



The Exchange

HOTLINE

Exchange Club of
Sugar Land Newsletter

March 6, 2017

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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:

Carlos Perez

President Elect:

Rod White

Secretary:

Margo Pasko

Treasurer:

Leo Weinberg

Immediate Past President:

Kevin Barker

Board of Directors

Vernon Hunt

Duyen Le

Lori Bisewski

Scott McClintic

Nick Landoski

Clinton Chapman

Jaime Williams

Leslie Woods

Photographer

Greg Kramer

Webmaster:

Charlie Braun

A Message from the President

Hello: Are you ready for March? Well, ready or not it's here and on its way. Tons of things will be happening this month.

We began this month with the visit of our National Exchange President, Elizabeth Grantham. She attended the Rodeo Parade Saturday, March 4. Speaking of which, we had a good turnout by our members who helped the district distribute flags to all the kids on the parade route. I hope that everyone did not end up with sore feet, as we had an evening engagement at the ESCAPE CENTER Houston for our after-the-parade evening party. It was a great two for one deal...meeting our National President AND meeting the new Executive Director of the ESCAPE CENTER, Fritz Guthrie. We had a good turnout by our members, and everyone had a good time. The Center is a great asset for Exchange.

Last Saturday, March 4th, there certainly was a good turnout for Cookie Joe and Tran's annual fundraising event, God Bless Texas, benefitting outreach ministries to underprivileged and disabled children. I was there, along with several other members of the club. Cookie Joe's Dancin' School's performers gave a good show. Now for a great finish! Cookie Joe's Dancin' School donated \$1,000 to the Exchange Club of Sugar Land. This generosity is very much appreciated, and this donation will be put to good use.

Saturday, March 11, we will have our family and friends social. It has been a long time since we've had a family day. It will be held outdoors at Buffalo Run Park in Missouri City, 1122 Buffalo Run, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. This will be a fun, outdoor event open to club members and their families. Our very own Jennifer Boley's NEO will provide kayak, water safety and fishing equipment, as well as games and other activities. Members of NEO will be there to assist us in having a good time, so let's have a good turnout.

You thought I did, but I did not forget: SPAGHETTI DINNER! Sell! Sell! Sell! We need everyone to ask for donations for Raffle Tickets, Dinner Tickets, items for our Silent and Live Auctions. What about having people there? YES this is a great opportunity for you to sell Corporate Tables. Hey, a family can buy one of those tables too. So SELL, SELL, SELL!

Thank you, and I hope we all have an excellent month,

Carlos A. Perez



Exchangites!

Our 30th Annual Spaghetti Dinner

Friday, April 21, 2017

5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Fluor Corporation Cafeteria,

1 Fluor Daniel Drive, Sugar Land, TX



**Members are asked to step up and volunteer
for activities leading up to the day of the event**

Funds raised allow The Exchange Club of Sugar Land to continue supporting local non-profits, including Child Advocates of Fort Bend, Fort Bend County Women's Center, Texan Center for Autistic Children, Fort Bend Council on Substance Abuse, Fort Bend Seniors Meals on Wheels, Crime Stoppers, YMCA, Literacy Council of Fort Bend, The Escape Family Resource Center and many others.

These funds also support our community service projects:

- ♦ Santa's Exchange distributes over 10,000 toys annually to underprivileged children.
- ♦ The Light of Hope ceremony raised awareness for Child Abuse Prevention.
- ♦ Back to School Bash provides backpacks, school supplies, and new shoes.
- ♦ Give a Kid a Flag to Wave distributes over 30,000 American flags along the Fort Bend County Fair and Houston Rodeo parade routes.
- ♦ Service to Seniors provides a monthly party for Fort Bend Seniors Meals on Wheels.
- ♦ Youth of the Month recognizes FBISD students for outstanding performance.
- ♦ One Nation Under God breakfast honors our veterans and active military.

Let's all come together to make this year's Spaghetti Dinner the best!



National Exchange Club President Visits ECSL During Weekly Breakfast Meeting on March 4, 2017

Elizabeth R. Grantham visited our club last Wednesday, March 1, during our weekly breakfast meeting to share her vision of Exchange and to congratulate our club for its past successes. Ms. Grantham went on to tell us that we were one of the larger clubs in the nation and a model club for many. She was very enthusiastic and was warmly welcomed by the our club.

