

# BECON

*October 9, 2020*

It was a beautiful fall morning on the west concourse of the Metra.

The only guest today was our speaker, Jaidyn Simmons, Yellowstone District President and member of the Laurel Club.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Dina announced that Lyon Davis, who worked in the Yellowstone Room at the Metra, passed away on Monday while at work. No date has been set for services yet. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

There will be an Exchange blood drive Nov. 5-20 - mark your calendars.

Next week is a business meeting, so no guests please.

## **SPEAKER**

Jaidyn spoke about the District level of Exchange and gave a nice presentation on the history of Exchange. She also applauded BEC in its recent beef raffle fundraiser.

For those not in the know:

The first local Exchange Club was founded in 1911 by Charles A. Berkey and was formed in Detroit, MI. The group consisted of business people who wanted to exchange ideas and information with like-minded individuals about how to better serve their communities.

In 1965, three areas of service were adopted by Exchange: American Citizenship, Community Service, and Service to Youth. In 1979, Child Abuse Prevention was adopted as the National Project.

The Vision of Exchange is “A strong America, safe communities, and unified people.” Its mission is “Exchange, inspiring communities to become better places to live.” The core values of Exchange are “Family, Community, Country” and its motto is “Unity for Service.”

There are 12 Districts/Regions of Exchange in the U.S. Montana and Idaho are a part of the Yellowstone District, which consists of 15 clubs. Kalispell and the Rocky collegiate club are the newest clubs in our District. Jaidyn reported that only 4 or 5 of those 15 clubs are currently meeting (so, props to BEC!).

The National level of Exchange offers valuable members services. Check out their website if you haven't already: <https://www.nationalexchangeclub.org>

A member asked how District dues are allocated. Each member pays \$6 per quarter for District dues. The majority of District dues are used to fund scholarships (Youth of the Year and ACE at \$1500 each). They are also used for club growth and associated expenses. Check out the District website: <http://www.exchangeclubs.org/YellowstoneDistrict/> There is also a Yellowstone District Exchange Facebook page administered by our own Tony Parish.

It was asked whether National has considered extending dues relief to help local clubs prosper - the short answer is “No.”

Lastly, it was asked whether there is a way to connect with other Exchange members around the country when traveling. The National website has links to each District where you can find contact information for local leadership.

HAVE A GREAT WEEKEND AND ENJOY THE SUNSHINE! 🍂☀️🌻

## **Upcoming Club Events**

Oct 13 - Board Meeting

Nov 5-20 - Blood Drive



**#ExchangeStrong**  
**#GrowExchange**