

TEXAS POND HONKER

November 2015

Character, Charity, Fellowship

DFW TEXAS POND

DATE: Monday, November 9, 2015

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. Appetizers will be sponsored by Roger Foltz. Please sure to express your thanks to him.



She is signing our song MLG, Daphney Elliott



It’s that time of the year when The Community Partners of Dallas organization needs our help in meeting the needs of children in the community.



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.

Please bring a new, unwrapped toy to our November 9, 2015 meeting and help make a difference. If you aren’t able to make it to the meeting, please send an email to Kenna Johnson at kjohnson@mdd.com and arrangements will be made to pick up the toys you wish to donate.

Top 10 Ways to Sabotage Your Blue Goose Networking Experience

Our meetings offer tremendous opportunities for you to really cultivate strong business relationships outside of your office. The size of our group is large enough for you to make new connections, yet intimate enough to feel comfortable. There is plenty of time at each meeting for networking. And the various activities and events provide even more opportunity for you to develop stronger relationships with more of our members.

What a waste it would be to compromise this opportunity! Gaining the trust of those you meet and building solid industry relationships can benefit you far past the next sale or business deal.

So let’s review my Top 10 List of Ways to Sabotage Your Networking Experience.

- 1) Complaining – Listen to yourself...are you sending the right message in order to gain referrals?
- 2) Selfishness – Are you attending for strictly your own benefit? Instead, pay it forward. Make introductions. The favors will circle back around to you.
- 3) Disrespect – Focusing on your phone or talking during presentations shows lack of professionalism.

- 4) Undependable – If others see that you cannot be depended upon, they will certainly not trust you with their referrals.
- 5) Unprepared Presentations – Be ready to share what you do and what sets you apart from your competition.
- 6) Cliques – You already know the people in your “clique”. Sit at another table and take advantage of the opportunity to get to know someone else!
- 7) Failing to cultivate strong relationships – Are you genuinely interested and actively listening to those you talk with? If someone doesn’t know you well, they certainly aren’t going to offer you a referral.
- 8) Uninvolved – Are you reluctant to serve or help the group? You get out of it what you put into it. And members notice who the team players are. Get plugged-in!
- 9) Never inviting your own guests – Do you rely on others to bring in new faces?
- 10) Failing to follow-up on referrals - What a waste this would be.

Building strong relationships and gaining the trust of those you know is the BEST way to network within industry groups. Make the most of your Blue Goose experience!!



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

Quotable Quotes

“If we are to teach real peace in the world, we shall have to begin with children.” – Gandhi

“Failure is the condiment that gives success its flavor>: - Truman Capote

“Character is how you treat those who can do nothing for you!” - Unknown



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 3805 members.

Consider Joining a Trade or Industry Organization— Top 10 Reasons Why You Should Make the Time

"If I asked most people, "Why you haven't joined an industry group or trade association," I'm certain I'd hear the same answer from 99% of them. *I'm just too busy.*



We're all busy, and we are cramming more and more into an already jammed workday. But what if I told you the potential benefits that far outweigh the extra time you'd put in? What if I said those benefits could help you use your time more effectively and actually help you build your business?

I took some time to search the internet and I read dozens of blogs and articles on the subject. Following are the 10 best reasons I discovered for someone joining a trade or industry organization.

1. **Networking.** Deepen existing business relationships and make new contacts on a regular basis.
2. **Free Stuff.** Get access to exclusive online resources or discounted/free publications.
3. **Get Work.** When a fellow member needs to outsource a project, they often turn to colleagues they trust within their industry organization.
4. **Education.** Update your knowledge of business and trade basics or acquire new skills through seminars, workshops, break-out sessions at conferences and online courses.
5. **New Ventures.** Become involved in new industry ventures and projects by being visible and accessible to your fellow members.
6. **Shared Learning.** Find a Mentor or Protégé. New members benefit from the life experience of seasoned professional; and experienced members get access to fresh, new ideas.
7. **Collective Research.** Many organizations conduct their own research, or sponsor research, which can provide information, answers and solutions for you and your business.
8. **Visibility.** Become a voice within your industry. You can help promote the benefits, strengths and values of your industry and, in turn, those of your business.
9. **Civic Leadership.** Many professional organizations are active in civic and philanthropic ventures, which give you the opportunity to become involved in many worthwhile projects.
10. **Make friends.** Get support from a like-minded community. Joining an industry organization can limit the isolation that sometimes comes with be a freelancer or small business owner.

