



# TEXAS POND HONKER

May 2025

Character, Charity, Fellowship

## Blue Goose – Texas Pond

Monday, March 10, 2025 @ 5:30 PM

Mesero - Prestonwood

5505 Belt Line Rd. Dallas, TX 75254

## Texas Pond's 18th Annual Blue Goose Golf Tournament



## CHECK OUT OUR GREAT SPONSORS

AS OF 5/1/25

Title Sponsor: Sketch My Roof

Hole Sponsors: FEC  
Sdii Global  
Haag  
Nederveld  
Newman, LLC  
Fletcher Farley  
Weathershield Roofing  
Newman Construction Consulting  
MDD Forensic Accountants  
BluSky Restoration

Lunch Sponsors: YA Group  
UBSE

Golf Cart Sponsor: Polaris Forensics

Putting Contest Sponsor:  
Buchanan Clarke Schlader, LLP

**Come Be Part of The Texas Pond's Charity Golf Tournament on Thursday, June 19<sup>th</sup>.**



# LAST MONTH



One thing about Ganders & Goslings is they like to enjoy some good appetizers and refreshing beverages while they engage in great conversations.

Once they have satisfied their cravings then they are ready for GOOSE business.



## Initiation Time - 5 Goslings

*Kelly Wilson*



Kelly is one of 7 siblings and is planning a wedding in October to her finance, Cambron. Kelly likes working out, running, reading books, and playing pickleball or golf with her finance. She loves meeting people from all different backgrounds & experiences. She so enjoyed how welcoming the Blue Goose members were and who are so willing to teach her more about the insurance industry. Competitors do not feel like competitors.

*Leah Long*



Leah is a semi empty nester, whose college kiddo still lives at home while attending a local college. The best thing about work is all the PEOPLE involved in the company and business. Leah loves reading, traveling and food.... oh, and hiding out on the weekends from a busy work week. Leah said she thought Blue Goose members were so nice and welcoming without being fake like one gets at various networking events.



Texas Scottish Rite Hospital has been a beneficiary of the Texas Pond since 2010, and we have donated a total of \$39,709.50.

Mandi Valdez from Scottish Rite joined our meeting and accepted this cash donation from our New Year Gala.



*"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."*



## Marlon Duggan



Marlon has been aware of the Blue Goose Org., and he recently attended the New Year Kick-off event where he encountered several old industry friends, and decided to come join us. As a Senior Regional Consultant, Marlon has worked in the property insurance claims world for over 37 years. He says no two days in this arena are the same. Marlon is married to his bride for over 36 years and has two grown sons.

## Bon Casas



This competitive dart player, both steel & soft tip is married to Sarah and the father of five children, ages 3 to 9 years of age. Last season he won the championship of both leagues and has a goal of repeating that again this season. As a Business Development Manager, Bon likes to connect with and create genuine relationships with people. His work schedule is flexible thus allowing him to have a well-balanced work & personal life. Various friends and associates steered him towards our Blue Goose organization.

## Jeff Allcorn



This new gander is about to become a first-time father in August. As an attorney he says that sometimes applying a policy to the facts of a case can feel like trying to solve a puzzle. This new gander enjoys running in races from 5Ks all the way to full marathons – no long distances longer than a marathon. He likes that the DFW Blue Goose organization does charitable work for our community.



## SOME IRISH HUMOR

May the Good Lord take a liking to you — but not too soon.

A good laugh and a long sleep are the two best cures for anything.

As you slide down the banister of life, may the splinters never point in the wrong direction.

This isn't a hangover – it's the Irish flu.



## BLUE GOOSE - A SOCIAL ORGANIZATION

The Honorable Order of the Blue Goose International is a social insurance fraternity built on sentiment, loyalty, and friends. It is a vehicle to aid us in developing Character, Charity, and Fellowship with others who share a place in our great industry. Sure, we have fun, but this is coincidental to knowing and being known by other insurance people. It provides an opportunity to meet those in the same field who may be competitors, adjusters, publishers, rating bureau personnel, insurance commissioners, salvage bureau people, insurance professors, insurance premium finance people, insurance agents and brokers, and many others as shown in the Membership Eligibility Rules. Blue Goose provides a wonderful opportunity for us to improve the image of ourselves and our industry in the eyes of the public. We have so much more in common with one another than we do in conflict.



