



*Honorable Order of the Blue Goose, International*

Texas Pond

*Charity*

*Fellowship*

*Education*



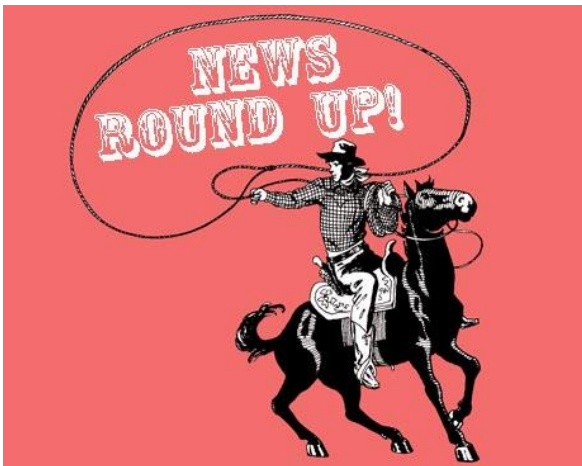
# TEXAS POND HONKER

July 2018

Character, Charity, Fellowship

**NO  
MEETING IN  
THE MONTH  
OF JULY**

**BUT PLENTY OF  
NEWS FOR YOUR  
READING  
PLEASURE**



## Dues Time



Ganders and/or current Goslings (someone who has completed an application) you can pay your dues on-line via a credit card at our Blue Goose website: [www.bluegoosetx.Org](http://www.bluegoosetx.Org). Click the tab for Membership, choose the appropriate Pond/Puddle for which you are a member of and complete the information. Once completed this will take you to the PayPal screen to pay. If you have not completed an application, come to a meeting to obtain an application.

**The option to pay by credit card will be available until September 30th.** Dues on line via a credit card will be \$55.00 for the year. Should you want to pay your dues via a check or cash the Texas Pond will accept dues for \$50.00 at the meetings or one can mail them to Linda Meik.





On June 8<sup>th</sup> the Texas Pond held its 12th annual golf tournament at Bear Creek Country Club.

The tournament would not have had the great success it had without the sponsors. A BIG THANK YOU to these outstanding sponsors:

### ***Signature Sponsor***



## **OUR HOLE AND EVENT SPONSORS WERE:**

- ❖ Hermes Law
- ❖ Sedgwick CMS
- ❖ Vericlam
- ❖ Haag
- ❖ Buchanan Clarke Schlader LLP
- ❖ Genex Services
- ❖ WilliamsRipa & Associates
- ❖ Quest Pro/Q-Temps
- ❖ Herndon McFarland Plumbing
- ❖ Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith, LLP
- ❖ MDD Forensic Accountants
- ❖ ART of Dallas/Fort Worth
- ❖ Atlas Settlement Group
- ❖ Chapman Consulting, LLC
- ❖ Nomad Adjusting
- ❖ Parker Straus, LLP
- ❖ Jensen Hughes

## **Our Prize and Golfer Bag Donation Sponsors**

<b>Belfor Property Restoration</b>
<b>C. N. A.</b>
<b>Corvel</b>
<b>Cunningham Lindsey</b>
<b>ESIS</b>
<b>Linda Meik</b>
<b>Nelson Forensics, LLC.</b>
<b>Nomad Adjusting, LLC</b>
<b>RIMKUS Consulting Group, Inc.</b>
<b>Sedgwick CMS, Inc.</b>
<b>Stephens Engineering Consultants, Inc.</b>
<b>Vericlam, Inc.</b>
<b>Vincent Serafino Geary Waddell Jenevein, P.C.</b>



The results/winners of this tournament are as follows:

### **Ball Drop**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place \$500 – Scott Sterrantion
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place \$300 – Jordann Reis
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place \$150 – Jordon Woodruff
- Farthest from the Hole \$50 – Dwayne Hermes

### **Putting Contest**

Amanda Highnight - \$180

### **Golf**

Longest Drive – Jon Archer (golf ball caddy, Bear Creek Golf Gift Card & charger for electronics)

Closest To the Pin – Stanton Roberts (back pack, Bear Creek Golf Gift Card & charger for electronics)