As with everything in life, you get from it what you put into it. To reap the benefits of membership, you need to get involved and share your ideas and talents. And as with every "top 10" list, I may have missed several other good reasons for joining a trade

or industry organization. Let us know how joining one has helped you, either personally or professionally."

Michael Isaacson | Comments Off on Consider Joining a Trade or Industry Organization—Top 10 Reasons Why You Should Make the Time



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.



A Business Card size ad for a year is \$240 for the year, just a mere \$20/month. A quarter page size ad is \$600/year; 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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DALLAS HOUSTON	

to Sarasota next year. Richard loved the immediate fellowship and the charities of Blue Goose, and so appreciated everyone who was helping in job searches. Hail and farewell our friend!

LAST MONTH



We collected books for Scottish Rite Children’s Hospital. A total of 510 books and 22 games/puzzles. We have calculated the value of this book drive to be approximately \$1125 in value.

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LONG LAST FLIGHT HOME



Richard Gonzales, 1958 - 2015, departed this earth on October 23, 2015 at the age of 56. Richard joined Blue Goose on October 14, 2013. Richard had just accepted the position Vice President of Claims for Gulf Stream Property & Casualty, Inc. in Sarasota, Florida. He had resided in the Dallas area and was looking to sell his home and relocate



On Thursday, October 15t, Scottish Rite Hospital held a fund raising event called “Treasure Street.” Our Great and awesome MLG attended this event with her family & neighbors. See what she had to say about this event. “It was a truly awesome, beautiful, delicious and fun event.

Hands down the best charity event of this type I have ever attended. Your ticket included all food and drinks!!!!...both of which were fabulous. This was a top notch event from start to finish: proficient valet, food and drinks were even offered at the shuttle to the venue, check in was a breeze, the way they handled the silent auction was so easy, the gourmet food was truly gourmet and nice sized servings, wonderful specialty drinks, great wine, fabulous entertainment, gorgeous venue, excellent event preparation and layout, easy access to everything with map to help you find your way, Starbucks offered as we waited for valet to grab our car, and a wonderful commemorative fancy candle and program left in your car as a treat. Did I say gorgeous venue?? Worth every dollar to attend. We all had a great time. I wish some BG folks had been able to attend to attest to the amazement of the event too! So glad we went!!"



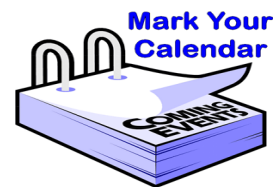
Ray Wicker won a book from OUR Speaker "How I Raised Myself From A Failure to Success in Selling."



Linda Meik with Ms. Melody Gray

Appetizers for the September meeting were sponsored by Bryan Pope with Vincent Lopez Serafino Jenevein law firm.

Enjoy these fall days!



Calendar of Events

2015- 2016 Blue Goose Year

NOVEMBER MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS
SECOND MONDAY NOVEMBER 9, 2015
 ON THE BORDER, DALLAS, TX

DECEMBER MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS
GOSLING INITIATION
SECOND MONDAY DECEMBER 14, 2015
 ON THE BORDER, DALLAS, TX

JANUARY MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS
NEW YEAR KICK-OFF/RUSH FOR GOSLINGS
SECOND MONDAY JANUARY 11, 2016
 PLACE TO BE DETERMINED

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



Melody Gray, CFP, MBA, and LUTCF was our Guest Speaker, a financial advisor with Spectrum Financial Group. She is also in the 106th Army Band and a Staff Sergeant with the Army National Guard. Her presentation was "7 Steps to Build a Solid Financial Home." Everyone gained some great tips on making their own financial plans.

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



"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."



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.

Finally, when a Goose gets sick or is wounded by a gunshot and falls out, two Geese fall out of the formation and follow the injured one down to help and protect him. They stay with him until he is either able to fly or until he is dead, and then they launch out with another formation to catch up with their group.

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

