



Rotary Opens Opportunities



THE ROTARY CLUB OF MACON THROBS

Published Weekly Since 1914

February 1, 2021

Georgia Statewide Business Court
Judge Walt Davis

FUTURE MONDAY PROGRAMS approved by the Board of Directors

February

8	European Politics	Barbara Donovan
15	No Meeting	President Day Holiday
22	Greater Macon Works	Lynn Farmer

March

1	Ballard Designs	Ryan McKelvey
8	TBD	
15	Macon's New Ball Field	Jeff Battcher
22	Macon Volunteer Clinic	Nancy White
29	Georgia Ports Authority	Lee Beckmann

April

5	TBD	
12	TBD	
19	Update from NewTown Macon	Josh Rogers
26	Blue Bird	Felix Lin

May

3	TBD	
10	US Energy Policy and National Security	David Gattie
17	GA Tech Smart Cities	Debra Lam

24 TBD
31 No Meeting Memorial Day Holiday

MEETING January 25, 2021

Attendance Live and Zoom 68.4%
CART Collection \$78.75

President Jim rang to bell to open the meeting. Bowen Shoemaker joined with Zoom and led members in Pledge and offered the Prayer.



President Jim shared a screen of our club's attendance. He told members we are surpassing all expectations for attendance using live and Zoom meeting combinations during the pandemic. We are in the top 25% of the district and #1 among the large clubs. President Jim thanked all members for their dedication but asked that members reach out to those members that have attended neither meeting option.



Attendance Trends & Insights

- Pre-pandemic Club average 2017 – 2019 around 75%.
- Post-pandemic Club average:
 - 8/20 – 55%
 - 9/20 – 62%
 - 10/20 – 61%
 - 11/20 – 61%
 - January 2021 – 69%
- Post-pandemic results are consistently in top 25% in the district and #1 among larger Clubs (75+).
- Post-pandemic we've lost about 10 – 15% or 15 to 20 members each week.
- Health concerns & technological access are major contributing factors.

President Jim gave a brief introduction to CART Brags telling members the purpose of our members contributing to CART is to further Alzheimer research. Our club has a challenge; if we raise \$5000 before June 30th we will receive a \$5000 match from a local fund. Currently we are at \$1672.25.



President Jim called on Bill Epps to introduce today's speaker. Bill Causey is a long time friend of Bill Epps and a fellow runner. Bill Causey is retired from the Macon Bibb Engineering Department after serving 37 years. He has supervised many large engineering projects during his career and currently does consulting with NewTown Macon as well as working on some Macon streetscape projects. Bill completed several times in the iron man triathlon in Hawaii.



Bill Causey shared some pictures of the Macon-Bibb storm water and creek drainage system located under Macon streets and buildings. He is one of the few that have the knowledge of what is under the city. For many years no repairs were made to these ancient waterways but in 2009 the SPLOST dedicated funds to do big, needed repairs. The Macon Water Authority is doing a study of the drains and will be in charge of repairs.



In 1840 the old maps show open creeks running thru downtown, 1872 the creeks remain open, and in 1901 the creeks are shown on the maps as piped with buildings and street going over the ditches. The ditches were piped by leaving the creek bottom, laying some stone, then building brick arches to cover the creeks that flow to the river. These archways carry the creek water and all the storm water from the streets to the river. One creek still has a cypress wood bottom in several places. The arches are in need of repair to keep streets from collapsing. Big enemies of these are trash washing off the streets and plugging the path of the water and utility companies doing bores thru the walls. In the 1970's gunite was used to line them, now a heated resin is used to seal the arches. Some are very close to collapse

which will allow streets and cars to fall into the large cavities.

Once the Macon Water Authority completes the mapping, they will begin repairs on the ones that have urgent need of repair. Bill estimated at one time repairs could be \$50+million dollars.

President Jim closed the meeting by all 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: First you will need your club member database sign in for <http://dacdb.com/>, if you do not have this Cecil Coke can send to you. Your username and password are the same for DACdb or CART. Go to <https://mycartfund.org/Login.cfm> use your DACdb log in as a CURRENT USER. Menu on left MAKE CONTRIBUTION and follow steps.

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 Mike Austin.

Dates to Remember

February

16

Board 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

Anytime	Rotary Project or Rotary Committee Meeting
Anytime	Volunteer at Volunteer Clinic

Club Membership Applications

Our club is using a new online (no paper) membership application. Contact Membership Chair Lynn Murphey <mailto:murphey@kf.org> 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

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 15th 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/> They will email a notice of the makeup to the Club Administrator and you will be credited.

When you make up at another club please send an email immediately afterwards to the Club Administrator, cecilcoke210@gmail.com so your makeup can be recorded. Do not expect the club where you make up to report to our club.