



# Exchange Hotline



Exchange Newsletter  
April 15, 2010  
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Publisher

The Exchange Club of Sugar Land

4800 Sugar Grove Blvd. Suite 100  
Stafford, TX 77477

Weekly Meetings

Wednesdays, 7:00 a.m.  
Sweetwater Country Club  
Palm Royale Blvd.  
Sugar Land, Texas

Officers 2009-2010

**President**  
Betty Baitland (281) 242-2214

**Immediate Past-President**  
Jim Kij (713) 539-5338

**President-Elect**  
Amy Mitchell (281) 300-7323

**Secretary**  
Vita Goodell (281) 494-4545

**Treasurer**  
Pat Welsh (281) 343-0444

Board of Directors

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Amy Mitchell  
Jim Kij  
Pat Welsh  
Vita Goodell  
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Michael Schiff  
Steve Griffith  
Jeri Krauss  
Linda Schoonmaker  
Shirley Brown  
Jake Messinger  
Roy Miers

Webmaster: Jake Messinger  
jake@jakes.org

Newsletter : Sue Lockwood  
sklockwood@comcast.net

Calendar: Paul Barnett  
psb1@ix.netcom.com

## April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Exchange Club of Sugar Land **President Betty Baitland** presented mugs and Fort Bend History books to speakers **Nikki Gladney**, and **Paris Meltzer**. The girls told of their journey through foster care and the importance of CASA volunteers.

CASA volunteers are more than just "Court Appointed Special Advocates." They become friends and mentors who help and encourage abused children throughout their lives.



(l-r) Betty Baitland, ECSL President, Nikki Gladney, Metoyer Ellis, CASA Program Director, Ruthanne Mefford, Executive Director of Child Advocates of Fort Bend County and Paris Meltzer.  
**Photos by Ed**



The girls definitely "beat the odds". They have both graduated from high school and college, and are pursuing careers. Nikki is happily married. Paris is looking into pursuing a Masters Degree in Social Work.



### Early History of Child Advocates in Fort Bend County

Fort Bend Child Advocates was created in 1991 by **Suzy Kern**. She attended volunteer training in Houston, then asked how to link up with the Fort Bend program. She was told that none existed. Suzy contacted the State organization and learned how to start the program here.

The first office space was donated as was the original furniture and machines. She asked her lawyer husband to prepare and file for Incorporation, and he also prepared the Bylaws and other corporate documents. Together, they applied for and obtained a charitable designation from the IRS. She served as the original Director and did not draw a salary, believing that the organization needed to devote its meager assets to its real goal, the children, although some time later she was reimbursed for expenses. She resigned in late 1992. The speaker is proud of CASA and proud of Suzy.

by Judge Robert Kern



In an Exchange History Moment, **Greg Oelfke** explained that the pins on the badges of Exchangites have meaning and sentimental value. Most district and club pins are traded at the National Convention. Each of our Sugar Land Presidents created their own pin for the year they served. Big "E" and little "Oscar" pins are given to our club by National Exchange Club for service projects completed each year.

**Anuradha Helekar**, April Youth of the Month from Clements High School pictured at Exchange breakfast with her father and Mother.



**Chuck Krachala** was honored by the Texas Louisiana Gulf Coast District Exchange Clubs as the "Officer of the Year" at the 45th Annual Crime Prevention Dinner on April 10 at the Westin Galleria. Chuck was accompanied by his wife Tracey and congratulated by Assistant City Manager Steve Griffith and City of Sugar Land Police Chief Doug Brinkley.



## Nash ③ Crawfish for Kids

April 17th 4-7 pm  
At the home of  
Marc & Susan Schwartz

Crawfish Boil to benefit Champion Kids Camp and  
ESCAPE Family Resource Center  
\$50 donation  
[www.Legends4Kids.com](http://www.Legends4Kids.com)



**TEXAS LOUISIANA**  
GULF COAST DISTRICT EXCHANGE CLUBS

Registration form at  
<http://www.tlgcd.org/ExchDistConvRegForm.pdf>

**Annual Convention • June 11th - 13th, 2010 Sheraton New Orleans Hotel, 500 Canal Street New Orleans, LA 70130 • Tel. 1-888-627-7033**



**92nd National Exchange Convention**  
**July 21-24, 2010** La Quinta Resort Palm Springs, CA  
[www.nationalexchangeclub.org](http://www.nationalexchangeclub.org)

### April Birthdays

David Wilson, Paul Barnett,  
Trevor Nehls, Troy E. Nehls,  
Bob Hargarther, Don Schneider,  
John Bourg, Nancy Brownlee,  
Cee Cee Parker, John Robson,  
Jim Kij, Jim Lockwood, Margo Pasko, Robert McDonough

### Care Corner

*Please keep the following friends in your prayers during their period of recovery.*

*Brenda Pullen  
Mike Flory  
Jana Flory*

