



# TEXAS POND HONKER

May 2020

Character, Charity, Fellowship



## Our May Meeting Via Zoom DFW TEXAS POND

During these unprecedented pandemic times, we are faced with all this social distancing requirements, which makes having a meeting rather difficult. It is no secret that the Blue Goose members and their friends love some good ol' fellowship.

Since we missed getting together for the April meeting, and our May meeting is around the corner, we need to get together in a virtual way. Therefore, we are setting up a Zoom meeting for anyone who wants to attend.

Now our meeting is going to have a semi agenda and followed by the Texas Pond hosting a QUIZ/TRIVIA contest. We are setting up 4-5 categories of 10 questions each and look to award a prize for the most correct answers for each section and then an overall Grand Prize.

Now since the heart of our Blue Goose members is not only in our fellowship time, but with charity we are asking anyone who wants to participate & play in the QUIZ/TRIVIA fun to make a donation to NTFB and send in their donation form to Linda Meik prior to our meeting time. (<https://give.ntfb.org>)

Note that on Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup> all donations to NTFB will be doubled as they have a sponsor who will match all donations received up to \$70,000. That sponsor is Ezekiel Elliott of the Dallas Cowboys.

**Remember no DONATION amount is to small!**

Mark your calendar for Monday, May 11<sup>th</sup> for the Texas Pond Zoom call. Information will be sent out for this call on the Friday before the meeting.



*Golf Time in Texas has been rescheduled. New date is Friday, September 4<sup>th</sup>*



## GOLF TIME FOR THE TEXAS POND

It is time to mark your calendars and start putting together those foursomes. The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Blue Goose Golf Tournament is tentatively being set for **Friday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at Bear Creek Country Club.**

We are seeking Event and Hole Sponsors and Golfers. The golf registration for sponsors and/or golfers is available on our website at [www.bluegoosetx.com](http://www.bluegoosetx.com).

### PROCEEDS BENEFITING THE FOLLOWING CHARITIES:

**North Texas Food Bank**

**Texas Pond Scholarship Fund**

For details on the golf tournament contact the following Blue Goose members: Bret Peiffer, Golf Committee Chair, Jim Devall, Ray Wicker or Linda Meik.



## 2020 Texas Pond Charity Drive - An Exceptional Effort

Can you imagine the faces of the children who received our school supply and toy donations this year? How do you think the people who were devastated by the hurricanes felt when they received some of the fantastic assistance that we provided to them? Can you imagine the kiddos' reactions when they received the beautiful and fun Easter Baskets, we gave them?

Each of us needs to know that our recipients are smiling huge SMILES and still have incredibly GRATEFUL hearts. And you should be so proud of your efforts and generosity. You helped make this one of the most successful years our Pond has had regarding charity.

Below is a review of the past seven years for two of our beneficiaries that we provided monetary donations to. Note that we had to move our Golf Tournament in 2017 which made those numbers lower than usual that year but look at our comeback story.

Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children	North Texas Food Bank
2014 - \$4,248 (anonymous donor gave \$2,000 & the Pond gave \$2,248)	2014 - \$2,883
2015 - \$2,250	2015 - \$2,250
2016 - \$2,750	2016 - \$2,750
2017 - \$1,600	2017 - \$ 875 matching donation brings it to \$1,750
2018 - \$3,000	2018 - \$1,220 matching donation brings it to \$2,440
2019 - \$3,505 (anonymous donor gave \$500)	2019 - \$6,337.79 (our \$3,000 donation was doubled with NTFB's matching program)
2020 - \$3,116.08	2020 - \$16,000 (our \$8,000 donation from the golf tournament was doubled by the NTFBs matching program)

In 2016-2017 Blue Goose year we added in two additional beneficiaries to for our charity endeavors. Here is the summary on the other two beneficiaries that we gave time, product & goods to over the last four years.

Community Partners of Dallas	The Family Place
2017 - \$1300	2017 - \$2,180.50
2018 - \$2,032.25 (Began the School Supplies & Backpack Program along with a Toy Drive Program)	2018 - \$1,912.81 Began the Easter Basket Program – 52 Easter Baskets)
2019 - \$1,634.40	2019 - \$2,153.51 (53 Easter Baskets)
2020 - \$2,548.18	2020 - \$3,422.48 (69 Easter Baskets)

Some of you will remember that in 2016 we won the Grand Nest Charity Award for the 2015-2016 fiscal year. This is the highest award recognition given to any pond for their charitable efforts at the Grand Nest Convention. It was not only the funds we raised and the donations we gave that year that got noticed, but our drive to set goals and meet or exceed them was what really stood out.

IN 2016 we set our charity goal to reach \$100 per active member. Each year we have tried to challenge ourselves by increasing this amount. Today in the 2019-2020 Blue Goose year our goal was to reach \$200 per active member of our Pond. We are proud to state that we have not only reached that goal but have exceeded it and are just a few dollars shy of achieving \$400 per active Texas Pond Blue Goose member for 2019-2020.

Congratulations to each, and every, member! Keep thinking about the faces and hearts of our beneficiaries. They are SMILING & GRATEFUL and very much appreciate all you do for them!!



