



# MISSISSIPPI EXCHANGE-O-GRAM

Volume XXII

April, 2005

Number 3

## MISSISSIPPI EXCHANGITES HONORED TO HAVE NATIONAL PRESIDENT JERRY DEFEO ATTEND DISTRICT CONVENTION



Exchangites across Mississippi are eagerly looking forward to National President Jerry Defeo and the First Lady, Mary, attending our 85<sup>th</sup> Annual District Convention in June. Jerry Defeo was installed as National President of The National Exchange Club at the organization's annual convention in Dallas, Texas, in July, 2004. He is a member of The Noon Exchange Club of Garland and The Evening Exchange Club of Greater Dallas, Texas. He was elected National President-elect at the 2003 annual convention in Birmingham, Alabama. Previously, Defeo served as Regional Vice President, Region 5, of The National Exchange Club for four years. He is owner and president of DeFeo & Co. Enterprises, which includes a custom home and remodeling business, automotive construction consulting service and import-export company.

Defeo joined The Noon Exchange Club of Garland as a charter member in 1982. He served as Club Treasurer, Secretary and President, in addition to chairing or serving on a variety of club committees. For The Texas District Exchange Clubs, Defeo served on the Board of Directors and was District President in 1987-1988. He also served on numerous district committees. For The National Exchange Club, he has been a Volunteer Field Representative since 1992. Defeo most recently served as a member of the Leadership Development Committee and the Personnel Committee and previously chaired the Program of Service Committee and the Recruitment Sub-Committee of the Growth Committee. In 1987-88, he served on the Board of Trustees of The National Exchange Club Foundation for the Prevention of Child Abuse as that year's district presidents' representative.

An accomplished Exchange membership and club builder, Defeo has recruited more than 360 members and built 13 Exchange Clubs. In 1997, he received the first-ever VOD/VFR of the Year Award and has received numerous membership and club building honors on the National and District level, including the National Master Recruiter Award for bringing in 250 members.

Active in his community, Defeo is serving his 12<sup>th</sup> year on Garland's Board of Adjustments, a zoning appeals board. He has also been involved with the Stars for Children Child Abuse Prevention Center, the New Beginning

See DEFEO page 3

## DISTRICT PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Fellow Exchangites,

I can't believe that there are only a few more months left in this Exchange year. I continue to visit clubs and will make at least one visit to all of the clubs in the Mississippi District by the year's end. I am grateful to each Exchangite for the service they provide in their local clubs. Isn't it exciting to see the results of hard work and the attitude of service? The Mississippi District clubs have worked hard and most clubs have been successful at keeping their membership at the number it began with this year. Our growth goals for this year were for each club to grow by plus two members and to build two new clubs. As of April 1<sup>st</sup>, the Mississippi District membership is at a minus fifty-one. Thanks to the Robinsons and Franklin Williams we have a new club in Booneville. Also, thanks to Rebecca Middleton, Johnny Middleton, and Franklin Williams, we have a new club in Ridgeland. I am excited about these new clubs which are showing a high level of enthusiasm! These clubs will become some of the premier clubs in the Mississippi District. Over half of our clubs has received the National Service Award. Congratulations to these clubs! I know many other clubs have accomplished this goal and need to send in the information. The new S.E.E. program begun by National President Jerry Defeo is a very exciting program to boost membership. If each club in the Mississippi District would participate in this program, we would have positive growth in the District and meet the District goal for National. The acronym stands for Share the Exchange Experience. As much as each of us enjoys Exchange, why wouldn't we want someone else to have the same fulfilling experience? We still have time to accomplish our growth goals for this year!

This is another reminder that our District convention will be held in Grenada at the Days Inn (formerly Holiday Inn) June 2-5, 2005. The Grenada club really knows how to plan a convention and we should all be enthusiastic about attending. It will be very informative and you will have fun! A realistic goal would be seventy-percent attendance, but I would like to see each club represented at the District Convention! Also, mark your calendar for July 13-16 to attend our National Convention to be held in Salt Lake City, Utah. Salt Lake City is such a beautiful city and the Little America Hotel is an outstanding facility.

