



# TEXAS POND HONKER

**AUGUST 2023**

**Character, Charity, Fellowship**



## Blue Goose – Texas Pond

**DATE: Monday, August 14, 2023**

**TIME: 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.**

**PLACE: On the Border**

Come join us at “On the Border” 4855 Beltline Road, Addison, Texas 75254 (West side of the Tollway on Beltline). We are meeting in the private room on the west side of the restaurant.

## Blue Goose Texas Pond DUES COLLECTION TIME FOR 2023-2024



Our Blue Goose year ends June 30<sup>th</sup> and the new year begins July 1<sup>st</sup>. All membership dues should be collected by September 1<sup>st</sup>.

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 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 are \$70.00 for the year. Should you want to pay your dues via a check or cash the Texas Pond will accept your dues for \$70.00 at the meetings or one can mail them to Linda Meik.



## August Texas Pond Charity Activity



## BACKtoSCHOOL2023

Remember the joy of getting a new set of school supplies?

At Community Partners of Dallas, our kids are not approaching the start of school with the same excitement and support. Many will go back to school wishing for a new backpack or new uniforms. **They just want to fit in.**

This year we will provide backpacks filled with age-appropriate school supplies and new uniforms to more than 3,500 abused and neglected children. **You can make a difference.**

**Donate.** School supply donations can be delivered to Community Partners of Dallas’ Central Location anytime between now and **August 31st.**

**SUPPLIES WE NEED THE MOST:**

- |   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| Clear Backpacks                         | Safety scissors        |
| Composition books                       | Highlighters           |
| Glue bottles                            | Construction paper     |
| Pencil pouches                          | Scientific Calculators |
| Lined Index cards                       | Blue & black pens      |
| Colored pencils (12 ct)                 | 1" 3-ring Binders      |
| Markers (10 ct)                         | Rulers                 |
| Block Erasers                           | 8 Tab dividers         |
| 24 count crayons                        | Pencil Sharpeners      |
| Folders w/pockets & brads               | Watercolors            |
| 1-subject spiral notebooks (wide ruled) |                        |
| Notebook paper (wide ruled, 200 count)  |                        |

**Come Join in the  
Networking!**



**From the desk (ink well) of  
The Texas Pond MLG  
Jason Znoy**

Feathers Up! Blue Goose Convention: A Wild Ride of Fun in Whistler, BC

It was a remarkable annual gathering of adventurously-minded ganders in the picturesque Whistler, BC. PMLGG Wendy Knizek was a gracious host with a cheerful smile at every turn. In fact, all Grand Nest officers are genuinely fun; and so was the whole event. There was a hike to an abandoned train (and brewery), gondola rides up the mountain with majestic views, a scavenger hunt across the charming town, and, of course, many, many, many opportunities for fellowship (and cocktails) with 'strange birds' from across the globe. For me, the highlight is always the walk through the GN Archives to the GN Meeting where each Pond shares its past charity activities. The resiliency of past to present reinvigorates one's excitement for the future. Your Texas Pond officers once again are meeting for our annual budget and planning meeting. With a focus on character, charity, and fellowship (CCF), expect to see more great things. And a final note, thank you so much for allowing me to be your 'lead bird' for another year. Let's do great things!

# Last Month

**JULY – NO POND MEETING.... CONVENTION TIME**



**July 10-13, 2023, in Whistler, B.C.  
HILTON WHISTLER**

117th annual Grand Nest Convention, hosted by the BC Pond and will be held in the Olympic Village of Whistler, BC (Canada).





Take a look at a few of the memories that Ashley Hansen, Jason Znoy, Bryan Pope, Jim Devall, and Linda Meik got to experience.



Whistler Hilton – high on the mountain, About an hour and a half from Vancouver airport. One could rent a car, take the bus transportation or a Sea plane.



Steve Carson and Linda Smith from Michigan greeting Linda Meik, Texas



Bryan Pope at First Timer's Gathering.



PMLGG JoAnn Clark, Retirement Puddle under the Texas Pond.



Kevin Brady, Hartford giving advice or cometary to PMLGGs.



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Canadian's in their plaid shirts at the Welcome Party.



Jim Devall, Why is that Shot Cup stuck on your face?



Old Men and their cigars.





Presentation of Colors by PMLGGs. Canadian Flag – Mark Robertson, Whistler flag – Lorena Kohlrus & US flag – John Paris.

Bill Olsen, PMLGG now living in Hawaii, sitting between just two of his favorite lady friends; Linda Meik & Cheryl



We are off to the Convention Luncheon. Walking to the Peak To Peak Gonoala to go to the top of the Whistler mountain for lunch at the Round House Lodge.



