

TEXAS POND HONKER

January 2016

Character, Charity, Fellowship

DFW TEXAS POND

DATE: Monday, January 11, 2016

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

PLACE: Love & War in Texas



2505 E Grapevine Mills Cir, Grapevine, TX 76051

**Purchase Tickets Online \$10.00 Through Jan 6th
At the door price is \$25 (Cash Only)**

Bring your Partner/Invite Future Ganders



She is singing our song MLG, Daphney Elliott

Looking Back ~ Looking Forward

This is, of course, the time of year when we take a look at the experiences of the prior year and begin preparing for the upcoming months. To most of us, the positive experiences we had during the past 12 months tend to be

the ones that stand out in our minds. But we are all optimistic and hopeful about our futures.

The Order of the Blue Goose wants your membership with the organization to be a positive and rewarding experience in every way. You should come away from every Blue Goose meeting or event feeling positive about your experience whether it's from your own personal and professional character development, from the relationships you have with fellow Ganders, or from the feeling you have knowing you have helped contribute to our one of our beneficiaries.

Your Texas Pond officers and committees work hard to ensure that your experience with the Texas Pond is valuable, enriching and positive. If at any time it is not just that, we need to know and we love feedback on ways to improve going forward.

As you say "Goodbye" to 2015 and remember the good times, we hope 2016 is even better including your experiences with the Blue Goose Texas Pond. Make a commitment to be involved and invite new members to join you. Let's spread the word that Blue Goose is rewarding both professionally and personally for those in the insurance industry. As our organization continues to grow, we all benefit in a multitude of ways.

Your Texas Pond wishes much happiness and prosperity to you, your families, and your companies in the coming months. Cheers to the New Year 2016!!

Quotable Quotes

Don't let yesterday take up too much of today." -**Will Rogers**

"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream." - **C.S. Lewis**

BLUE GOOSE-TEXAS POND
2016 KICK-OFF PARTY
&
RUSH FOR NEW GOSLINGS EVENT!

LOVE & WAR IN TEXAS, GRAPEVINE



2505 E GRAPEVINE MILLS CIR,
GRAPEVINE, TX 76051

Monday, January 11th **6:00 PM**
Purchase Tickets Online \$10.00 Through Jan 6th

\$25 cash **at the door**
Bring your Partner/Invite Future Ganders

APPETIZERS ~ DRINKS ~ FOOTBALL POOL
~ RAFFLE ITEMS

PLAY IN OUR
FOOTBALL SQUARES GAME



\$500 SCHOLARSHIP FUND
\$500 TOTAL PAYOUT TO WINNERS

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TO SUPPORT

WOUNDED WARRIOR
PROJECT

NATIONALLY ACCEPTED CARDS SUCH AS:
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CABELA'S ~ EXXON

Details at www.BlueGooseTX.com

Or Contact

Darrell Cole dcole@supremeroofing.com

214.762.9046

Harry Hoyt harry.hoyt@us.qbe.com 469.400.0110

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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.

Rolling Towards the Southern Region Convention in 2017

At 211 degrees, water is hot.
 At 212 degrees, it boils.
 And with boiling water comes steam....
 And with steam, you can power a train.

The Southern Region's convention pin has arrived. The pin was shared with folks at the 109th convention in Baltimore. This pin is available for the Pond members to purchase. The funds raised from the sale of these pins goes toward the Southern Region convention in 2017. The pin cost is \$20.



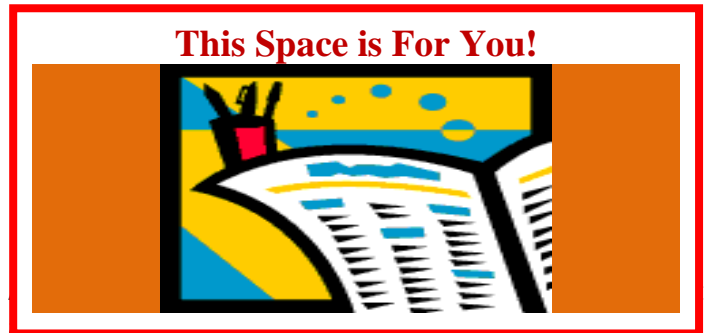
Watch for more details on powering this train as we head towards Savannah in 2017.

MEMBERSHIP

Extending the hand of friendship..... No matter where you are.....remember membership recruitment is key to our organization, and each of us must do their part!



