



TEXAS POND HONKER

August 2020

Character, Charity, Fellowship



Our August Meeting Will Be Via Zoom

Come join us for a virtual meeting, Monday August 10th, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. CST!

Grab your favorite beverage or snack and catch up on what is happening with everyone and what is taking place with one of the Texas Pond beneficiaries.

If you are interested in attending, send an email to Linda Meik at lindameik9@gmail.com. The link for the Zoom call will be sent to those that RSVP stating they will be joining the call. We look forward to seeing your great smile.



HOBGI AWARDS NIGHT

Even though the Honorable Order of Blue Goose could not meet on the banks of Hartford for their annual Blue Goose Convention in 2020, they still have some outstanding awards to bestow upon various Ponds. Therefore, the Grand Nest Officers are hosting an **AWARDS NIGHT** on Tuesday, August 25th to recognize the achievements & efforts of the Ponds. Grand Nest will send out to the Blue Goose members the call-in information/link.

If you plan to attend, can you please let either Jim Devall or myself (Linda Meik) know.



Blue Goose Dues Time

Dues process begins June 1st for the Texas Pond. One can choose to pay via credit card by going to the Texas Pond website at www.bluegoosetx.org under the Membership tab. Dues are \$70.00. Contact the Wielder if you prefer paying by check, so that she can send you the BG file information as we want to ensure we have all the up-to-date information for your membership record.



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

Howdy Blue Goose Family.

Can you believe it is August? I would say welcome to the Dog Days of Summer, but we just had the Opening Day of Baseball Season! I have no idea what time of year it is anymore. This work from home thing without my usual travel has really made me lose track of the days and time of year. I have also lost track of my razor and my long pants, but I imagine in good company on those things as well. At least we have the Presidential election coming up to keep us entertained.

This is the time of year we normally try to recharge the batteries and enjoy a few days before school and the fall insurance conventions start. All the conventions that I usually attend have been postponed or gone virtual. While it is a true mystery on what schools will do

and what the impact will be for whatever decision is made, we do know this COVID thing is going to be with us for quite a while. I am encouraged by the news coming out of some of the pharmaceutical companies as they go into phase three of the testing for potential vaccines. Fingers crossed that they get one that works, and we can get back out into the world with a bit more freedom. Until then, we make our plans and do our thing under new and ever-changing rules. Please stay safe, take care of yourselves and take care of others. God Bless!



Membership or Belonging? The choice is yours to make.

The desire to be a member of a purposeful society, to be on the inside of a meaningful group, to participate in something larger than oneself is fundamental to human nature. People draw identity from their participation in communities of purpose, whatever form they might take. Without meaningful groups in which to participate, individuals usually experience not just loneliness, but a lack of fulfillment and a deep sense of separation or alienation. Longing for belonging is a powerful desire.

The Texas Blue Goose Pond is a community with purpose. Every decision and activity support our mission of advancing the insurance profession among its members, guests and business community through charity programs and networking opportunities.

Members of the Texas Blue Goose members do not get together merely to be together. We get together to do something together! Our goals include meeting needs of Insurance professionals by creating opportunities for everyone to participate in fulfilling educational, networking, and service needs where we work and live. We engage insurance professionals; encourage them to grow in knowledge and confidence; and instill a regenerative and creative spirit among all stakeholders that sustains the profession and organization benefiting each other and the community.

The real value of Blue Goose is the sense of identity, intimate connection, and purpose gained through pond participation with some of the best insurance professionals in Texas, as well as throughout the USA and Canada.

Your Texas Pond Blue Goose Executive Officers and Committee Chairpersons want members to form

relationships through participation in our events and service opportunities. We want to know you as more than a name on the membership roll.

Membership without connection is separation from the best Blue Goose has to offer. Belonging to the Texas Pond provides opportunities to enjoy the full benefits of a relationship with fellow insurance professionals engaged in meaningful purpose where you work and live. That is what a meaningful society does for its members.

Southern Region Convention News



Our winner of the customized Cornhole Boards was drawn on Friday, July 17, 2020. The lucky winner is **Christopher Porter from the Kentucky Pond**. Christopher is the Custodian of the Goslings for 2020-2021 in the Kentucky Pond. When asked what customized design he wanted on the boards, he stated he wanted the Blue Goose logo (like above picture), as he wants to be able to use them at the various Kentucky fund raising events whenever possible, starting with the Kentucky golf outing in September.

