



Exchange Hotline

**Exchange Club of
Sugar Land Newsletter**
Jan 1st, 2022

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:
Jeff Dodson

Immediate Past President:
Paul Barnett

Board of Directors

Camille Edwards
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



Dear Exchange Members,

Santa's Exchange was a tremendous success thanks to all of you. We distributed toys to approximately 3,400 Fort Bend County children. We were prepared to distribute more toys to more children, but some families that signed up to receive toys failed to show. A special thank you to Lydia Bourg for agreeing the chair the committee and worked tirelessly leading up to the event to make sure it was successful.

As I write this email, I am thinking about personal goals for 2022, as well as for our club. We have a great club that does so much good for the community. It is the hardest working club that I have been around in my professional career, and that is one of the reasons why we are so successful.



This past year, we mourned over the loss of John Elias, a member that quietly served our community with a smile. We miss you, John.

I pray we will continue to be a humble club that strives to improve the way we meet the needs of Fort Bend County. I challenge each of us to be bolder in sharing the fun and work the club does with others, so we continue to grow and ensure the longevity of the Exchange Club of Sugar Land.

Have a Happy New Year!

Rick Bell

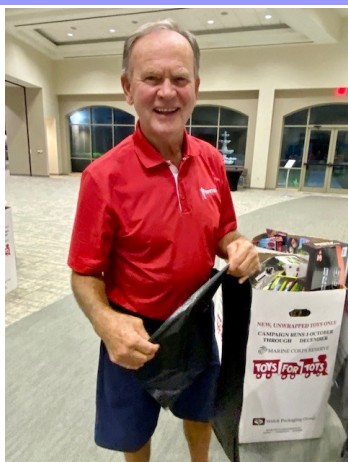
President, ECSL



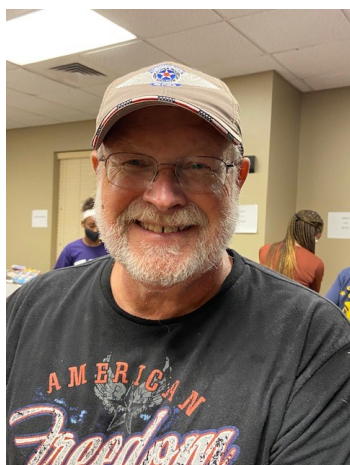


Santa's Exchange!

Santa's Preparation the Week Before!

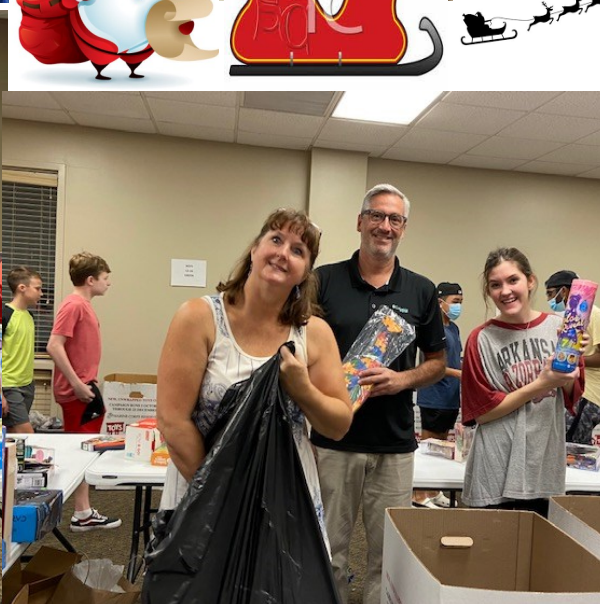


Nick says, "Heaviest 'load' while sorting toys!"



Santa's Exchange!

Santa's Preparation the Week Before!



Santa's Exchange! 12/18/21

Weather Report-Cloudy, Thunder Storms ALL DAY! Ha-ha!
WON'T STOP US! NO WAY!!!



Voted Best Picture!

Goes to Paul Barnett and
Suzanne Whatley
Taken by Carla Mondt.



Santa's Exchange! Early Morning no rain!



Voted 2nd. Best Picture!
Goes to Greg Oelfke
Rain hat? Or Space alien?



Santa's Exchange!



Voted 3rd. Best Picture, colorful with a "little red cowboy hat"!

Goes to Mike Reicherk!



Santa's Exchange!



Voted 4th Best Picture! Lol...

Goes to Carlos Perez!

Darth Vader or "Raincoat" Man?



Santa's Exchange! Photos by Carla Mondt!

