



# TEXAS POND HONKER

**September 2015**

**Character, Charity, Fellowship**

## DFW TEXAS POND

**DATE: Monday, September 14, 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.



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Appetizers for the September meeting are being sponsored by Darrell Cole with Supreme Roofing Systems. Be sure to thank Darrell!

## THIS MONTH

**Clean out those closets!**

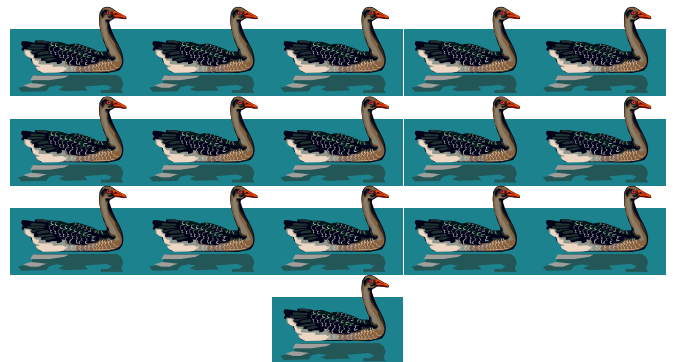


*the family place*

Kids heading back to school and getting new clothes? Make room by donating your gently used clothing. The seasons will be changing and winter will be here before you know it. Do you have room for those cold weather necessities? If not, donate!

We will be collecting adult and children's clothing during our September meeting to donate to The Family Place.

Can't make it to the meeting? We can pick up! Just drop an email to [kjohnson@mdd.com](mailto:kjohnson@mdd.com) and arrangements will be made to pick those items up.



**GOSLINGS PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR TO ATTEND THIS MEETING AND BE READY TO TAKE FIRST OFFICIAL SWIM IN THE TEXAS POND!**

September is one of the month's in which the DFW area holds a Gosling Initiation at their meeting. We currently have 16 Goslings a waiting to take their first swim and become official Ganders.

Nick Carlson	Gina Dolezal	Lin Bryan
Nathan Evans	Jordan Griffith	Dave Janak
Chris Jagger	Shaun Keefer	Richie Mattoni
Tyler Otto	Jeffery Perkins	Ryan Sillers
Stephen Trim	Darrell Cole	Carrie Cummings
Terry Turon		

## HOUSTON PUDDLE

**DATE: Tuesday, September 15, 2015**

**TIME: 5:30 p.m.**

**PLACE: Molina's**

Calling all Ganders, Goslings and Friends to come join the fellowship of the **Houston Puddle at Molina's; 7901 Westheimer; Houston, Texas.**



We want to make everyone aware that we will begin posting pictures of our meetings and events here shortly on the Texas Pond website. For several years we have posted pictures in our newsletters, but now we want to place several of these on our website. In addition we want to highlight more of our activities and the great fun and fellowship we have.

Please note the following:

*“During this event, 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.”*



**She is signing our song ..... MLG, Daphney Elliott  
Let’s Have Some Fun!**

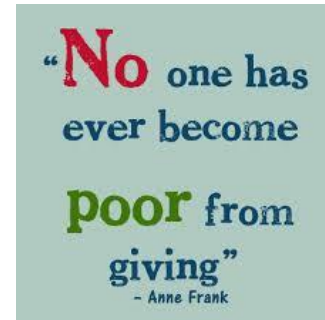
Do you know the guiding principles of your great Blue Goose organization? They are Character, Charity and Fellowship. You will see all examples of all three in our meetings and at our events.

Our members are of strong and respectable character and you will notice that fellowship is always in abundance. As we plan this fiscal year, your Texas Pond is facilitating ways to help every member be even more involved in charity in a variety of fun and easy ways.

Anne Frank said “No one has ever become poor from giving”. This is so true and we can all give in a multitude of ways. You can make donations of money or gifts, participate in a charity event, or volunteer to help an organization.

So keep an eye out for announcements of upcoming charity activities you can participate in through your Texas Pond. And feel free to get your family and friends involved.

