Exchange Newsletter November 1, 2010

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Publisher

The Exchange Club of Sugar Land

4800 Sugar Grove Blvd. Suite 100 Stafford, TX 77477

Weekly Meetings

Wednesdays, 7:00 a.m. Sweetwater Country Club Palm Royale Blvd. Sugar Land, Texas

Officers 2010-2011

President: Amy Mitchell

President Elect: Steve Griffith

Secretary: Vita Goodell

Treasurer: Pat Welsh

Immediate Past President: Betty Baitland

Board of Directors

Shirley Brown

Roy Miers

Jake Messinger

Linda Schoonmaker

Gladys Brumfield

Patrick Hayes

John Robson

Reagan Walters

Webmaster: Jake Messinger website@ecsl.org

Newsletter: Sue Lockwood newsletter@ecsl.org

Calendar: Paul Barnett calendar@ecsl.org







Photo by Ed Lee

A thundering round of applause to all of the Exchangites, ROTC and Excel kids for who helped make Wings Over Houston Air Show such a success. What a pleasure it is to serve with our group of talented community servants. A huge thank you to **Paul Barnett** for once again organizing the event and to **Brian Walters** who brought his smoker again and prepared a delicious bar-b-que lunch for us with **Leslie Woods**. It was a beautiful weekend and we all had a lot of fun. The stunts and Pearl Harbor reenactment were breathtaking and the Thunderbirds were truly awe inspiring to watch. The club earned \$7,500 to help support our non-profits. Let's do it again next year!

Ninety two years ago there was celebration across America. In 1918, on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day in the eleventh month, America and the world rejoiced and celebrated. After four years of bitter war an armistice was signed. World War I the "war to end all wars" was over. In 1921, an American casualty of World War I was buried in Arlington National Cemetery, identified only as the Unknown Soldier, representing all of those lost and unidentified. Similar ceremonies occurred earlier in England and France. These memorial gestures took place on November 11, giving universal recognition to the celebrated ending of World War I fighting at 11 a.m. In 1926 the holiday was officially named Armistice Day and in 1954 renamed to Veterans' Day, to honor all who have served in the armed forces of our country. This helps us recognize the true meaning of the Exchange Covenant of Service where we all pledge "To discharge the debt I owe to those of high and low estate who have served and sacrificed that the heritage of American citizenship might be mine". On November 10, 2010, we will honor the Veterans in our club who have served in the various branches of the Military. Thank you to **David Kiger** and **Farha Ahmed** for making this happen. Please join us in recognizing and thanking them for their service.

This is the fifteenth anniversary of Santa's Exchange and the planning for Santa's Exchange is in process as we now change our focus to this huge undertaking for our community. I am thrilled that **Jennipher Cole** is leading us this year. Members of the Exchange Club of Sugar Land, Sugar Land Rotary, Ft. Bend Exchange, Lone Star Exchange Club of Sugar Land and FBISD have already begun gearing up to obtain the thousands of toys needed for this year's event. It will be an exciting month and a half leading up to our largest community service project.

As I look back on the first four months of my presidency, I am daily amazed at the dedication and commitment so many of you have demonstrated during the past few months. We have an outstanding board and wonderful chairs. We have had two socials, several community service projects, interesting speakers, and a great time with each other. We have already dispersed numerous checks to the area organizations we support.

It is truly an honor to be a part of this great organization. Thank you for helping to Rise and Shine in the Community. With each of you, we make a difference in our community.

Amy Mitchell, President

Look for us on the cover of Exchange Magazine!



