



TEXAS POND HONKER

November 2020

Character, Charity, Fellowship



99 bottles of beer on the wall, 99 bottles of beer.
Take **one** down, pass it around, **98 bottles of beer** on the wall...

The Blue Goose Texas Pond will host for their November Zoom Meeting "101 Beer Class & Tasting" on Monday, November 9th from 5:00 PM CST to 7:30 PM CST

Come join us for a virtual meeting, Monday, November 9th, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. CST! Our meeting will be dedicated to learning about beer. Did you know beer is the oldest and most widely consumed alcoholic drinks in the world, and the 3rd most popular drink overall after water and tea.

Contact Linda Meik at lindameik9@gmail.com to join the meeting. Linda will send you the link to the call and the list of beers you will need to purchase prior to our meeting, so that you can partake in the tasting of various beers that will be discussed.

What a great way to kick off the Holiday Season!



Another Zoom Call!!!!

Zoom Meeting

Audio only

With video



On Tuesday, November 17th all the Southern Region Pond members are coming together for a meeting. We will be initiating all Goslings across the Region that can make the call. The Grand Nest Officers will be assembling to do the honors of initiating the Goslings of our Ponds.

If you are interested in attending, send an email to Linda Meik at lindameik9@gmail.com, by Friday, November 13th. 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.



Community Partners has sent Thanks for our past involvement in their Holiday Toy Drive—this year, they hope we will join in again (in a new way!) for their first-ever virtual Holiday Toy Drive! Our support will help bring smiles and holiday joy to several of abused and neglected children in Dallas County this holiday season.

Community Partners has set up a special Toy Wish list just for the Texas Pond of Blue Goose. The link for this wish list will be announced at our November meeting and listed on the Texas Pond website <https://bluegoosetx.org>.



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

Greetings fellow Ganders and Goslings,

Hope all are well, safe, and warm. Winter is trying to sneak in early this year, while another hurricane storms into the Gulf. By the time you read this, we will have done our best to celebrate Halloween and will have decided who will be President of the United States for the next four years...I hope. What an amazing and fast paced world we live in, a world that offers so many challenges and opportunities. It is so easy for us to focus on the negatives and disrespect those that have differing opinions from our own. I take this opportunity to remind you how wonderful and creative people are and some very positive things that have come out of 2020 thus far. Drive in theaters have made a comeback, we created drive-by parties and Zoom meetings, we learned teachers and healthcare workers are real heroes, companies retooled overnight to provide us with PPE and respirators, puzzles and board games became cool again, business casual now means sweatpants and tee shirt and we've mostly eliminated the daily commute and rush hour. You have to admit those are some things to celebrate. We will always face challenges that will test us, but as long as we stick together and treat others as we want to be treated, we will overcome anything thrown at us. Until next time, I leave you with a song that should help you all keep that indomitable spirit, "I Will Survive" by Gloria Gaynor. You know the words, now sing it with me like you are singing to Covid. "Go on now, go, walk out the door, Just turn around now, 'Cause you're not welcome anymore..." Until next month, stay safe and God bless.



TEXAS POND WEBSITE

The Texas Pond website has been updated. Please take time to check it all out.

Some Blue Goose History

The origin of "blackballing"



Antique Freemason Wooden Ballot Voting Box

This secret type voting was utilized to reject a person by using marbles as ballots. To vote for someone's membership into a secret society, a voter was given two balls: a white one & a black one. To vote in favor of the candidate, the voter would drop the white ball into a box. To vote against a candidate, the voter would deposit the black ball. Each voter audibly casts a single marble from one side of wooden ballot box to the other, hiding the hand under the box lid. Observers can see who votes but not how the person votes. When voting is complete, the lid of the box with accumulated marble "votes" is opened.

The practice of using balls to cast votes continued up until the 19th century. Blackballing is not legal since 1932



Some things to Think About

"Cleaning your house while your kids are still growing is like shoveling the walk before it stops snowing." Phillis Diller

"The important thing in the world is not where we stand, but in what direction we move." Goethe

"We don't work for each other; we work with each other." Stanley C. Gault

"I always prefer to believe the best of everybody; it saves so much trouble." Rudyard Kipling

"It isn't the load that weighs us down – it's the way we carry it." Unknown

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.”



The Colorful History of The Chili Cook Off

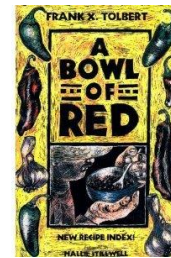
by Steven Doyle

“The first weekend in November over 10,000 people, fondly referred to as chili-heads, converge onto the tiny former mining town in the Texas desert called Terlingua. Each year at this time the town with a population of no more than a few dozen play host to two of the largest chili cook-offs in the world. That’s right, two.

It all first began in 1967 and organized by Texas historian and chili aficionado Wick Fowler and car manufacturer Carroll Shelby as a means to settle a storied feud between two journalists; namely Frank X. Tolbert who wrote for the Dallas Morning News, and a gentleman by the name of H. Allen Smith who wrote a scathing article in Holiday Magazine entitled “Nobody Knows More About Chili Than I Do”.

