

TBHF NEWSLETTER

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE TEXAS BUSINESS HALL OF FAME

A LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

Dear TBHF Legends, Directors and Alumni,

Happy New Year. As a longtime Director and the Foundation's 2024 Chairman, it is my pleasure to be part of the exciting growth that has taken place over the last few years. Building on that momentum, we plan on taking our Induction event, regional programming and mentoring activities to new heights this year.

For the first time in our organization's history, we will be formalizing a leadership circle for our TBHF Legends. That circle will play a key part in helping us provide new learning and network opportunities for the business leaders we have engaged and funded through our grants program. It will also help us bring more value to Directors and Alumni by building better bridges between our stakeholder groups that help us impart the values of the transformational leaders we honor every year to the emerging business leaders who will ultimately define the economic landscape of our state.

Thank you for being part of the Texas Business Hall of Fame. I look forward to building on the story you have been a part of and helping us use that story to improve the relationship between business and community around our state.

Sincerely,



David S. Huntley
2024 Chairman of the Board, TBHF

THIS ISSUE

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DIRECTORS

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Arch "Beaver" Aplin III

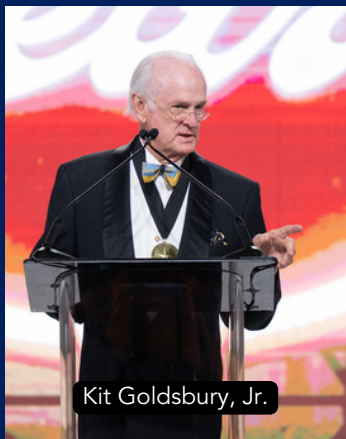


Daniel Lubetzky



Dan Goodgame, Dick Evans, John Keeton, Eddie Block, and Alan Dreeben

THE 2023 INDUCTION DINNER & CEREMONY



Kit Goldsbury, Jr.

On November 2, 2023, the Texas Business Hall of Fame hosted its annual Induction Dinner & Ceremony in San Antonio, Texas. We inducted seven legendary business leaders into the Hall of Fame, celebrating their accomplishments in business and community.

Please join us in congratulating Beaver Aplin, Eddie Block & Alan Dreeben, Kit Goldsbury, Janet Gurwitch, Daniel Lubetzky, and Jack Martin.



Jack Martin and John Goff

Thank you to our presenting sponsor, Texas Capital, and Mr. Jay Clingman. This year was Texas Capital's ninth consecutive year as presenting sponsor, and we thank them for their continued support of our mission and Texas entrepreneurship.

This event is not possible without the support of our generous donors and benefactors. Thank you for championing Texas business and entrepreneurship at its finest. You can watch the ceremony online [here](#).



Janet Gurwitch



Jay Clingman of Texas Capital



Texas Business Hall of Fame Legends



FUTURE TEXAS BUSINESS LEGENDS AWARDS LUNCHEON

The 2023 Scholar & Veteran Awards Luncheon, hosted in San Antonio on November 2nd, celebrated the next generation of business leaders and entrepreneurs. Hand-selected by TBHF Directors and Legends, this year's 40 recipients include undergraduate and graduate scholars, United States Veterans, and even a high school student. We are proud to be able to recognize excellence in a wide variety of entrepreneurs and business leaders who represent different experiences, industries, and skill levels.

The 2023 Hall of Fame Inductees also treated guests to a Q&A panel. To watch the discussion, please click [here](#).

We want to thank our generous co-sponsors, Deloitte and Frost, as well as Dan Geddes and Amy Chronis, for playing such a special role in our luncheon.



CHAIRMAN'S & PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION



Matt Gorges and Laurie Simmons

The Texas Business Hall of Fame would like to thank Bank of Texas for generously sponsoring the 2023 Chairman's & President's Reception. This event was a unique opportunity for members of our organization to gather and network following the Induction Dinner & Ceremony.

Bank of Texas' sponsorship helped cover travel costs for our out-of-town grant recipients. We are thrilled to have Bank of Texas as a key partner in our efforts to create memorable and meaningful experiences for our members.

We'd like to thank all of the TBHF Legends, Directors, and Alumni who joined us for this special celebration.



Martina Lemond Dixon and David Huntley



TBHF Director Mark Johnson (far left) with the Bank of Texas team



Joseph and Kelsie Cabrera



Regina Rogers, Sam Susser, and Catherine Susser

LEGEND SPOTLIGHT

SAM SUSSER

Chairman and CEO of Susser Bank
President of Susser Holdings II, L.P.
Dallas

Over the course of your career, how do you think your leadership style has evolved? What motivates you as a leader and how do you motivate your team?

When I joined the business in 1988, my leadership style was simply to run the numbers and to figure out which decision would save us the most money or produce the most cash flow. That's what we had to do because we simply didn't have any other choice. After we got past the extreme financial stress, we had more choices to make, and I had the opportunity to start thinking about long-term strategy. When the business finally achieved scale, my management style changed so that I delegated more and focused primarily on culture and strategy. When you're running a 12,000-person organization, it's interesting how few decisions you actually make, the day-to-day responsibility lies with the team. I learned to try to do everything in my power to make sure that people were doing the right thing even when I wasn't looking or when I would never know what particular decision they made.

Read our full interview with Mr. Susser [here](#).

We constantly ask our team to judge us not by what we say but by what we do.

We ask, "Are the decisions you see us making today what you would do if you were going to own the business for the next 100 years?" "

SAM SUSSER



IN LOVING MEMORY OF JEFF B. LOVE

Dear TBHF Members,

On October 31, 2023, the Texas Business Hall of Fame lost one of its longtime Directors and strongest advocates—Jeff Love. Jeff was instrumental in the founding of the Texas Business Hall of Fame and played an incredibly important role in its evolution as one of the most prestigious business prizes in the country.