Saturday 12/18/2021



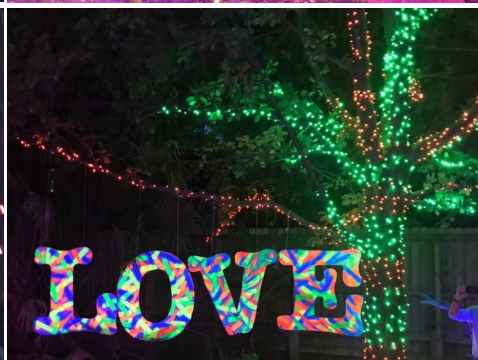
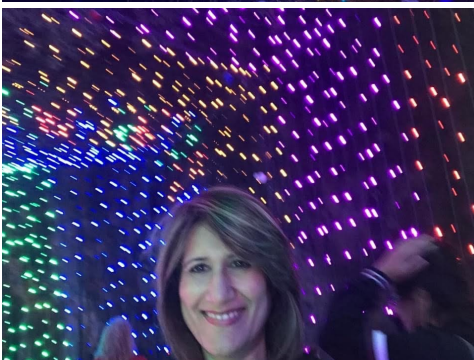
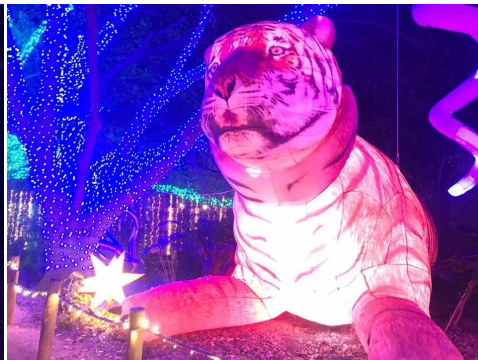
Thanks Carla!

Colleen Migl (Social Chair) Reporting!

The Exchange Club of Sugar Land had a blast at the Houston Zoo's annual Zoo Lights celebration. With roughly 40 people in attendance, members as well as friends and family of Exchange Club Members explored the two main paths at the Zoo at the group rate that the zoo offers.

There was hot chocolate and other holiday-themed snacks to be had along the way as well. About half of us were even spoiled by taking an executive shuttle from Sugar Land Town Square directly to the Zoo to avoid the traffic and parking headaches.

A big thanks to Nora Sim for the group outing idea. In the future we may see if we can make this a joint event with another Exchange Club or even Rotary, as the event was popular and sold out quickly.



Nick Landoski Zoo Photos!



**Zoo
Social!**
**Thanks
Nick!**

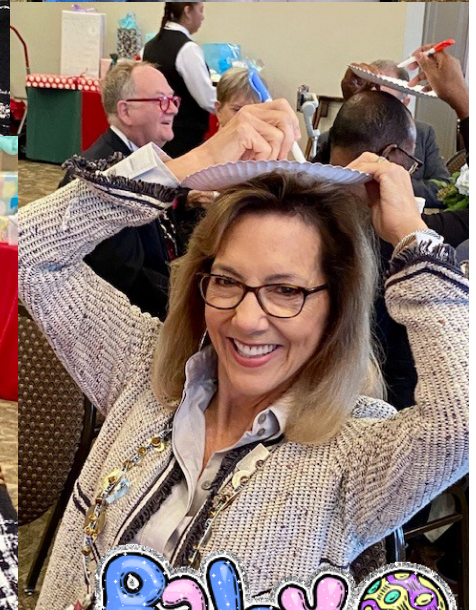


Baby Shower 1st. "Ever" at Exchange Breakfast, It's a Boy!

What a treat, cake at breakfast! Yum! Exchange threw a baby shower for Colleen and David Migl at our last breakfast meeting before Christmas! Orchestrated by some of the ladies of our group! Susan Whatley lead us in all kinds of games to play; Baby Bingo lol, and a crazy "head game" with paper plates. All of us had a blast. Presents were not opened at the breakfast but Colleen and David had a "load" to take home for their newest addition in January 2022!

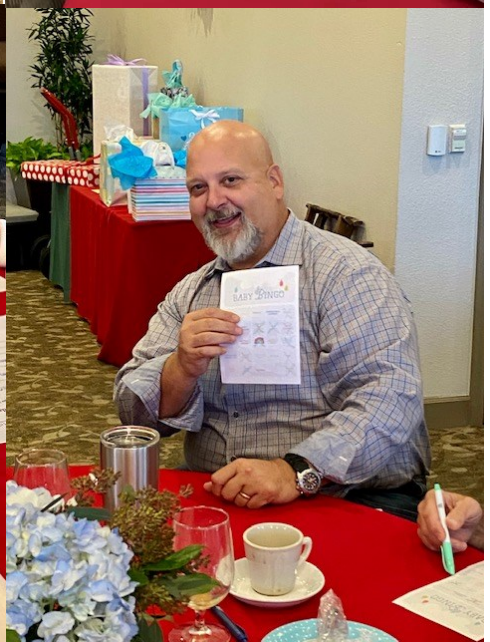


Baby Shower, and the cake? Delicious!