There are so many clubs working very hard in providing service to their respective communities. It makes me proud to be a small part of the Mississippi District! During my visits to clubs, I am meeting many great Exchangites for the first time. This District of Exchangites is second to none in quality, quantity and service. I have seen programs of Americanism, Child Abuse Prevention projects, youth projects and service given to our seniors that brings a warm place in my heart. I will not meet every Exchangite in the Mississippi District this year, but let me personally thank each of you for the great service you provide to Exchange and our communities. I am so privileged to be called an Exchangite. Thank you for letting me serve as your District President. And now, as we head down the homestretch, lets each of us recommit the enthusiasm needed to accomplish our goals and make the Mississippi District what it should be. Unify Now In This Year, Unity for Service to Achieve.

*Jimmy Dickerson*  
District President  
2004-2005



## DEFEO

Continued from page 1

Child Abuse Prevention Center, the Garland Chamber of Commerce, the YMCA Indian Guides, Crimestoppers, and Scouting.

National President Defeo attended the University of Texas at Arlington, where he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Engineering Management. Jerry and Mary have four grown children and reside in Garland, a suburb on the northeast edge of Dallas.



As stated in the Bylaws of District Exchange Clubs, Article X, Section 3, "all suggested candidates for the office of District President-elect, Vice President(s), District Secretary, District Treasurer and members of the Board of Directors must be forwarded to the District Secretary or the Immediate Past District President not less than thirty (30) days prior to the date designated for the annual convention." Section 4 states, "nothing contained in these Bylaws shall be construed as limiting the right to make further nominations from the floor of the annual convention, except anyone nominated from the floor must be registered and in attendance at the convention as a delegate." Section 5 continues, "no person shall be nominated for any office who is not fully cognizant of the duties of that office and without consenting to such nomination being first obtained." Section 6 states, "should any District Director desire to seek another office at the end of the first year of a two year term, a letter of resignation must be submitted to the District Board of Directors for action at its pre-convention meeting. The resignation must be accepted and shall take effect when his/her successor is installed." Section 7 concludes, "No person may be a candidate for two offices at the same convention."

## DISTRICT CANDIDATES, 2005-2006

(This list contains the names of candidates who have formally filed as of the date of this publication).

### District Treasurer

Luther Roan---Actively involved in Exchange since 1976 as a member of the Leavell Woods Exchange Club; served his local club as Club President-elect and as Club President; Club Chairman of Membership, Hospitality, and Book of Golden Deeds Committees; District Treasurer since 1991; member Alta Woods Baptist Church; member Leavell Woods Community Association.

### District Director, Division III

Harry G. Robinson---Actively involved in Exchange since 1992 as a member of the Houston Exchange Club; served as Club President-elect, Club President; served on the District level as Director Division III, and as District President-elect and District President in 2002-2003; Ordained Deacon First Baptist Church of Houston; served two terms as Mayor for the City of Houston; Past Chairman of The Chickasaw County Development Foundation; member of the Pace Committee.

### District Director, Division V

Rebecca Middleton---Actively involved in Exchange since 1996 as a member of the Oak Forest Exchange Club and The Exchange Club of Madison County, MS; served on all Programs of Service committees either as Chairperson or committee member; served her local club on the Board of Directors, as Club Secretary, as Club Treasurer, as Club President-elect, and as Club President; recognized as District Exchangite of the Year 1998-1999; National Distinguished Club President 2002-2003; currently serving as Division V Director and as District Bulletin Editor.

## EXCHANGE HISTORY

Exchange was among those who championed the inclusion of the words "Under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag in 1954. The One Nation Under God program was developed and adopted in 1964 to foster a spirit of patriotism, encourage respect for this nation's flag, and increase appreciation of our rich religious heritage.

## EXCHANGE HISTORY

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

"We are Americans, and we are Exchangites, and we can do ANYTHING !!!"

Jerry Defeo  
National President  
*Exchange Thought of the Week*  
February 16, 2005



## A.C.E. / YOUTH OF THE YEAR

The deadline for submitting district applications for the A.C.E. Award and the Youth of the Year Award has been changed to May 1, 2005. Applications should be sent to Committee Chairperson Vicki Fioranelli at 603 Holman, Cleveland, MS, 38732. Vicki's phone numbers are 662-846-3000 (W) and 662-843-7008 (H).