Model Initiation put on by Quebec Pond – 13 Goslings







The view was amazing as one rode the Gondola!



2022-2023 Grand Nest Officers: Wendy Kniezek, MLGG; Wendy Hubbard, Grand Custodian; Tom Elder, Grand Guardian; Randy Wilson, Grand Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg.



The Texas Pond received the Southern Region's Membership Award for 2022-2023. L to R; Bryan Pope, Linda Meik, Jason Znoy, Jim Devall, Ashley Hansen – award presented by Wendy Hubbard, Grand Custodian.



2022-2023 Grand Nest Officers: John Bishop, PMLGG; Dan Rich, PMLGG – Grand Historian; Lorena Kohlrus, PMLGG – Judge Advocate; Steve Carson, Grand Supervisor of the Flock.



Dan Rich presented a new award. The Heritage Award for 2022-2023 presented to PMLGG, former Grand Historian, John Bishop.



Visiting the Exhibit area and sampling the candy!

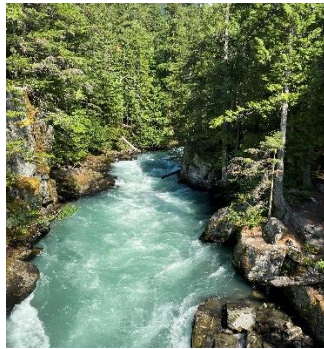




Pictures of the dynamic ladies of Texas.



Texas Pond representatives enjoying the Grand Banquet!



One of extra convention activities was to visit the Train Wreck. Along the way of the hike one could enjoy the scenery.



This Train Wreck occurred on August 11, 1956. The train was loaded with lumber and was headed to Vancouver.

The train got behind schedule so it attempted to make up time by increasing speed. On a narrow curve area, twelve trains jumped the track and became wedged in the trees. This accident shut down the track for several days. Trains was the only way resources to go between Squamish & Lillooet.



Today, the train cars are covered with graffiti.



### The Honorable Order of Blue Goose International's Nine-year Charity Endeavors

**As of June 30, 2023**

Total Financial Donations \$2,151,283 to a variety of charities

The Blue Goose Members provided 17,635 volunteer hours

A collection of \$717,391 in goods & supplies were donated to various charities

A total of \$110,110 in educational scholarships were awarded

## 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.”*



## See what's cooking!

### AUGUST MEETING – TEXAS POND

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

SECOND MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 2023

CONVENTION MEMORY SHARING

BACK TO SCHOOL TIME – COMMUNITY PARTNERS

COLLECTING DUES

TBD

### SEPTEMBER MEETING – TEXAS POND

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

END OF THE BLUE GOOSE YEAR CELEBRATION

SECOND MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2023

TBD

### OCTOBER MEETING – TEXAS POND

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

SECOND MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2023

TBD

### NOVEMBER MEETING – TEXAS POND

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

SECOND MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2023

TBD

### DECEMBER MEETING – TEXAS POND

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

SECOND MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2023

TBD

Plan Ahead for the 2024 HOBGI Convention:



### MOTOWN MIGRATION

July 29 – August 2, 2024

St. John's Resort, Plymouth, Michigan

## Summer Thoughts to Ponder

- ❖ "Start by doing what's necessary; then do what seems impossible – and suddenly, you are a person who does the possible."
- ❖ "No matter what happens, you will find that life goes on, and it always gets better."
- ❖ "Burst your boredom & keep your passion alive in August again, because summer is not going anywhere soon."
- ❖ "August is that last flicker of fun and heat before everything fades and dies. The final moments of fun before the freeze. In the winter, everything changes."



## Here are the 2023-2024 Texas Pond Officers

**Most Loyal Gander** – Jason Znoy (H) 214-563-8875  
[jason.bluegoosetx@gmail.com](mailto:jason.bluegoosetx@gmail.com)

**Supervisor of the Flock** – Stephanie Kirby (M) 214-907-0073  
[stephanie.kirby@envistaforensics.com](mailto:stephanie.kirby@envistaforensics.com)

**Custodian of the Goslings** – Jeff Thompson (M) 214-499-5691  
[jthompson1902@att.net](mailto:jthompson1902@att.net)

**Guardian of the Pond** – Mitch Williams (M) 214-213-5751  
[williams.mitch@yahoo.com](mailto:williams.mitch@yahoo.com)

**Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg** Jim Devall (M) 940-703-1423  
[jimdevall60@gmail.com](mailto:jimdevall60@gmail.com)

**Wielder of the Goose Quill** - Linda Meik (M) 682-715-5341  
[lindameik9@gmail.com](mailto:lindameik9@gmail.com)