1<sup>st</sup> Place Golf Team (\$100 gift card per golfer- Belfor & Bear Creek Golf Gift Card per Player) – Josh Flippin, Brandon French, Mitch Williams & Bret Peiffer

2<sup>nd</sup> Place Golf team (\$75 gift card per golfer-Stephens Engineering) – Edward Roberts, Zach Groover, Stanton Roberts & Phillip Roberts

3<sup>rd</sup> Place Golf Team (\$50 gift card per golfer- Nelson Forensics) – Roger Foltz, Kevin Magee, Brandon Wood & Jace Moore

Last Place Team (Damn It Doll & Bear Creek Gift Card for golf per player) – Lisa Augustine & Luke Betcher

We had 82 registered golfers, but only 75 were able to play on this great day!



This past year we had several awesome sponsors for appetizers at our meetings. Let's take a moment to thank them for doing this:

Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith, LLP  
Matson Driscoll & Damico, LLP  
Roger Foltz  
Corvel  
Chapman Consulting  
Genex Services  
Jim Mathew  
On The Border  
Sedgwick CMS

As we approach our next Blue Goose year, we have three folks who have volunteered to provide the appetizers at our upcoming meetings:

August – ElectroStar – Eddy Pokluda  
September – Augustine Advisors – Quinntin Augustine  
October -Vericclaim – Amanda Highnight

If anyone else can be a sponsor of appetizers in the future months, please advise one of the Texas Pond Officers.

## *Last Month*

Thirty Ganders and guests of the Texas Pond met on the patio at Cantina Laredo. Appetizers for everyone's nibbling pleasure were furnished by PMLG Jim Mathew.

Ray Wicker, PMLG led the induction of all the new officers for our 2018-2019 Blue Goose year. The officers are: Roger Foltz, MLG; Jim Devall, SOF; Sharon Wilkins, COG; Jason Znoy, GOP; John Sterrantino, KGGE & Linda Meik, Wielder.

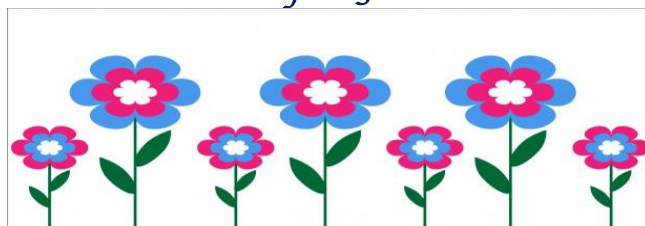
Jerry Fazio was presented with his 10-year membership pin. In addition, it was Jerry's birthday, so we all sang Happy Birthday to him.



*Your new officers...and yes, they are a little wind-blown!*



*A 10-year Blue Goose member and our very 1<sup>st</sup> Super Goose.*



## *Thoughts to Ponder*

"The things you do for yourself are gone when you are gone, but the things you do for others remain your legacy." Kalu Kalu

"A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way." John Maxwell



## 2017-2018 Summary

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

1. Maintain current membership at 90 or better in active DFW Ganders
  - Initiation months will be – November, February and April
  - Seek/recruit 20 new members
  - Continue to develop a membership recruitment and retention strategy
  - Continue building 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.

We ended the year with 102 active/initiated members for the Texas Pond. The DFW area had 78 ganders and 2 goslings as we ended the year. Under the Texas Pond is Georgia Puddle with 18 ganders and 0 goslings; as well as Oklahoma with 6 Life members.

Over the past year the DFW area initiated 12 new ganders.

Latricia Acosta	Stephanie Kirby
Jacque Jagger	Caesar Mercado
Stephen Trim	Emily Stephens
Matt Arnold	Jordan Woodruff
Quinntin Augustine	Christopher Wooten
Sheri Deaton	Jason Znoy

Over this past year our meeting attendance in Dallas was 309 (June numbers not included), which averaged out to 28 folks in attendance per meeting. (This was a slight decrease from prior year.)

