAS POND HONKER

August 2016

Character, Charity, Fellowship

DFW TEXAS POND

DATE: Monday, August 8, 2016

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 are collecting dues for 2016-2017 Blue Goose Year. The Blue Goose year ended on June 30th and July 1st we started the new year

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.com. Click the tab for Dues, 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 then the Texas Pond will accept dues for \$50.00 at the meetings during this time span, which we

are referring to as our “Early Bird in Person Rate”. With the check or cash option, please update your work and personal information via the BG File Information form, which you can request from Linda.

All dues from current Ganders & Goslings are due by September to maintain your active status with the Texas Pond. Thanks to those who have paid their dues.

At our August meeting we will be collecting school supplies, which we will present to Community Partners of Dallas. See the attached list of supplies they would like to be collecting:

BACK to SCHOOL 2016

at community partners of dallas

Serving 2,500 Dallas County children

School Supply Wish List for 2016

- Markers
- Glue bottles
- Construction paper
- Manila paper
- Binders
- Backpacks
- Pink erasers
- Kleenex
- Calculators
- Compasses
- Pencil pouches

\$25 Donation provides a child with the right tools





She is singing our song MLG, Daphney Elliott



110th Grand Nest Convention, St. Louis, Missouri, July 2016

What a Grand Time everyone had at this year's convention. We wish you could have been there with us. The convention location was in the heart of downtown St. Louis right by the famous Gateway Arch, Busch Stadium, amazing restaurants and unique museums. The Cardinals played every night that we were there. And Blue Goose Ganders flocked to the 110th Grand Nest Convention with their families and guests.

Want to know the top three things Ganders and their families enjoy at Grand Nest Conventions? They love having a great time with familiar faces from all over the U.S. and Canada. They love meeting new Ganders and making new friendships. And they love being a tourist in the city where the convention is held.

But I have to tell you about a couple of things that really stood out at this convention that I am most proud of and excited about...

Our Texas Pond was chosen to receive the very prestigious Gordon F. Crowther Charity Award this year. Many ponds around the country and in Canada had outstanding results from their charitable efforts, but only one Pond can win this award. What set us apart from the other ponds was our charity goal setting. We decided this past fiscal year to set a goal of collecting the equivalent of \$100 per member. We not only achieved that goal, but surpassed it and had the highest collections for charity in our Pond history. Linda, Ray and I were so excited to accept this award and bring it back to Texas for all of you to see.

The other thing I have to gush about how proud we were watching our own Linda Meik being inducted into the highest position in all of Blue Goose land...the Most Loyal Grand Gander!! We got to hear from several Ganders who have worked with Linda over many years to promote, grow, and better this organization. They truly understand how hard she has worked, appreciate her dedication and passion and respect her placement at the top of the Blue Goose ladder. We watched as Linda received the praise and respect she deserves for working tirelessly to build Puddles and Ponds all across the South as well as assist in building other regions. Linda is only the 3rd woman to ever hold this position. It is an incredible honor and commitment. Please let Linda know how proud you are of her for accepting this position and for all of her dedication to Blue Goose. She makes us PROUD!

Lastly, start planning now to join us at next year's convention in Savannah, GA. It is going to be a REAL TREAT!!

Blue Goose Advertisers for 2015- 2016

The Texas Pond "Honker" (Blue Goose) newsletter is published 12 times a year, so each month your ad will appear in the newsletter.

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THE TEXAS POND WEB SITE

Check out our website, we have made several exciting updates to our website.

Our web site address is: www.bluegoosetx.com or you can also go to the Blue Goose Grand Nest: www.bluegoose.org

October 10th Rooftop Roundup

Blue Goose - Texas Pond
Invites You & Your Guests
to a Private Rooftop Event



El Fenix Private Room & Rooftop Patio
in Downtown Dallas

1601 McKinney, Dallas, TX 75202 / 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

\$20 per person includes 2 drinks and appetizers

Register online at www.BlueGooseTX.org

or \$30 (CASH ONLY) at the door

Enjoy spectacular views of Downtown Dallas
Take part in our Charity Raffle
Visit with friends old & new
Proceeds support your Texas Pond Charities

\$20 event fee refunded to all guests who complete an application & pay \$50 dues to join Blue Goose on this evening!!

Sponsorships limited to 5 non-competing companies at \$250

Contact Daphney Elliott for more information at 972-342-8728

Last Month



Now you want me to do WHAT??????



Linda sharing a grand toast with some of the Texas Pond ganders & guests. Those of you not at this table need to ask this group of fine gentlemen about this toast.



111th Grand Nest Convention
Southern Region Convention
Savannah, Georgia
July 9-15, 2017

This is just one of the sights in Savannah, Georgia the city for the 2017 Grand Nest Convention. Along with these two Savannah beauties:



Linda Meik and Mary Kay Marchetti

At the St. Louis Grand Nest Convention, we rolled out a preview of our convention and the events planned.

To help fund this convention, each Southern Region Pond & Puddle has made yearly contributions to this endeavor. In addition, we have had 50:50 raffles, sold pins, and obtained several gifts in kind donations. We now are on a campaign to solicit corporate sponsors and we need everyone to assist in this campaign.

To date, the following corporate sponsors have been obtained: Sedgwick, Vericlim, Haag Engineering, Chapman Consulting, U.S. Financial Group, Midkiff Munice & Ross, and Robinson, P.C.

