



# TEXAS POND HONKER

OCTOBER 2023

Character, Charity, Fellowship

## Texas Pond Volunteer Time



**Cane Russo Rescue**  
**1451 W Main Street**

On October 9th at 4:00 PM, we plan to meet at Cane Rosso Dog Rescue (1421 W. Main in Carrollton) for our October charity event. We'll spend an hour working at the rescue followed by our October meeting at Cane Rosso Pizzeria at 5:30.

To sign up for any of our charity/community service events, please go to: [tinyurl.com/bgtx-lake1](http://tinyurl.com/bgtx-lake1)

## Fellowship Follow-up Time

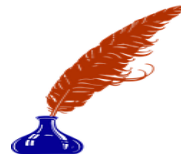
**DATE: Monday, October 9, 2023**

**TIME: 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

**PLACE: CANE RUSSO PIZZA**  
**1301 S. Broadway**  
**Carrollton, TX 75006**



**Cash Bar for food & drinks!**



From the desk (ink well) of  
The Texas Pond MLG  
Jason Znoy, Lead Bird

A brief history lesson and request, my dear Ganders,

After the Civil War, with veterans seeking to continue the camaraderie of civil service, formed, based on the old Masonic model, the first fraternal orders. They worked to ensure the well-being of their brothers through organized systems of mutual aid. Many formed to push political lobby, to secure social benefits for these veterans.

Fraternalism was a symbolically potent and insular culture that created solidarity through grandiloquent titles, pageantry, and secret watchwords or handshakes. These social groups, based on 14th-century freemasonry, were self-improvement, volunteer associations that taught moral, intellectual, and spiritual lessons through elaborate initiation ceremonies. Ritual was vital to inculcate value systems while simultaneously offering escape. In our golden age, we had the Knights of Columbus, the Odd Fellows, the Shriners, and the Rotary Club. Into the 20th century came the Animal Lodges: the Fraternal Order of Eagles, Fraternal Order of Orioles, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Loyal Order of the Moose and our Ancient and Honorable Order of the Blue Goose.

As can be seen through our fanciful titles and mission-outlined initiation ceremony, those Fire Insurance Men back in 1906 – though initially in jest – began to build a community of comradery and mutual aid which eventually widened into the international property and casualty space. Unlike the many (with more on the way) of the trade associations, what makes us special is the focus on the keynote “Honor” and the Golden Rule condensed in our watchword “TF.”

With all this in mind dear Ganders, we are both a special yet a bygone breed, worsened due to the confusion of who we are. Our Order is important and necessary for both

society and our profession. It is important to understand who we are and vital to stay involved while bringing others into the Order so that they also may also live the cardinal principles in their daily life.

As such, I hope to see you at Cane Rosso Rescue on 10/9 and White Rock Lake on 11/11 for service and fellowship. Also, if interested in becoming a member, the Texas Pond will hold its next initiation at our 11/13 gathering. If you have any inquiry into the mysteries of our Order, please reach out!

# Last Month



On Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup> 13 Ganders, 2 Goslings and 12 Guests played some miniature golf at At Another Round. Of the 12 Guests, 7 were from Young Risk Professionals, who joined in the fun & frolic.



On September 9th six volunteers from Blue Goose of Texas partnered with For the Love of the Lake for a trash cleanup at White Rock Lake. It was a beautiful, sunny Saturday

morning (still a wee bit warm!) at the Lake with walkers, runners & cyclists whizzing by. We spent several hours picking up trash near the shoreline and enjoying the scenery. Following the cleanup, we met at Fish & Tails on Buckner for lunch and libations. A great time was had by all, and we plan to do it again on November 11th at 9:00 AM.



## Fantasy Football – Texas Pond

By Jim Devall, the Fantasy Football Commissioner,

The Blue Goose Texas Pond began a fantasy football league at the start of the 2023 NFL Season to raise funds for our favorite charities. To join the league, a \$50.00 buy-in was required and we had ten people join to form the ten-team league. We held an on-line draft with some rousing banter and smack talk by the participants. We just finished week three of the Blue Goose Texas Pond Fantasy Football League with the current standing posted below. The Legal Eagles have jumped out to a perfect start and early lead in the season, but a large group is only one game back. All participants are fighting for bragging rights and more importantly raising funds for a great cause.