2. 2017-2018 12th Annual Golf Tournament
  - One Signature Sponsor
  - (18) Sponsors
  - 20 Golf Teams (80 golfers)
  - Aggressively manage event expense
  - Seek at minimum a goal of \$5,000 to be distributed to our beneficiaries from the proceeds after expenses are paid

The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament for 2017 - 2018 was originally moved from the spring to the fall of 2017, but with the CAT storms of 2017, this fall tournament was cancelled. The Pond had to forfeit the \$500 deposit and the tournament was rescheduled to June of 2018.

For the last 5 years Dwayne Hermes has had his law firm be the Signature sponsor for our golf tournament.

Beneficiaries of the June 2018 tournament are: North Texas Food Bank, Wounded Warriors and the Texas Pond Scholarship Fund.

Since the rescheduled date is so close to the end of the 2017-2018 Blue Goose year, we are rolling the proceeds to the 2018-2019 Blue Goose year.

3. Scholarship
  - 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.

The Texas Pond awarded three, \$1,000 scholarships to outstanding recipients in 2017-2018. The three recipients were: Emma Hansen, Alexis Baker & Kayla Caldwell.

A timeline was developed to keep us on track for awarding scholarships. A committee of 5 Ganders was established to do the selection of recipients.

The scholarship fund received proceeds from the 2018 New Year Kick Off Event and the 2017-2018 golf tournament.

4. Charity endeavors for the fiscal year 2017 - 2018
  - Establish and maintain a committee of 4-5 Ganders
  - Continue with the five core beneficiaries of: North Texas Food Bank, Scottish Rite Hospital for Children, Wounded Warrior Project, Community Partners of Dallas and The

Family Place. Plus, the Texas Pond scholarship fund.

- Include charity endeavors in our special events, RUSH for Goslings and at least 3 to 4 of our monthly meetings.
- Increase Pond involvement in the charity endeavors whether at our monthly meetings or at special events.
- Strive to have our charitable contributions equate to \$100 per active Strive to have our charitable contributions equate to \$100 per active dues paying member dues.

The Texas Pond set a goal for 2017-2018 to have its' charitable activities equate to \$100 per member. We averaged \$126.53 per member, not including the volunteer hours or the scholarship dollars we collected! This was an increase of \$31.12 per member from previous year.

With the focus on an amount per member and having a charity focus every month continued to inspire the membership to get involved and succeed in this area. The membership continues to demonstrate a very giving heart.

The Texas Pond was awarded the Grand Nest Charity Award for 2015-2016, which meant the Texas Pond got to choose the winner for the 2016-2017 Blue Goose year. Grand Nest has established a guide line, that a Pond who wins the Gordon Crowther Award for charity will not be eligible to win again for 5 years, as every Pond should have an opportunity to achieve this honor. The Texas Pond will be eligible again in 2020-2021.

#### 5. Marketing & Communication

- Update each month the Pond's Facebook and Linked-In pages
- Promote our meetings, events and any advertising sponsors via the Social Media platform in conjunction with our newsletter
- Establish a Social Media Coordinator

The Texas Pond has a Facebook and Linked-In page. The focus has been to get at least one or two events/meetings added to each site each month. We currently do not have a large audience connected to either of these sites and will make that a goal for 2018-2019 to see if we can enhance the visibility and utilization to these social media sites.

The Texas Pond website's webmaster is 270Net. The Wielder submits changes to them and they make the modifications or create the desired pages. In addition, the vendor we are using for mass mailings of meetings or events is managed through 270Net via the use of the MailChimp program.

We have not established a Social Media Coordinator and will suspend this action item until we see more participation in these Social Media sites.

6. 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 2017-2018
  - **RUSH FOR GOSLINGS – Chaired by the Most Loyal Gander**
    - Plan Event Create a New Year Kick Off Event with the proceeds going to the Texas Pond Scholarship Program.
    - Follow –up on Event and with all guests/potential members
  - **Social Committee- Chaired by the Custodian of the Goslings and Supervisor of the Flock**
    - Develop a committee of 3 ganders that will undertake creating and developing activities for our membership and the insurance industry
    - Seek at least two activities not meeting related for the development of Fellowship.
    - Coordinate the activities for the Texas Pond Golf Tournament, the Pond's largest fund raiser for its beneficiaries.
  - **Charity Committee – Chaired by a gander appointed by the Most Loyal Gander**

