



Exchange Hotline

Exchange Club of
Sugar Land Newsletter
June 15th, 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 2022
Lori Bisewski

Webmaster:
Paul Barnett
www.ecsl.org

Newsletter Editor:
newsletter@ecsl.org

Here are some really “good lookin” Exchange Members! Lunch with Jack and May, always fun, have been members of Exchange for 32 years and counting! (L-R, Paul Barnett, Carlos Perez, Irina Chrisco, Nick Landoski, Mae and Jack Williams, David Lanagan, and Nora Sim. One of our newer member sitting among veteran members! (Irina). Great picture!



Texas Louisiana Gulf Coast District Exchange Clubs Convention June 2022 BEGINS!



Texas Louisiana Gulf Coast District Exchange Clubs Convention June 2022

TEXAS LOUISIANA GULF COAST DISTRICT EXCHANGE CLUBS CONVENTION

Saturday, June 11



08:00 AM BREAKFAST

Help yourself to made-to-order breakfast prior to the 1st session.
Food served in the hotel atrium beginning at 6:30 am

09:00 - 11:30 AM GENERAL SESSION

Fountainbleu Room, Floor 6
Speakers: President Doug Earle, Past President Carlos Perez, & Kevin Barker

NOON YOUTH AWARDS LUNCHEON

Guests of Honor: ACE & Youth of the Year
Silent Auction Begins

EXPLORE NOLA See "Things to Do" Handout

05:30 - 7 PM EVENING RECEPTION

Julia Street Bar & Grill in hotel atrium complimentary drinks & small snacks

07:00 PM PRESIDENT'S BANQUET

Awards, celebration, and silent auction ends

Sunday, June 12

08:00 AM BREAKFAST

09:00 AM ONE NATION UNDER GOD

Speaker, Russ Finney, Memorial led by Susan Schwartz
2022-2023 District Board Meeting to follow



NIGHT BEFORE "PARTAY"!



You ever get that feeling you should have been there? I did!

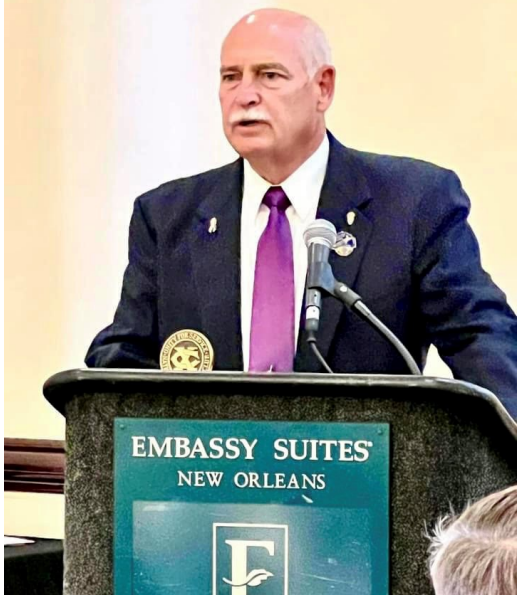
One member said it was "wonderful" and "learned" so much about Exchange. She drove with someone!

Anyone want to go next Year? Wondering? \$400 or so! Do it!



Texas Louisiana Gulf Coast District Exchange Clubs Convention June 2022

Russ Finney



Alexandra Clark



**Youth of the Year,
Gregory Zachariah standing with
Marc Schwartz and Juli Fournier**



**ACE Award Youth of the Year,
Hanna Acosta standing with
Marc Schwartz and Dorothy Nall.**



EXCHANGE
TEXAS LOUISIANA GULF COAST DISTRICT
America's Service Club

Texas Louisiana Gulf Coast District Exchange Clubs Convention June 2022

Susan Schwartz



William "Bill" Pramik (After Hours), John Elias (ECSL), James Steenberger (Lone Star Exchange)