Current Standings in Order of their Rank as of 9/26/23

Team	W-L-T	PF	PA	STREAK	WAIVE	MOVE
 Legal Eagles	3-0-0	448.20	344.50	W-3	8	2
<b>OWNER- BRYAN POPE</b>						
 corwin's Remarkable Team	2-1-0	406.56	285.86	W-1	3	1
<b>OWNER – CORY SHORTS</b>						
 Calm Before the Score	2-1-0	403.62	336.92	W-1	9	1
<b>OWNER- ASHLEY HANSEN</b>						

							
Roger's Remarkable Team	2-1-0	353.52	268.28	W-2	7	-	
<b>OWNER – ROGER FOLTZ</b>							
							
Jim's Glorious Team	2-1-0	321.22	299.08	W-2	5	-	
<b>OWNER – JIM DEVAL</b>							
							
Golden Goose Droppings	1-2-0	360.74	445.70	L-1	4	-	
<b>OWNER – JASON ZNOY</b>							
							
Reno Hightower	1-2-0	348.92	384.30	L-1	10	19	
<b>OWNER – NICK GAMMON</b>							
							
100 Proof	1-2-0	297.14	337.60	L-2	6	3	
<b>OWNER – MITCH WILLIAMS</b>							
							
Jimmy's Goose	1-2-0	284.42	345.16	L-2	1	-	
<b>OWNER – JAMES MATHEW</b>							
							
Bear Ferguson's Boss Team	0-3-0	261.12	438.06	L-3	2	3	
<b>OWNER – BEAR FERGUSON</b>							



## See what's cooking!

**OCTOBER MEETING – TEXAS POND**  
 5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS  
**SECOND MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2023**  
**VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY: CANE RUSSO RESCUE**  
**MEETING: CAME RUSSO PIZZA**

**SOUTHERN REGION ALL POND ZOOM CALL**  
**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2023**  
**5:30 PM EST**  
**RSVP TOM ELDER FOR INFORMATION**  
**ELDER@TWC.COM**

**NOVEMBER MEETING – TEXAS POND**  
 5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS  
 GOSLING INITIATION  
**SECOND MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2023**  
**MEETING: ON THE BORDER**

**DECEMBER MEETING – TEXAS POND**  
 5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS  
**SECOND MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2023**  
**MEETING: MAPLE LANDING DALLAS**

Plan Ahead for the 2024 HOBGI Convention:



**MOTOWN MIGRATION**  
 July 29 – August 2, 2024  
 St. John's Resort, Plymouth, MI

Plan Ahead for the 2025 HOBGI Convention:



(Official convention logo forthcoming)  
**August 3-8, 2025**  
**Boston Park Plaza, Boston, MA**

## Plan Ahead for the 2026 HOBGI Convention:



**July 12-16, 2026**  
**The Galt House, Louisville, KY**



### Texas Pond History

- ❖ The first Charter was granted to the Texas Pond on January 30, 1907.
- ❖ At the time of the first Charter there were 132 Ganders in the Texas Pond.
- ❖ In 1914 this first Charter was surrendered.
- ❖ The second Charter was granted on January 14, 1921.
- ❖ The second time around, there were 190 Ganders in the Texas Pond.
- ❖ Following the issuance of the second Charter the Texas Pond over the next several years was divided into four Ponds: South Texas (Houston) - 1921, Alamo Pond (San Antonio) - 1934, West Texas Pond (Lubbock) - 1946, and three Puddles: Austin, El Paso & Corpus Christi.
- ❖ In 1926, the Texas Pond held the Grand Nest Convention at the Adolphus Hotel and was presided over by MLGG Wirt Leake.
- ❖ The Texas Pond in 1952 hosted the Forty-fifth Annual Meeting of the Grand Nest at the Crystal Ball Room of the Baker Hotel. Charles Beale was the presiding MLGG.
- ❖ In 1977 the South Texas Poud hosted the Annual Convention at the Shamrock Hilton Hotel. This convention was presided over by MLGG Stanley Spore.
- ❖ After 70 years of operation, in 1992, the second Charter was surrendered.
- ❖ In 1995, the third Charter was issued at the Grand Nest Convention in New York City.
- ❖ Below is the list of MLGs since the Texas Pond received its 3<sup>rd</sup> Charter:

1995-1996	Fred Hartzke Fred Hartzke/Charles Derryberry shared the
1996-1997	MLG role
1997-1998	Charles Derryberry
1998-1999	Bill Pillow
1999-2000	Bill Henry
2000- 2001	Terri Cluck

2001- 2002	Tom Tucker
2002- 2003	John Malagna
2003- 2004	Bill Henry
2004- 2005	Bill Henry
2005- 2006	Kevin Lutzke
2006- 2007	Kevin Lutzke
2007- 2008	Ray Wicker
2008- 2009	Ray Wicker
2009- 2010	Ray Wicker
2010- 2011	Ray Wicker
2011- 2012	Ray Wicker
2012- 2013	John Sterrantino
2016- 2014	Ashley Hansen
2014- 2015	Randy Webb
2015- 2016	Daphney Elliott
2016- 2017	Daphney Elliott
2017- 2018	Jim Mathew
2018- 2019	Roger Foltz
2019- 2020	Jim Devall
2020- 2021	Jim Devall
2021- 2022	Sharon Wilkins
2022- 2023	Jason Znoy
2023- 2024	Jason Znoy



### 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)

## 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.”*