



# Exchange Hotline

**Exchange Newsletter**  
**August 15, 2013**  
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Publisher

## The Exchange Club of Sugar Land

4800 Sugar Grove Blvd. Suite 100  
Stafford, TX 77477

[www.ecsl.org](http://www.ecsl.org)

### Weekly Meetings

Wednesdays, 7:00 a.m.

Sweetwater Country Club  
Palm Royale Blvd.  
Sugar Land, Texas

### Officers 2013-2014

President:  
Robert Kern

President Elect:  
John Robson

Secretary: Margo Pasko

Treasurer: Leo Weinberg

Immediate Past President:  
Gladys Brumfield

### Board of Directors

Farha Ahmed  
Jenniffer Cole  
Ed Lee  
Al McDonald  
Karen Daly  
David Lanagan  
Carlos Perez  
Brenda Pullen

### Photographers:

Larry Pullen  
Ed Lee  
Sue Lockwood  
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[newsletter@ecsl.org](mailto:newsletter@ecsl.org)

## Past President Receives Pin



**President Elect John Robson** pinned **Gladys Brumfield** with the "Past Presidents" pin. The club thanked Gladys for an outstanding 2012/2013 year.



**Jeff Wiley**, Fort Bend Economic Development Council, explained to Exchange members that making our community a better place to live depends on attracting and maintaining commercial growth.



*"For more than 15 years Ft. Bend has been in the top 20 counties in the US for economic excellence and population growth. Excellent schools, affordable housing and extensive recreational facilities have attracted families..."*

[www.fortbendcounty.org](http://www.fortbendcounty.org)

Mr. Wiley mentioned some new and exciting areas of growth in Sugar Land. Flour is building a 50 acre campus of buildings in Telfair. Texas Instruments is opening a new site in Sugar Land. Highway 59 is now Interstate 69. There are plans to expand 99 to 290 with overpasses. Also, Crabb River Road will be expanded to 4 lanes from 59 South past George High School. Levees will continue to be built to insure protection from flooding.



**Photos  
by Larry  
Pullen**

**Ray Wathen** and **Brenda Pullen** listened attentively as **Charlie Myer**, Vice President of Advancement at YMCA of Greater Houston spoke about "**Camp Cloud**." The YMCA of Greater Houston and Fort Bend County entered into a partnership for the development of a regional outdoor education day camp facility at the current Bates Allen Park in Kendleton, Texas. The Fort Bend County Park of 235 acres includes three lakes, beautiful San Bernard River access, nature trails, picnic pavilions, restrooms and a river fishing pier. In addition, the Park is home to the Fort Bend County Heritage Unlimited History Museum. To find out more about Camp Cloud or how you can get involved as a volunteer or donor, contact Jess Stuart at the TW Davis Family YMCA, (281)341-0791 or [jstuart@ymcahouston.org](mailto:jstuart@ymcahouston.org).

# "Getting to Know You" Members Corner

Photos by Ed Lee

**John Robson** is Chief Operating Officer at Fort Bend Regional Council on Substance Abuse. He is currently President Elect for The Sugar Land Exchange Club. John is married to Kathy and has three children Kevin, Kristina and Kimberly. He is the proud grandpa of four grandchildren. John likes hunting, motorcycles and running.



**Farha Ahmed** was born in Libya, but her family is originally from India. Farha will be co-chairing Santa's Exchange this year with Kevin Barker. Farha is an attorney with an office in Sugar Land Town Square. As an attorney, her advice to couples is "The key to a long marriage is not to get a divorce!"

**Carlos Perez** is our House Committee chair. It's great to see his smiling face greeting everyone each Wednesday. Carlos is also on the ECSL Board of Directors. He is a Realtor at Houston Preferred Properties. Carlos lives in Sugar Land with his wife Leslie and two children, Daniel and Yvonne. He enjoys Latin dancing with his wife and motorcycle riding.



**Cookie Joe** joined recently with her daughter Tran. She and Tran are business partners in Cookie Joe's Dancing' School. [cookiejoedance.com](http://cookiejoedance.com) Cookie was born in Texas, but her father was an immigrant from China who married her Irish mother from Mississippi! She enjoys Sugar Land for embracing diversity. Cookie has brought her students to dance for Child Advocates "End of School Party" and the dedication of the "Texas Trails" exhibit at Constellation Field. Her husband Scott spoke at our breakfast meeting about the Star of Hope. (See "Speaker" below)



## New Members

Welcome to our new members. I/r **Farha Ahmed** sponsored **Ramesh Raghuthaman**, **Russelle Waldorf** was sponsored by **Amy Mitchell** and **Jim Kij** sponsored **Charlene Rodgers**. **Ramesh** is a lawyer and avid soccer fan. **Russelle** is Development and Community Director for Fort Bend Seniors. **Charlene** has a private practice counseling children and adolescents.

## Speaker: Scott Arthur

**Scott Arthur**, Director of Public Relations at "Star of Hope," spoke to members about a community of hope for homeless men, women and children. He emphasized the fact that most homeless people are families who cannot find affordable housing, have lost their jobs, or have drug or mental health issues and need our help. They have 160 people sleeping on the floor because there are no more rooms available. Mr. Arthur has a weekly radio program for the blind. He was inducted into the Radio Hall of Fame in 2009. [www.sohmission.org](http://www.sohmission.org)





# Upcomming Events

## Walk with Pride

Sunday, August 18th Exchangites are needed to help children select a new pair of school shoes at **Payless Shoe Stores** from 7 AM -12 noon. For more information contact: Farha Ahmed [farha@windstream.net](mailto:farha@windstream.net)



Carey Snyder

## Boy Scout Breakfast

**DON'T FORGET!** Breakfast Meeting August 21, 2013  
Annual Pancake Breakfast served by BSA Troop 731  
August 21, 2013 7:00 am **LYF Center. 13444 Southwest Freeway, Sugar Land, TX NOT at Sweetwater!**

## ECSL Social

**Friday, August 30, 2013 - Ol' Railroad Café**

Dinner, then browsing at Vogelsang's Antique Emporium then on to the Theatre at 8pm.

Cost: \$40 per person.

RSVP [Bob Hargarther](mailto:hargarther@aol.com) hargarther@aol.com or [Shaunna Witt](mailto:shaunnawitt@wittscatering.com) shaunnawitt@wittscatering.com



## Fort Bend Seniors Meals on Wheels

**Groovy Party - "WOODSTOCK!"**  
**Benefiting Fort Bend Seniors**

Dress like a hippie and join in the fun at Safari Texas  
Saturday, September 14, 2013 at 6:30 p.m.  
Contact: Amy Mitchell [amitchell@mitchellandduff.com](mailto:amitchell@mitchellandduff.com)



## School Supply Drive

New Member **Ramesh Raghuthaman** asked members to bring school supplies next week to benefit the children at Fort Bend Women's Center.

## Past Event: 2013 Fort Bend Relay for Life

Dear Friends, the **2013 Fort Bend Relay for Life** event raised over \$110,000 in order to continue the battle against cancer. I am grateful to each of you as our team raised almost \$5,000 of that total. Bonus thanks to those of you who took turns walking with me through the night: **John Robson**, (right with Doug-with enthusiasm!) **Sue Sanchez, Cindy McCauley, Ed Lee, Andy Einhorn, Miguel Hernandez, Paul Barnett, Ray Wathen, Kevin Barker, Gladys Brumfield.** I sincerely appreciate your support and generosity. If you want to join my team next year, let me know. Bless you. Doug Earle [DougE@firstcolony.org](mailto:DougE@firstcolony.org)

