



# TEXAS POND HONKER

March 2017

Character, Charity, Fellowship

## DFW TEXAS POND

**DATE: Monday, March 13, 2017**

**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.



Following our business meeting, we will assemble Easter Baskets for The Family Place. We need items to make the Easter Baskets, so consider bringing an empty basket or two, some grass and items and/or candy to put in these baskets.

Last year we made 20 baskets, so how about let's shoot for 30 this year and let's help put some awesome smiles on kids faces.

## Ways to Support our Charities

**NTFB BOX:** If you have canned food at home, bring it to any meeting and put in the NTFB box. Or, stop at the nearby grocery store and grab a few cans. When the box gets filled we will deliver to NTFB.

**CHARITY BOWL:** Each us carries around a lot of spare or loose change, well let's lighten your load and give you a place to deposit these coins. This charity bowl is on the registration table. Remember, any amount is welcome and these coins really add up.



Appetizers are going to be furnished by Lemieux & Associates. Take time to thank Ms. Sherry Wallis-Montes.

Daphney Elliott, MLG



## Developing CHARACTER within our Pond!

Character is defined as the combination of traits and qualities distinguishing the individual nature of a person. The way someone thinks, feels and behaves. The mental and moral qualities distinctive to an

individual. When we describe someone's personality, disposition or their temperament we are pointing out their character traits.

Martin Luther King, Jr once said "I look to a day when people will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character."

We are all being judged every day. What impression do you want to leave behind at home, at work, with friends, with family, or at the grocery store? What does your character say about you?

Think about your day and the people you have been in contact with throughout the day. Are you happy with the interactions you have had with your contacts so far today? If you could change anything, would you? What positive character traits do you believe your contacts use to describe you? What negative traits would you like to improve upon?

The Order of the Blue Goose holds three main precepts at the forefront of all that is done within the organization. These precepts are Character, Charity and Fellowship. We look for ways to develop Character in our members, promote Charity within our Ponds, and provide opportunity for Fellowship every time we get together.

Involvement in your Pond is a surefire way to hone the type of character traits that will best benefit you not only at work, but with everyone you meet. Our committees and officer positions can help you develop your ability to communicate effectively, collaborate with others, and build your self-confidence. Among the many other benefits, you can improve your leadership, organizational and time management skills.

My personal favorite benefit of being more involved in an organization is the ability to really get to know the members I am working with. Hopefully those members appreciate by better character traits and are willing to overlook the weaker traits I am working on. I urge you to get involved, volunteer, and let us know if you are interested in holding an officer position. It's a Win/Win for us all.



## Scholarship Applications Now Being Accepted Through Midnight April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017

You will find the application along with the complete requirements and details on our Blue Goose Texas Pond website under the "Education" tab:

<http://www.bluegoosetx.org/>

## *Last Month*

At the February, Blue Goose meeting, we initiated six awesome new Ganders. Look at these great folks and be sure to give them a great bid Texas Pond greeting at our next meeting.



Matt Borden is a Sr. Adjuster with VeriClaim. He is single and likes golf, football, and working out. Ronnie Adcock told Matt about Blue Goose. And he likes the networking aspect of Blue Goose best so far.

Marc McMillan is married to Brandi McMillan who is the Director of Provider Services at Molina Healthcare. They have 2 young boys...Maddox is 4 yrs old and Maddon is 7 months old. Marc is a Client Advocate at RIMKUS Consulting Group. What he likes best about his work is working for a great company with awesome people and educating their clients on what experts are able to assist them with their assignments. Marc has many hobbies...he is an abstract artist, wood worker, he manages his adult soccer team, he likes sports, working

out, and likes playing with his little people/family and animals.

Steven Keefer is married with 2 adult children and 5 grandchildren which include 4 boys and 1 girl. He is the AVP-Operations Manager with Sedgwick, Inc. He enjoys the challenge of working with both clients and his fellow colleagues. His hobbies include golf, movies, and going to the grandchildren's games. He heard about Blue Goose through Linda Meik tirelessly working on him to become a member! It worked! But he was aware of Blue Goose since back in 1977 in San Diego at BG sponsored golf tournaments. He likes the tight knit group of our pond and our focus on charity.

Daniel Justitz is married to Tracy and has two daughters. He is a Team Leader with Sedgwick and he best likes the people he works with and his team. His favorite hobby is motorcycles. He heard about Blue Goose through his boss. And so far, he best likes the culture of Blue Goose and the friendly welcoming members.

