



TEXAS POND HONKER

July 2021

Character, Charity, Fellowship



Many of us will be celebrating the Fourth of July with fireworks, barbecues, concerts and parades. So come join our Blue Goose meeting On July 12th and continue the celebration.

MONDAY, JULY 12, 2021 @ 5:30 PM

CHILL BAR & GRILL

814 SOUTH MAIN

GRAPEVINE, TEXAS 76051

No reservations are necessary. Cash Bar! Food is at your own expense.

The Texas Pond has several business items to be discussed at our meeting.

- ❖ Install new officers for the 2021-2022 Blue Goose year
- ❖ Recognition of membership anniversaries
- ❖ Super Goose Award
- ❖ Year End Summary/Wrap-up
- ❖ Dues collection for 2021-2022 will begin.

Come ready to meet, greet, and continue celebrating!



Last Month



The Texas Pond folks came together for a second in-person meeting to end the 2020-2021 Blue Goose year. Thirteen awesome Ganders and 3 dynamic guests were on the banks of the Texas Pond to meet & greet each other.

The following Ganders were nominated and voted on by acclamation to be the leaders of the Texas Pond for the 2021-2022 Blue Goose year, which begins on July 1st:

MLG – Sharon Wilkins

SOF- Jason Znoy

GOP – Alicia Speer

COG – Terri Rejeck

KGGE – Daphney Elliott

WGQ – Linda Meik

These new officers will be installed at our July meeting. Membership Anniversary pins were presented to Terri Rejeck – 25 years and Jim Mathew – 10 years. Congratulations to these two outstanding Ganders.

The Scholarship Committee proudly announced that three scholarships were awarded this year. The three recipients were: Lily Hansen, daughter of Ashley Hansen; Emma Hansen, daughter of Ashley Hansen; and, Kathleen Caldwell, granddaughter of John Sterrantino.



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

Greetings Ganders, Goslings, and Friends,

I hope this note finds you all well and enjoying the summer. As America prepares to celebrate her 245th birthday, we in Blue Goose are preparing to celebrate the end of another Blue Goose year and the beginning of a new year. It has been my great pleasure to serve as the MLG for the Texas Pond over the last two years. While COVID created a set of unique challenges for us all over the last year, I am so very proud of how the Texas Pond endeavored to persevere through it all. While we could not meet in person for much of the last year, we managed to stay connected and find ways to support one another along the way. As the pandemic finally loosened her grip on us, we even managed to pull off a very successful golf tournament that will help us maintain a very healthy pond and assist our chosen charities in the near future. Now that we are again able to meet in person, I am very optimistic about the way forward for the Texas Pond. I want to thank all of you that have helped us get through the past year. We could not have done it without the kindness, caring and love that so many of you have and continue to show. I wish each and every one-off you health and joy in your lives and hope you have a wonderful Fourth of July Holiday. See you next year! Stay safe and God Bless.



Sharon Wilkins, MLG-elect,

Hi all! My first message as your Most Loyal Gander-elect.

A little about myself: I work for Sedgwick in the Frisco liability office, at the far north end of the Metroplex. I live with my husband and two dogs, Levi - my little Shepherd boy, and Emily, who is . . . complicated. Also, two cats, Max and Dex. The cats are perfect.

There's an old curse that says, "May you live in interesting times," and this has definitely been an interesting time for us all. As the days of Covid wind down, we're faced with building the new normal in our personal and business lives. More and more of us are getting vaccinated just as a new variant starts to rear its head. More restaurants, stores and well, everything are opening back up. Companies are grappling with accommodating a workforce that's gotten used to working from home, and workers are starting to shuffle personal and family responsibilities to adjust to whatever their new normal will be.

Throughout all of this people have shown just how adaptable and resilient they are. During quarantine, many introverts found that there were limits to how introverted they really are. Many extroverts found themselves coping with isolation better (or worse) than they expected. Many of us adopted pets or became involved in home or neighborhood projects. I think a lot of us had a period of self-discovery, finding that some of the old labels we put on ourselves don't fit any more. Finding that even the idea of labeling ourselves and others doesn't fit anymore.

