



Honorable Order of the Blue Goose, International

Texas Pond

Charity

Fellowship

Education



TEXAS POND HONKER

February 2024

Character, Charity, Fellowship



February Texas Pond Meeting

Fireside Pies

1285 S. Main Street

Grapevine, TX 76051

MONDAY, February 12, 2024 @ 5:30 PM

We will be celebrating everything from President's Day to Valentine's Day to the beginning of Mardi Graw Season, so come join in the fun.

Mark your calendars for another February event and register to attend, wearing your lucky green attire.



HAPPY LEAP DAY
29
1 year - 366 opportunities
Let this be the day you LEAP into the life you're MEANT To Live. Ready, Set, Fly!

CONTEST

The Pond with the most visible attendees in their best St. Patrick's Day attire will receive a special gift! 🍀

Leap Day Zoom Call

29 Feb

6:00 PM EST

5:00 PM CST

4:00 PM MST

Special guests have been invited!



RSVP

Tom Elder

elder@twc.com

502-931-6431

Texas-Pond Golden Egg Membership Drive Contest

January - April 2024

1st Place:
\$75 cash to the member that brings in the most goslings

2nd Place - \$55 Gift Card

3rd Place - \$25 Gift Card

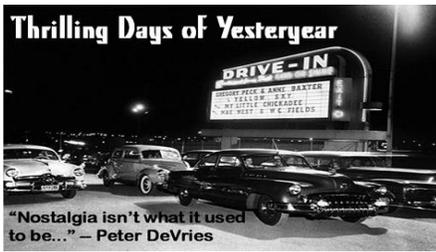
For Details Contact
Jeff Thompson 214-499-5691
JThompson1902@att.net

We began our 2024 membership drive named the Golden Egg Hunt so please bring your guest(s) to any of the Blue Goose meetings and events held through March 2024. The Golden Egg Hunt ends with the next initiation in April 2024 when we will tally the number of golden eggs and announce the winners!

Every gander will receive one golden egg for each guest that completes an application with dues paid to become a gosling. A bonus golden egg will be awarded when that gosling attends our next initiation in April 2024.

You can view and share our membership application with friends & colleagues with at least six months insurance industry experience at:

www.tinyurl.com/bgtx-app



MESSAGE ON MEMBERSHIP FROM YESTERYEAR'S MLG (1996)

A new year is upon us, and our thoughts turn to renewal. The flock has grown rapidly during the last year, and all have contributed. Many goslings have matured to ganders and more will follow soon. We will be initiating more goslings.

Rapidly changing environment within the Insurance industry has caused many to look for information and networking to keep us abreast. The strength of this organization rests with the diversity of our members and their contributions. Information has now become power. It is incumbent upon each of us to contribute to the well-being of our Pond and our industry. One person can make a difference, and several can affect change. It's for this reason any singular objective is to build the Pond. 1996 will be a challenge for each of us in different ways and our Pond will evolve likewise. During the coming year I ask each member to bring a guest to our meetings to renew our commitment to the Flock and grow the Pond. The quality of our membership rests with each of us and to date it has been outstanding. The rapid growth of our Pond, the high participation, and the quality of our membership are a result of networking objectives for which I thank you.

(In 1996 at the time this MLG message was written the Texas Pond had 72 ganders and 31 goslings. Today the Texas Pond has 58 active ganders, 16 Life members, 4 Dual members and 5 goslings waiting to be initiated.)

If you want to know which MLG wrote this message you will have to attend the February meeting. At the end of the meeting those that have inquired will be given the answer.

Over the next few months, the Wielder will be digging into the archives of our history to add to our newsletter. At the June meeting recognition will be given to the ganders who had inquiring minds.



Last Month

Take time to thank our great sponsors for our 2024 New Year Kickoff Event:



The Art Guys

COX P.L.L.C.



ELECTROSTAR
EQUIPMENT & ELECTRONICS
NATIONWIDE RECOVERY SPECIALISTS





These three incredible ladies (L to R) Charla Brown, Ashley Hansen & Stephanie Kirby) went above & beyond to ensure that the Texas Pond's Annual New Year Kick-Off Event was a success.



The Texas Pond is proud to give back to the community in their various charity efforts: Community Partners, Scottish Rite Hospital for Children, volunteering in several ways. Below on the left is Mandi Valdez from Scottish Rite Hospital for Children. The Texas Pond has supported Scottish Rite since 2009-2010 Blue Goose year. As of the end of the Blue Goose year 2022-2023 the Texas Pond had donated \$36,532 to Scottish Rite. The proceeds from the 2024 New Year Event are targeted for Scottish Rite.



Registration – Welcome Table. Mitch Williams checking in with Linda Meik.



Mandi Valdez joined in the picture fun with Mary Bramley, Linda Meik & Daphney Elliott.



Look at these smiles.... L to R Charla Brown, Mary Bramley, Alicia Elliott, Stephanie Kirby, Ashley Hansen & Sherry Montes.



Balloon Pop Fund Raiser. One pays \$20 for the opportunity to choose a balloon. In each balloon is a number which is connected to a gift card anywhere from \$25 to \$100 in value.