Elizabeth, as she prefers to be called, is a member of the Exchange Clubs of Isle of Palms and Cane Bay, SC, and a South Carolina Volunteer Field Representative. She was installed as National President of The National Exchange Club on July 16, 2016, at the organization's 98th National Convention in Houston, Texas. She will work with the National President-Elect, National Board, and National Headquarters Staff, as well as Exchange Club District Presidents, to promote unity, growth, and retention during the year.

In 2009, Grantham was elected Region 10 Vice President and served the Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina Districts on Exchange's National Board. She served as a South Carolina District Director, as well as President-Elect, before becoming South Carolina District President in 2007–08, during which time she received a Presidential Award from Past National President Rob Davidson. Grantham has served as Board Chair and as a member of the Exchange Club Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse in Charleston. In 2014, she was a club builder for the Exchange Club of Cane Bay, SC, of which she is a member. Also in 2014, she was honored as the National Exchangite of the Year. In 2015, she helped build the Exchange Excel Club of Cane Bay High School, Cane Bay, SC.

Grantham is a retired South Carolina Elementary Principal, where she received several awards for leadership during her career. She has 38 years of experience in the field of education. She presently works part-time in the Office of Professional Development in Education at the College of Charleston. She attended Winthrop College, where she received a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education, and South Carolina State University, where she received a Master's degree in Educational Leadership. She and her husband, Paul, have five children and seven grandchildren.



Rodeo Parade Day Houston

Saturday, March 4, 2017

The Day was cool and the crowd turnout was “bigly.” The Texas Louisiana Gulf Coast District was well represented by all district clubs. The Exchange Club’s National executives turned out in force. Enthusiasm filled the morning. What a day, folks! Exhilarating!



Rodeo Parade Day Houston

Give a Kid a Flag



Rodeo Parade Day Houston

Give a Kid a Flag



Rodeo Parade Day Houston

Give a Kid a Flag



The After Party on Rodeo Parade Day Last Saturday Evening at the ESCAPE Family Resource Center



The after party was held at ESCAPE Family Resource Center, 2410 Hamilton Street in Houston near downtown. It was an open house event to meet its Chief Executive Officer Fritz Guthrie and tour the facilities. The entertainment was provided by Kirby Lammers who works closely with Bill and Kim Nash, founders of Champions Kids Camp in Alvin, Texas.

The party had all the amenities of a great party...good 'ole Texas barbeque, beans, and potato salad, along with a good piece of cake for desert (chocolate cake with white icing). But wait, there's more! The margaritas, beer, and wine topped things off with plenty of bottled water to keep one hydrated.

New Member Induction Ceremonies

President Carlos Perez pins our newest Exchange Club member, Gordon Berkstresser. He was inducted into the Exchange Club of Sugar Land on Land on February 15, 2017. Welcome Gordon!



The ECSL inducted three new members on February 8, 2017. They are Shawn Norouzian, Author, India Gibson, DDS, and Maria Garcia, Business Development - Overture. Members welcome them and look forward to their participation in club events, activities, and service to our community. Fun and new friendships await each of you.



Juli Fournier presented February's Student of the Month Dara Lawal from Kempner High School. Dara posing with her proud parents.



Ruthanne Mefford presented February's Youth of the Month Pooja Kumar from Clements High School.

Texas Louisiana Gulf Coast District

Mid-Winter Educational Conference

The mid-winter Educational Conference was held February 11, 2017 at the Techniplex conference Center. The conference was informative. Marc Schwartz, who is on the NECF Board of Trustees, presented "Understanding the National Exchange Club Foundation and our very own Rod "The Story Teller" White shared great tips on prospecting for new members. Jim Kij, President Elect of the TLGCD was our Mater of Ceremonies for the event.



Can we squeeze in just one more page to nicely finish off this newsletter? Sure we can!



Our Social Last Month was terrific thanks to our Social Chair Sue Sanchez. It was held at Tradicao Brazilian Steakhouse at 1200 Southwest Freeway. The ECSL had a nice turnout, and the hors d'oeuvres were served courtesy of our Exchange Club. Very nice!



THE
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