Baby Shower

Baby Shower with the Happy Couple! David and Collen Mig!



Speaker Series!



Our speaker on December 7th was Devon Anderson standing next to Rick Bell President of Exchange. Devon is a former Harris County Criminal District Judge as well as the former District Attorney for Harris County. Currently, Devon is the CEO and President of Justice Forward, a nonprofit dedicated to supporting individuals in the Specialty Courts of Harris and Galveston County. Devon explained the current specialty courts in Fort Bend County and the benefits those courts have on helping people get out and stay out of the criminal justice system.

Justice Forward was founded as a Social Justice Task Force in 2003 by members of Emerson Unitarian Universalist Church. The organization was incorporated as an independent nonprofit, the Harris County Drug Court Foundation, in 2006. The original mission was to help individuals with non-violent, addiction-related offenses who participated in and graduated from Harris County's STAR Drug Court to return to society and lead productive lives by funding various additional support services. Since 2006, HCDCF has provided services to over 700 individuals.

In 2020, Harris County Drug Court Foundation became **Justice Forward** as we expanded our mission to work with all 18 Harris County Specialty Courts. As the first Strategic Alliance Initiative of its kind in Texas, Justice Forward is a collaborative effort to assist all Specialty Court clients become healthy and productive members of their communities. The clients we serve are veterans, those who struggle with substance abuse disorders, individuals with mental health issues, as well as juveniles involved in human trafficking and gang activity. Their innovative program provides funds for transitional housing, counseling, employment and education assistance and other essential services that contribute to lowering recidivism rates and increasing family reunification rates, and in the process delivering fiscal savings to Texas taxpayers. Serving as a model for the nation, Justice Forward promotes collaboration among the courts as well as shared community resources.



Our Youth of the Month from Kempner High School is Trinity Davis!

The Youth of the Month program provides Exchange Clubs with the opportunity to honor outstanding students in the community who have exhibited excellence in academics, community service and leadership. So needless to say she has met all those requirements to achieve this award!

She gave an astoundingly strong speech to our Exchange Club breakfast and told us about her passion for writing. She is in the process of publishing her first book which is about a young slave named **Jona**. Which is the name of the book! To contact her about the book her email is trintay-lorr24@gmail.com

"Writing has shaped so much of who I am today: my thoughts, prenotions, and perspectives on life. After all it always felt like a limitless form of self expression, to tell my stories and share my voice. If I could think it, I could write it and my thoughts would be palpable. I knew if it had this much of an impact in my life that it had the potential to impact someone else's. Writing was and is a positive outlet for others to share their memories, pain, and even dreams. Writing became a gift to be shared. I've always sought to create positive change around me creatively, especially with my passion for writing."

We wish you the best Trinity! Exchange Club of Sugar Land!



Birthdays, Anniversaries, Events

Happy Exchange Birthdays! Morris Lasris (12/8), Pete Olson (12/9), Kevin Barker (12/23), Vernon Hunt (12/25), Joni Stinger (12/26), Paul Matatal (12/29), Brooke Thompson (1/1), Leo Weinberg (1/1) and Lori Bisewski (1/2)

Exchange Anniversaries!

Vickie Coates 12/1/20 (1 Yr.), Doc Lee Ivey 12/1/20 (1 Yr.), Chelsea Nguyen 12/1/20 (1 Yr.), Joni Stinger 12/1/20 (1 Yr.), Dennis Dowell 12/5/16 (5 Yrs.), Juli Fournier 12/4/14 (7 Yrs.), Jamie Williams 12/4/14 (7 Yrs.), Bruce Smith 12/18/19 (2 Yrs.), Nora Sim 12/15/96 (25 Yrs.), Pete Olson 12/22/07 (14 Yrs.), Daniel Menendez 12/17/06 (15 Yrs.), Nick Landoski 12/20/10 (11 Yrs.), Brian Fortman 12/18/19 (2 Yrs.).

Doug Earle requested you inform him or **Kevin Barker** if you know anyone in the Sienna Plantation area that might be interested in joining the club we are building there.

From your newsletter editor Russ Braun... Just want to wish everyone a Happy New Year! I hope all of us have a GREAT START to 2022! And ready and able to volunteer for our next big event our **35th Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser April 23d!** Pictures of our fearless leaders leaving the Church building, as we close out another successful Santa's Exchange Event. Members you were all Super! We do so well as a team in the cold and rain ha-ha! We should do it again next year! They say, 3 times is a charm! **So, on to 2022!** As Rick Bell would say...**SERVE WITH HONOR!**



2022 Here We Go!!