As with any organization, you will get out of Blue Goose what you put into it. So be an active member and help us facilitate our principles of Character, Charity and Fellowship. You will be so glad you did!!



# EDUCATION



On Wednesday, September 16, 2015 the Blue Goose Wednesday Wings webinar will be “The Aging Workforce” presented by Geoffrey Cox from Baylor Institute of Rehabilitation.

“This course will review the implications of aging on the workforce in general. In particular, the focus will be on the musculoskeletal system, common work injuries and the impact of age on post injury recovery.

Following this webinar, we will have two (2) more webinars to finish out 2015. To register please go on line at [www.bluegoosetx.com](http://www.bluegoosetx.com) and follow the instructions provided.

Wednesday Wing Webinars are schedule for the Wednesday following our Monthly DFW Texas Pond meetings.

Cost: \$10 (Funds go to the Scholarship Fund)  
Register Online at [www.bluegoosetx.org](http://www.bluegoosetx.org)



## Blue Goose - Texas Pond Goals for 2015-2016

**Short Term:** - 18 months or less (Membership; Charity, Education; & Fellowship)

1. Increase current membership to 90 active DFW Ganders
  - Initiation months will be – September & April
  - Maintain membership with no drops or resignations
  - Build membership momentum and participation in monthly and local special events hosted by the Pond to 50% of our total active members in attendance at each meeting/event.
2. 2016 11th Annual Golf Tournament
  - One Signature Sponsor
  - (18) Sponsors
  - 20 Golf Teams (80 golfers)
  - Build the Ball Drop participation to sell 1000 Balls with a Scholarship Commitment of \$1000 after expenses
  - Charity Revenue Goal = \$5,000
  - Start event marketing 1st quarter of 2016 (January)
  - Continue to improve sponsor and golfer participation with further enhancements through revising package pricing.
  - Aggressively manage event expense
3. Educational/Scholarship
  - Work to schedule educational webinars for 2016 by November 1, 2015, so that the topics/dates can be loaded onto to our website by December 2015.
  - Increase flier notices for webinars to at least two prior to the webinar, in addition to the monthly newsletter
  - Increase our Wednesday Wings Webinars (WWW) to 25 per attendees per webinar
4. Charity endeavors for the fiscal year 2015/2016
  - Award Scholarship(s) – goal is to distribute up to \$3,000 in annual scholarships
  - Review Scholarship Timeline and provide selection committee members with of specific target dates for submission, review and award.
5. Continue to build service goals for the Texas Pond Committee formality, ownership and independence – follow the Texas Pond Operating Procedures to get these committees fully operational in 2015-2016
  - Calling Committee – Chaired by the Custodian of the Goslings
    - Guest Relations member 5 Ganders (or one Gander for every 15- 20 members)
  - RUSH FOR GOSLINGS – Chaired by the Most Loyal Gander
    - DFW will combine the RUSH Event with the a Holiday Event
    - (1) Rush Chairman for DFW
      - i. Plan Event
      - ii. Follow –up on Event
  - Golf Activity Committee- Chaired by the Guardian of the Pond
    - Develop a committee of 3 ganders that will undertake the golf tournament for a two year period. Each gander then will chair a sub-committee
      - Sponsorship Solicitation – 2 Ganders
      - Golf Team Recruiters – 2-3 Ganders
      - Golf –Other Activities – 2 Ganders
  - Education/Scholarship Committee – Chaired by Supervisor of the Flock
    - Seek additional gander support to find dynamic webinar presentations
    - 4 Ganders to assist with Scholarship Evaluation



- Charity Committee – Chaired by Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg
    - Beneficiary Liaison member
    - 2 Ganders needed to assist
6. Southern Region Grand Nest Convention Financial Commitment
    - \$2,500/year (minimum)
  7. Increase advertisers in our newsletter to 12
  8. Encourage Ganders to attend the Southern Region Splash in Savannah, GA in April 2016
  9. Encourage Ganders to attend the Blue Goose convention



## Rolling Towards the Southern Region Convention in 2107

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.