You too can get "Hooked on Grenada" when you attend this year's District Convention. The 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Mississippi District Convention will be held in Grenada, Mississippi, June 2-5, 2005.

The Exchange Club of Grenada is hosting this year's convention and promises a good time to all that come. The Convention Committee has many exciting activities and events planned for young and old alike. Some of the events planned include family night at Marascalco Manor. Horseback riding, fishing, dancing, and karaoke are just a few of the activities you can enjoy. A tour of Marascalco Manor is will be the highlight of the evening.

When convention delegates are in session, their spouses will be able to enjoy Bingo, tours of the city, and an art exhibit while the youth can have fun swimming, bowling, picnicking, and going on a trip to the Grenada Lake Visitor's Center. A bicycle, donated by Jim Legg and the Grenada Wal-Mart, will be given to one lucky youth in attendance during a surprise drawing.

The Exchange Club of Grenada and The Mississippi District Board has not forgotten our "First Timers." If you have not ever attended a District Convention, be sure to mark your calendars and attend this one! All "First Timers" at this year's convention will receive special recognition and there are also some great prizes to be awarded to some of the outstanding "First Timers."

The host club of Grenada has really outdone themselves to insure that everyone attending this year's convention has a great time. Let's rally together in Grenada and show our appreciation for all their hard work. We are guaranteed to have a good time as we "Get hooked on Grenada!"

## REMINDER !

Don't forget to bring plenty of door prizes and your club banner to District Convention.



### MISSION STATEMENT

Exchange, America's Service Club, is a group of men and women working together to make our communities better places to live through programs of service in Americanism, Community Service, Youth Activities, and its national project, the Prevention of Child Abuse.

Clubs in the Mississippi District are encouraged to submit to the District Bulletin Editor their activities and special events for publication in future issues of the Mississippi Exchange-O-Gram.

# *AROUND OUR DISTRICT*

## **BROOKHAVEN HONORS ONE OF ITS OWN**



Brookhaven Exchange Club member Alvin Brown accepts the 2004 John L. Leary Award from 2003 recipient Pete Szczublewski recently during the club's 58<sup>th</sup> annual banquet at Copiah-Lincoln Community College. The award recognizes outstanding contributions to the club.

## **DOWNTOWN JACKSON TO HOST GOLF TOURNAMENT TO BENEFIT CAP CENTER**

The Downtown Exchange Club of Jackson will host their 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament Friday, June 10, 2005, at Caroline Golf Club in Madison, MS. All proceeds from the tournament go to the Exchange Club Family Support Center for the prevention of child abuse in Mississippi. This tournament is dedicated to the memory of Mr. Henry Holifield.

Sponsorship of the golf tournament includes cart, green fees, lunch and refreshments. The format for the tournament will be a four- (4) person scramble. The tournament will pay three places with the 1<sup>st</sup> place team receiving \$1,000.

For more information contact:

Caroline Golf Club  
601-853-4554

Chris Baker  
601-932-4800

[chrisb@mscourthouse.com](mailto:chrisb@mscourthouse.com)

## **WELCOME RIDGELAND**

The newest club in the Mississippi District, The Exchange Club of Ridgeland, held their Charter Banquet on Friday, April 15, 2005 at the Western Sizzlin Restaurant on Lake Harbor Drive in Ridgeland. The new club was sponsored by The Exchange Club of Oak Forest and the club builders were Johnny and Rebecca Middleton, assisted by Regional Field Representative Franklin Williams. The club chartered with 41 members and Club President-elect Darryl Grayson said "We will have 50 members by District Convention."



District President Jimmy Dickerson is shown presenting the club banner for Ridgeland to Charter President Johnny Middleton.



Seated left to right: Board Member Derrick Freeman, Club President-elect Darryl Grayson, Charter President Johnny Middleton, Club Secretary Linda Bynum. Standing: Board Members Billy Vaughn and Allison Lunsford. Not pictured: Club Treasurer Dawn Holmes and Board Members Marty McCullough, Gary Nowell, and Tina Lakey.

## Secrets to Success in Exchange and Life

Spring is upon us and this brings about thoughts of new life and the eternal cycle of all beings and organizations. Nature has certain undeniable secrets that lead to the continuation of life within all organisms and organizations. I want to share with you some of my beliefs about success in life.