Tolbert insisted that he had the best bowl of red, much to Smith’s consternation, and this is how legends are born. Each week the two wordsmiths wrote scathing missives to each other in the press insisting they were the chili king. At one-point Tolbert described Smith as a “know-nothing maker of vegetable stew”.

Tolbert had actually been known as an expert in the field of chili-making since 1952, which is when the first known chili cook off took place at the State Fair of Texas, a tradition that continues to this day. In 1962 Tolbert wrote a column in *The Saturday Evening Post* titled “A Bowl of Fire Called Chili”. In that same year Tolbert penned the book that is still considered a bible for all chili-heads called “A Bowl of Red”.



There were many interested parties watching from the sidelines, namely one Carroll Shelby. You might remember Shelby best as the designer of the Mustang Cobra. He was one bad ass car maker. He also acquired some land in the west Texas desert around Terlingua where the original chili battled field was laid out.

The chili contest was set to be held in an unbiased location of Terlingua. There the judges met at high noon on October 21, 1967. The judges selected were Hallie Stillwell, Floyd Schneider, and Dave Witts. David Chasen of the eponymous Hollywood restaurant was asked to judge, the man was very well known for his chili recipe, but he fell sick just before the contest.

The pots were ladled, and the judges voted. Dave Witts took one taste and declared that “his taste buds were damaged beyond repair”, so he was out of the judging. Stillwell voted for Smith; Schneider voted for Tolbert leaving referee Wick Fowler to pronounce a draw at the very first chili cook off in Terlingua.

In the early 1970’s there began a riff in the way the cook off was run. Probably more like who was gathering the most publicity. The world watched to see who would win the cook off each year, as it was big news. The brouhaha continued until two factions settled up in court in 1983 when a judge split the chili cook off much like Solomon would have.

The fractured cook offs are held the same weekend in November. One segment called the Chili Appreciation Society International is just two miles down the road from the original site at Glen Pepper’s Villa de la Mina ranch. Today the two cook offs are polar opposites. The CASI cook off resembles more of a Spring Break in the desert, replete with their own fire and police department as well as a pop-up hospital. The Tolbert faction cooks in the Chihuahuan desert property behind the old Terlingua Store, which is where you will arrive first when coming into town. The Original Terlingua Championship is still operated by the daughter of Frank Tolbert.

Both cook offs hold true to the tradition of making a fine bowl of red and raise a significant amount of money for their respective charities.”

Last Month



No meeting – Pandemic and storm duty.

Next Month



How to Build the
Ultimate **HOLIDAY**
Charcuterie Board



The Texas Pond will host a Virtual Charcuterie event, and part of the proceeds will be dedicated to North Texas Food Bank. These boards will be a Christmas theme.

One will be able to attend even if they are not a Blue Goose member, so pass the word. Further details will be sent out shortly and will be listed on our website at <https://bluegoosetx.org>.



See what's cooking for the

NOVEMBER MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

SECOND MONDAY NOVEMBER 9, 2020

ZOOM MEETING

NOVEMBER MEETING – SOUTHERN REGION PONDS

5:00 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2020

GOSLING INITIATION VIA GRAND NEST OFFICERS

ZOOM MEETING

DECEMBER MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

SECOND MONDAY DECEMBER 14, 2020

ZOOM MEETING

GOODBYE 2020 - NEW YEAR BEGINS!

HELLO 2021!

JANUARY MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

SECOND MONDAY JANUARY 11, 2021

ZOOM MEETING OR IN-PERSON

FEBRUARY MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

SECOND MONDAY FEBRUARY 8, 2021

ZOOM MEETING OR IN-PERSON

MARCH MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

SECOND MONDAY MARCH 8, 2021

ZOOM MEETING OR IN-PERSON





Texas Pond Officers 2020 – 2021

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 - [Vacant](#)

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
(M) 682-715-5341 lindameik9@gmail.com



Last Laugh



Please give me coffee
to change the
things I can
and booze to accept
the things I cannot

Lockdown can only
go 4-ways. You'll
come out a monk,
a hunk, a chunk
or a drunk.
Choose wisely!

Someone just used my
driveway to turn
around and now I'm
standing outside with
two open beers and
lonely face

If you used one of these:



Stay at home! You are in
the high risk group.

I told my wife
she should
embrace her
mistakes...
She hugged me.



NOW THAT I'VE LIVED
THROUGH AN ACTUAL PLAGUE,
I TOTALLY UNDERSTAND
WHY ITALIAN RENAISSANCE
PAINTINGS ARE FULL OF
NAKED FAT PEOPLE LAYING
ON COUCHES.



May the remaining
Months of 2020 be filled
with Good News,
Blessings, healings &
Love.
Amen!

"When Covid is over," is starting
to sound like, "when I win the
lotto."



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