Sharon Wilkins is married to Ken Cowle. She is the Claims Manager at Sedgwick over the AT&T Liability Team. Her hobbies include reading and day hiking. She heard about Blue Goose through Steven Keefer. And so far, she best likes the friendly people and the secret initiation.

Amanda Hignight is married to her high school sweetheart. They have been married almost 17 years. They have two girls...Taylor is 9 yrs old and Kodi is 6 yrs old. She is a Senior Manager with VeriClaim and she likes that she gets to work in different industries with great co-workers. Her hobbies include hanging out in their backyard with her family, swimming, and cooking out. Her managers are the first to introduce her to Blue Goose. She enjoys the great group of people in our Pond that are very friendly and welcoming.



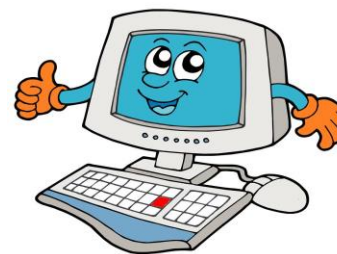
Ray Wicker provided a Southern Region Convention update. He shared the highlights of our agenda.



*“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.”*



The Texas Pond to date has made some great strides in our charitable activities for 2016-2017. We set a goal of \$50 per member towards charity and we are glad to report that we have donated \$6,467.47 to organizations, and \$1380 to the Scholarship fund; a grand total of \$7,847.47. We have 82 members this equates to \$95.70 per member.



*How the Blue Goose - Texas Pond is Connecting With You!*

**OUR NEW AND IMPROVED TEXAS POND WEBSITE: [WWW.BLUEGOOSETX.ORG](http://WWW.BLUEGOOSETX.ORG)**

*Have you taken a peak at this revised new site?????*

This is where all the newsletters and Pond info is housed. You will find upcoming events information, a gallery of pictures from our past events, Officers and contact information.

Our web site address is: [www.bluegoosetx.com](http://www.bluegoosetx.com) or you can also go to the Blue Goose Grand Nest: [www.bluegoose.org](http://www.bluegoose.org)

*Have you joined either of our two social media groups? If not, please do so today!*



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1611270679166224/>



<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12010419>

Jim Mathew, Supervisor of the Flock and Ruben Castilla, Guardian of the Pond will be keeping the Facebook account updated with pertinent info on Pond activities.

Daphney Elliott, our Most Loyal Gander will be seeing that LinkedIn is updated.

Linda Meik, our Wielder will be updating the website. What an awesome team in spreading the Texas Pond Blue Goose news and what an awesome way to start 2017!



111<sup>th</sup> Grand Nest Convention  
Southern Region Convention  
Savannah, Georgia  
July 9-15, 2017

**Are we going to get to see you in Savannah???**

## Thoughts to Ponder

"The Seven Social Sins are:

Wealth without work.  
Pleasure without conscience.  
Knowledge without character.  
Commerce without morality.  
Science without humanity.  
Worship without sacrifice.  
Politics without principle.

From a sermon given by Frederick Lewis Donaldson in Westminster Abbey, London, on March 20, 1925."

"Be more concerned with your character than your reputation, because your character is what you really are, while your reputation is merely what others think you are."

— **John Wooden**



## Texas Pond Officers

**2016 – 2017**

**Most Loyal Gander** – Daphney Elliott (W) 972-342-8728 [Daphney.Elliott@HospitalBillReview.com](mailto:Daphney.Elliott@HospitalBillReview.com)

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

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

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

**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 [lsmeik@aol.com](mailto:lsmeik@aol.com)



**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 Kohruss. BC Pond

**Grand Nest Historian**  
John Bishop, Nova Scotia Pond



## Calendar of Events 2016- 2017 Blue Goose Year

### **APRIL MEETING - DALLAS**

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS  
**SECOND MONDAY APRIL 10, 2017**  
ON THE BORDER, DALLAS, TX

### **MAY MEETING - DALLAS**

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS  
**SECOND MONDAY MAY 8, 2017**  
ON THE BORDER, DALLAS, TX

### **JUNE MEETING - DALLAS**

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS  
**SECOND MONDAY JUNE 12, 2017**  
ON THE BORDER, DALLAS, TX

### **JULY MEETING - DALLAS**

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS  
**SECOND MONDAY JULY 10, 2017**  
ON THE BORDER, DALLAS, TX

