



TEXAS POND HONKER

May 2017

Character, Charity, Fellowship

DFW TEXAS POND

DATE: Monday, May 8, 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.

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 Sedgwick Claims Services. Take time to thank Steven Keefer for taking care of this for us.

Calling all Leaders...Let’s Grow Together!
MLG, Daphney Elliott



Time, Inc. is a 95 year old company rich in traditions and history much like the 111 year old Honorable Order of the Blue Goose. Companies and organizations can only maintain vibrancy if they are flexible and adapt to the changing times, attitudes, and habits of the people they service...whether it be customers, employees, or members. If Time or Blue Goose had not been flexible and cognizant of the importance of change throughout their history, neither entity would be here today.

Greg Giangrande, EVP, Chief Human Resources Officer for Time Inc. said this... “The more you take an interest in helping employees, the more engaged they become with your company. And the higher the engagement level with the employer, the better productivity you get, the better discretionary effort you get, the better loyalty you get”.

Now read those words again thinking about Blue Goose and substituting “members” and “organization” into the paragraph...

The more you take an interest in helping members, the more engaged they become with your

organization. And the higher the engagement level with the organization...the better productivity you get, the better discretionary effort you get, and the better loyalty you get”

Isn't this our GOAL?? Loyalty, effort and productivity through character, fellowship and charity? The more we build our Pond, the more we all benefit with a fun and active organization.

Great leadership provides strength to any business or organization. As a member of Blue Goose you have a chance to be more involved and make a difference. Participating in committees affords you a chance to get to know more members, recruit new members and build your own leadership skills.

In order to grow, we need strong leaders and active members. Blue Goose will continue to survive many years to come. Please consider getting more involved....you will be glad you did!

Last Month

Our MLG was off vacationing in Bali. We are sure she was NOT thinking about any of us on this great night of Blue Goose fellowship.

The Supervisor of the Flock, Jim Mathew stepped in to lead us in discussions and handle the initiation of two great new Ganders.



After we made sure that these two Goslings could honk like a goose and oh, also walk like a goose, we initiated them into our Pond, so that they could take their first official swim. Welcome John Holladay and Chris Dailey.

Appetizers were furnished by Lemieux & Associates. Thanks to Ms. Sherry Wallis- Montes.

Our newest Ganders



Chris Dailey has been swimming around the banks of the Texas Pond for some time. We think he got lost in the tall grass that surrounds the banks of our Pond, but at last he found his way out. Chris has two children: a 27-year old son who is a professional musician and a 22-year old daughter who will be attending graduate school this fall. Chris is a partner at HSNO and has a fabulous wife, who he says puts up with him.

John Holladay arrived on the banks of our Pond via Paula Shields – Holladay. John & Paula were married in 2014 and between them they have four children and six grandchildren. John has been in the insurance industry for over 39 years and retired in March 2017 from the carrier business. Even though retired he still likes to do consulting whenever he can. John says his two fantastic hobbies are playing the guitar and golfing, which he says his enthusiasm far outweighs his talents. We will see when we get him playing at our fall golf tournament, after which we might have him provide the entertainment.



2017 Blue Goose Golf Tournament

Several folks have been inquiring about our Blue Goose golf outing. We have decided to move our tournament to the fall and hopefully miss any of our grand Texas storms.

Mark your calendar for **Friday, October 13th** for our **12th Annual 8:00 Shot Gun Golf Tournament** benefiting North Texas Food Bank, Scottish Rite Children's Hospital and Wounded Warriors. The tournament will be held at Bear Creek Country Club.

Registration, sponsorship information, etc. can be found on our Texas Pond website. (www.bluegoosetx.org)



Seeking Help for the 2017-2018 Texas Pond Blue Goose Program Year

Our Blue Goose year of 2016-2017 is rapidly coming to a close. As we wind down this year, we are doing a final push on our charity endeavors, seeking new officers and committee members for the various committees, and we will begin to collect dues for the next Blue Goose year.

Let's discuss the Pond Officers for 2017-2018. Our Pond follows the hierarchy of Grand Nest. What does this mean? The MLG now steps into the great role and class of former MLGs, which we bestow upon them the title of "Past Most Loyal Gander" or "PMLG"! We thank them immensely for leading us through a fantastic year (sometimes two years).

Now, the following officers step forward to the next position: The Supervisor of the Flock (SOF) steps up to become the MLG; the Custodian of the Goslings (COG) steps up to be the SOF; and the Guardian of the Pond (GOP) steps up to be the COG. Our Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg (KGGE) and Wielder (WGQ) are currently permanent positions.

O.K. what does this mean for the Texas Pond???? Well, Jim Mathew, the current SOF, will become MLG; Roger Foltz, the current COG, will become the SOF; Ruben Castilla, the current GOP, will become the COG. ***This leaves a vacancy for the GOP position.*** The permanent KGGE is John Sterrantino with Ashley Hansen as the Pond Auditor and Linda Meik is the permanent Wielder will remain in place for this next Blue Goose year.

Is there anyone who would like to step forward and be the GOP? Please let any of the officers know your desire.

Now as for committees: we are seeking to refresh the committees. These committees are: Calling, Activities, Scholarship and Charity. If you are currently on one of these committees and would like a change or to step away from the committee, please let us know. But, if you would like to join one of these committees (and we hope you do) please let us know that too.

The new officers and committees take effect July 1st, 2017.



"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.



2017-2018 Dues

As we look to begin the 2017-2018 program year, we begin collecting dues for this next year at the close of our current year.

Each Gander or current Gosling can pay their dues for 2017-2018 Blue Goose year via a credit card by going to our Texas Pond website (www.bluegoosetx.org) and clicking on the Membership button.

One can also pay by cash or check at our Blue Goose meetings. Obtain a BG File Information form from the Wielder to complete while at the meeting.

Paying via credit card is available from May to the first of September, after that it is only cash or check.



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) 682-715-5341 lsmeik@aol.com

Thoughts to Ponder

“Individual commitment to a group effort - that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work.” - **Vince Lombardi**

“When you're surrounded by people who share a passionate commitment around a common purpose, anything is possible.” - **Howard Schultz**

“I learned a long time ago that advice is a quick trip to nowhere. It's the commitment that only you can make in yourself, the responsibility to assume control of yourself.” - **Jim Brown**

“Does anybody really think that they didn't get what they had because they didn't have the talent or the strength or the endurance or the commitment?” - **Nelson Mandela**



Calendar of Events 2016- 2017 Blue Goose Year

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



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



The Honorable Order of the Blue Goose was founded in 1906 at the annual meeting of the *Wisconsin Field Men's Club* held at the Oakwood Hotel in Green Lake, Wisconsin. Today, consisting of 3500 members or "Ganders" in 40 groups or "Ponds" across the United States and Canada, the Blue Goose has a long and storied history of both charity and fellowship. The 1st "Bulletin" was published in 1908, the annual publications have continued to this day with news and information about both the Blue Goose and insurance related industry.



DID YOU KNOW? THE BEGINNINGS OF THE TEXAS POND WAS ON JANUARY 30, 1907!

This year the Texas Pond is 110 years old!



L-R GC Kim Bilbrey, GS Mark Robertson, MLGG Linda Meik, GG Dan Rich

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