- Acts as the Beneficiary Liaison to all chosen Beneficiaries of the Pond
- 5 Ganders needed to assist, each being assigned to one of the Beneficiaries for their primary focus.
- **Scholarship Committee – Chaired by Guardian of the Pond**
  - 4 Ganders to assist with Scholarship Evaluation
- **Calling Committee – Chaired by the Guardian of the Pond**
  - Guest Relations member 5 – 6 Ganders (or one Gander for every 15- 20 members), who will also act as greeters at the meetings/events
  - Deliver to each newly initiated Gander a Welcome letter/package
    - Obtain information on each newly initiated Gander for a write-up about them to be published in the newsletter following initiation.

- 7. Southern Region Grand Nest Convention Financial Commitment
  - \$2,500/year (minimum)

The Texas Pond made the \$1,500 contribution plus \$5.00 per member to the Southern Region Convention Fund in 2017-2018, which equates to: \$1975 for the 2017-2018 Blue Goose year.

The Texas Pond made a \$500 donation to the 2019 Convention “Race to Indy.”

- 8. Encourage Ganders to attend the Blue Goose Convention.

We have 2 Texas Pond members (Jim Mathew & Linda Meik) scheduled to attend the Grand Nest Convention in Edmonton in July 2018. These two will act as the Texas Pond Delegates.



## See what's cooking for the Texas Pond Blue Goose 2018-2019 Year!

**JULY 2018 MEETING - DALLAS**  
**NO MEETING**

**GRAND NEST CONVENTION**  
**EDMONTON, CANADA**  
**JULY 11 – JULY 13, 2018**

**AUGUST MEETING - DALLAS**  
 5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS  
**SECOND MONDAY AUGUST 13, 2018**  
**ON THE BORDER, ADDISON, TX**

**SEPTEMBER MEETING - DALLAS**  
 5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS  
**SECOND MONDAY SEPTEMBER 10, 2018**  
**ON THE BORDER, ADDISON, TX**

At our half day Executive retreat, we defined these committees further and assigned an officer or two to each committee. As the events/ committee activity evolved in 2017-2018 we modified the committee and officer liaison. This area still needs focus for the next Blue Goose year for each committee to undertake the work load with only the Executive Committee providing oversight. Currently the Executive Committee still carries the bulk of the work load while providing guidance to the committees.

We added Scottish Rite beneficiary to the New Year's Kick Off Event.

One activity that gained high marks from the membership is the Uno (card game colors) fellowship at one of our meetings. The membership has requested this be repeated.

The Scholarship Committee, due to the absence of a Guardian of the Pond Officer was chaired by the Wielder.

The Calling Committee was disbanded and replaced by the Wielder sending out an email the Thursday or Friday before the scheduled meeting date.

**OCTOBER MEETING - DALLAS**

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS  
**SECOND MONDAY OCTOBER 8, 2018**  
ON THE BORDER, ADDISON, TX

**NOVEMBER MEETING - DALLAS**

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS  
**SECOND MONDAY NOVEMBER 12, 2018**  
ON THE BORDER, ADDISON, TX

**DECEMBER MEETING - DALLAS**

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS  
**SECOND MONDAY DECEMBER 10, 2018**  
ON THE BORDER, ADDISON, TX



*“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**

**2018 – 2019**

**Most Loyal Gander** – Roger Foltz (C) 214-914-3733  
[Rbfoltz@aol.com](mailto:Rbfoltz@aol.com)

**Supervisor of the Flock** – Jim Devall (C) 214-488-6549  
[jimdevall60@gmail.com](mailto:jimdevall60@gmail.com)

**Custodian of the Goslings** – Sharon Wilkins (W) 469-213-4316  
[Sharon.Wilkins@sedgwickcms.com](mailto:Sharon.Wilkins@sedgwickcms.com)

**Guardian of the Pond** – Jason Znoy (W) 469-23-4318  
[Jason.Znoy@sedgwickcms.com](mailto:Jason.Znoy@sedgwickcms.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 [lindameik9@gmail.com](mailto:lindameik9@gmail.com)