One must be a firm believer in goals. I attribute the success I have enjoyed in life to three things: deep faith in God; a loving supportive spouse; and an orientation to goals. If you are bored in life and Exchange, if you don't have a burning desire to get up and get going everyday, you probably don't have any goals. Set some goals and set them right. Your goals should be SMART – Specific, Measurable, Ambitious, Realistic and Trackable. The National Exchange Club has seminars that can help you with goal setting and there are many books at your local library to begin your journey. When you set a goal for yourself or your Exchange Club and get others to feel ownership in those goals, you will be amazed at the great things that will happen as you together accomplish those goals.

Goals are not the only thing that will lead to success in life and Exchange. It's not who is the most popular, or the best looking, or the strongest, or the smartest. It takes just three simple rules to have that self-confidence, good self-image, and success. If it is so simple, what are those rules? When I tell you, you'll say well I knew that. So here they are:

Rule 1 – Do the right thing; Rule 2 – Do the best you can; and Rule 3 – Treat others as you would like to be treated.

**Do the right thing** – It's right to be honest. Treat all people with respect. When you do the right thing in life and Exchange a great self-image and an inner self-confidence will fill our being and the outside world will wonder what's so great and what's going on with you.

**Do the best you can** – Everyone wants to win, but the real question is can you live with losing? Do not accept from yourself or Exchange anything less than the best. When you lie down at night with complete exhaustion, you know you have paid the ultimate price of success by doing your very best all day in all things. Do the best you can as if you were putting your name on all your efforts.

**Treat others as you would like to be treated** – This is sometimes known as the Golden Rule. Any business, family, Exchange Club or any other organization will be changed completely for the better if this attitude is adopted and made a part of the beliefs of the organization. How quickly we forget the power and healing of simple human kindness. You know the importance of teamwork and its development is based on this idea. Teamwork is our foundation for success in Exchange. In fact you cannot have greatness until you have great togetherness.

You might say, "Well, Ken, those are so simple. Why can't everyone be successful?" The answer lies in that professional thief that steals our time and determination and commitment. The bad angel is the one that tells you when you struggle on a diet, "It's okay. Have a donut or two, it won't hurt." The bad angel suggests that you don't have to do your exercise today, or make those calls for Exchange it can wait until tomorrow. Who is this bad angel, this formidable giant that steals our most precious commodity, our time? You know him well. He is your comforter. He is your defender. In fact you defend him and quote him too. Too late you grudgingly admit you have seen through his shrewd thievery. His name is PROCRASTINATION.

So to these 3 simple rules, we must add one more idea to defeat procrastination. It is also so simple you have heard it many times. In fact you won't believe it. All it takes is one word. Perhaps the simplest word in the English language. Properly used the action of this single syllable word carries more weight than a ton of good intentions. The thief cannot endure under the pressure of this word. The word is "NOW." **NOW, N-O-W.** This word will make your dreams a reality, your plans come true and your good intentions become golden deeds. You will reap success for yourself and Exchange. Your destiny and your Exchange Club's future depend on focusing on those three principles and getting to work NOW. I believe in you and Exchange. We can do better. We will do better. We must do better. Because together we serve in, "Unity for Service."

*Ken Sullivan, RVP*



## MISSISSIPPI DISTRICT EXCHANGE CALENDAR 2004-2005

April.....	National Child Abuse Prevention Month National Volunteer Recognition Month
April 9.....	District Board Meeting, Grenada
April 15.....	Club Officer Election Reports due to National
May.....	Freedom Shrine Month
May 1.....	Deadline for A.C.E. / Youth of the Year Nominations to District Committee Chairperson
May 15.....	Deadline for National Outstanding Service, Fund Raising, and Public Relations Awards
May 30.....	Memorial Day
May 31.....	Deadline for National CARE Award
June 1.....	Deadline for National Convention Credential Cards
June 2.....	District Board Meeting, Grenada
June 2-5.....	85 <sup>th</sup> Annual Mississippi District Exchange Convention, Grenada, MS
June 25.....	Last Day for Online Applications for National Service Awards
June 30.....	Club Activities Summary Due to National
June 30.....	End of Administrative Year