Did You Know?
 The Blue Goose Organization has 39 Ponds & several Puddles across the USA & Canada in its organization and as of to-date we have 3843 members.



Half Page ad is \$900 for the year; and a Full Page size ad is \$1,200 for the year.

Anyone, wanting to advertise in our Blue Goose newsletter contact Linda Meik at 817-269-6516 or via email at lsmeik@aol.com.

2015 – 2016 ADVERTISERS




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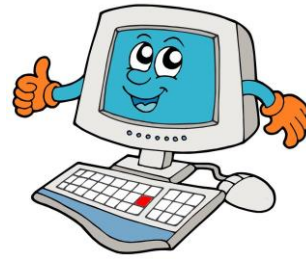
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THE TEXAS POND WEB SITE

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

Last Month

Six Goslings took their first official swim in the Texas Pond during the December meeting. At the meeting each Gosling that was initiated was given a questionnaire to compete and were advised if they did not complete & send it in, we could make up stuff about them or assign them to various tasks. Well 3 of them returned the questionnaire and 3 did not.....so the three (3) that did not, well stay tuned for what we have in store for them. Below is a snapshot of three new Ganders, who completed the form. Take time to meet them and to continue welcoming them to the flock.



Mary Bramley

Ms. Bramley joined the Texas Pond of Blue Goose via a referral from Carol Fischer-Rogers. Mary is married with two awesome sons (ages 8 & 5). She works for Nomad Adjusting doing their marketing. The best part of her work is the people whom she works with. Mary's hobbies are running, boxing and doing anything with those awesome little boys of hers and her husband Dann.



Dave Janak

As the Claims Manager for VeriClaim, Inc., Dave loves working with the adjuster training program. Dave heard about Blue Goose from his boss and fellow Gander, Ronnie Adcock. When he is not sitting behind that desk at



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SAVE THE DATE

GOLF TIME IS AROUND THE CORNER!



TEXAS BLUE GOOSE POND'S 11th ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

PROCEEDS BENEFITING THE
FOLLOWING CHARITIES

North Texas Food Bank Scottish Rite Hospital
Wounded Warriors

Friday, May 6, 2016

Bear Creek Golf Club

3500 Bear Creek Court, Dallas, Texas 75261

For further details, contact Wayne Ottoway at 214-220-5683 or via email at Wayne.ottoway@cna.com.

work, he loves to play golf and keeping up with the various sports teams. He has been married for 40 years, has 2 children and 2 granddaughters. Dave loves the networking aspect of Blue Goose, but more than anything he loves spending time with those precious granddaughters.



John Stalsworth

John is the Commercial Account Manager for ServPro of Park Cities/North Garland. He has been with them for 7 years. John is married and has one daughter. As for hobbies or special interests, John loves to play the guitar, coach his daughter's basketball team and anything that is outdoors. What stands out to John about the Texas Pond is how friendly the members are and how they care about the organization.



Linda James



Matt Vail



Margaret Mead

**Blue Goose ~ Texas Pond
TOY DRIVE for Community Partners of Dallas
33 toys and 4 cash donations totaling \$530**



Community Partners of Dallas is a nonprofit organization dedicated to ensuring safety and restoring dignity and hope to abused and neglected children by providing resources and support to the caseworkers of Dallas County Child Protective Services.



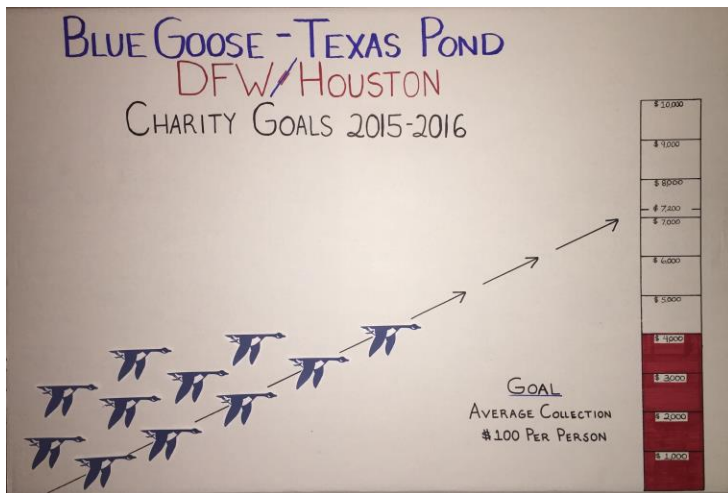
Just look at these smiling faces.





