



**SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES**



# **THE ROTARY CLUB OF MACON THROBS**

*Published Weekly Since 1914*

**August 9, 2021**

**Ocmulgee National Park & Preserve  
Seth Clark**

**FUTURE MONDAY PROGRAMS approved by the Board of Directors**

**August**

16	Macon Mayhem Hockey	Charles Olson
23	Birds of Prey & Raptor Preservation	Pete Griffin
30	Georgia Historic Preservation Updates	Mark McDonald

**September**

6	No Meeting Labor Day Holiday	
13	Mrs. Griffin's BBQ Sauce	Roland Neel
20	TBD	
27	TBD	

**October**

4	District Governor 6920	Ed Presnell
11	No Meeting Columbus Day Holiday	
18	TBD	
25	Delvecchio Finley	CEO Atrium Health Navicent

## MONDAY MEETING TIME CHANGE SEPTEMBER 13<sup>th</sup>

Lunch at noon – Bell Rings at 12:30pm – Meeting ends 1:30pm  
Mark your calendar for September 13th

### MEETING August 2, 2021

Attendance: 61 In Person and 24 Zoom 68.5%  
CART Collection \$14  
Club Membership 148



#### Link for Makeup

Please click this link to view the Zoom recording of this meeting. <https://tinyurl.com/yh9qvuzv>  
If you need a makeup for a missed meeting 2 weeks prior or after this meeting viewing the recording will qualify. Once you view, please email Club Administrator, Cecil Coke, <mailto:cecilcoke210@gmail.com> to report your makeup.



President Elbert ran the bell to open our meeting. He called on Past President Jonathan Alderman to lead members in singing followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Ellen Johnson came forward to offer the Prayer.

President Elbert reminded members

- We meet each Monday in August.
- Put our September 13 meeting time change on your calendar.
- If you have not paid your dues you got a statement by email this morning.



President Elbert reviewed members birthdays and called for CART Brags.



President Elbert called on Alex Morrison to introduce the panel on blight and begin the questions.

Alex began with a brief introduction. Blight conversations have been “gathering steam”. Care of the community matters to all citizens and it takes good people to do difficult jobs to see results in blight. The new team for blight is making good progress by changing some of the strategies from the past.

Alex introduced: JT Ricketson, Wade McCord, and Everett Verner



J.T Ricketson, leads the code enforcement department for Macon-Bibb. He works in the background and on the street.

Wade McCord, Macon Bibb Tax Commissioner. Wade started at the Tax Commissioner's office in 1995 as Deputy Tax Commissioner, moving up to Chief Deputy Tax Commissioner and recently being elected Tax Commissioner.

Everett Verner, Executive Director of the Land Bank Authority since 2019 was previously Property Acquisition Coordinator from 2007 to 2019.

**Alex: What is your role on the committee?**

**Everett:** Work to clear the title to blighted property for tearing down building and sale.

**Wade:** Property tax payment research, sale of property once title clear. In 2017 sold 210 properties raising 1 million dollars which collected taxes to total 3 million dollars.

**J.T:** Starting in January to search city-county for blighted property, send letters to owners to fix property or it will be cleared from lot. They hope to do 100 this year.

**Everett:** Clear titles because they are not legal ownership due to inheritance or other owner issues. Judicial In Rem Tax Foreclosure speeds up process for new owner to acquire property within 60 days of sale.

**Wade:** Tax Commissioner also counts Solid Waste collection fee as unpaid tax. 12,000 parcels are tax delinquent each year and 9,000 (could be part of 12,000) are delinquent on Solid Waste tax. Each year they issue 16,000 liens to property owners. Most are not owner occupied. A Sheriffs sale takes 16 to 24 months, a Judicial sale 60 days.

**J.T:** 400 properties have received citations this year. Building must be a danger before it is scheduled for knockdown. Citizens can report using See, Click, Fix website. They receive 250 to 300 per month for inspectors to check out.