### *COVENANT OF SERVICE*

Accepting the divine privilege of single and collective responsibility as life's noblest gift, I covenant with my fellow Exchangites:

To consecrate my best energies to the uplifting of Social, Religious, Political, and Business ideals;

To discharge the debt I owe to those of high and low estate who have served and sacrificed that the heritage of American citizenship might be mine;

To honor and respect law, to serve my fellowmen, and to uphold the ideals and institutions of my Country;

To implant the life-giving, society-building spirit of Service and Comradeship in my social and business relationships;

To serve in Unity with those seeking better conditions, better understandings, and greater opportunities for all.



# 85th Annual Mississippi District Convention Registration



(Must be postmarked by May 15, 2005)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Member of The Exchange Club of \_\_\_\_\_ Current Office Held \_\_\_\_\_

Voting Delegate ( ) Yes ( ) No *Voting delegates MUST be registered by 12 noon on Saturday, June 4, 2005*

Name of Spouse \_\_\_\_\_ Mail form and remittance to: **Luther Roan, District Treasurer**  
344 Dellwood Drive  
Jackson, MS 39212

Name of Child \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Child \_\_\_\_\_

## Adult Event Package

<u>Event Tickets</u>	<u># of Tickets</u>		<u>Registration By May 15, 2005</u>	<u>Registration After May 15, 2005</u>	
National Representative Reception	_____	@	\$ 10.00	\$ 15.00	Advance Registration, All Events \$ 90.00
Club Presidents Luncheon	_____	@	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00	
Family Night	_____	@	No charge	No charge	
ACE / Youth of the Year Luncheon	_____	@	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00	Late Registration, All Events \$115.00
Installation Banquet	_____	@	\$ 30.00	\$ 35.00	
One Nation Under God Breakfast	_____	@	\$ 10.00	\$ 15.00	
Event Tickets	Total # _____		\$ _____	\$ _____	= Total Included \$ _____

## Youth Activities

The Exchange Club of Grenada is planning an exciting, fun-filled time for our youth. A few of the events scheduled include bowling, swimming, a trip to the Visitor's Center at Grenada Lake, bingo, and a picnic. The cost of the tickets for the youth events will be between \$25.00 and \$30.00, depending on the events chosen. Youth activity tickets will be available at the registration desk for those wishing to participate.

## Spouse Activities

Spouse's Bingo is being brought back this year by popular demand. The Exchange Club of Oak Forest will once again sponsor this activity. A complete list of area events will be included in the convention registration packets available at the registration desk.

## Hotel Registration Information

Although a block of rooms has been reserved for the 2005 Mississippi District Convention, individual hotel reservations should be made directly with the Days Inn of Grenada at 1-662-226-2851. Room rates are \$ 60.00 per night. Advise the reservation staff that you will be attending the Mississippi District Exchange Clubs Convention.

**PRESIDENT**  
Jimmy Dickerson (Batesville)  
133 Hemlock Road  
Batesville, MS 38606  
H-662-563-0977  
B-662-563-4541  
[jamesq@panola.com](mailto:jamesq@panola.com)

**PRESIDENT-ELECT**  
John Miller (Richland)  
1929 Cape Cove  
Richland, MS 39218  
H-601-936-3584  
B-601-420-0980  
[JMi2548038@aol.com](mailto:JMi2548038@aol.com)

**SECRETARY**  
Johnny L. Middleton (Oak Forest  
and Madison County)  
223 Walnut Ridge Drive  
Ridgeland, MS 39157-4122  
H-601-856-7669  
B-601-420-0980  
[jingles@bellsouth.net](mailto:jingles@bellsouth.net)

**TREASURER**  
Luther Roan (Leavell Woods)  
344 Dellwood Drive  
Jackson, MS 39212  
H-601-372-6504  
[lutherR32@aol.com](mailto:lutherR32@aol.com)

**IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT**  
Johnny L. Middleton (Oak Forest  
and Madison County)  
223 Walnut Ridge Drive  
Ridgeland, MS 39157-4122  
H-601-856-7669  
B-601-420-0980  
[jingles@bellsouth.net](mailto:jingles@bellsouth.net)

