Exchange Club of Sugar Land Newsletter Aug 1st, 2021

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.

Meeting at: Sugar Creek Country Club 420 Sugar Creek Blvd. Sugar Land, Texas 77478

Officers 2021-2022

President: Rick Bell

President Elect: Lori Bisewski

Secretary: Vida Goodell

Treasurer: Ed Gojara

Immediate Past President: Paul Barnett

Board of Directors

Jeff Dodson Leslie Woods Thad Olive Juli Fournier Cookie Joe Colleen Migl Suzanne Whatley Bruce Smith

Spaghetti Chair 2021 Lori Bisewski

> Webmaster: Paul Barnett www.ecsl.org

Newsletter Editor: newsletter@ecsl.org

Cookie Joe Day!

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Dear Exchange Members,

This week's newsletter celebrates Cookie Joe. She announced earlier this month that she will most likely miss approximately twelve weeks of meetings as she begins a new regimen of chemotherapy. I know I speak for us all when I say we will miss her smile and bubbly personality Wednesday mornings. We will continue to pray for her complete recovery and that she will be back with us soon.

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Cookie Joe hosted a blood drive at her dance studio earlier this month. She set a goal to have 100 people show up and attempt to donate. I am happy to announce she met her goal. Thank you to all the Exchange members that came by to donate. I am constantly amazed at the love and support our members give one another.

Thank you Cookie Joe for your courage and for continuing to remind our club to focus on creative ways to meet the needs within our community.

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Rick Bell

President-ECSL

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Pictures from the Cookie Joe Blood Drive for MD Anderson Hospital! affectionately named the "Cookie Joe Day!"



















COOKIE JOE'S Dancin' School

Pictures from the Cookie Joe Blood Drive for MD Anderson Hospital!



Dancin' School

















Pictures from the Cookie Joe Blood Drive for MD Anderson Hospital!





















Birthdays, Anniversaries, Events



Happy Exchange Birthdays! John Heinemann 8/2, Darla Farmer 8/3, Shirley Brown 8/4 Lydia Bourg 8/5, Colleen Migl 8/6, Richard Peffley 8/9, Chelsea Nguyen 8/14

Exchange Anniversaries! None to report

Nick Landoski, announced to save the date for our Fort Bend Fair Parade - Give a Kid a Flag to Wave. The event will take place on Friday, September 24, 2021. We will be giving more details as we get closer to the event.

Cookie Joe announced she will be missing our meetings for twelve weeks as she continues her fight against cancer. Since she will be out for an extended time, **Julia Fournier** requested volunteers to help with the Youth Committee. Thank you, **Suzanne Whatley, Doc Lee Ivey, and Kevin Barker** for agreeing to help.

Colleen Migl is scheduling an **Exchange cruise to Cozumel!** Please calendar **January 13, 2022**, at 3:30 p.m. through January 17, 2022, at 8:00 a.m. We will be providing you with more details as we get closer to the date of the trip. If you have any questions, please email Colleen at <u>cmigl@kcq-lawfirm.com</u>.

Doug Earle announced the need for volunteers to help the **Meals on Wheels program**. If you have the ability to serve in that area, please reach out to Doug so he can give you the details on how to volunteer. <u>dougesltx@gmail.com</u>

Brooke Thompson announced a great fundraising opportunity for the club, as well as an opportunity to view a very informative film entitled **Rescue from the Philippines**. The cost of the movie is \$20.00, but the money is being donated 100% back to the club by the film's producer who will be our guest speaker at our **September 8th meeting**. The link for the trailer to the film is <u>https://vimeo.com/156333404</u>.

Suzanne Whatley requested everyone to save the date for the Firefighters Ball, which will be held on September 11, 2021. Contact Suzanne at Suzanne@swhatley.com for further info.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Colleen Migl has reserved the Chuys restaurant back room for 5:30 pm on **Friday, September 17th.**

Speaker Series



Exchange Club of Sugar Land sponsors Troop 731 and Troop 1731 and Cub Pack 1133 and this was our annual Pancake Breakfast with the troops! David Van Kleeck, Scoutmaster of 1731 along with Jody Court Scoutmaster of 731 gave us and update on "State of the Troops", and Informative review presentation. The scouts cooked and served us a wonderful breakfast! Our own Exchange member Carey Snyder is the Charter Organization Repre-



- 3 Aims of Scouting
- 1) Moral Strength & Character
- 2) Promote Citizenship
- 3) Develop Physical Mental & Emotional Fitness
- The outdoors is our classroom
- Learning by doing
- Youth leadership with the troops.









Troop 731 and 1731 Status			Advancement Since August 2019		
Unit	Youth	Adult	Unit	Total Rank/MB	Eagle
Troop 731	77	39	Troop 731	68/528	85
Troop 1731	25	18	Troop 1731	33/25	8 1*
			*2 more soon		

Speaker Series



Al Massey & Rick Bell

prison entrepreneurship

Our speaker on August 11th was **AI Massey**. Al is the Executive Relations manager with the **Prison Entrepreneurship Program** ("PEP) in Houston. Al graduated from the University of Houston and worked for over thirty-five years in management in the transportation industry. He has been with PEP since 2008 and is a graduate of the program. Al went to prison at age 55 for intoxication manslaughter and served five years and four months on a six-year sentence. He went to work with PEP after release and has worked as the in-prison manager, re-entry manager, and executive relations manager. Presently, he has started three new businesses while working for PEP.

Al gave an excellent presentation on the Prison Entrepreneurship Program. Their mission is to unite executives and inmates through entrepreneurial passion and servant leadership to transform lives, restore families, and rebuild communities. Their "second chance" program graduates have less than a 10% recidivism rate compared to over 20 % for inmates released that don't go through their program. The statistics provided evidenced the tremendous success of the program and as they say "PEP opens the door to a middle-class start-up life for second class citizens." If you would like to volunteer or get more involved, please email Al Massey at <u>amassey@pep.org</u> or 832-904-5162. Their website is <u>www.pep.org</u>.

PEP TESTIMONIALS

program

Because of PEP and the Ten Driving Values, I am a new man. As a teenager and young man, I was a very lost individual. How I became the person I am today is largely due to the program and the tools given to me while incarcerated, to apply to my life on the inside and once released. I started off as a troublesome person with no respect and values, but now I have a plan, and I have respect for society and others.



But it was not until I received a postcard to the Prison Entrepreneurship Program (PEP) that I truly felt in my heart that the chance I had been praying for all this time was within my grasp. I was transferred to the Cleveland Correctional Center and that is when the truth in transformation became my living reality. PEP provided me with the tools of 10 Driving Values, effective leadership skills and character assessments to apply and stand



Hello, everyone. My name is Kevin R., PEP class 6 graduate. I've been out since June of 2007 and the payoffs for living a clean, honest life continue to amaze me. It hasn't always been easy, and upon occasion, wreckage from the past shows up. But instead of taking the easy way out, I've faced the fear, owned the consequences and moved forward.



Today, closing in on one year after being released from prison, and thanks to PEP's re-entry team, I am gainfully employed. I am thankful PEP chose me and grateful to those who make this life change possible for men like me. And I would guess that if you are reading this, you are one of those people. So, from the bottom of my heart, I thank you."



Since my release and reentry, PEP is still playing a similar role in my life. I am actually now working for the very program that God used to work on me. It's still a tool in God's hand, and He is still using it to make me into the man He created and called me to be. I'm now also a husband, father, and strong pillar in the city, community, and church. I'm almost tempted to say I'm a success,