For the various sponsorship levels please see either Ray Wicker or Linda Meik for information.

Our convention website will be launched here shortly. Stay tuned for further updates.



“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.”

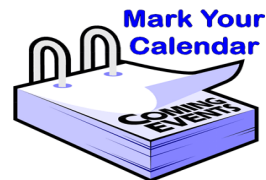
Quotable Quotes

“When I let go of what I am, I become what I might be”
Lao Tzu

“Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever” **Mahatma Gandhi**

“Life isn’t about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself..” **George Bernard Shaw**

“You never fail until you stop trying.” **Albert Einstein**



Calendar of Events

2016- 2017 Blue Goose Year

2016-2017 BLUE GOOSE YEAR BEGINS

AUGUST MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

DUES COLLECTION FOR 2016-2017

SECOND MONDAY AUGUST 8, 2016

ON THE BORDER, DALLAS, TX

SEPTEMBER MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

SECOND MONDAY SEPTEMBER 12, 2016

ON THE BORDER, DALLAS, TX

OCTOBER MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS
SECOND MONDAY OCTOBER 10, 2016
ON THE BORDER, DALLAS, TX

NOVEMBER MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS
SECOND MONDAY NOVEMBER 14, 2016
ON THE BORDER, DALLAS, TX

DECEMBER MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS
SECOND MONDAY DECEMBER 12, 2016
ON THE BORDER, DALLAS, TX



Texas Pond Officers 2016 – 2017

Most Loyal Gander – Daphney Elliott (W) 972-342-8728 Daphney.Elliott@HospitalBillReview.com

Supervisor of the Flock – Jim Mathews – (C) 469-569-2246 jim.mathew83@gmail.com

Custodian of the Goslings – Roger Foltz (C) 214-914-3733 Rbfoltz@aol.com

Guardian of the Pond – Ruben Castilla (C) 214-432-4414 castilla.rmc@gmail.com

Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg – John Sterrantino (w) 972-931-8307 johns@williamsripa.com

And

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

Wielder of the Goose Quill - Linda Meik (M) 817-269-6516 lsmeik@aol.com



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.



Our Grand Nest Officers 2016-2017

Most Loyal Grand Gander
Linda Meik, Texas Pond

Grand Supervisor of the Flock
Mark Robertson, Edmonton Pond

Grand Custodian of the Ganders
Kim Bilbrey, Dayton Pond

Grand Guardian of the Nest
Dan Rich, Hartford Pond

Grand Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg
Randy Wilson, St. Louis Pond

Grand Wielder of the Goose Quill
Terry Maloney, Wisconsin Home Nest

Judge Advocate
Lorena Kohlruss, BC Pond

Grand Nest Historian
John Bishop, Nova Scotia Pond



How about a
SNEAK PEEK?

Into the St. Louis Convention!



Welcome Party gathering!



Ray demonstrating his fine dance moves!



The youngsters watching the ganders (adults) demonstrate their skills at the Welcome Party.



Three Southern Region beauties: Cathy Hester- Alabama; Mary Kay Marchetti – Virginia & Linda Meik – Texas.



Ray and his daughter Mackenzie, our 2015-2016 scholarship winner.

Note that all the Southern Region folks were decked out in red for the fun & frolic at the Welcome Party!



MLGG Randy Wilson calling the 110th Grand Nest Convention to Order.



Terry being lead thru the many obstacles via Hands Across the Border Team.



The Color Guard from the Veterans of Foreign Wars District 12 accompanied by the Lewis & Clark Fife and Drum Corp of St. Charles.



Cathy Hester – Alabama, Daphney Elliott – Texas and Linda Meik – Texas at the All Industry luncheon.



These two pics are demonstrating the flight of the goose. The Hands Across the Border Initiation Team. Terry Maloney, Grand Wielder was the goose for this demonstration from the cold tundra to the rice fields.



One of the highlights of this convention was the dinner at the Fox Theater. The following pictures only give a very brief glimpse into this incredibly beautiful renovated theater.



Linda Meik & Cathy Hester at the Fox Theater dinner.



Ask Ray Wicker about this picture and the \$1575 bid.



A table filled with mementos that ganders bid on.



Grand Nest Reception prior to the Grand Banquet.



Ray Wicker giving a presentation on the upcoming Savannah Convention in 2017



Two young gals sharing some friendship and music together.



The newly installed Grand Nest Officers for 2016-2017, with the PMLGGs who did the installation.



The Dancing Queens - Cathy Hester, Mary Kay Marchetti, Linda Meik, and Linda's granddaughter, Ms. Aubrey at the Grand Ball.



The Family Luncheon at the Ballpark Village.



Ms. Daphney was up to her usual self with creative antics.



Is Daphney Elliott really driving this bus????? I am sure there is a story here that we all want to hear.



Remember to pay your dues.



D/FW RIMS – Fall Conference, Spa Day and Golf Tournament

When:

Conference – October 27th

Spa Day – October 28th

Golf Tournament – October 28th

Where:

Conference at Marriott at the Shops at Legacy

Golf at Bear Creek Golf Course

Spa at Relache Spa – Gaylord Texan

D/FW RIMS Chapter is pleased to open their registration for individuals wishing to attend the Fall Conference, Spa Day and/or Golf Tournament. Please check the D/FW RIMS website for more information or you can contact John Mayfield, RIMS Chapter (469-767-5684 or at dfwrimsmembership@gmail.com).