### Long Term – greater than 18 months

1. Continue to support the Southern Region in hosting of the 2017 Convention.
2. Build leadership through committee development.
3. Develop guides for each committee to assist in the success and continuity of Pond’s goals.



The Southern Region’s convention pin has arrived. The pin was shared with folks at the 109<sup>th</sup> 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.



### THE TEXAS POND WEB SITE

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)



“The object of this Order shall be the promotion of charity, good fellowship and acts of benevolence among its members.”

Calling all Ganders! We have some exciting opportunities for our members to get involved in the community and help support our chosen charities.

Please take a look and help where you can!

October 15, 2015

Treasure Street Benefiting Scottish Rite Hospital  
6:30 – 9:30 p.m.



We are encouraging all members to support this fun-filled event. If you do, save those receipts! You can bring a copy of the receipts to the meeting in November or email a copy to [kjohnson@mdd.com](mailto:kjohnson@mdd.com).

*From the website: This year's event, scheduled for Thursday, October 15, 2015, promises to be a spectacular night filled with fantastic friends, 5-star cuisine and music by Pat Green! Tickets are \$100 and proceeds benefit the Scottish Rite Hospital.*

Find out more about this event by visiting <http://www.treasurestreet.com>

Are you looking for a way to get involved in the community and help support some great charities? The Blue Goose Dallas Pond is looking for volunteers for the Charity Committee. Please note that volunteers must be an initiated member (Gander) of the Blue Goose. If interested, please contact Kenna Johnson at (972) 235-9547 or via email at [kjohnson@mdd.com](mailto:kjohnson@mdd.com). **NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!**



#### 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.

**This Space is For You!**

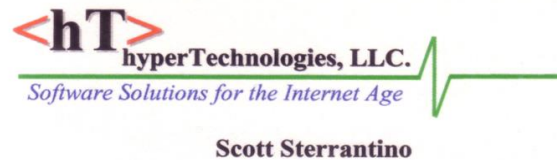


A Business Card size ad for a year is \$240 for the year, just a mere \$20/month. A quarter page size ad is \$600/year; Half Page ad is \$900 for the year; and a Full Page size ad is \$1,200 for the year.

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



### 2015 – 2016 ADVERTISERS



**Scott Sterrantino**

[scotts@hypertechnologies.net](mailto:scotts@hypertechnologies.net)  
[www.hypertechnologies.net](http://www.hypertechnologies.net)

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Frisco, TX 75034  
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DALLAS   HOUSTON	

## LAST MONTH



Julie Wakefield & Daphney Elliott Julie from JW Etiquette



The Top 3 Myths About Etiquette Busted....presented by Julie Wakefield from JW Etiquette

A room full of great fellowship!

As we began this new Blue Goose year, we have been spot lighting some of our great Ganders. The spotlight was shined on following Ganders to-date:

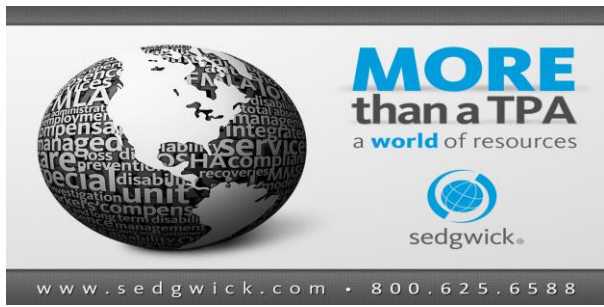
Leo Jordan with the law firm of Tollefson Bradley Mitchell & Melendi. Leo took his first official swim as a Gander in the Texas Pond in April of this past year. Leo has had 13 members of his family engaged in some aspect of insurance world of State Farm. He is married and has 2 sons.

Neil Ullrich works for York Risk Service Group as a National General Adjuster. In May of 2010 Neil became a Gander in the Texas Pond. His hobbies are classic cars, golf, bowling and darts.

