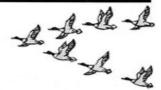## Teambuilding Lessons We Can Learn from Geese

Fact #1 – As each bird flaps its wings, it creates uplift for the bird following. By flying in a "V" formation, the whole flock adds 71 percent greater flying range than if one bird flew alone.

Lesson learned: People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where t   hey are going quicker and easier because they are traveling on the strength of one another.

Fact #2 – Whenever a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to fly alone and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front.

Lesson learned: If we have as much sense as geese, we will stay in formation with those who are ahead of where we want to go and be willing to accept their help as well as five ours to others.

Fact #3 – When the lead goose gets tired, it rotates back into the formation and another goose flies at the point position.

Lesson learned: It pays to take turns doing the hard tasks and sharing leadership.

Fact #4 – The geese in formation honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

Lesson learned: We need to make sure our honking from behind is encouraging, and not something else.

Fact #5 – When a goose gets sick or wounded or shot down, two geese drop out formation and follow it down to help and protect it. They stay with it until it is able to fly again, or dies. Then they launch out on their own, with another formation, or they catch up with their flock.

Lesson learned: If we have as much sense as geese do, we too will stand by each other in difficult times as well as when we are strong.

-Source Unknown (http://www.teambuidinginc.com/article_geese,htm)

REFLECTIONS:

1. Who are you? Check all that apply. Then * the one that is most descriptive.
    _____ A lead goose   _____ A backup goose   __✓__ A honker from behind
    _____ Helper goose   _____ Goose in need   _____ Goose nurse

2. Are you happy with the type of goose you selected for yourself? Why or why not?
    No, because honkers are stereotyped as "annoying".

3. What type of goose do you aspire to be?
    A goose in need.

4. Which lesson above do you feel is the most important? Why?
    I think Fact #5 is the most important because it is what humans don't do.