Congratulations Chris! Enjoy & have fun!

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.”



Some things to Think About

“If I were to begin life again, I should want it as it was. I would only open my eyes a little more.” Jules Renard

“I’d like to get away from earth awhile and then come back to it and begin again.” Robert Frost

“Procrastination is the thief of time.” Edward Young

“A part of kindness consists in loving people more than they deserve.” Joseph Joubert

“The secret of happiness is not doing what one likes, but in liking what one has to do.” James M. Barrie

Last Month

See here was some highlights from our July Meeting, with a Trivia Contest, which was held Via Zoom.



Community Partners of Dallas has been one of the Texas Pond’s beneficiaries for several years, and we were pleased to have Corrine Karp Corporate Relations Director of Community Partners, join us. She provided an update on how the pandemic has impacted them, what they need and what the changes they had to undertake.

The pandemic has created concerns for Community Partners as 23% of their referrals regarding children come from doctors and teachers. Since March they have not had any volunteers to help them with aspects of the programs. The Case Managers have had to do drive by yard type visits.

One of the programs the Texas Pond has helped Community Partners with is their 2020 Back-To-School Program. This year rather than have community sponsors, such as Blue Goose, they will be setting up an on-line system where one can do a pre-packaged bundle for the

“Back To School” program They are looking to have this be a \$15 donation. One will be able to sponsor for one child or as many as they want and at different age levels. As of our meeting Community Partners had already received 500 requests for these pre-packaged school supplies. Over the years they are usually providing school supplies for 3000 children.

Stay tune for more updates on the “Back to School” program.

Following Corrine Karp’s update, we had the pleasure of hearing from one of our Texas Pond Gander’s and a guest who shared their volunteer experience with a program that dove tails off Community Partners of Dallas. See the write-up that Erin Jesberger sent on this program

“Like Community Partners of Dallas, Dallas CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) is a 501(c)(3) and partners to support abused and neglected children in our community. Blue Goose Guest, Taylor Jones, and Erin Jesberger, Gander, explained their involvement with Dallas CASA during the July 13, 2020 Blue Goose Zoom Monthly Meeting. Taylor’s involvement began in college through her sorority Theta’s philanthropic commitment to CASA, while Erin’s began in 2010 as an advocate for Dallas area foster children.

Founded in 1977 by a Seattle Superior Court Judge overwhelmed by the inconsistencies within the child welfare system, Dallas CASA was one of three pilot programs established in 1979. After 30 hours of training and a swearing in ceremony, a judge appoints a Dallas CASA volunteer to advocate for the best interests of abused and neglected children – with the goal of providing every child a safe permanent home to thrive. Last year 1,300 volunteers served more than 3,100 children in Dallas County and 76,000 CASA advocates served nationwide in nearly 1,000 state and local program offices. Given strong community support, Dallas CASA will be the first in the nation to provide an advocate for every CPS case.

If you’d like more information on how to get involved, CASA’s website is: www.dallascasa.org





See what's cooking for the Texas Pond Blue Goose

AUGUST MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

SECOND MONDAY AUGUST 10, 2020

ZOOM MEETING

SEPTEMBER MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

SECOND MONDAY SEPTEMBER 14, 2020

ON THE BORDER, ADDISON, TX

OCTOBER MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

SECOND MONDAY OCTOBER 12, 2020

ON THE BORDER, ADDISON, TX

NOVEMBER MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

SECOND MONDAY NOVEMBER 9, 2020

ON THE BORDER, ADDISON, TX

DECEMBER MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

SECOND MONDAY DECEMBER 14, 2020

ON THE BORDER, ADDISON, TX



Texas Pond Officers 2019 – 2020

Most Loyal Gander – Jim Devall (C) 940- 703-1423
jimdevall60@gmail.com

Supervisor of the Flock – Sharon Wilkins (W) 469-213-4316
Sharon.Wilkins@sedgwick.com

Custodian of the Goslings – Jason Znoy (H) 214-563-8875
jason.bluegoosetx@gmail.com

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

Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg Daphney Elliott (W) 972-342-8728
Daphney.Elliott@gmail.com

And

Ashley Hansen (w) 817-788-3008 ashansen@aol.com

Wielder of the Goose Quill - Linda Meik
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Last Laugh