## Social Media

In this crazy world of ours, this world is relying more and more on us being in touch via the many social media platforms. The Texas Pond has the following platforms with our name attached. These are:

## LinkedIn

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/bgtx/?viewAsMember=true> "Honorable Order of the Blue Goose – Texas Pond

## Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/bluegoosetx> "Blue Goose Texas Pond"

## Twitter/X

<https://x.com/TexasPond> This site is no longer being maintained.

## Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/bluegoosetexaspond>

Website <https://www.bluegoosetx.org>

When we set these sites up several years ago our mission was to enhance our Blue Goose footprint in Texas. We stated our mission as follows: *"Beyond the newsletter, we have been pursuing social media to engage ganders, goslings, and the public as to our organization, achievements, and causes. Our goal is to increase followers and engagement points on these accounts."*

If you have not joined at least one of these social media platforms, we encourage you to do so. Or if you have not updated your contact info on these platforms, take time and do so.

## TEXAS POND CALENDAR



### MAY MEETING – TEXAS POND

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

**SECOND MONDAY, MAY 12, 2025**

**MEETING: LAMBERTI'S, IRVING**

### JUNE MEETING – TEXAS POND

5:30 PM GANDERS & GOSLINGS & GUESTS

**SECOND MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2025**

**MEETING: LAMBERTI'S, IRVING**

**18<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**GRAPEVINE GOLF COURSE**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2025**

**2024-2025 BLUE GOOSE COMES TO END. OUR NEXT BLUE GOOSE YEAR STARTS ON JULY 1<sup>ST</sup>.**

## THE HONORABLE ORDER OF BLUE GOOSE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION NEWS

**HOBGI Convention**  
JULY 27 - JULY 31, 2025  
BOSTON, MA

Register for the 123rd Annual HOBGI Convention and then enter the room upgrade contest

**CONTEST: 1-Bedroom King Suite Upgrade**  
1) Register for Convention on or before 6.15.25 (drawing 6.16.25)  
2) Purchase 10 chances for \$50 or 25 chances for \$100  
3) Book your room within the convention block (points are not allowed)

**Contest Rules:**

- No limit to the number of times you may enter (A \$50 ticket purchase is required for each entry)
- Only one winner awarded
- Room upgrade is from standard (180sqft) room to a 1-bedroom king suite (530sqft)
- Estimated \$615 per night value
- Already registered guests may enter to win with a \$50 ticket purchase per entry
- Officers and others with a comp room are not allowed to win but may make a donation
- Rooms booked with points are not allowed to win but may make a donation
- Winners are randomly selected
- Winners to receive upgrade only - No Cash Value

**Questions?**  
Contact our Event Manager  
Cheryl McShane  
414-899-7418

THE HARTFORD POND AND THE EASTERN REGION ARE EXCITED TO HOST THE 119TH GRAND NEST CONVENTION IN BOSTON, MA THIS SUMMER, AND WE HOPE YOU WILL JOIN US! BOSTON IS FILLED WITH HISTORY, AND THAT HISTORY INSPIRES EVERYTHING THAT MAKES UP BOSTON - THE SITES, THE FOOD, THE DRINK, AND THE PEOPLE. THE CONVENTION STARTS ON SUNDAY WITH THE GRAND NEST OFFICERS' MEETING, AND AN OPTION TO JOIN THE GRAND NEST SPOUSES/GUESTS ON A WALKING TOUR OF BOSTON TO INCLUDE SAMPLING OF BOSTON'S TOP FOODS. MONDAY, JULY 28TH IS OUR GOLF OUTING, WITH A GOLF-ALTERNATIVE ACTIVITY WHICH IS AN OLD TOWN TROLLEY TOUR - BOTH OF THESE ARE OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES. THEN OUR CONVENTION KICKS OFF WITH A SPORTS THEMED TAILGATE WELCOME PARTY WITH LIVE ENTERTAINMENT - COME DRESSED IN YOUR FAVORITE SPORTS SHIRTS! TUESDAY JULY 29TH, WE KICK OFF OUR MEETINGS WITH OUR OPENING CEREMONIES, MEMORIAL SERVICE, AND MODEL INITIATION. ALL GANDERS AND GUESTS ARE WELCOME TO OUR OFF-SITE LUNCHEON AT GAME ON! ADJACENT TO FENWAY PARK, WITH AN OPTIONAL TOUR OF FENWAY PARK. DINNER WILL BE ON YOUR OWN THAT NIGHT TO ENJOY THE CITY, AND WE WILL HOST A HOSPITALITY SUITE THAT EVENING. WEDNESDAY IS A DAY OF BUSINESS MEETINGS FOR THE GANDERS. WE HAVE A CHILDREN'S PROGRAM FOR THE KIDS, AND THE SPOUSES AND GUEST WILL BE ABLE TO ENJOY A SELF-DEFENSE CLASS BY IMPACT