Outside the Texas Business Hall of Fame, Jeff served on the Board and Executive Committee of M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, as a National Trustee of the Boys & Girls Clubs of America, and on the Boards of the Greater Houston Partnership, UT Health, Memorial Hermann Foundation and Healthcare Community Benefit Corporation, and St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital. Considered one of the founders of the Texas Business Hall of Fame, he Chaired the Foundation in 1987 and is greatly responsible for the charitable component of the Hall of Fame honor (a component that has resulted in granting millions of dollars to promising entrepreneurs and business leaders who are servant-minded around the state of Texas over the past four decades).



On a personal level, I will never forget the kindness Jeff showed me as a new staff member and Executive Director in 2018. He was the first to provide me with a complete dossier on the complex and impressive history of the organization, the first to embrace the changes the organization was proposing at the time of my hire, and the first (every time!) to send me a kind note or email whenever he became aware of even the most modest report of progress. As I think about what Jeff meant as a Director to this organization and as a friend to me, I am reminded of the importance of encouraging those around me, celebrating their success (which is really what this organization is about) and of making time to make our stakeholders aware of how vital their role is in our organization's impact and story.

We look forward to recognizing Jeff's impact on our organization at our 2024 Induction Dinner in Dallas on November 13th. I know many fellow Directors will be there that evening to be part of that moment. I would be grateful for any photographs or anecdotes you would like to share on your memories of Jeff both within and outside the Texas Business Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Meredith Walker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Meredith Walker, Executive Director, TBHF

"Being a founder and a CEO is unlike any other job. Knowing other founders, owners, and CEOs has been critical to the success of FluxWorks, as each of them has a bit of wisdom to be shared that could benefit FluxWorks."

BRYTON PRASLICKA



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

BRYTON PRASLICKA, PH.D.

CEO, FluxWorks, LLC

College Station

The McFerrin Center for Entrepreneurship Future Texas

Business Legend Award In Honor of James Galloway, '29

Your startup FluxWorks is a developer and manufacturer of magnetic gears and magnetic gear-integrated motors. Where did the idea for this business come from and how does a magnetic gear perform differently than a traditional mechanical gear?

The idea of magnetic gears go as far back as 1905. But during my Ph.D. program, I had the chance to collaborate with NASA and the Army and they were interested to see if the performance could be improved. FluxWorks was born as a spin out of the technology developed during my Ph.D., and we are now competitive with magnetic gear performance. What makes us unique is the lack of lubrication and reduced failure modes, making us the premium option for applications that can't afford failure – from outer space to the bottom of the Ocean.

Did you always want to be an entrepreneur or did you discover this passion later in life?

In high school I tutored for cash, and my mother started her own floral business. By sophomore year of college I started taking classes and going to seminars on entrepreneurship, and by Senior year of my undergraduate I started another company which failed after it grew to 4 people. So I would say it has been a growing interest since I was about 16!

Read Bryton's full interview [here](#).

2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

TBHF is excited to announce six new Directors have joined our Board for 2024. Please join us in giving them a warm welcome.



K.R. AVERHOFF

COO/Partner, Blue Sky Farms

Muleshoe, Texas

2004 Future Texas Business Legend Award Recipient, Texas Tech University



MICHELE CAMP

Partner, Custos Family Office San Antonio

San Antonio, Texas



JONATHAN GRAMMER

Founder, Grammer Land & Exploration Corp. and Grammer Law Group

Amarillo, Texas



JUSTIN HARLIN

Owner & Partner, Smile Fort Worth

Fort Worth, Texas



RICKY MADLONADO

Managing Director, San Antonio Market President, Texas Capital

San Antonio, Texas



BLAIR ODEN

Managing Director, Commercial Real Estate and Head of the

Dallas Market Leadership Team, Texas Capital

Dallas, Texas

FUTURE TEXAS BUSINESS LEGEND AWARDS

NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR THE CLASS OF 2024

The Future Texas Business Legend Awards program was established in 1986. At the time, we were grateful to support a tiny number of promising MBA scholars with \$1,000 grants at a few select universities. Today, we award 35 to 40 \$15,000 to \$20,000 grants at 24 institutions of higher learning throughout the state of Texas and also fund in the Veteran entrepreneurial community and high school entrepreneurial space. In addition to the financial prize we award, our goal is to provide a bridge between the most transformational servant-leaders in our state and the most promising business leaders of tomorrow who we identify through our competitive selection process. Our hope is this bridge results in a lasting relationship with our organization and the values its people represent.

If you know someone you believe would be a good candidate for one of these grants, please encourage them to visit texasbusiness.org to learn more about the application process and eligibility requirements.

GET SOCIAL WITH US

The best way to stay up-to-date on the latest TBHF news is to follow us on our social media platforms. We share exclusive content, sneak peeks, and interviews on a weekly basis. We love to connect with our members and stay in touch, so follow us today.



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The objective for the Alumni Association is to connect TBHF scholars and veterans to each other, as well as to Directors and Legends. Our goal is to continue inspiring alumni members long after they have received their Future Texas Business Legend Award and build a sense of community among our recipients.

As an Alumni Association member, you are part of a legacy of exceptional students, Veterans and entrepreneurs.

You are also now part of an exclusive network of business professionals and Legends throughout our state.

Members enjoy a series of exclusive benefits, like invitations to our virtual programming and in-person events, including our annual Induction Ceremony.

Membership is only \$50 a year to support association activities. Joining the Alumni Association is a powerful way to pay forward the Hall of Fame's investment in your success, continue to benefit from the Hall of Fame network, and gain eligibility for exclusive mentoring and learning opportunities.

Questions? Contact pbartlett@texasbusiness.org.