



The Rotary Club of Macon

 **THROBS**

Published Weekly Since 1914

February 12, 2024
Loy's Farmers Market

Lewis "Loy" Young is a multigenerational farmer and founder of Loy's Farmer's Market. He's received funding from Macon-Bibb for the alleviation of food deserts and is expanding his business with those funds. He has a passion for improving lives through healthy foods and hard work.

Learn more at the February 12 meeting!



Link for Zoom Recording

Click here to view the recording of our February 5 meeting: <http://tinyurl.com/2avls3f4>

FUTURE MONDAY PROGRAMS AND CLUB EVENTS:

February, 2024

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

March, 2024

4	No meeting
11	Pending

MEETING February 5, 2024

Attendance: 61.7% - 64 in person, 19 Zoom, plus 6 guests

CART \$11.64, Raffle \$36

Club Membership: 143 including today's induction

President Stephanie rang the bell to start the meeting and called on Jeffrey Hagy to lead the singing and pledge. Jeffrey led us in *America the Beautiful*, and Ivey Hall followed with the prayer.

She then welcomed our six guests, who included speaker Weston Stroud, Rene Turner (wife of today's inductee Chris Turner), and Michael Scott, Principal of Howard High School who brought his STAR student Mitchell Zhang.

Stephanie remarked that we didn't have any birthdays February 1-5 but that tomorrow, the sixth, is John Patterson's. Five members celebrate club anniversaries, including Carey Pickard with 28 years, Jonathan Alderman with 32, and Bill Epps with 37. Cecil Coke is no longer technically a member but serves as our Assistant Treasurer and has been with the club 33 years.

It was then time for CART brags, and we had some good ones. President Stephanie gave a shout out to Josh Rogers and NewTown Macon, which was named a 2024 Great American Main Street finalist, one of just eight across the nation. Jim Crisp thanked all those who supported the Civic Club show, which this year raised over a half million dollars for local charities. This year marked the 35th and last year for him to serve as producer and director. And that is just a sampling of the good news shared by our members.



Stephanie then called on Matt Shoemaker, who said today kicks off our STAR student attendance and presentations. Each week we will have a student and administrator from a local school. Today we had Michael Scott, Principal of Howard High School, who was introduced by our own Superintendent Dan Sims. Principal Scott brought his student Mitchell Zhang. Mitchell is the school valedictorian this year, is President of his school's Future Business Leaders of America, and also Corps Commander of the Air Force JROTC. He has been accepted to Georgia Tech and plans to pursue a career in engineering and mathematics.



Matt Shoemaker said it was mentioned at last week's meeting that the RYLA conference will be held from Wednesday, June 12 through Saturday, June 15. 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 rising junior or senior high school student reach out to Matt Shoemaker (matt.shoemaker@jonescork.com) as soon as possible. The deadline is February 15.

Matt continued by saying details of the Rotary Speech Contest have now been worked out. This will take place March 2 from 10:00am at the Museum of Arts and Sciences. The theme this year is Create Hope in the World, which considering our political climate is a great theme to have. The students can also choose to present on the 4 Way Test, Matt has given that information to the schools as well, but if you know of a any high school student grades 9 through 12 who would like to participate, you can email Matt. The winner will be awarded scholarship money, and will also advance to the zone competition, where they can earn additional scholarship money.

Finally, our GRSP Student, Vendela Danfors, and the student that the Warner Robins Club is sponsoring this year, Clara, are going to a leadership weekend in Atlanta this weekend. It will be from the ninth through eleventh. They have a ride up there but need a ride back on Sunday. Once again, contact Matt if you can help.



It was then time for a Paul Harris presentation. The Paul Harris recognition was established in 1957 to show appreciation for substantial contribution to the Rotary Foundation. Paul Harris Fellows are recognized by the foundation for contributing a thousand dollars or more, and additional levels are reached with each additional thousand. The Foundation raises over \$70 million annually, and 80% of those funds come from the Paul Harris contributions.

President Elect Danny Gibson has now achieved Paul Harris Fellow +7.

Next, we welcomed out newest member, Christopher Turner. Danny Gibson stayed on stage to introduce Chris, who impressed Danny on their first meeting by saying he had been a war correspondent. Chris' relationship to Rotary goes back to age 12, when his grandfather, a 60-year Rotarian, took him to his first meeting in Texas.

Born in Oklahoma, he was the fourth generation in his family to attend the University of Oklahoma. He began his career in cable television in 1980 with the fledgling CNN. He went on to become Assistant Bureau Chief for both Atlanta and Rome, Italy. He was a producer for the US House and Senate in Washington, Senior Producer during the Gulf War, and Senior Editor of the CNN International desk. He covered five wars and was awarded one National Emmy and two Peabody Awards. He was also News Director at WJTV and WHLT in Jackson and Hattiesburg, Mississippi.



Chris retired in 2001 to begin the second phase of his life in ranching and marriage. His wife, Rene was in attendance. They moved to central Georgia to be close to their three grandsons. Welcome to the club, Chris!

Our speaker, Weston Stroud, was introduced by President Nominee Rebecca Grist. Weston is Macon-Bibb's first Traffic Safety Manager, just starting the job this year. Prior to that he was a Project Engineer with Piedmont Construction and also served on the Macon-Bibb Transit Authority as a transit planner. He graduated from the State University of New York in their College of Environmental Science and Forestry. Originally from Macon, he graduated from Mount de Sales Academy. In 2021 he was named one of Macon Magazine's 5 Under 40 leaders, and he served on Mayor Lester Miller's transition team. He serves on the boards of Bike Walk Macon and Friends of the Douglass Theatre. He has written grants to obtain nearly \$100,000 towards local projects through collaborative partnerships with various nonprofits and government agencies.

Chris began by pulling up a presentation on Vision Zero, a plan with the aim of eliminating fatal crashes by 2040. First implemented in Sweden in the 1990s, Vision Zero has proved successful across Europe — and now it's gaining momentum in major American cities, supported by the Federal Highway Administration. Vision Zero starts with the ethical belief that everyone has the right to move safely in their communities, and that system designers and policy makers share the responsibility to ensure safe systems for travel.

Chris began with an overview of statistics gathered in a study of 2019-2022.



- Crash 360 Pedestrian Study
- 2019-2022
 - 37,385 crashes
 - 8601 injuries
 - 156 fatalities
 - 301 pedestrians

He then guided the members through a series of slides showing the hot spots in Macon for pedestrian accidents. To implement a plan of action, 80% of the funding comes from the Federal government, with 10% from the state, leaving just 10% coming from local funds.

The U.S. Department of Transportation has come up with a 5-point plan that strives for safer people, safer vehicles, safer speeds, safer roads, and post-crash care. This has been a guide for projects Macon-Bibb is working on now.

Objectives Of Safe System Approach



Several projects are already in the works and are at various stages of implementation. Planned for October of 2025 is a roundabout and added median for the intersection of Anthony Road, Mercer University Boulevard and Burton Avenue. Other planned roundabout/median improvements include Columbus Road at Mercer University, Anthony Road at Pio Nono, and later Eisenhower Parkway.

Weston presented a lot of details, illustrated with pictures and charts. If you missed it, or would like to view it again, see <http://tinyurl.com/2avls3f4>.





The 4-Way Test

of the things we think, say or do:

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?

After the presentation, the members had a lot of questions for the speaker. As always, the meeting concluded with recitation of the Four Way Test.



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 your 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 gwheat@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, gwheat@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!*

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