

## **RUSS FINNEY TO HIGHLIGHT MID-WINTER CONFERENCE**

The Mississippi District is thrilled to welcome Russ Finney to our Annual Mid-Winter Conference on January 24, 2009, in Richland, Mississippi.

Russ Finney is a member of the Exchange Club of Fairfield, Ohio and was the Charter President. He joined Exchange in 1995 and has served many roles at the club level. He received the Distinguished Club President Award in 2004.

Russ also serves on the Ohio/ West Virginia District Board and was the 2001-2002 District President. He currently serves as the District Secretary. He has chaired a number of District committees and continues to be very active in all aspects of the District.

On the national level, Russ is the Chairman of the National Leadership Development Committee. He is an active Volunteer Field Representative, as well as, one of the certified Leadership Excellence Trainers. Russ received the VFR of the Year Award in 2004. He is a Club Builder and has been a National Leadership Conference Trainer.



Russ is the co-owner of Capital Advisory Services, an investment advisory and financial planning firm. He also has a great passion for flying, having been a F-16, RF-4 and T-38 pilot for the U.S. Air Force. He now volunteers as a pilot for the Civil Air Patrol. He went to college at the United States Air Force Academy and has a Masters Degree from the University of Southern California.

Russ is married to Kathie who manages a Pediatrics firm. They have two married children; Kristen, an elementary teacher and Scott, an attorney.

**MISSISSIPPI**

**EXCHANGE**

**O**

**GRAM**

**VOLUME XXVI  
JANUARY, 2009  
NUMBER 3**







**MESSAGE  
FROM  
PRESIDENT  
DENISE**



**Hello Mississippi Exchangites,**

By the time you read this, the holidays will be over. The Christmas trees will be detrimmed and the Menorahs packed away until next Hanukkah. Resolutions have been made and broken.

While most of us view January as a time to rest from the whirlwind of the holidays, I'd like to put a twist on this time and use the month to get revved up for the tasks of the next six months.

Let us use this month to review our past progress and prepare for the months ahead. Where are you both personally and in your club with your goals? Are you satisfied with the direction you are going?

January is a perfect time to take stock and adjust. It is not too late to tweak your direction or to take a new path all together. Remember if something doesn't work, try something else. There are no hard fast rules in Exchange only that you have fun and make your community a better place.

Each community has different and specific needs and you and your club are the only ones capable of meeting them. If GIVEAKIDAFLAGTOWAVE is not something your community could benefit from then try donating a large flag to the public library. Better yet call the local school and ask if a class or grade needs something particular.

The projects in Exchange are merely guidelines, tried and true projects created by clubs just like yours. Exchangites are encouraged to develop their own projects.

As an added bonus, this idea is a perfect selling point for new members. Prospective members love that their ideas are welcome in your clubs. So don't forget to ask them what they are interested in doing.

See you at Mid-Winter in Richland.

Yours in Exchange,

*Denise*

**MISSISSIPPI RIVERKINGS VS ROCKY MOUNTAIN RAGE**

**GET YOUR TICKET NOW! ONLY \$15.00**  
**YOUR TICKET WILL HELP US PREVENT CHILD ABUSE IN NORTH MISSISSIPPI**

**February 8, 2009, 5:05 p.m.**  
**DeSoto County Civic Center**

**There will be special entertainment before the game and a raffle during halftime!! Please come support the prevention of child abuse in North Mississippi!!!**

**Tickets available through the Exchange Club Family Center**  
**106 Skyline Dr. Oxford MS, 38655 (662)234-4255**

**Mail This form to:**  
**Exchange Club Family Center 106 Skyline Dr.**  
**Oxford, MS 38655. PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY**

**Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Mailing Street Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**City, State, Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**# of tickets @ \$15.00 each = \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to Exchange Club Family Center. Your tickets will be mailed to the address provided, tickets by mail deadline February 1, 2009 for February 8th game. Your Voucher Ticket will be good for any home game this season! Check out schedule at [www.RiverKings.com](http://www.RiverKings.com)

**MISSISSIPPI FACTS**

D'Lo, Mississippi was featured in Life magazine for sending proportionally more men to serve in World War II than any other town of its size; 38 percent of the men who lived in D'Lo served.

**MISSISSIPPI EXCHANGE FACTS**

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

**QUICK QUOTES**

**Integrity is telling myself the truth. And honesty is telling the truth to other people.**

*Spencer Johnson*

# ACROSS THE MS DISTRICT

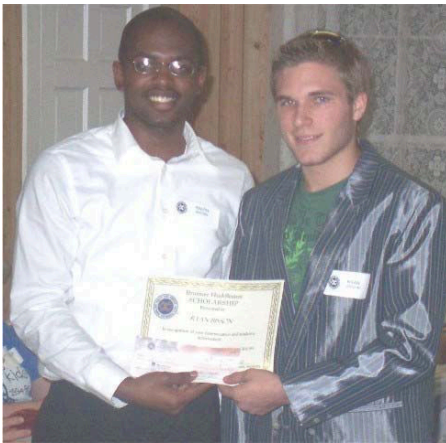


## PARTNERS FOR CHILDREN

For several years, members of The Exchange Club of Ridgeland have been calling Bingo at the Orchard Retirement Home once a month. Recently, the club joined forces with the “Hobnobbers” Ladies Circle at the Orchard to make teddy bears to be donated to the Ridgeland Fire Department and the Ridgeland Police Department. Pictured with some of the hand made teddy bears are:

Front row left to right: Margaret Fowler, Dorothy Neunlist, Dorothy Fowler, Audra Ross

Back row left to right: Alice Tabb, Ridgeland Exchange Club President Johnny Middleton, Jane Colvin



The Exchange Club of North Jackson presents scholarships to students. The scholarships were presented on Friday, August 15, 2008 and will be presented again on Tuesday, January 6, 2009. The Brunner Huddleston Scholarship recipient from French Camp, Ryan Bisson, will be a student at Belhaven College with a double major in creative writing and piano. Ralph Brown presented Ryan (pictured above left) with a check and certificate. Ryan’s mother and sisters came from Jackson, Tennessee to attend the presentation.

The Jeff Carter Scholarship recipient was then recognized—Brian Sullivan, a graduate of Ridgeland High School, who plans to attend Holmes Community College and transferring to Mississippi State University later, will be studying electrical engineering. Attending with Brian were his Mom, Pam Sullivan, Dad, step-mother and step-sister, Tim and Donna Sullivan and Azya Sullivan, and his good friend, Ricky Rushing. Ralph Brown presented Brian (pictured above right) with a check and certificate. He wished both students the best.

Ryan and Brian both spoke briefly of their school plans and thanked club members. Good luck to you both and keep up your good work!

## Halloween Haunted House Benefit

The Exchange Club of Crossgates held its annual Fund Raiser for the third year at the club's soccer fields park the last three weekends in October. The Dark Zone and the new Ghosty's Kidz Zone scared and entertained over 2,600 people this year, the largest turnout since moving from Hilltop Acres. Many volunteers of the Crossgates, Pearl, and Richland clubs transformed into the scariest creatures to make the Graveyard "come alive" with haunts of the night in the Dark Zone which was intended for anyone brave enough eight years and older. The Kidz Zone entertained children seven years and younger with activities such as Pin the Nose on the Clown, Jack-O-Lantern Beanbag Throw and the Haunted Castle space jump.

Proceeds from the event support the many community service projects of the clubs which include the prevention of child abuse and neglect by assisting The Family Support Center and other facilities in the area. Each year a scholarship is presented to a Brandon High School student for his/her outstanding work in youth programs, for academic achievement, and by completing a test on Americanism.



Members of the Richland Exchange Club work on getting 40 wreaths ready to decorate the City Park for Christmas. Each year the Exchange Club places wreaths on the light poles, garland and bows around the War Memorial, and decorates a big Christmas tree for all the residents of Richland to enjoy. Pictured above are Mary Fonville, Sharon Holmes, and Sandy Ashley.



## MID-WINTER REMINDERS

- ☺ When - Saturday, January 24, 2009
- ☺ Where - Richland Community Center, Richland, MS
- ☺ Time - Registration begins at 8:00 am. The conference will begin at 8:30 am and end at 2:30 pm (Please note the time change)
- ☺ Theme - The theme will be "MUSIC" - Come dressed as your favorite singer or get your friends together and come as your favorite singing group. There will be fun, games, and plenty of prizes AND surprises!
- ☺ Cost - The cost of the conference will be \$ 20.00 per attendee if registered via e-mail to District Treasurer Freddy Ahrend no later than Sunday, January 18, 2009. This is also the last day to cancel reservations and receive your refund. (e-mail [ahrend0028@bellsouth.net](mailto:ahrend0028@bellsouth.net)) Registration cost after January 18<sup>th</sup> will be \$ 25.00 per attendee.
- ☺ Be sure to bring door prizes for "Let's Have a Drawing" with host Troy Nickelson of the Northwoods Exchange Club.

*For clubs having difficulty with membership, a special session will be held by Mike Van Alstine from 2:30 pm until 5:30 pm. There is no fee for this session.*

Joe Bennett, a board member of Prevent Child Abuse Mississippi, and a member of the Downtown Jackson Exchange Club, will be at the Mid-Winter Conference with the Pinwheels for Prevention. Be sure to leave enough room in the trunk of your car to take home plenty of pinwheels. This is a perfect project to bring exposure to your club and the prevention of child abuse.