Every gift made to the North Texas Food Bank between November 20 and December 31 was matched dollar-for-dollar until they met their \$200,000 challenge. The gifts had TWICE the impact in the fight against hunger here in North Texas! The Honorable Order of the Blue Goose – Texas Pond is proud to have contributed \$500, which then doubled to \$1000.

The Texas Pond is soaring high in its Charity endeavors. At the close of our December meeting, the Texas Pond has made donations to our various beneficiaries totaling **\$5,041**.



Our charity goal for 2015-2016 is an average of \$100 per member. Our current membership is 78 wonderful Ganders.



“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.”



Calendar of Events

2015- 2016 Blue Goose Year

JANUARY MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS
NEW YEAR KICK-OFF/RUSH FOR GOSLINGS
SECOND MONDAY JANUARY 11, 2016
LOVE & WAR IN TEXAS, GRAPEVINE, TX

FEBRUARY MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS
SECOND MONDAY FEBRUARY 8, 2016
ON THE BORDER, DALLAS, TX

MARCH MEETING - DALLAS

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

APRIL MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS
GOSLING INITIATION
SECOND MONDAY APRIL 11, 2016
ON THE BORDER, DALLAS, TX

BLUE GOOSE 11TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT
HOLD THIS DATE: MAY 6, 2016

MAY MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS
BEGIN DUES COLLECTION FOR 2016-2017
PRESENTATION OF 2016-2017 SLATE OF OFFICERS
SECOND MONDAY MAY 9, 2016
ON THE BORDER, DALLAS, TX

JUNE MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS
DUES COLLECTION FOR 2016-2017
INSTALLATION OF 2016-2017 SLATE OF OFFICERS
SECOND MONDAY JUNE 13, 2016
ON THE BORDER, DALLAS, TX



Upcoming Grand Nest Events

July 2016

110th Grand Nest Convention

St Louis Pond

<http://www.bluegoosestl.org>

July 20-23, 2016

July 2017

111th Grand Nest Convention

Southern Region Convention

Savannah, Georgia

<http://bluegoosetx.com>

July 9-15, 2017



Texas Pond Officers

2015 - 2016

Most Loyal Gander – Daphney Elliott (W) 972-342-8728

Daphney.Elliott@HospitalBillReview.com

Supervisor of the Flock – Vacant – TBD

Custodian of the Goslings – Roger Foltz (C) 214-914-3733

Rbfoltz@aol.com

Guardian of the Pond – Wayne Ottoway (W) 214-220-

5683 wayne.ottoway@cna.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



Our Grand Nest Officers 2015-2016

Most Loyal Grand Gander

Randy Wilson, St. Louis Pond

Grand Supervisor of the Flock

Linda Meik, Texas Pond

Grand Custodian of the Ganders

Mark Robertson, Edmonton Pond

Grand Guardian of the Nest

Kim Bilbrey, Dayton Pond

Grand Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg

Dan Rich, Hartford Pond

Grand Wielder of the Goose Quill

Terry Maloney, Wisconsin Home Nest

Judge Advocate

Robert Cockerham, St. Louis Pond

Grand Nest Historian

Jerry Hale, Hartford Pond



SENSE OF THE GOOSE

In the fall when you see Geese heading south for the winter flying along in the “V” formation, you might be interested in knowing what science has discovered about why they fly that way.

It has been learned that as each bird flaps its wings, it creates uplift for the bird immediately following it.

By flying in a “V” formation the whole flock adds at least 71% greater flying range than if each bird flew on its own. People who are part of a team and share a common direction get where they are going quicker and easier, because they are traveling on the trust of one another.

Whenever a Goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to go through it alone and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the power of the flock.

If we have as much sense as a Goose, we will share information with those who are headed the same way that we are going.

When the lead Goose gets tired, he rotates back in the wing and another Goose takes over. It pays to share leadership and take turns during hard jobs.

The Geese HONK from behind to encourage those up front to keep their speed.

Words of support and inspiration help energize those on the front line, helping them to keep pace in spite of the day-to-day pressures and fatigue.

If we have the sense of a Goose, we will stand by each other when things get tough.

The next time you see a formation of Geese, remember...

IT'S A REWARD, A CHALLENGE, & A PRIVILEGE TO BE A CONTRIBUTING MEMBER OF A TEAM!!!!!!

Some More Humor