Harry Hoyt a Vendor Management Specialist with QBE North America began swimming in the Texas Pond in March of 2014. He is married and has a son & daughter. Harry enjoys camping, traveling and anything with a motor: cars, motorcycles, boats, etc.



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## Quotable Quotes

“You have to create quiet to be able to listen to the very faint voice of your intuition.” - Jon Favreau

“When you talk, you repeat what you already know; when you listen, you often learn something.” - Jared Sparks

“A man who rolls up his shirt-sleeves is rarely in danger of losing his shirt.” - Anonymous

“Be as careful of the books you read as the company you keep, for your habits and character will be as much influenced by the former as the latter.” - Paxton Hood

“Every great mistake has a halfway moment, a split second when it can be recalled and perhaps remedied.” - Pearl S. Buck

“Existence is strange bargain. Life owes us little, we owe it everything. The only true happiness comes from squandering ourselves for a purpose.” - William Cowper



Carol Novak is a Property Major Case Manager for Hanover Insurance Group. Carol has been employed by Hanover for 29 years. She is envied by many of us as she gets to work out of her home. April 2011, Carol joined Blue Goose. She is married with 2 children.

If you have not met these fine Ganders...take time to go introduce yourself....they are awesome.



## Our Grand Nest Officers 2015-2016

**Most Loyal Grand Gander**

**Randy Wilson, National Capital 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**

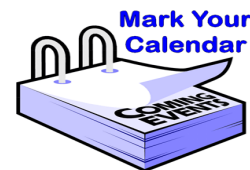
**Robert Cockerham, St. Louis Pond**

**Grand Nest Historian**

**Jerry Hale, Hartford Pond**



*Enjoy these summer days!*



## Calendar of Events

### 2015- 2016 Blue Goose Year

#### 2015 – 2016 BLUE GOOSE YEAR BEGINS

##### **SEPTEMBER MEETING - DALLAS**

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

**SECOND MONDAY SEPTEMBER 14, 2015**

**ON THE BORDER, DALLAS, TX**

##### **WEDNESDAY WINGS WEBINAR**



**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2015**

**12:00 P.M. CST**

##### **SEPTEMBER MEETING – HOUSTON**

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

**THIRD TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 15, 2015**

**MOLINA'S, HOUSTON, TX**

##### **OCTOBER MEETING - DALLAS**

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

**SECOND MONDAY OCTOBER 12, 2015**

**ON THE BORDER, DALLAS, TX**

##### **WEDNESDAY WINGS WEBINAR**



**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015**

**12:00 P.M. CST**

##### **OCTOBER MEETING – HOUSTON**

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

**THIRD TUESDAY OCTOBER 21, 2015**

**MOLINA'S, HOUSTON, TX**

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

**WEDNESDAY WINGS WEBINAR**



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2015  
12:00 P.M. CST

**NOVEMBER MEETING – HOUSTON**  
5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS  
THIRD TUESDAY NOVEMBER 17, 2015  
MOLINA'S, HOUSTON, TX

**DECEMBER MEETING - DALLAS**  
5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS  
*SECOND MONDAY DECEMBER 14, 2015*  
ON THE BORDER, DALLAS, TX

**WEDNESDAY WINGS WEBINAR**



NO WEBINAR IN DECEMBER

**DECEMBER MEETING – HOUSTON**  
5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS  
THIRD TUESDAY DECEMBER 15, 2015  
MOLINA'S, HOUSTON, TX

**JANUARY MEETING - DALLAS**  
5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS  
*SECOND MONDAY JANUARY 11, 2016*  
ON THE BORDER, DALLAS, TX

**WEDNESDAY WINGS WEBINAR**



WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2016  
12:00 P.M. CST

**JANUARY MEETING – HOUSTON**  
5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS  
THIRD TUESDAY JANUARY 19, 2016  
MOLINA'S, HOUSTON, TX

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

**WEDNESDAY WINGS WEBINAR**



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2016

**JANUARY MEETING – HOUSTON**  
5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS  
THIRD TUESDAY JANUARY 19, 2016  
MOLINA'S, HOUSTON, TX