## FOUNDATION NEWS

As your Foundation District Representative, I wish to thank each and every one for your support past, present and future of the National Exchange Club Foundation. This organization functions in fund raising and raising the public identity of Exchange. Your efforts are deeply appreciated. As the year comes to a close, your National Exchange Club Foundation is taking steps to provide both current support for the programs of Exchange and also to secure our future:

- Our partnership with Hartsook Companies, Inc. to conduct a major fundraising campaign is moving forward positively. The test case statement, which begins to define the specifics of our campaign, has been distributed to a wide selection of individuals who will be asked for feedback in different ways. Our fundraising coordinator, Carolyn Matthews, will be in Jacksonville in January to meet with our leadership and provide a progress report.
- Our Annual Giving Campaign is underway, and donations are slightly ahead of last year. This is our annual request to individual Exchange Club members to support our on-going program expenses. Letters have been mailed to previous donors and to new members. Other requests are being circulated electronically by Trustees to their circles of friends. This campaign represents a significant portion of our program budget.
- The Campaign for Kids (formerly Quarters for Kids) will officially kick off at the mid-winter conference in January in Jacksonville. This appeal to clubs forms another critical component of our programming budget. Our goal for the 2009 Campaign for Kids is \$65,000. Clubs will be encouraged to raise funds in their communities to support this effort, and we will be generating a little healthy competition along the way. Last year's winners received convention packages, a PR package, along with patches and stars for their banners. Grand prizes also included club pictures on the cover of *Exchange Today* magazine.
- As we expand our Corporate Sponsorships program, we are asking Exchange Club members to promote their businesses by partnering with us. Such sponsorships enable us to provide more events and activities, such as youth scholarships and training for our CAP centers. Promote your business by partnering with your National Exchange

Club Foundation in the New Year. We welcome your suggestions for corporations we might contact. Please contact Development Specialist, Stacy Stamm, [sstamm@nationalexchangeclub.org](mailto:ss Stamm@nationalexchangeclub.org) or 800-924-2643 with corporate contact information or suggestions.

- Letters were recently sent to all Berkey Fellows and others in Exchange Club leadership, asking for a commitment for their 2009 Berkey Endowment contribution. A Berkey Fellowship is available to you individually, your Exchange Club, our Mississippi District Exchange Clubs and our Region Six. This \$1,000 contribution to the endowment supports our programs that strengthen families through youth scholarships and child abuse prevention activities. A payment plan can be set up to enable the commitment to be paid out over the course of a year.
- Membership in the Dr. Edward R. North Society is available to individual Exchangites and Exchange Clubs. For details check with Stacy Stamm.

**Stewardship:** In an effort to be better stewards of our resources, reduce mailing costs, as well as our impact on the environment, your National Exchange Club Foundation is exploring more efficient means of communicating with our clubs and our leaders. Watch for more electronic notices and online postings. Be sure to check out our website at [www.exchangeclubfoundation.org](http://www.exchangeclubfoundation.org)!

If any Club would like a Foundation Presentation, please have the Club President or Program Chair contact me and schedule a meeting at least two weeks in advance. I will travel as my time permits. Happy New Year!

Ken Sullivan, FDR  
The National Exchange Club Foundation



# Pinwheels for Prevention Campaign Overview

## Introduction

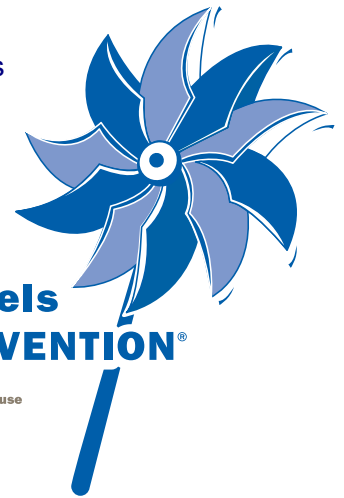
For over a decade, market research consistently has shown that the public views child abuse and neglect as a national priority. As a national organization whose mission is “to prevent the abuse and neglect of our nation’s children,” we must apply that research to *engage all people in our society to act* to prevent abuse and neglect from ever happening in the first place. Therefore, Prevent Child Abuse America is proud to unveil its new campaign, **Pinwheels for Prevention™**, introducing the pinwheel as a symbol for child abuse and neglect prevention nationwide.

Through this campaign, we will create a national effort to effect measurable change in the public’s beliefs and behaviors regarding the prevention of child abuse and neglect. This goes beyond making Americans aware of our issue to actually motivating them to act. The pinwheel represents our efforts to ensure the healthy development of children, while recognizing that our continued position of leadership as a nation depends on how we raise our youth today.

The campaign is taking root in communities across the nation. In April 2008, in observance of Child Abuse Prevention Month, more than 400,000 blue and silver pinwheels were displayed by Prevent Child Abuse America state chapters. Shining in the sun, reflective of the bright futures all children deserve, this campaign will provide individuals and corporations alike with the opportunity to make commitments big and small to preventing abuse and ensuring the healthy development of our nation’s children.

## About Prevent Child Abuse America

Founded in Chicago in 1972, Prevent Child Abuse America is the nation’s leading organization working solely to prevent the abuse and neglect of our nation’s children. Through its chapters in 47 states and its voluntary home visitation services provided by Healthy Families America® in more than 400 communities nationwide, Prevent Child Abuse America helps provide healthy, stable and nurturing experiences for more than 100,000 families every year. For more information, please visit [www.preventchildabuse.org](http://www.preventchildabuse.org) and [www.healthyfamiliesamerica.org](http://www.healthyfamiliesamerica.org).





# EXCHANGE

THE NATIONAL EXCHANGE CLUB

## *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 Comradship in my social and business relationships;

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

## *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.**



**EDITOR**  
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