



Rotary Opens Opportunities



THE ROTARY CLUB OF MACON THROBS

Published Weekly Since 1914

February 15, 2021

No Meeting
Presidents Day Holiday

FUTURE MONDAY PROGRAMS approved by the Board of Directors

February

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 February 8, 2021

Attendance Live and Zoom 70.6%
CART Collection \$18.00

President Jim rang to bell to open the meeting. Vivia Fowler led members in the Pledge and offered the Prayer. Club anniversaries and birthdays were reviewed, and President Jim called for CART Brags.



Cater Thompson introduced new member Matt Shoemaker. Matt is a UGA and Mercer Law School graduate. He is with the Jones Cork Law firm and will hold the classification Corporate Law Additional under Cater who holds the Corporate Law classification. Matt is the husband of our member Bowen Shoemaker. Please introduce yourself to Matt and give him a Macon Rotary welcome.

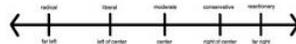


President Jim called on Vivia Fowler to introduce today's speaker, Dr. Barbara Donovan. Dr Donovan is an internationally known scholar, professor of Political Science and the Wesleyan College Dupont Guerry Chair of History and Economics. She teaches courses in comparative and international politics at Wesleyan College.



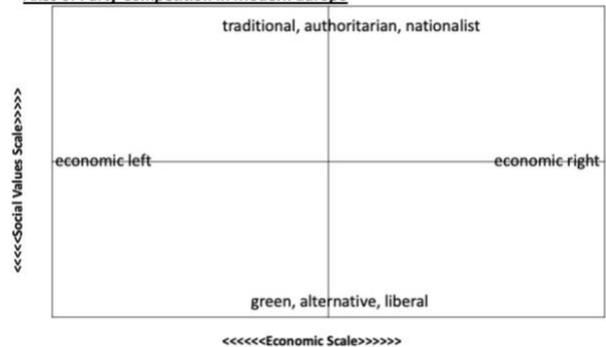
Dr. Donovan opened her presentation with comparing the similarities and differences in the politics and relationships of the United States and Europe. She compared Boris Johnson and Donald Trump showing they were very different in their political ideas.

Political Party Cleavages

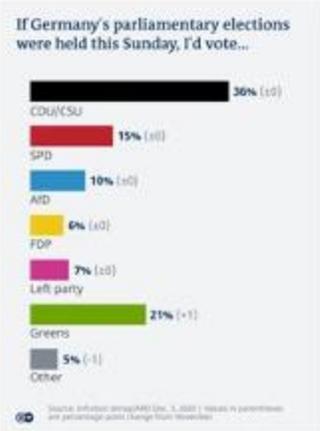
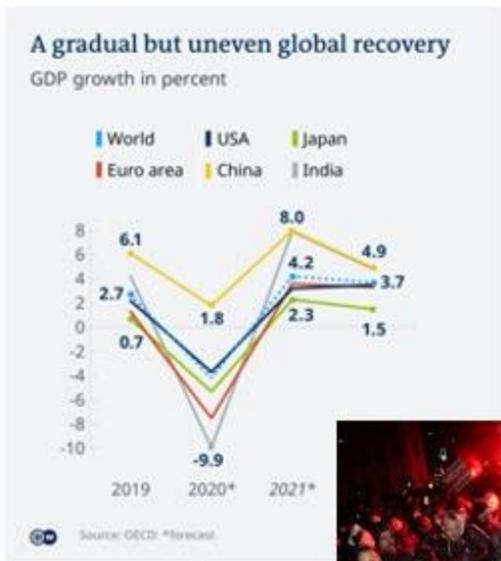
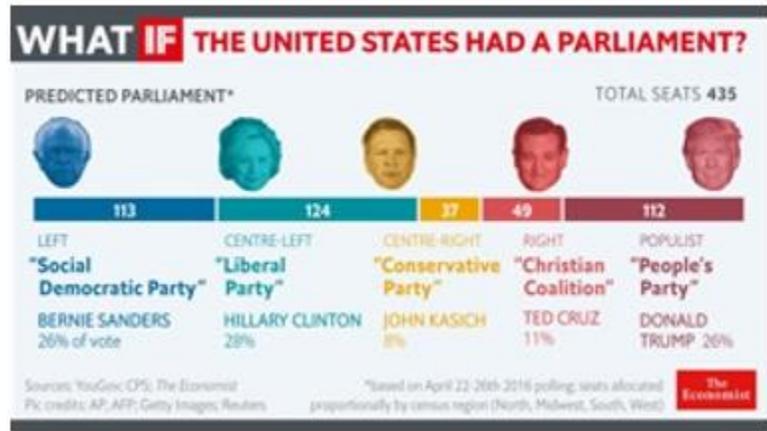


- Cleavages are social divisions within society; political groups mobilize around these cleavages
- Voter alignment historically based on class/social status (more so in E than in US)
- Second half of 20th c. brought about new cleavages (new political fault lines)
- 1960s/70 -- *Postmaterialism* characterized by a set of values that center on 'quality of life' considerations (social justice, social values, social norms) and give less attention to material (economic) well-being and gain
- By 21st c. additional new cleavages evident (also centering on culture and values)
 - diversity v. homogeneity
 - integration v. autonomy (claims of sovereignty)
 - globalist v. nationalist (anti-EU)
- *Populism* gains salience; a 'thin' ideology; characterized by belief the 'people' should push back against designs of the corrupt political elite; more rhetorical device/electoral strategy; performative

Axes of Party Competition in Modern Europe



Dr. Donovan discussed the political cleavage at the end of the 20th century and how it's emerging diversity and multi-cultural systems began to shape the party politics with the ordinary people. Left and Right, Traditional and Green politics were compared in her presentation using charts and graphs. The changes in politics due to COVID were compared. Differences between the US and Europe's handling of the COVID vaccines were discussed.



"Polarization and extremism in the U.S.—along with precipitous increases in institutional dysfunction, the public's distrust of government, and racial and ethnic violence—pose systemic risks to society, the economy, and political processes." Brookings Institution



"The economic blow of the pandemic, waning patience with lockdowns, vaccine nationalism, and a search for scapegoats ... may equate to an enduring disruptiveness in Europe." Michael Burleigh



"...stewarding stability." Ross Douthat



"His presidency may be the establishment's last best chance to demonstrate that liberal internationalism is a superior strategy to populist nationalism." Thomas Wright

"On all fronts the EU faces emotive debates about the future of the union" Michael Burleigh



In the meantime ...



- How important is Europe to US?
- Key differences in approach
 - China
 - Russia
 - Iran



Dr. Donovan discussed the Biden administration's policies and how they might influence the relationship of Europe and the United States giving some details on comparisons to the previous administrations foreign policies. She told members the future Russia, China, Iran, and Europe relations will be different under the Biden administration.

This was a very timely presentation and showed the deep interest our members have in the political connections of our country with Europe and the world. This is one of the programs that you did not want to miss.

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.