

2017

Exchangite of the Year

LEIF WELHAVEN

Leif Welhaven joined the Breakfast Exchange Club of Billings, MT, in August 1999. He is also a charter member of the Exchange Club of Laurel, MT, which he helped build just this year. For the Breakfast Exchange Club of Billings, Leif has twice served as club president. His latest term as president saw great growth for his club, with many of the members joining because of Leif's interaction with them as a community leader and friend. As Yellowstone District President-Elect, Leif has spent the past year helping to form two new clubs and sponsoring eight new members into his home club. Additionally, upon recognizing the need for other Billings-area Exchange Clubs to grow, Leif sponsored six new members into those clubs.



Leif has been instrumental in securing the future successes Breakfast Exchange Club of Billings' largest fundraising effort, working quickly and deliberately with the club's board to purchase a liquor license when the club failed to secure the special use permit needed to allow adult beverage sales at the local sports/events venue. That action, taken in 2002-2003, has allowed the club to give back hundreds of thousands of dollars to charities in the area over the years, including The Family Tree Center, the local child abuse prevention center.

At the club level, Leif also serves as the chair of the Youth of the Year and A.C.E. awards. He is a member of the membership committee and co-chairs the club's annual Dress a Child project.

Leif is a board member and fundraising chairman for The Family Tree Center, an Exchange Club Child Abuse Prevention Center, located in Billings, MT. He also serves as board chair for the Montana Chapter for the American Diabetes Association, and he is a Chamber Ambassador for the Billings Chamber of Commerce.

Leif is a devoted family man. He and his wife, Annette, have two children; one child attends Carroll College in Helena, MT, and the other recently graduated from the same college.

Leif stays equally involved in the local community. He has been recognized for excellence several times in the past year. The Billings Area Chamber of Commerce awarded Leif with its Business Excellence Award for Customer Service. The Billings Home Builders Association awarded Leif as its Rookie of the Year. Both awards were for his exceptional achievements in working with customers and other members within his profession.

Leif's can-do-attitude has been an invaluable asset to the Billings community, the Breakfast Exchange Club of Billings, the Yellowstone District, and The National Exchange Club.

2017 Exchangite of the Year Award Nominees

Name	Sponsor Club	District
Chris Tiemann	South Orange County, CA	California/Nevada
Joleen Buchholz	Mitchell, SD	Dakota Territory
Howard "Buzz" Wachsteter	Rome, GA	Georgia
Randy Sobrack	Steele County, MN	Lakes and Prairies
Ann Chelette	Beardstown, IL	Linconland
Ronald Sciandra	Sunrise, Erie-Niagara, NY	Mid-Atlantic
John Michaels	Mooresville-Lake Norman, NC	North Carolina
Charma Pickett	Evening Charleston, SC	South Carolina
Michael Whitaker	Chandler, AZ	Southwest
Scott Beard	Jackson, TN	Tennessee
Jarrold Young	Killeen, TX	Texas
Marjorie Evans	Hobby Airport Bay Area, Houston, TX	Texas/Louisiana Gulf Coast
Leif Welhaven	Breakfast, Billings, MT	Yellowstone

Exchangite of the Year Winners*

2015-2016	Cotton Ketchie, Mooresville/lake Norman, NC
2014-2015	Paul Summerville, Mooresville-Lake Norman, NC
2013-2014	Elizabeth Grantham, Cane Bay and Isle of Palms, SC
2012-2013	Joe Nickels, Chico, CA
2011-2012	Bruce Baril, Lawrence, MA
2010-2011	Kathy Mize, NE St. Petersburg, FL
2009-2010	Linda Carlson, Santa Rosa and Wine Country, CA
2008-2009	Jim Powell, Bozeman, MT
2007-2008	Sandra "Rosie" Neely, Noon Garland, and Murphy, TX
2006-2007	Augustus M. Parker, Macon, GA
2005-2006	Rollin P. Middlebrooks Jr., Macon, GA
2004-2005	Doris Ash, Woodruff Road, Greenville, SC
2003-2004	Duane Wade, Speedway, IN
2002-2003	Kathleen "Katie" Smith, Owatonna, MN
2001-2002	Paul Zollner, Belleville, IL
2000-2001	Bettye H. Galloway, Oxford, MS

*Individuals are noted as members of the clubs to which they belonged at the time.