



MISSISSIPPI EXCHANGE-O-GRAM

Volume XXIV

March, 2007

Number 3

MISSISSIPPI WELCOMES

NATIONAL PRESIDENT KIM HODGES

TO THE 87TH ANNUAL

DISTRICT CONVENTION



S. Kim Hodges, a member of the Exchange Club of Utah Valley, Utah, was installed as National President of the National Exchange Club at the organization's 2006 national convention in Orlando, Florida. He was elected National President-elect at the 2005 national convention in Salt Lake City, Utah. Previously, he served on the board of trustees of the National Exchange Club Foundation and served four

years as Regional Vice President, Region 4, of the National Exchange Club. He is the branch manager of Wedbush Morgan Securities in Provo, Utah.

Hodges has been a member of Exchange since 1982, serving on its board of directors, as treasurer, secretary and president. He served as president of the Rocky Mountain District Exchange Clubs during the 1996-1997 year. For the National Exchange Club, Hodges serves as chairman of the Personnel Committee and has served as chairman of the Leadership Development Committee in 2005-2006 and chairman of the Strategic Planning Task Force in 2001-2002.

Active in his community, National President Hodges has been involved with the Boy Scouts of America, Junior Achievement and United Way. He served on the Provo Power Board from 1994-2002 and is active in his local church.

Hodges attended Ricks College and Brigham Young University. He and his wife, Gaylin, have six children and six grandchildren. The Hodges reside in Provo.

DISTRICT PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings, my fellow
Exchangites:

What a great job you all have done so far this year. It has been more than I ever dreamed. We must maintain our momentum in order for us to keep growing and building new clubs. Let's go out with a big bang at the convention May 31st, June 1st, and June 2nd.

The Mid-Winter Conference was a huge success. If you did not attend, you missed a good one. There were 87 members in attendance with 24 clubs represented. How about that!

There is a newly revised District Awards Manual and your District Directors have your copy if you have not already received it from them. The major change in the manual is that all award nominations must be received by the District Secretary, Johnny Middleton, on or before the Monday of the District Convention. This year that Monday happens to be Memorial Day, so make sure your awards nominations are received before that date. The scrapbook can either be mailed to the District Secretary or given to your District Director prior to the Monday deadline and he/she will bring it to the convention. All applicable awards will be judged prior to the convention by the District Board of Directors. If your club does not have a copy of the District Awards Manual, please see your District Director for your copy.

I hope each of you are making plans to attend the 87th Annual Mississippi District Convention at Lake Tiak-O'Khata in Louisville this year. Our National Exchange Club President Kim Hodges and his wife Gaylin will be attending as well as Dennis Norwood, RVP Region 6 and his wife Delores. Hopefully there will be a well-known friend of Mississippi at the Youth/A.C.E. Award Luncheon on Saturday. The "Womanless" Beauty Pageant will be back this year, as well as family night with a seafood buffet and something special for Thursday evening, like maybe a talent show, entertainment by a group, etc. There will be things for kids of all ages to do like swimming (lifeguards on duty), horseback riding, hiking, fishing, and much more. The One Nation Under God Breakfast on Saturday will be special. Please remember this is a family convention. No alcohol,

please. The dress code for all sessions will be business casual and for the installation banquet the dress code is semi-formal. Once again we will have the Silent Auction. Mert Williams from the Grenada Club is in charge of this event, and she will be contacting you to donate items for this. The money goes for the Cap Centers. Ruthie will have her famous clock to auction off and a birthday party is planned for all the clubs who are over 50 years old. There are 14 clubs in the district that have been chartered 50 years or more and have been serving their communities faithfully. There will be "Let's Have a Drawing" with Troy Nickelson and Billy Davis along with some fun events during the sessions. Make your plans now and "Don't you dare miss it."

Now on a more serious side. There is a campaign going on in the district to honor one of the finest Exchangites I have ever met. He is Dave Moore a member of the Northwoods Exchange Club. He is one of the first people I met in Exchange and he was dressed as Uncle Sam. He has portrayed Uncle Sam at every Convention, Mid-Winter Conference, parades, schools, nursing homes and any place else he could find to hand out flags for many, many years. His portrayal was with dignity and great respect to the flag and our country. And he did this many times at his own expense. He is no longer able to do this and he is sorely missed. The movement is to have Dave "Uncle Sam" Moore inducted into the Court of Honor at the National Exchange Club Headquarters. The cost is \$4500.00 and the money has to be in by June 1st. I am asking that each club make a donation in his honor. We are asking for \$100.00 donation per club, but if your club can not do this, any amount will be appreciated. Send your donations to District Secretary Johnny Middleton by June 1, 2007. Let's be unified and do this. It doesn't matter if you know Uncle Sam or not, he is a fellow Exchangite.