So here we are, starting a new Blue Goose year, starting our post Covid lives, emerging from our cocoons into a world that changed on us without much notice. We'll still gather together and socialize, work with our charities, and maybe find new ones. We're still Blue Goose, and all of you are valued and welcome. If you have suggestions for what you think we should be or do as a group, speak up! You may well be speaking for others or bringing up things we've never considered before. Any group is only as strong as its members, and we want to hear from you as we march into this post Covid world together.

And please, take a moment to reflect. What do you want your new world to be like? Who and what do you want to be in this new post Covid life? You don't have to stick with something you decide to do or be if you find it doesn't fit. Just think about it and keep moving forward.

Hope to see you all soon!

Charity Kick Off Time for 2021-2022



First to launch us into the 2021-2022 Blue Goose year, the Texas Pond is submitting a check to North Texas Food Bank's summer triple the donation amount from our golf

tournament of \$5,000. As stated then in this program NTFB's Matching Gift Program will triple the amount of our funds. During the summer NTFB is hoping to provide 2.5 million meals. Summertime is the hungriest season for children.

On a little road trip, I your Texas Pond Wielder, took. I came across a situation where an organization had a huge supply of new stuffed animals with no place to give them to. I reached out to Community Partners of Dallas and asked them if they could use them. Due to the pandemic their Rainbow Room was almost empty due to the lack of being able to accept donations, so there were excited to accept a supply. Over 75 stuffed animals were delivered to them.



Each year the Texas Pond has helped Community Partners of Dallas with a Back-To-School Drive by providing school supplies for their kiddos. Last year we did a virtual drive, but this year Community Partners is back at accepting in-person donations. Therefore, our August meeting will focus on collecting school supplies and we will deliver them by August 27th.

Plan to bring school supplies to our Monday, August 9th meeting.

Grand Nest



News - Update - Tidbits

In light of the continued covid plight the Grand Nest Officers have decided to have an informal gathering in Hartford rather than a full-blown convention- **"DAYS OF FELLOWSHIP."**

On SUNDAY JULY 25 there will be an election of GN Officers and on MONDAY JULY 26 there will be GN FELLOWSHIP events

For those that will not be traveling to Hartford, here is the Zoom link to log into and attend virtually the **"DAYS OF FELLOWSHIP"** Sunday agenda.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86389786749?pwd=TF0rTIFUOFV2RTZkMVUwcFpMWjNhUT09>

Meeting ID: 863 8978 6749

Passcode: 987201

The Texas Pond Delegates, Roger Foltz & Sharon Wilkins will be on a different Zoom link.



CAN YOU HELP????? ***Southern Region Convention*** ***Fund Raiser***



PLEASE BRING A GIFT CARD OF ANY VALUE TO THE TEXAS POND JULY MEETING.

The Southern Region Convention is asking every Gander to purchase one or more gift cards (VISA, MasterCard, American Express, Target or Walmart) of any size or value. At the Southern Region Convention, we will be assembling gift baskets for burn victims and their families as a volunteer/charity experience at the July 2022 convention in Grapevine, TX. This activity was inspired by our opening Convention Guest Speaker, who was a patient at Shriner's Hospital Burn Unit in Galveston as a young child.

Working together on this we can make a huge impact on the needs of the Care Basket program.

**Mail cards to: Linda Meik; 4032 Knighterrant Drive;
Roanoke, TX 76262**

Thank You in advance for your generous hearts!



Buchanan Clarke Schlader, LLP
Hagg Global
Linda Meik
RIMKUS
Temporary Housing Directory
Titanium Claims

Our Winners were:

TEXAS POND'S 14th ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Friday, June 11, 2021

Bear Creek Golf Club

3500 Bear Creek Court; Dallas, TX 75261



PROCEEDS BENEFITED THE FOLLOWING CHARITIES

North Texas Food Bank

Texas Pond Scholarship Fund

OUR HOLE AND EVENT SPONSORS

- ❖ Sedgwick
- ❖ Temporary Housing Directory
- ❖ Quest Pro/Q-Temps
- ❖ Unified Building Services & Engineering
- ❖ ExamWorks
- ❖ Fletcher Farley
- ❖ Haag Global
- ❖ CRU Group
- ❖ BluSky Restoration
- ❖ BMS Management
- ❖ Apex Claims Management
- ❖ Lowery Forensics
- ❖ DK Haney Roofing
- ❖ Dane Street
- ❖ Buchanan Clarke Schlader, LLP
- ❖ MRB Contractors, LLC
- ❖ Electrostar Equipment & Electronics
- ❖ Paul Davis of North Dallas

