

Exchange Club of Sugar Land Newsletter November 1, 2015 Volume 21, Number 9 Publisher

The Exchange Club of Sugar Land

4800 Sugar Grove Blvd. Suite 100 Stafford, TX 77477

www.ecsl.org

Weekly Meetings

Wednesdays, 7:00 a.m.

Sweetwater Country Club Palm Royale Blvd. Sugar Land, Texas

Officers 2015-2016

President: Kevin Barker

President Elect: Carlos Perez

Secretary: Farha Ahmed

Treasurer: Leo Weinberg

Immediate Past President: John Robson

Board of Directors

Doug Brinkley Helen Burgess Clinton Chapman Vernon Hunt Jeri Krauss Nick Landoski Shaunna Witt Rod White

Photographers: Sue Lockwood Amy Mitchell

Webmaster: Charlie Braun website@ecsl.org

Newsletter: Sue Lockwood newsletter@ecsl.org



Well Exchangites, October was a great month! We once again soared with the Thunderbirds at the Wings Over Houston. I want to thank all of the volunteers who worked Saturday and Sunday to make the event the most successful year to date and to **Paul Barnett** for his hard work and the Wings Over Houston Team who made sure everything ran smoothly. We had a winner for the free flight with Paul for volunteering. It was **Clinton Chapman's daughter Samantha**!

We also had a very successful Toy Drive sponsored by Houston Methodist Sugar Land on October 24, 2015. They donated free flu shots if people brought a new unwrapped toy. We collected over 300 toys. I want to **thank Jim Kij, Jennifer Boley, Carlos Perez** and **Danny Perez** for assisting with the collection of the toys.

Speaking of Toys.... We are having our social/ toy drive at Berryhill's Baja Grill 13703 SW Freeway, Sugar Land, TX 77478 on November 12, 2015 from 5:00 – 8:00 pm. Santa's Exchange will be December 12, 2015 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm and we serve needy families and make sure they have gifts for their children at Christmas. We will be working hard to collect toys so that we can serve over 5000 children this year. We have many organizations who have their Christmas Party for their company early and include a toy drive as a part of their festivities which they in turn donate to Santa's Exchange. If you are a business who would like to be a collection site please contact John Elias at (281) 932-9118 or by email at collisionclinictx@yahoo.com.

We are also preparing for our fundraiser coming up in February lovingly know by our members as **SPAGHETTI!** If you would like to be a sponsor of this great family event please contact **Rod White** at <u>r54white@yahoo.com</u> or **Lynn Krauss** at <u>lynn.krauss@yahoo.com</u>.

Please welcome our 4 new members **Mark Kingston, Will Conrad, Jordan McBryde,** and **Chelsea Nguyen** who were inducted in October! We are excited to have more people that want to have FUN with us at the Exchange Club of Sugar Land. Please bring a friend to one of our meetings and let them see how **FUN** it is to **Fulfill Unmet Needs** in our community!

Kevin Barker



One Nation Under God Breakfast * 8:00 AM * November 11, 2015 at Sweetwater Country Club



Service to Seniors



Photos by Greg Kramer

Barbara Alexander, Jack and May Williams, Mike Kessler, Cookie Joe, Helena Arvanites, Sue Sanchez, Bill Calhoun, Jamie Williams, Jim Hudnall, Bob Dunham and Greg Kramer serve cake and ice cream monthly to seniors at the 5th Street Community Center in Stafford.



Marisa Ramon spoke about the Alzheimer's Walk at Constellation Field. She informed Exchangites of the affects of Alzheimer's and the medical efforts being made to slow the progression of the disease and hopefully one day find a cure. For more information on the Alzheimer's education programs and events in the community please visit <u>www.alz.org.</u>



Welcome New Members! **Past President Amy Mitchell** presided over the induction of **Jordan McBryde** who was pinned by **Morris Lazarus**, **Chelsea Nguyen** presented by **Farha Ahmed**, **Will Conrad** pinned by **Ray Aguilar** and **Mark Kingston** by sponsor Rod White. Mark sponsored Jordan, Chelsea and Will.



David Lanagan shared with the group simple ways to make a positive impact in the community. He shared online programs that provide financial assistance to people in need. He discussed the impact his donation made in helping a woman start her beauty salon. He discussed her success and how these donations continue to impact the lives of others by helping them become financially independent. He also spoke of ways to feed children in the United States who do not often have meals to sustain them.

A check for \$2000 was presented to Matt Jackson for Hope for Three.





Briyce Vanek from Sugar Land MS was presented as Citizen of the Month by Cookie Joe.

Jason Lin was presented by Jim Kij as Student of the Month from Kempner HS.





Kyle Calnan was presented by **Jake Messenger** as Citizen of the Month from of First Colony MS.



Santa's Kick-off was lots of fun, and will be F.U.N. (Fulfilling Unmet Needs) on December 12, 2015.

Santa's Exchange has been providing toys for less fortunate families since 1995. It began with Carolyn Tarver's Project S.M.I.L.E. (Stan's Memory Includes Loving Everyone) after her teenage son Stan was killed in an accident. Exchange Past President Ray Albrecht along with founding member Bob Hargarther offered to help Project S.M.I.L.E. provide toys for needy children. The Exchange Club of Sugar Land and Sugar Land Rotary have been working together with Ms. Tarver for 25 years. The recent partnership with Toys for Tots and Second Mile Mission will help provide over 15,000 toys for children in Fort Bend County this year.

Parents in need are sent an invitation to visit Santa's Exchange and "shop" for three new toys for each child. The kids have a chance to sit on Santa's lap and "elves" entertain them with crafts and games supervised by the members of The Exchange Club of Fort Bend. Traditionally over 1,000 volunteers from local community service clubs, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, high schools and churches assist on the day of the project.

Toy donation boxes will be located at local businesses, churches and FBISD schools. You can help children have a Merry Christmas by dropping a toy in a donation box or by donating at http://stafford-tx.tovsfortots.org