## Upcoming Grand Nest Events

**July 2016**  
110<sup>th</sup> Grand Nest Convention  
St Louis Pond  
<http://www.bluegoosestl.org>  
July 20-23, 2016

**July 2017**  
111<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:Daphney.Elliott@HospitalBillReview.com)

**Supervisor of the Flock** – Jennifer Hatch (C) 248-890-1339  
[Hatchjenn@yahoo.com](mailto:Hatchjenn@yahoo.com)

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

**Guardian of the Pond** – Wayne Ottoway (W) 214-220-5683  
[wayne.ottoway@cna.com](mailto:wayne.ottoway@cna.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) 817-269-6516 [lsmeik@aol.com](mailto:lsmeik@aol.com)





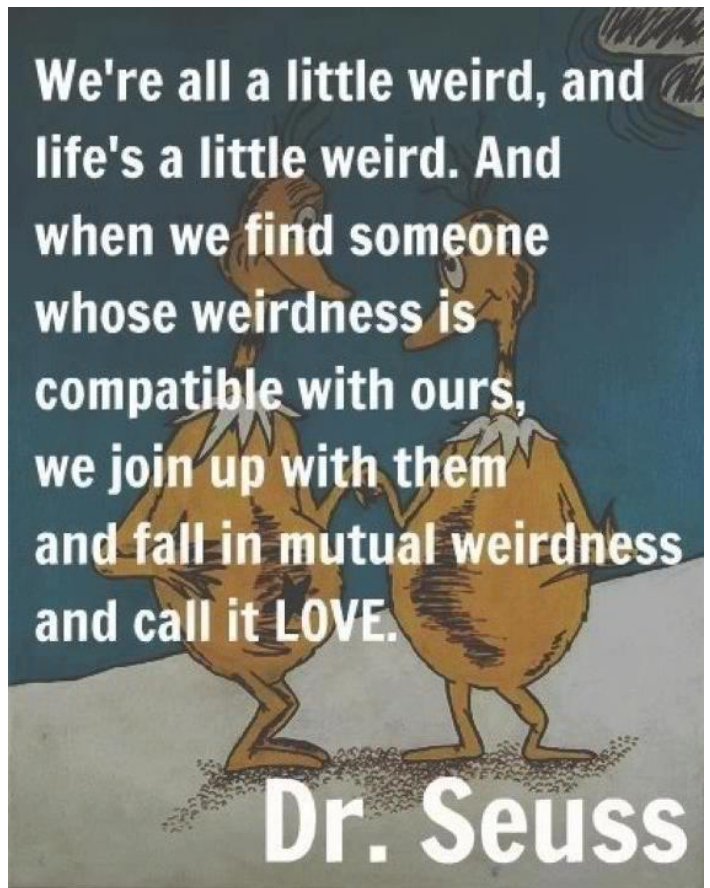
## Some More Humor

### SOCIAL MEDIA EXPLAINED

-  **TWITTER** I AM EATING A #DONUT
-  **FACEBOOK** I LIKE DONUTS
-  **FOURSQUARE** THIS IS WHERE I EAT DONUTS
-  **INSTAGRAM** HERE'S A VINTAGE PHOTO OF MY DONUT
-  **YOUTUBE** WATCH ME EATING A DONUT
-  **LINKEDIN** MY SKILLS INCLUDE DONUT EATING
-  **PINTEREST** HERE'S A DONUT RECIPE
-  **LAST.FM** NOW LISTENING TO "DONUTS"
-  **GOOGLE+** I AM A GOOGLE EMPLOYEE WHO EATS DONUTS



PLEASE RESHARE! [JEFFHESTER.NET](http://JEFFHESTER.NET)



#### Nobody is Perfect

“Each one of us is a mixture of good qualities and some perhaps not-so-good qualities. In considering our fellow man we should remember his good qualities and realize that his faults only prove that he is, after all human.

We should refrain from making harsh judgment of a person just because he happens to be a dirty, rotten, no-good, son-of-a-bitch.”