Silent Auction Fund Raiser, with over 30-40 items for the attendees to bid on.



Fantasy Football End of the Season

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. The three participants who now get to shout out their bragging rights with their results are: Nick Gannon – 1st place = \$125; 2nd place went to Mitch Williams for \$75 and for 3rd place Bryan Pope took the honors for \$50.

NATIONAL COLLEGE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP SQUARES GAME WINNERS

January 8, 2024

Payout #	Name	Michigan	Washington
1	Mike Clarke	0	0
2	Jason Znoy	6	0
3	Ashley Hansen	7	0
4	Jim Devall	7	3
5	Frank Sanker	13	3
6	Stephanie Kirby	14	3
7	Jim Devall	17	3
8	Carol Sanker	17	9
9	Ashley Hansen	17	10
10	Mike Clarke	20	10
11	Roger Foltz	20	13
12	Terri Rejcek	26	13
13	Jim Devall	27	13
14	Frank Sanker	33	13
15	Stephanie Kirby	34	13
16	Stephanie Kirby	34	13
17	Stephanie Kirby	34	13
18	Stephanie Kirby	34	13
19	Stephanie Kirby	34	13
20	Stephanie Kirby	34	13

Each winner received \$25 for their winning square. The remaining \$500 went to the Texas Pond Scholarship Fund. Stephanie Kirby was the big winner!



“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.”

	Reno Hightower = Nick Gannon
	100 Proof – Mitch Williams
	Legal Eagles = Bryan Pope



FEBRUARY MEETING – TEXAS POND

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS
SECOND MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2024
MEETING: FIRESIDE PIES, GRAPEVINE

MARCH MEETING – TEXAS POND

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS
SECOND MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2024
MEETING: ON THE BORDER, ADDISON

APRIL MEETING – TEXAS POND

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS
SECOND MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2024
MEETING: ON THE BORDER, ADDISON

MAY MEETING – TEXAS POND

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS
SECOND MONDAY, MAY 13, 2024
MEETING: TBD

JUNE MEETING – TEXAS POND

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS
SECOND MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2024
MEETING: TBD



Golf Time for the 17th annual Texas Pond Blue Goose Golf Tournament is scheduled for Friday, June 7, 2024. Shotgun start at 8:00 a.m.

We have added in some new options for sponsors and are looking to have an entire course reserved for Blue Goose.

Golf Registration will be available by February 12th!

THE HONORABLE ORDER OF BLUE GOOSE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION NEWS

Registration is now open for the 2024 HOBGI Convention:



MOTOWN MIGRATION

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

IF YOU NEED THE REGISTRATION FLYER, PLEASE CONTACT LINDA SMITH OR STEVE CARSON. (lsmith219@outlook.com; 313-806-3920 or sgc2@vision-restoration.com 313-304-5665)

Early Bird registration of \$395 ends March 15th. The hotel room rate is \$215 plus tax. Plan to Ahead the 2025 HOBGI at St. John's Resort.



August 3-8, 2025
Boston Park Plaza, Boston, MA

SCAN THE QR CODE TO GET DETAILS ON THIS FUNDRAISER.

Grand Nest 2025
AUG 3-7, 2025




**FUNDRAISING RAFFLE FOR
\$5,000 TRAVEL VOUCHER
TO BE DRAWN JULY 30, 2024**

Plan Ahead for the 2026 HOBGI Convention:



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

Do you want to be a sponsor of the Southern Region Convention in 2026? Contact Tom Elder or Linda Meik. See sponsorship levels below.



**GATEWAY TO THE SOUTH
RUN FOR THE ROSES**

2026 Southern Region Blue Goose Corporate Sponsorship Levels

 WINNERS CIRCLE	\$10,000	Includes signage at convention events, and where possible includes promotion through Southern Region communications and thorough various social media platforms sites.
 DERBY RACE	\$5,000	Includes signage at convention events, and where possible includes promotion through Southern Region communications and thorough various social media platforms sites.
 TRIFECTA	\$3,000	Includes signage at convention events, and where possible includes promotion through Southern Region communications and thorough various social media platforms sites.
 EXACTA	\$2,000	Includes signage at convention events, and where possible includes promotion through Southern Region communications and thorough various social media platforms sites.
 OAKS/LILY	\$1,000	Includes signage at convention events, and where possible includes promotion through Southern Region communications and thorough various social media platforms sites.
 WIN, PLACE, SHOW	\$500	Includes signage at convention events, and where possible includes promotion through Southern Region communications and thorough various social media platforms sites.

 STARTING GATE	\$250	Includes signage at convention events, and where possible includes promotion through Southern Region communications and thorough various social media platforms sites.
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Here are the 2023-2024 Texas Pond Officers

Most Loyal Gander – Jason Znoy (H) 214-563-8875
jason.bluegoosetx@gmail.com

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

Custodian of the Goslings – Jeff Thompson (M) 214-499-5691
jthompson1902@att.net

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

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

Wielder of the Goose Quill - Linda Meik (M) 682-715-5341
lindameik9@gmail.com