Doug Earle



Paul Barnett, Dorothy Nall, Rick Bell



EXCHANGE

TEXAS LOUISIANA GULF COAST DISTRICT

America's Service Club

Texas Louisiana Gulf Coast District Exchange Clubs Convention June 2022

Doug Earle, Alexandra Clark, Kevin Barker Carlos Perez and Russ Finney



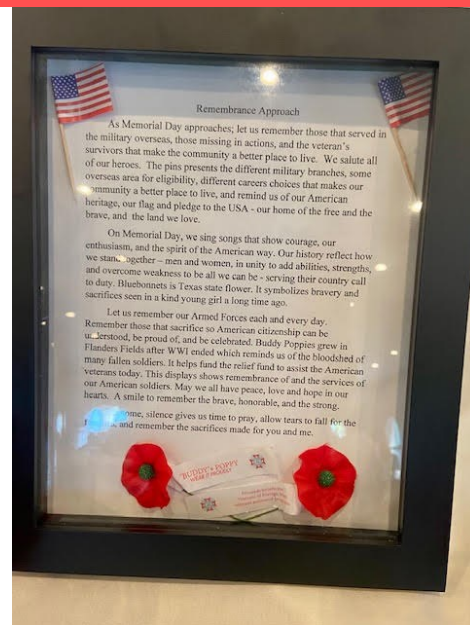
The speakers of Texas Louisiana Gulf Coast District Exchange Clubs District Convention morning session (above) - District President Doug Earle, District Director Alexandra Clark, Past District President Kevin Barker, National Exchange Foundation Trustee Carlos A Perez, & Immediate Past National President Russ Finney

Doug Earle (left) chairs his final District meeting closing the Convention.



EXCHANGE
TEXAS LOUISIANA GULF COAST DISTRICT
America's Service Club

At our breakfast meeting on June 1st Exchange member Cindy McCauley talked to us about her recent work at the VFW and her work on the Buddy Poppy Projects! Here is the story of the VFW “Buddy” poppy!



“In Flanders fields the poppies blow...” These are the words of Col. John McCrae’s immortal poem dedicated to the memory of the men and women who served, fought and died in France during World War I, the poppies of which he wrote have become the true symbol of all those who have given their lives in our nation’s wars.

The poppy has become recognized as the memorial flower in countries throughout the world. It is distributed by veterans organizations in Europe, North America, and in most of the countries of the British Commonwealth.

Since 1922, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States has conducted an annual distribution of the “Buddy” Poppy to raise funds for its charitable programs on behalf of the needy and disabled veterans, and the surviving family members of deceased Veterans.

Today, the Buddy Poppy is distributed by Posts and Auxiliaries of the VFW in every state of the Union and dozens of other countries. Some 10 million are distributed annually; most of them during the period preceding Memorial Day and Veterans Day.

In Flanders Field

***In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below***

***We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.***

***Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.***

Col. John McCrae



Check Presentation / Hope For Three



Our check presentation at the June 1st breakfast meeting went to Hope for Three and was accepted by Exchange member Darla Farmer, Chief Executive Officer and Founder of Hope For Three. Check amount for **\$2500!**

A Fort Bend County resident since 1993, Darla has been a long-time volunteer and supporter of many children's charities. Self-employed for over 30 years, Darla has extensive business administration, operations, marketing, and customer relations. Her visionary leadership is illustrated through her passion for Hope For Three's mission.



Hope For Three was inspired by the plight of an amazing mother and father in Fort Bend County who experienced the triple pleasure and heartbreak of having identical triplets, all diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD or autism).

Helplessly watching this family navigate the frustrating waters of maxed-out social services, excessive bureaucracy, denials by insurance companies, and indifference by society, close friends pondered their options. As a result, Hope For Three was born in April 2011.

Inspired by the Montgomery triplets, Hope For Three, a local nonprofit and autism organization, was established to raise community awareness and provide resources and support, in the form of financial aid, to families with children diagnosed with ASD.

Top Picture; David Lanagan, Darla Farmer, Cookie Joe, Kevin Barker and Rick Bell.



www.hopeforthree.org



Thanks for all you do for Exchange Darla!



Speaker Series



Our featured speaker on June 1st was **Farida Abjani**. Farida is the CEO and Co-Founder of Shining Nightingale, Inc., a home health agency that has a license to work all over the State of Texas. Farida is also involved with several charities.

The one cause that is particularly close to her heart is taking care of the emotional needs of the chronically and terminally ill patients and their caregivers – thanks to her background in nursing (she graduated from AKUSON with a Diploma in Nursing in 1997). Farida was also honored as Houston's 50 most influential women by Houston's women magazine 2017.

Farida Abjani shared with us a moving story about her father and the impact his years of service had on the members of his community. After her father's passing, Farida decided to carry on his legacy of service by creating her home health agency, Shining Nightingale.

“Our Mission is to provide the most influential experience for our patients. We want to continue to raise the bar for excellence in Health Services. With our dedicated team and extensive experience, we are certain of our abilities to provide top notch services”.