Thanks for *Lighting the Fire Within* and remember to pray daily "*Father, help me to love you with all my heart, soul, mind and strength, and help me to love my neighbor as I love myself.*"

Ask not what Exchange can do for you, but what can you do for Exchange.

Igniting the Fire Within,

Ruthie Williams
District President 2006-2007
MS District Exchange Clubs



**MISSISSIPPI DISTRICT EXCHANGE
CALENDAR
2006-2007**

- March 1 – April 30.....Great American Rush Party
- March 27.....95th Birthday of Exchange
- April.....National Child Abuse Prevention Month
National Volunteer Recognition Month
- April 15.....Club Officer Election Reports due to National
- May.....Freedom Shrine Month
- May 15.....Deadline for National Outstanding Service,
Fund Raising, and Public Relations Awards
- May 1.....Deadline for A.C.E. / Youth of the Year
Nominations to District Committee Chairpersons
- May 28.....Memorial Day
- May 31.....Deadline for National CARE Award
- May 31 – June 3.....87th Annual Mississippi
District Convention, Lake Tiak-O’Khata
- June 1.....Deadline for National Convention
Credential Cards
- June 14.....Flag Day
- 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
Awards & Blue Ribbon Campaign Funds deadline
Activities Summary due

Unity for Service

From Your Region 6 Vice President...



It is an absolutely wonderful time to be an Exchangite! Wouldn't you agree? We are so close to national growth we can taste it! Our Programs of Service are doing great things for those communities and the individuals we serve and our fun-meters are pegged!

Region 6 continues to lead the way with triple digit growth and an enthusiasm that is reverberating off both the east and west coasts of our great nation. Mighty Mississippi is leading Exchange in growth with a plus-108 and leading in new club building with four new communities reaping the benefits of Exchange. Team Tennessee, although taking a hit in January, still remains just under the growth line with a -1, is primed and ready to regain lost ground and be a part of the ground swell of eXCitement coursing through the region. With one new club built and another soon to P.O.M., Tennessee will soon be racing towards June 30th with positive growth! Our efforts in Kentucky continue

with great promise of a new club happening there this year.

All of this is just plain old awesome! Awesome because it is all a team effort. Awesome because the Exchangites in Region 6 have a very evident passion for service. Awesome due to the willingness of individuals to step up and take leadership roles in every aspect of Exchange. Awesome because of the love and commitment shown on a daily basis by every member of these two wonderful districts. It has been said that as goes Region 6, so goes Exchange. I believe this year has proven that point – with an exclamation point!

And the best part of all this is that it is not a one-year deal. Everything happening today is being built as a foundation for next year and the year after and the year after and so on and so on. I firmly believe that growth in Region 6 will become the norm rather than the eXception.

Both districts just completed great mid-winter conferences and my thanks to all who contributed to those events. My hope for next year's mid-winter is a Region Conference and I have asked DPEs Nancy Britt and John Blake to help make this possible. With two of the strongest districts in Exchange here in Region 6 this would be an "awesome" experience.

Let me close by saying thank you for all each of you have done to help our region and Exchange this year. I am privileged and humbled to be your Region Vice President. Let's continue to *Light the Fire Within* and then celebrate like Snoopy on the piano in Portland! If you need anything at all, get in touch with me.

God bless,

Dennis





We believe in Child Abuse Prevention! We know it works!

We Believe in the Blue!

On April 21, 2007 let's spread the word across the country that positive parenting can help end the cycle of child abuse.

Join together with your fellow Exchange Clubs to distribute helpful parenting and shopping tips at a prominent location in your community. This is a great project idea with the potential of creating national publicity – Exchange Clubs all across the country – at the same time – helping to educate all caregivers on positive parenting choices.

We strongly encourage clubs to do “something extra” to make this project even more visible. *TIP: Television stations and newspaper photographers love having something to show on TV or in a picture in the paper!*

- Have a large bouquet of blue balloons to hand out to the children.
- Have all the club members wear blue shirts.
- Paint your faces blue.
- Pass out blue ribbon pins.