A Special thank You to the following companies or individuals for donating items for the golfer swag bags and/or prizes:

APEX Claims
Ashley Hansen
Belfor Property Restoration



1st PLACE TEAM

Kevin Hennessy
Stephen Brown
Travis Nixon
Zach Cole



2nd PLACE TEAM

Scott Sterrantino
John Sterrantino
Roger Williams
Nick Bettinger



3rd PLACE TEAM

Amanda Hignight
Rowin Ragsdale
Scott Schwarziore
Nick Carlson



LAST PLACE TEAM

Aimee Roger; Marc Johnson; Chris Adolph & Danny Miller.

Mr. Miller, you cannot hide from this fine award!



Ball Drop Winners: (L to R) Alicia Elliott -Farthest from the Hole = \$50; Kirby Erdman – 1st Place = \$500; Kenny Lusk – 2nd Place = \$300; & Jordan Woodruff – 3rd Place = \$150.



Ball Drop Team of Volunteers: Roger Foltz, Briggitt Nally, Emily Tomasik & Jason Znoy



Putting Contest winner - Mitch Williams



Longest Drive Winner – Kenny Lusk



Closest to the Pin Winner
Mathias Montes

The Texas Pond is very proud of the results of our 14th Annual Charity Golf Tournament but our sponsors and our golfers make for this successful event.



Some things to Think About

“A friendship founded on business is better than a business founded on friendship.” John D. Rockefeller, Jr.

“Small deeds done are better than great deeds planned.” Peter Marshall

“Experience is a hard teacher because she gives the test first, the lesson afterward.” Vernon Law

“The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.” Eleanor Roosevelt

“A good rest is half the work.” Yugoslav Proverb



Texas Pond Officers 2020 – 2021

See what's cooking

JULY MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

SECOND MONDAY JULY 12, 2021

CHILL BAR & GRILL, GRAPEVINE, TX

THE BLUE GOOSE YEAR 2021-2022 BEGINS

AUGUST MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

SECOND MONDAY AUGUST 9, 2021

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SEPTEMBER MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

SECOND MONDAY SEPTEMBER 13, 2021

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OCTOBER MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

SECOND MONDAY OCTOBER 11, 2021

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NOVEMBER MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

SECOND MONDAY NOVEMBER 8, 2021

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DECEMBER MEETING - DALLAS

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

SECOND MONDAY DECEMBER 13, 2021

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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."

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

Wielder of the Goose Quill - Linda Meik

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



Some 4th of July Facts

1. The Declaration of Independence was not signed on July 4, 1776. That's actually the day it was formally adopted by the Continental Congress, but it wasn't signed by most signatories until August.
2. In 1870, Congress declared the day a federal holiday, but it wasn't until 1941 that the date became a paid federal holiday for federal employees.
3. Americans typically eat 150 million hot dogs on Independence Day, "enough to stretch from D.C. to L.A. more than five times," according to the National Hot Dog and Sausage Council.
4. Massachusetts became the first state to make the 4th of July an official state holiday in 1781.
5. The famed Macy's fireworks show in New York City uses more than 75,000 fireworks shells and costs about \$6 million.

6. As of 2016, July 4 was the number one holiday for beer sales in the U.S., according to the National Beer Wholesalers Association.
7. In 1778, George Washington gave his soldiers a double ration of rum to celebrate the July 4 holiday.
8. Small towns in the U.S. typically spend between \$8,000 and \$15,000 on their fireworks displays.
9. About 16,000 July 4 fireworks displays happen around the country each year, according to the American Pyrotechnics Association.
10. With many fireworks shows canceled in 2020 due to COVID-19, the American Pyrotechnics Association is asking for financial help from Congress to keep family-run fireworks businesses afloat.
11. The first July 4 celebration took place at the White House on 1801, hosted by Thomas Jefferson.