

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

Lamberti's Ristorante – MacArthur

Blue Goose · Texas Pond



DATE	Monday, September 14, 2026
TIME	5:30 PM
LOCATION	Lamberti's MacArthur location
ADDRESS	7701 North MacArthur Blvd, Irving, TX 75063
COST	cash bar / food at your own expense

Meeting will be held in their private dining room.

FEATURED MEETING ACTIVITY

Charity Guest Speakers

In the spirit of September's North Texas Giving Day, we have invited two speakers to attend our September meeting and share information about the incredible charities they represent and how those charities assist those they serve.

Join us as we learn more about services that help those in need in our communities.

Each organization will be receiving a donation from our Pond.



MOST LOYAL GANDER'S MESSAGE TO THE POND



Words of Wisdom from our MLG, Randy Webb

Well summer is over for most of us, not astrologically of course, that does not begin until September 22nd. Meteorologically speaking, we can look forward to a September 1st start. But with school back in session, the start of football season and pumpkin spice sneaking back into our food source we know fall is around the corner. Or at least we can certainly hope that we can get a bit of relief from the hot temperatures we have been experiencing.

What do you plan this fall? If you have children, school is back in session and that will certainly alter your routine. Most people that are selling their home do so while the kiddos are out of school. Vacations, or “holiday” as Europeans refer, usually end in the fall if you have kids at home.

Fall is a great time for football fans. Thousands of Americans enjoy everything from pee wee to professional football. If you are in this group, fall is your nirvana. Of course there are the fantasy leagues that can be, I have found, a time bandit. I must admit that I have participated in and enjoyed fantasy football for at least a few seasons.

Football aside, fall also has its share of holidays. We can look forward to Halloween, Thanksgiving and almost Christmas. There is also Labor Day, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Indigenous Peoples Day, Columbus Day, Day of the Dead, Veterans Day and Hanukkah. Most Christmas decorations, parties, shopping and planning all take place in the fall, that is why I have included Christmas. Fall is certainly a very busy time for most folks.

Retailers are already gearing up for this very busy season. On a recent visit to Home Depot the Halloween decorations area was quite large and offered a wide array of scary creatures at a price. The temporary Halloween decoration stores are already open for business. By Halloween most of the scary offerings will be replaced by Christmas decorations.

Let's face it, fall is a very busy time for us all. Above all, be safe and ALWAYS be kind to others. I recently heard a quote from Dolly Parton, “I always just thought if you see somebody without a smile, give ‘em yours!”

LAST MONTH



Back to School Supply Drive Benefitting Community Partners of Dallas

Each August, the Texas Pond collects school supplies for Community Partners of Dallas' Back to School supplies drive.

Thank you to all our Ganders and Guests that helped make this year's drive a great success. Our collection is valued at \$1858.80.

Charllotte Armstrong, Guardian of the Pond, oversees our charitable efforts this year. She did a fantastic job organizing our drive and making it so easy to donate.

We are proud of our philanthropic partnership with Community Partners of Dallas and look forward to many more years of working together to help the people in our community.



MEMBERSHIP SURVEY RESULTS

Meeting Attendance Improvement Survey

Question 1: What meeting time is preferred?

60% of respondents prefer our current meeting time of 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM

Question 2: If meetings included continuing education, would you be more or less likely to attend?

85% of respondents prefer no continuing education

Question 3: Charity is included in 8-10 meetings out of 12 per year. Is that enough, too much or too little?

85% of respondents feel it is enough

Question 4: Suggested speakers and topics for monthly meetings

Suggestions include ethics, engineering, charities, member spotlight, insurance hot topics, injury topics, and business and safety related topics.

Question 5: Suggestions for increasing interest and attendance

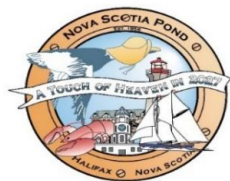
Suggestions include well planned agendas, targeting other professions within the insurance community other than just adjusters like underwriters, allow regulated marketing in a non-overwhelming format to encourage company support of employee membership, more central meeting locations, hold joint events with other industry groups, incorporate email calendar reminders, and keep meetings upbeat, fun and interesting.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to respond. Your feedback is very important to us as we try to build meaningful content and events for members of our Texas Pond.

SAVE THE DATE

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
Monday, October 12	General Meeting and Gander Initiation	Lamberti's, Irving
Monday, November 9	General Meeting	Lamberti's, Irving
Monday, December 14	General Meeting and Holiday Activities	Lamberti's, Irving
Monday, January 11	New Year Kick-Off Event	To Be Announced

LOOKING AHEAD



121st Convention — Halifax, Nova Scotia

The 2027 convention runs July 19–22 at the Prince George Hotel in Halifax, Nova Scotia, under the theme "A Touch of Heaven in 2027."

After Halifax, the convention moves to Kansas City, Missouri in the summer of 2028, with a possible cruise out of Baltimore in the summer of 2029.

TEXAS POND HISTORY

The Texas Pond began on January 30, 1907 — we are celebrating our 119th birthday

At the time of the first charter there were 132 Ganders in the Texas Pond. That charter was surrendered in 1914, and a second was granted on January 14, 1921, with 190 Ganders.

Following the second charter, the Texas Pond divided into four ponds — South Texas (Houston), Alamo Pond (San Antonio) and West Texas (Lubbock) — plus three puddles in Austin, El Paso and Corpus Christi. The second charter was surrendered in 1992, and a third was issued at the Grand Nest Convention in New York City in 1995.

Texas is part of the Southern Region, alongside the ponds in Kentucky, Louisiana, Tennessee and Virginia. Under the Texas Pond umbrella is a retirement puddle made up of life members from Alabama, Arizona, Oklahoma, North Carolina, Colorado and Seattle.

2026–2027 TEXAS POND OFFICERS

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Guardian of the Pond	Charllotte Armstrong	817-673-7995	cdarmstrong85@gmail.com
Keeper of the Golden Goose Egg	Ashley Hansen	214-212-8547	ashansen@aol.com
Wielder of the Goose Quill	Daphney Elliott	972-342-8728	delliott@resolveclaims.co

Honorable Order of the Blue Goose, International — Texas Pond

Character · Charity · Fellowship since 1906

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