Photo by Larry Pullen





<u>National Exchange</u> Club Awards

Vita Goodell was chosen
Distinguished Secretary and
Pat Welsh was recognized as
Distinguished Treasurer





Ed Lee, accepted a check in the amount of \$1,000 for Mosaic Learning Center. Pictured here from left to right are supporters Gladys Brumfield, Alice Lee, Paul Barnett, Ed Lee, Amy Mitchell, Betty Baitland and Jim Kij. The Learning Center will assist children with homework after school. If you would like to be a tutor, please contact Ed Lee at ed@mosaicpeople.org



On October 20th the Exchange Club of Sugar Land presented the Freedom Shrine to Travis High School. The Freedom Shrine consists of 28 plaques, consisting of the Constitution, Declaration of Independence, Bill of Rights, MLK's "I had a dream" speech, and several other historical documents that have made this country great. Colonel **Dave Kiger** presented the dedication-plaque to **Principal JJ Kyle. Lt. Colonel Charles Bagnato** (ROTC), spearheaded the entire presentation at Travis High School, from placing the shrine correctly in a prominent location, presentation of the Colors (flag), fifty piece band playing the Stars & Stripes, and the printed programs. **Arthur Pace** coordinated with Principal Kyle and Lt. Col Bagnato, so everything was flawless. **Rick Mudra** was the guest speaker. We'd like to thank all the Exchangites, that took the time out of their busy schedules to attend this dedication; **Amy Mitchell**-president, **Betty Baitland**-past president, **Farha Ahmed**, **Bob Dunham**, **Jim Hudnall**, **Sonal Bhuchar** and **Larry Pullen**-photographer.



Bring a Turkey to Exchange on November 17 for the FB Women's Center

Frozen, of course!

Hobby Exchange Club Murder Mystery Fundraiser Dinner is quickly approaching. Don't miss out on your chance to solve the mystery on November 6th! Cocktails are at 6:30pm and dinner is at 7:30pm at the Hobby Marriott Hotel. Tickets are 1 for \$40, 2 for \$70, or a table of 6 for \$210 and 8 for \$280 can be purchased online at http://hobbyairportexchangeclub.com/Events.htm

One Nation Under God Veteran's Breakfast Thursday, 11/11/10 at Quail Valley Exchange Club. Contact Dave Kiger dmkiger@comcast.net





FREE FLU SHOT—for bringing a toy for Santa's Exchange, Saturday, November 13, 8:00 -12:00 noon Methodist Sugar Land Hospital, Main Pavilion



This holiday season *Hobby Exchange Club* is selling wreaths for **Wreaths Across America** for \$15. The goal of this campaign is to provide a wreath for all 57,000+ fallen heroes at the Houston National Cemetery on December 11th. All monies are due November 20th. Hobby will receive \$5 for each donation pledged. The donor can even request a particular grave site if he/she chooses. Contact: Sarah hobbyexchange@yahoo.com



In 1995 the first ECSL Santa's Exchange was held, located in a dusty, unheated warehouse off Old Richmond Rd. The event, chaired by **Janice Chambers** was a big success, despite some challenges in finding the facility, organizing a new event, and an exploding space heater! It's rumored that even in the unheated warehouse Richard Early refused to wear a Santa's hat. That first Santa's Exchange stretched an entire weekend, Friday through Sunday, and stretched the volunteers; but as Richard says "the Club members rolled up their sleeves and went to work". In the years since 1996 the event has moved several times and grown several times as large, with the Sugar Land Rotary, the Fort Bend Exchange Club and FBISD and Lamar CISD joining in the effort.

Daniel Menendez is a first generation American. His parents immigrated from Cuba. He attended the US Military Academy at West Point. Daniel told the club about his experience as an Army deep sea diver. He is pictured here holding his diver's knife, which he passed around for all to examine. His favorite experience was when the divers had to raise a ship because it was interfering with swimming at a beach, only to sink it again at a resort near by as a tourist attraction! Daniel now serves on the board of Fort Bend Independent School District. He gave the club an update on the "state of the schools."



Doug Earle, Richard Early, Himesh Gandhi,
Jackie Freeman, Wayne Stone, Steve Metzenthin,
Chris Breaux, Nicholas Desai, Sharon Rollins,
Robert McDonald, Nancy Dobert, Tom Abraham,
Theo Anderson, Larry Pullen, Mark Eyring,
Helen Cordes, George Head, Lisa OsbornePoynor, Clark Walter

Please keep the following members in your thoughts and prayers:

Jack and May Williams
Brenda Pullen's brother Ralph
Faye Roach' and family regarding the death of
her husband Tom
Nora Sim's brother