



The Rotary Club of Macon

♥ THROBS

Published Weekly Since 1914

January 29, 2024
MGSU Aviation and Other Programs

Our area is fortunate to have a first-class School of Aviation at Middle Georgia State University. Students can train to become pilots, air traffic managers, aircraft mechanics, and more. Learn the full story Monday when our own Dr. Christopher Blake will be the speaker.



Middle Georgia
State University

Link for Zoom Recording

Click here to view the recording of our January 22 meeting: <http://tinyurl.com/yot3d4go>

FUTURE MONDAY PROGRAMS AND CLUB EVENTS:

January, 2024

29	MGSU Aviation and Other Programs	Christopher Blake
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February, 2024

5	Journalism: Past, Present and Future	Charles Richardson and Sherrie Marshall
12	Loy's Farmers Market	Loy Young
19	No meeting	
20	Board meeting at Fountain of Juice	

New Member Approvals

At their last meeting, your Board approved the following three(!) membership applications:

- ✓ Jessica Walden, who would hold the classification of Chamber CEO
- ✓ Richard Frazier-Sostillo, with the classification of Theatre Production
- ✓ Chris Turner, retired journalist with the classification of Senior Active

Members have 10 days to make comments in writing to President Stephanie Folsom

MEETING January 22, 2024

Attendance: 56.3% - 55 in person, 17 Zoom, plus 8 guests

CART \$25, Raffle \$81

Club Membership: 142 including today's induction

Past President Susan Welsh rang the bell to start the meeting, filling for a vacationing Stephanie Folsom. After thanking Jackie, Susan announced that our speaker today is Tracie Revis, Director of Advocacy for the Ocmulgee National Park and Preserve Initiative. She was the first woman to serve as Chief of Staff to the Principal Chief of the Muscogee Nation. Tracie is joined by our own Seth Clark, who is Executive Director of that organization.

Katy Carr led us in singing *America the Beautiful* and reciting the Pledge. Robbo Hatcher offered the prayer.

Susan then welcomed our many guests, who included several members of the news media who were documenting Tracie's visit.

Mary Pinson and Carey Pickard celebrated birthdays yesterday, and today is Lima McGuire's! Upcoming birthdays this week are Ember Bentley, George Jackson, Henry Oliner, John Page and Cater Thompson. In club anniversaries, Jeff Dudley celebrates 14 years, Katherine Walden 15, and President-Elect Danny Gibson 23 years.

It was then time for CART brags, Susan began by announcing that the Macon Civic Club opens its annual show January 31st. This is Susan's second year to be involved, but Jim Crisp has been show director for many years. A few more brags followed:



RYLA Youth Leadership Conference: For those Rotarians with rising junior and senior high school students, The RYLA conference this year runs from Wednesday, June 12 through Saturday, June 15 and it offers an amazing and memorable time for the students who go. It consists of leadership seminars and programs offered by a wide spectrum of professionals. The cost is \$350 per student but our club will pay for up to four students. We have already put out the word to local schools, so if you know of a worthy student reach out to Matt Shoemaker (matt.shoemaker@jonescork.com) as soon as possible. The deadline is February 15.

Also, our tri-club Rotary Speech Contest is coming up. It's open to all high school students in Bibb County and members are encouraged to support it by contributing to and/or attending the event to cheer on the students. Thanks to Jim Crisp for organizing this. Stay tuned for more details.

Finally, January is Vocational Service Month and in the coming weeks Gary Wheat will highlight at least two Rotarians, so please reach out to him if interested (gwheat@visitmacon.org)

It was then time to induct our newest member, Austin Sturdivant. George Lee introduced Austin, who is the Corps Administrator for the Salvation Army in Macon, which serves five Middle Georgia counties. The Salvation Army does a lot to help relieve hunger, serving over 100,000 meals annually. They offer services to families and vets and provide emergency shelter to many in need.

Austin and family recently moved here from Texas. He went to 11 different schools while growing up, and studied at Appalachian State University. In addition to graduating from the Salvation Army's seminary and business training school, he attended Le Cordon Bleu Culinary Institute of Atlanta. His wife, Sarah is also a Sergeant in the Salvation Army and was in attendance. Welcome, Austin!



It was then time for our program. Tracie Revis is Director of Advocacy for the Ocmulgee National Park and Preserve Initiative (ONPPI). She was introduced by our member Seth Clark, who is the Executive Director of that organization. Seth said she is one of the fiercest advocates for a cause that he has ever worked with, and that cause is not only the National Park initiative but the Muscogee Creek nation and other native American tribes. As mentioned before, Tracie was the first woman to serve as Chief of Staff to the Principal Chief of the Muscogee Nation. She graduated from the University of Kansas School of Law.