Shining Nightingale provides the following services; Occupational Therapy, Medical Social Services, Physical Therapy, Speech Therapy, Wound Care, Specialty Nursing, IV Therapy.

www.shiningnightingale.com



Our speaker June 8th at the morning breakfast was **Nikki Eliason**, Volunteer Manager with Make-A-Wish Texas Gulf Coast. <https://wish.org/texgulf/our-chapter>

This chapter serves 47 counties in the Texas Gulf Coast and all 64 parishes in Louisiana. Make-A-Wish Texas Gulf Coast and Louisiana has granted more than **9,000 wishes** since its inception in 1984. With Paul Barnett.



“We seek to bring every eligible child's wish to life because a wish is an integral part of a child's treatment journey”. Research shows children who have wishes granted can build the physical

and emotional strength they need to fight their illness.

Nikki talked about how Make-A-Wish started back in 1980 in Phoenix and has grown into a worldwide organization, what the qualifications are to become a Wish Kid, and talked about some of the wishes that have been granted.

3 For every wish we grant, there are three more children with critical illnesses whose wishes need your financial support

99% of medical providers say a wish helps relieve a family from traumatic stress and improves a child's emotional well-being.

87% of wish alumni say their wish was a positive turning point in their treatment and gave them strength to fight their illness.

“Manly” Men at Work!



THE CITY OF KENDLETON & FRIENDS PRESENT
JUNETEENTH
FREEDOM CELEBRATION 2022

Join us for a day of celebration at
Bates Allen Park
630 Charlie Roberts Lane, Kendleton, TX 77451
Saturday, 6/18/2022
from 10:00 am to 8:00pm

- Community Garden Ribbon Cutting
- Free Museum Access
- Food & Merchandise Vendors
- Music & Dancing
- Baking Competition
- and other family activities

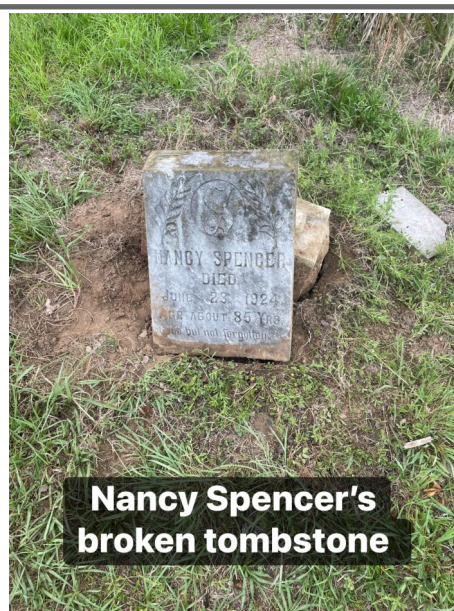
Call (979)532-8240, ext. 3 for more information on how to become a vendor or join the Baking Competition

You ever wonder who the real men are in Exchange?