The Texas Pond is proud to announce that it is ready to receive applications for scholarship funds allocated by the Texas Pond for the 2020-2021 school year.

The application and guidelines were enhanced and updated in August and the final approved forms/information was posted on the Texas Pond website under the Education tab. [www.bluegoosetx.org](http://www.bluegoosetx.org)

Due to the COVID-19 situation the deadline for applications is being extended to be received from April 30<sup>th</sup> to May 15<sup>th</sup> at midnight.

The Scholarship Committee will meet within 10 days to review all applications and the scholarship recipients will be announced by June 1<sup>st</sup>.



**Mr. Create-or/Builder - Jim Devall, MLG**

Greetings Blue Goose Family.

I hope you and yours are all well, staying safe and trying to stay positive. I do not know about you, but it feels like we have been sheltering in place for years now, not just weeks. Remember to look for the silver linings in these situations and always count your blessings. I am personally thankful for the extra time I have had around the house to knock out a lot of those old projects that I have promised for years "I'll get around to it". I am also thankful that we now have technology that lets me communicate with friend and loved ones through video conferencing. I think I talk to some of my relatives now more than I did before the pandemic. While we still cannot gather in the same room, your Blue Goose officers miss you and are moving forward to host our next meeting on May 11th via Zoom. We will catch up on the latest news with your Blue Goose Family, but also plan to host a trivia contest during the call. Crazy you say? "I've always been crazy, but it's kept me from going insane." Who sang that and what is the name of song? You get the idea. We will have several categories with prizes to those who's heads are most full of useless information. I recently participated in a similar quiz night and it was a great time with lots of laughs, so be sure to join us.

Keeping in mind our principles of Character, Charity and Fellowship, we have a great opportunity to really help folks that may be struggling now. You have seen recent notes about the North Texas Food Bank needing our help. As an added incentive for our charity efforts, Ezekiel Elliott of the Dallas Cowboys is matching any donations made to the North Texas Food Bank on May 5th. Every dollar you contribute becomes two; every dollar you contribute becomes SIX MEALS. What an amazing opportunity for us to make a difference. Remember too that your donation is your ticket for admission to the quiz night. You can not only make a huge difference in someone's life, but you also have a chance to win prizes. Please mark your calendars donate whatever you can on May 5th, send us your payment confirmation and join us for the Zoom meeting on May the 11th. Until then, stay well, stay safe and stay positive.

## Some things to Think About

"Success is the ability to go from failure to failure without losing your enthusiasm." Winston Churchill

"From what we get, we can make a living; what we give, however, makes a life." Arthur Ashe

"Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened." Unknown

"Adversity introduces a man to himself." Unknown

"Success is that old ABC – ability, breaks and courage." Charles Luckman

"With love and patience, nothing is impossible." Daisaku Ikeda

## ALERT NOTIFICATION

*"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."*



## LAST MONTH

**APRIL MEETING CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19 – EVERYONE STAYING HEALTHY & SAFE**

**2020 GRAND NEST CONVENTION IN HARTFORD HAS BEEN CANCELLED. IT IS BEING RESCHEDULED FOR 2021.**





## See what's cooking for the Texas Pond Blue Goose

### MAY MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

**SECOND MONDAY MAY 11, 2020**

**ZOOM MEETING – QUIZ/TRIVIA TIME**

**SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2020-2021**

**NOMINATIONS AND VOTING**

**IN PERSON MEETING CANCELLED - MEETING VIRTUALLY!**

### JUNE MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

**SECOND MONDAY JUNE 8, 2020**

**ON THE BORDER, ADDISON, TX**

**THE BLUE GOOSE YEAR 2019-2020 ENDS**

**2020-2021 NEW SLATE OF OFFICERS INSTALLED**

**14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT – JUNE 5, 2020**

### JULY MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

**SECOND MONDAY JULY 13, 2020**

**ON THE BORDER, ADDISON, TX**

**THE BLUE GOOSE YEAR 2020-2021 BEGINS**

### AUGUST MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

**SECOND MONDAY AUGUST 10, 2020**

**ON THE BORDER, ADDISON, TX**

### SEPTEMBER MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

**SECOND MONDAY SEPTEMBER 14, 2020**

**ON THE BORDER, ADDISON, TX**



## Texas Pond Officers 2019 – 2020

**Most Loyal Gander** – Jim Devall (C) 940- 703-1423  
[jimdevall60@gmail.com](mailto:jimdevall60@gmail.com)

**Supervisor of the Flock** – Sharon Wilkins (W) 469-213-4316  
[Sharon.Wilkins@sedgwick.com](mailto:Sharon.Wilkins@sedgwick.com)

**Custodian of the Goslings** – Jason Znoy (H) 214-563-8875  
[jason.znoy@sedgwick.com](mailto:jason.znoy@sedgwick.com)

**Guardian of the Pond** – Sheri Deaton (C) 214-282-5246  
[sheri.deaton@genexservices.com](mailto:sheri.deaton@genexservices.com)

**Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg** Daphney Elliott (W) 972-342-8728  
[Daphney.Elliott@gmail.com](mailto:Daphney.Elliott@gmail.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)