**Alex: Whose fault is it?**

**J.T:** Usually heirs are arguing over ownership, and no one has clear title or owner falls on hard times.

**Wade:** Blight attracts crime. Aging neighborhood population and heirs never get deeds.

**Everett:** Out of town investors own property and has gotten all profit out of property.

**Alex: How do you turn blighted property into something?**

**Everett:** Must maintain resources and offices to address problems as they arise.

**Wade:** Focus on Blight and collect taxes to provide revenue to purchase resources to work on blight.

**J.T:** Tear down building and clear lot to make it desirable for development.

President Elbert closed the meeting with members reciting the 4 Way Test.

## Donations to Rotary Foundation and CART

Club members can make donations to The Rotary Foundation or the CART Fund online line using credit cards or EFT. These can be made in memory of, honor of, or personal donations. They can be setup as recurring or one time. Follow these easy steps:

**The Rotary Foundation:** Go to <http://rotary.org/> If you have never signed in you will need to register so it credits your Paul Harris Fellow account and our Club. You may need our District number 6920 and club number 4202. Once registered you can SIGN IN to MY ROTARY then click DONATE button in upper right. Check the area ANNUAL FUND or POLIO PLUS to donate, then just follow easy steps to make payment.

**CART FUND:** <https://mycartfund.org/Login.cfm> follow the online instructions. You will need our **Club number 4202** and **District number 6920**.

## Vocational Spotlight

See <http://maconrotary.com/vocational-spotlight.php> to read more information on Rotarians featured monthly on our website <http://maconrotary.com> If you would like to be included in a Vocational Spotlight, please contact Danny Gibson.

## Dates to Remember

August 17

Board of Directors Meeting 6pm Idle Hour Club

## Approved Makeups-Family of Rotary Events

### Reminder - Makeups can only be used 2 weeks before or after a missed meeting

When requested	Viewing of Monday meeting recorded on Zoom	See current Throbs link
Anytime	Rotary Project or Rotary Committee Meeting	
Anytime	Volunteer at Volunteer Clinic	
	Warming Center	
	Backpack Buddies	

## Club Membership Applications

Our club is using a new online (no paper) membership application. Contact Membership Chair Kris Vaughn <mailto:krisvaughn@gmail.com> or any board member or officer or the Club Administrator. All we need is the potential members name and email address to send an application to them for the potential member to complete and submit online.

All members of our club need to think about who would make good Rotarians. There are many classifications that could be filled. If you know of someone, check with Kathryn Dennis, Classification Chair first to make sure there are no conflicts with other members. The process is easy and rewarding to bring in new members.

[www.maconrotary.com](http://www.maconrotary.com)

## Excused Absence

Members have the opportunity to receive a board approved Excused Absence during a long-term family, health, or business crisis. When a member realizes they have a situation that will keep them from attending Monday meetings for an extended period they can contact the Club Administrator or President with the reason. This contact needs to be immediate and not after the crisis. The board can approve a beginning and ending date and attendance is excused on club and district level. Short term absences are best made up online as indicated below.

## HOW TO MAKE UP MISSED MEETINGS

Please make up missed meetings to help our club's attendance percentage rank with District 6920 and Rotary International. Our attendance is reported each month to the district and is required to be reported before the 15<sup>th</sup> of the following month. **Members are required to maintain an attendance average of 60%.**

Missed meetings must be made up **14 days before or after the meeting you miss**, it is in our club's Constitution!

You can make up from the comfort of your home or office online at [http://rotaryclubone.org/](http://rotaryclubone.org) They will email a notice of the makeup to the Club Administrator and you will be credited.

When you make up using the **Zoom link** of our meetings listed in meeting summary above or makeup in person at another club please send an email immediately afterwards to the Club Administrator, [cecilcoke210@gmail.com](mailto:cecilcoke210@gmail.com) so your makeup can be recorded. Do not expect the club where you make up to report to our club.