**DIRECTOR, DIVISION I**  
Bettie T. Puckett (LOU/Oxford)  
112 County Road 213  
Oxford, Ms 38655  
H-662-238-7818  
B-662-915-7735  
[bpuckett@olemiss.edu](mailto:bpuckett@olemiss.edu)

**DIRECTOR, DIVISION II**  
Tommy Barrett (Grenada)  
424 Townes Avenue  
Grenada, MS 38901  
H-662-226-3205  
[tbarrett@watervalley.net](mailto:tbarrett@watervalley.net)

**DIRECTOR, DIVISION III**  
Harry G. Robinson (Houston)  
226 Woodland Circle  
Houston, MS 38851-3026  
H-662-456-3876  
[harryg@ayrix.net](mailto:harryg@ayrix.net)

**DIRECTOR, DIVISION IV**  
Roger Noller (Leavell Woods)  
616 Muirwood Circle  
Ridgeland, MS 39157  
H-601-853-1655  
[RLN034@aol.com](mailto:RLN034@aol.com)

**DIRECTOR, DIVISION V**  
Rebecca Middleton (Oak Forest  
and Madison County)  
223 Walnut Ridge Drive  
Ridgeland, MS 39157-4122  
H-601-856-7669  
[jingles@bellsouth.net](mailto:jingles@bellsouth.net)

**DIRECTOR, DIVISION VI**  
Randall Walters (Richland)  
1911 Cape Cove  
Richland, MS 39218  
H-601-664-0505  
[etsbody@empiretruck.com](mailto:etsbody@empiretruck.com)

**DIRECTOR, DIVISION VII**  
Alvin Brown  
(Brookhaven/Monticello)  
2237 Warren Road  
Brookhaven, MS 39601  
H-601-833-5368  
[strutbrown@hotmail.com](mailto:strutbrown@hotmail.com)

**DIRECTOR, DIVISION VIII**  
John Blake (Gulfport)  
4 Partridge Place  
Long Beach, MS 39660-3106  
H-228-868-2136  
[Jdblake2@bellsouth.net](mailto:Jdblake2@bellsouth.net)

**DIRECTOR, DIVISION IX**  
Jimmy Johnson (Gulfport)  
121 Yucca Drive  
Long Beach, MS 39560-3904  
H-228-864-1257  
[Jimmyj1944@aol.com](mailto:Jimmyj1944@aol.com)

**BULLETIN EDITOR**  
Rebecca Middleton (Oak Forest  
and Madison County)  
223 Walnut Ridge Drive  
Ridgeland, MS 39157-4122  
H-601-856-7669  
[jingles@bellsouth.net](mailto:jingles@bellsouth.net)

**VOLUNTEER FIELD REP**  
Mickey Boyette (Grenada)  
160 Pebble Creek Road  
Grenada, MS 38901  
H-662-226-3944  
[M\\_boyette@bellsouth.net](mailto:M_boyette@bellsouth.net)

**REGIONAL FIELD REP**  
Franklin Williams (Biloxi/Gulfport)  
219 Clower Drive  
Long Beach, MS 39560  
H-228-865-9974  
[Ruthie020834@hotmail.com](mailto:Ruthie020834@hotmail.com)

**RVP, REGION 6**  
Ken Sullivan (North Jackson)  
83 Sugar Maple  
Madison, MS 39110  
H-601-856-5215  
[Ksullivan8153@al.com](mailto:Ksullivan8153@al.com)

**NATIONAL EXCHANGE CLUB**  
3050 Central Avenue  
Toledo, OH 43606  
Phone-800-xchange  
Fax-419-535-1989  
[admin@nationalexchangeclub.com](mailto:admin@nationalexchangeclub.com)



**MISSISSIPPI  
EXCHANGE-O-GRAM**  
Rebecca R. Middleton, Editor  
223 Walnut Ridge Drive  
Ridgeland, MS 39157-4122

**Superior Rating and  
Judges Award for  
National News and  
Promotion  
1998-1999  
2000-2001**

**Superior Rating and  
Judges Award for  
Exchange Education  
1999-2000**

**Superior Rating and  
Judges Award for  
District News Coverage  
2001-2002**

**Superior Rating for  
Maintaining a High  
Standard of Excellence  
2002-2003**