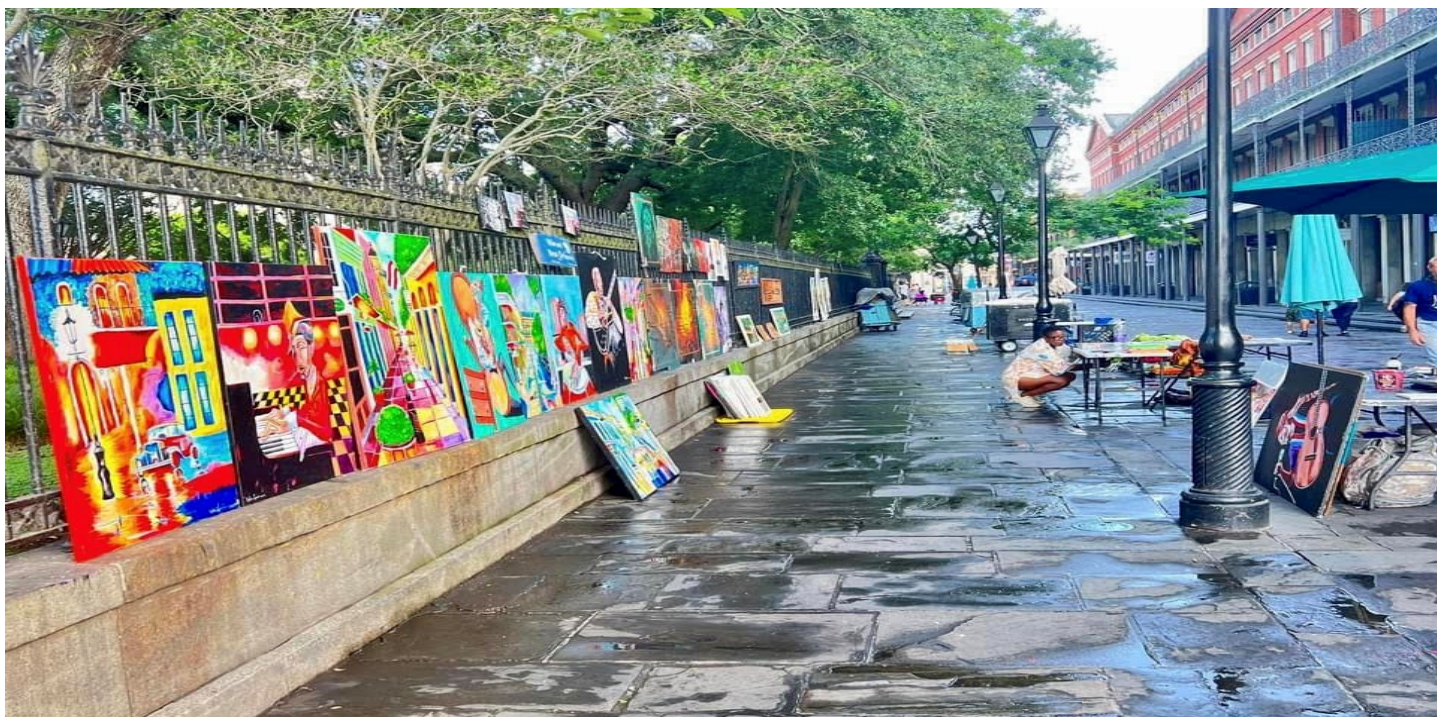
The ones that use a little “**muscle**”, get their hands “**dirty**”, move “**mountains**”? ha-ha. Well here’s the list; **Pete Olson**, **Nick Landosky**, **Doug Earle** and **Rick Bell**! “Manly” men looking to do “Manly” labor to support Exchange Club projects! (But, I heard Farha Ahmed a “very special Lady” was working as hard as the men at the cemetery!).

Pete Olson reporting! The [Exchange Club of Sugar Land](#) has spent the past two months at 2 historic **African American cemeteries in Bates Allen County Park in #Kendleton** clearing deep brush, washing some stones clean with water and marking the locations of over 30 gravesites with GPS coordinates so they will never be lost again. [Nick Landoski](#) and [Doug Earle](#) were cutting debris at sunrise today. I arrived a bit later. We cleared a pile of debris taller than my pickup truck! **And I was able to repair the tombstone of former slave Nancy Spencer!**

We will be back on Saturday June 11th to have one more clearing before **Kendleton’s Juneteenth Freedom Celebration 2022 in the park on Saturday, June 18th**. We are inviting many elected officials, houses of faith, interest groups and TV and local press to a free tour of Newman Chapel Cemetery and Oak Hill Cemetery. Most of the people buried there were former slaves. 10am - 12pm. “Thank you for helping restore this important part of our history! (from Cookie Joe).



New Orleans with David & Angela Lanagan! Let's see; Beautiful Artwork to see, Strolling in the slightly wet pavement with your lover; sip of wine maybe, nice restaurant possibly quaint and out of the way with the very best in food and service? It's a dream of memories to keep!



Thank you David and Angela for this beautiful picture! *Just imagine!*

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Events

Happy Exchange Birthdays!



Nick Landoski (6/3); Doc Lee Ivey (6/5)

Exchange Anniversaries!

Surendran Pattel 6/7/19 (3 yrs.); Ed Gojara 6/7/19 (3 yrs.); John Robson 6/1/08 (14 yrs.); Carlos Perez 6/4/03 (19 yrs.).

Save the Date and get ready for a night of laughs, celebrations, good food, and great fellowship. On June 29, we will be having our installation dinner at the Sugar Creek Country Club. It will be an event you do not want to miss. This event tends to be "dressier" Exchangites!

Save the date. The **Book of Golden Deeds** presentation will be Wednesday, 06/22/2022.

New Officer training will be held Saturday, June 25, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. for incoming Presidents, Presidents-Elect, Treasurers, Secretaries, and anyone interested in learning more. We'll have more details soon.

Carey Snyder let us know that the BSA girls troop 1731 trailer was stolen this past weekend. They are planning a fundraiser to help replace the trailer and camping equipment and will have more details soon.