Tracie has been part of the Macon community for two years, but her relationship to the community goes back further. While serving with the Principal Chief in Oklahoma, she said many delegations from various cities had come to make presentations about doing business and establishing relationships with the tribe. She said that Seth Clark's visit stood out for Chief Hill, Second Chief Beaver and her because he brought a gift of local honey as something from their historic homeland.

Tracie says her entire family is full-blooded Muscogee and she is the first generation to be of mixed blood. She grew up hearing of how her grandmother lost her native tongue after being sent to a tribal school. Her father was taken to a school at age six and did not come out until he was 18. Her tribe has struggled, but with just over 100,000 citizens is the fourth largest tribe.

Chief Hill sent her to Macon with her blessings to show the heart of what their people are.

What is the project and collaboration?

To expand the NPS boundary and create the first National Park and Preserve in Georgia in order to:

- ▶ Protect cultural resources known and unknown
- ▶ Preserve the land to allow for adequate usage of the natural habitat
- ▶ Conserve the natural resources within the Ocmulgee corridor
- ▶ To tell the stories of all of the footprints who have walked the land...then and now.

So, while the purpose of the initiative is to create a national park, “we’re also stepping into a role to use our voices again, voices that have been silenced for so long.”

As a cultural ambassador, Tracie shares her culture wherever possible. She once asked a group of school children if they could name the tribes that came from here. They only knew “the Indians” and that they “don’t exist anymore.”

Her presentation was wide-ranging and didn’t leave time for questions during the meeting, but many members stayed to find out more. If you missed her talk, or just want to go back and hear it again, the transcript is at <http://tinyurl.com/yot3d4gq>.



Photo courtesy of Grant Blankenship

After the presentation, it was time for the raffle, and the pot was up to \$611. It was a great day because Past President Charlie Jay drew the winning ticket, but it would have been even better if he had drawn the Queen of Clubs. The pot will roll over and be bigger next week!

As always, the meeting concluded with recitation of the Four Way Test.



The graphic features the Rotary International logo on the left, which is a yellow gear with a blue center and the words "ROTARY INTERNATIONAL" around it. To the right of the logo, the text "The 4-Way Test" is written in a large, bold, blue font. Below this, the phrase "of the things we think, say or do:" is written in a smaller, italicized blue font. At the bottom, there is a numbered list of four items:

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?



Construction Notice

First Presbyterian Church, where we hold our regular meetings, is undergoing some renovations. As a result, the Mulberry Street courtyard entrance will be blocked off for a while. During that time, members need to enter the building from First Street.



Rotary District 6920's District Conference will be held at the Jekyll Island Convention Center April 26-28. Early registration and hotel discount deadline is March 22, 2024. Complete information can be found at <https://www.rotarydistrict6920.org/dc-2024/>



Do you have a recent accomplishment? Have you or your organization won an award or otherwise been recognized? We want to know, and to recognize your achievement at a meeting. Please email Gary Wheat, our Vocational Service Chair, at qwheat@visitmacon.org

Donate 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 <https://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, DISASTER RELIEF 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 Gary Wheat, qwheat@visitmacon.org

Approved Makeups-Family of Rotary Events:

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

Anytime Rotary Project or Rotary Committee meeting
Anytime Volunteer at Macon Volunteer Clinic
Viewing of Monday meeting recorded on Zoom - See current or past *Throbs* link

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 encouraged to maintain an attendance average of 60%.**

Missed meetings must be made up **14 days before or after the meeting you miss.**

See list above of approved makeups. 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. Also, attendance at another Rotary Club is a great option when you are traveling!

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, steve@eggmedia.com so your makeup can be recorded. Do not expect the club you visit to report to our club.

Excused Absences

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.

Club Membership Applications

We are purpose-driven leaders of influence and action. To sponsor a prospective candidate to join our membership, contact Membership Chair Charles Olson EOlson200@msn.com or any member of the Board of Directors to ensure a vocational classification is available for your candidate.

*Once the Classification Committee approves the classification, invite your new member candidate to a weekly meeting. If the candidate expresses interest in joining our club, then ask Membership Chair Charles to send the candidate an invitation to apply online. Once the new member candidate completes the application, Board members review the application. Then, new member candidates are presented for formal approval at the monthly Board meeting. Once approved by the Board, new member candidates are announced in *Throbs*. Unless there is objection by any existing member, the new member is scheduled for orientation and formal induction. All members of our club need to think about who would make good Rotarians!*

Rotary Club of Macon
Steve Allen, Club Administrator
steve@maconrotary.com
PO Box 4521
Macon, GA 31208
maconrotary.com