BOSTON. FOR WEDNESDAY'S LUNCH, GANDERS, AND GUESTS (MINUS THE KIDS) WILL HAVE LUNCH TOGETHER WITH A LOCAL ICONIC BOSTON COMEDIAN, AFTER A VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY. WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON THE GANDERS GO BACK INTO MEETINGS, AND THE SPOUSES AND GUESTS CAN ENJOY THE CITY - WE WILL HAVE A WALK PLANNED FOR ANYONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO ENJOY THE LOCAL BACK BAY NEIGHBORHOOD. WEDNESDAY EVENING IS OUR BLACK AND GOLD GALA! WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL IN BOSTON!

THE DETAILS:

SUNDAY, JULY 27 TO THURSDAY, JULY 31, 2025

HILTON BOSTON PARK PLAZA

THE HARTFORD POND - 2025 GRAND NEST CONVENTION

**GENERAL REGISTRATION - APRIL 1 TO JUNE 15**

**\*ADULTS \$475, CHILDREN \$200**

**LATE REGISTRATION - JUNE 16 - JULY 4**

**\*ADULTS \$500, CHILDREN \$250**

**HILTON BOSTON PARK PLAZA  
50 PARK PLAZA AT ARLINGTON STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02116**



Plan for the 2026 HOBGI Convention:



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



Back in 2008, Kentucky was home to a humble 19 distilleries, all owned and operated by 10 companies. In

2023, 15 years later, there were 100 bourbon distilleries in Kentucky owned by 84 companies with several more facilities set to fire up their stills in the coming months. That's an increase of more than 500% in about as much time as it takes for a top-shelf whiskey to finish barrel aging.

One of the most essential requirements in the bourbon-making process is aging it in charred oak barrels. In fact, a bourbon can only be called a bourbon if it has been aged in a charred oak barrel. Otherwise, it does not qualify for the label.

In terms of craft, charred oak barrels, or casks made with blackened wood, provide a film within the barrel that prevents any bitterness from raw oak seeping into the bourbon. The charring process caramelizes the wood within the barrels, imbuing the bourbon within with a warm, rich flavor that often evokes notes of caramel and vanilla. The charring process also helps to balance out the sweetness with tannins that have a bitter taste. The use of oak, which has a robust structure and a resistance to decay, allows for prolonged aging periods. So, using treated oak allows for optimal aging and taste. As for the legal and historical reasoning behind this rule, it's a bit more complicated.



**MLGG & SOF**



**GOP & COP**



**WGQ & KGGE**

## Here are the 2024-2025 Texas Pond Officers

**Most Loyal Gander** – Stephanie Kirby (M) 214-907-0073  
[stephaniecamille.kirby@gmail.com](mailto:stephaniecamille.kirby@gmail.com)

**Supervisor of the Flock** – TBD

**Custodian of the Goslings** – Valerie Wilson (M) 870-213-8192  
[val\\_michelle04@hotmail.com](mailto:val_michelle04@hotmail.com)

**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** – Ashley Hansen (M)  
214-212-8547 [ashansen@aol.com](mailto:ashansen@aol.com)

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