Be creative and find a way to generate media attention for your club and make this a great Child Abuse Prevention Project!

APRIL IS
NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE
PREVENTION MONTH

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.

Exchange History

In 1979, delegates to the 61st National Convention in St. Louis, MO, adopted Child Abuse Prevention as a national project at the suggestion of Dr. Edward R. North, National President from Jackson, MS. Subsequently, the National Exchange Club Foundation for the Prevention of Child Abuse was established.

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.

Friends are lights in winter; the older the friend, the brighter the light.

Roger Rosenblatt



AROUND OUR DISTRICT

PERRY COUNTY EXCHANGE CLUB

At the December 14th meeting of the Perry County Exchange Club, John Blake, District President-elect for the Mississippi District Exchange Clubs, presented a New Club Building Award to Scott Dearman. Scott is the Past President of the Perry County Exchange Club.

The New Club Building Award is presented to new club builders for the first club they help to charter. A plaque star will be given for each additional new club chartered. Scott helped form an Exchange Club in Poplarville, MS, this past fall. This is the second club that the Perry County Exchange Club has helped to start. They chartered an Exchange Club in Oak Grove last spring.

Locally, the Exchange Club of Perry County meets in the fellowship hall of the First Baptist Church of New Augusta on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 11:30 am. If interested in becoming a member, call 601-964-0247.

SECOND ANNUAL BLUE AND SILVER CHARITY BALL

The Exchange Club Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse of North Mississippi, Inc. is inviting you to join us in our fight against child abuse and neglect. On March 31, 2007, The Exchange Club Family Center is hosting its Second Annual Blue and Silver Charity Ball. The Ball will be held at the Oxford Conference Center. We are asking for your help to make this a memorable event, and to raise awareness in our communities. There are several ways you can help. First, you can buy a ticket. Tickets will be sold by table (\$300.00, seats 8), by couple (\$85.00), or by individual (\$50.00). Even if you cannot attend, your support will be noted at the Ball. Anyone purchasing a table for the Ball will receive a free quarter-page ad in our Ball program. Ads may also be purchased separately. The Ball will feature a silent auction, so donated auction items are needed. If you do not wish to purchase tickets, an ad, or donate an item, please consider becoming part of our Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Team, by making a donation to the Center. The address is as follows: The Exchange Club Family Center, P O Box 1841, Oxford, MS, 38655, or call Fred Johnson or Sara Gatewood at 662-234-4255.

Join us in the fight for our children's safety, and help us celebrate our tenth year of serving families in North Mississippi. All proceeds from the Blue and Silver Charity Ball will be used toward SCAN (Stop Child Abuse and Neglect), and related prevention programs.

MISSISSIPPI DISTRICT ADDS DIVISION X

We have a new Division is the Mississippi District. Due to the new clubs that have been built this year in South Mississippi, the District Board of Directors has unanimously approved the creation of a new Division X. Division X will consist of the Exchange Clubs of Oak Grove, Picayune, Poplarville, and Purvis. Sam Lee will assume the position of District Director of Division X. This reconstruction of the divisions and Lee's appointment as District Director will become effective July 1, 2007.

DISTRICT CONVENTION AGENDA

Thursday, May 31, 2007

2:30 pm District Board Meeting
3:00 pm to 7:00 pm Registration and Ticket Sales
Dinner on your own
9:00 pm to 10:00 pm Hospitality Room

Silent Auction items are due so they can be set up and ready for Friday morning.

Friday, June 1, 2007

6:30 am Registration and Ticket Sales
7:00 am Past District Presidents/Spouses Breakfast
7:00 am President-elects/Spouses Breakfast
8:30 am Opening Session of Convention
10:00 am BREAK
10:15 am Fun Time with Allison Lunsford
Let's Have a Drawing
10:15 am Nominating Committee Meeting
Jimmy Dickerson
Past District President
10:45 am Remarks by Dennis Norwood
RVP Region 6
11:00 am Round Table Discussion
Sam Lee
11:45 am BREAK
12:00 noon CLUB PRESIDENT'S LUNCHEON
2:15 pm BREAK
2:30 pm Birthday Party for all clubs 50+ years
3:00 pm Introduction of Club Presidents and
Brag Session
4:00 pm Presentation of District Awards
▪ Louis Wilcox Membership Award
▪ Homer Edgeworth Club Membership Award
▪ Royal Gober Best Club Bulletin Award
▪ Dr. Ed North Publicity Scrapbook Award
▪ Richard H. Bacon Outstanding Secretary Award
▪ Coma Lawrence Individual New Club Award
5:00 pm Registration Closes
5:30 pm to 6:30 pm NATIONAL REP'S RECEPTION
7:00 pm FAMILY NIGHT
Womanless Beauty Pageant
9:00 pm to 10:00 pm Hospitality Room

Saturday, June 2, 2007

6:30 am Registration and Ticket Sales
7:30 am ONE NATION UNDER GOD BREAKFAST
9:15 am BREAK

SILENT AUCTION CLOSSES

9:30 am Convention Session
▪ Report of Nominating Committee

- Report of 2008 District Convention Site
- Request for 2009 District Convention Site

10:15 am Let's Have a Drawing
10:30 am CAP Center Reports
Oxford
Vicksburg
Jackson
Gulfport
11:45 am Break for Lunch
12:00 noon Registration Closes
12:00 noon ANNUAL YOUTH OF THE YEAR/
A.C.E. AWARD LUNCHEON

FIRST TIMERS PACKETS DUE

2:00 pm BREAK
2:15 pm Convention Session
▪ Final Report of Credentials Committee
▪ Election of Officers
3:30 pm to 5:00 pm District Board Meeting
(For all Board Members, Incoming and Presently
Serving)
6:00 pm District President and President-elect
Reception
7:00 pm INSTALLATION BANQUET

MEAL

- First Timers Award
- Dorman B. Harvey Attendance Award
- Billy Joe Sills Spirit of Exchange Award
- David D. Patty Outstanding Club President Award
- Porter L. Fortune Exchange of the Year Award
- Meisburg Service Award
- Presentation of Brunner L. Huddleston Memorial Tray
- Presentation of Gifts to National President and First Lady
- Presentation of Gifts by District President Ruthie William
- District President's Address
- Installation of 2007-2008 District Officers and Directors
- District President-elect's Address
- Presentation of District President's Banner
- Acceptance of District President's Banner
- Announcements
- Adjournment - - -Unity for Service



87th Annual Mississippi District Convention Registration



(Must be postmarked by May 15, 2007)

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 2, 2007*

Name of Spouse _____ Mail form and remittance to: Luther Roan, District Treasurer
15384 I-55

Name of Child _____ Terry, MS 39170-8225

Name of Child _____

Adult Event Package

Event Tickets	# of Tickets		Registration	Registration	
			By May 15, 2007	After May 15, 2007	
					Advance Registration, All Events \$138.00
National Representative Reception	_____	@	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00	
Club Presidents Luncheon	_____	@	\$ 24.00	\$ 27.00	
Family Night Seafood Buffet	_____	@	\$ 35.00	\$ 38.00	
One Nation Under God Breakfast	_____	@	\$ 15.00	\$ 18.00	Late Registration, All Events \$153.00
ACE / Youth of the Year Luncheon	_____	@	\$ 24.00	\$ 27.00	
Installation Banquet	_____	@	\$ 35.00	\$ 38.00	
Event Tickets	Total # _____		\$ _____	\$ _____	= Total Included \$ _____

Hotel Registration Information

Although a limited block of rooms has been reserved for the 2007 Mississippi District Convention, individual hotel reservations should be made directly with Lake Tiak-O'Khata at 1-888-845-6151. Advise the reservation staff that you will be attending the Mississippi District Exchange Clubs Convention. Alternate hotel accommodations can be made at the Best Western Red Hill Inn in Louisville at 662-773-9090 no later than April 30, 2007. Again, advise Best Western that you are attending the Mississippi District Exchange Clubs Convention. (Be sure to bring your swimsuits and beach towels for Lake Tiak-O'Khata !!!)

"Let's Have a Drawing"

Clubs are encouraged to bring door prizes to the District Convention for the much anticipated "Let's Have a Drawing" sessions. This fun-filled event can not be a success without your participation.

Silent Auction

Mert Williams and the Exchange Club of Grenada are hosting a "Silent Auction" during the convention. Proceeds will be donated to each of the Child Abuse Prevention Centers throughout Mississippi. Each club is asked to donate at least one special gift for this worthwhile event.

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