



Rotary



The Rotary Club of Macon

 **THROBS**

Published Weekly Since 1914

February 20, 2023
No Meeting – Presidents’ Day

There will be no meeting February 20 due to the Presidents’ Day holiday. Enjoy the break, and please join us February 27 for a special program on the Macon Volunteer Clinic from our own Nancy White.

FUTURE MONDAY PROGRAMS approved by the Board of Directors:

February, 2023

27 20th Anniversary of Macon Volunteer Clinic Nancy White

March, 2023

6 NIL/Classic City Collective Steven Farmer
13 Fraud Prevention and Risk Dr. Herbert Snyder
20 TKE Elevator Derry Brandon
27 Life of an NCAA Official Charles Olson

April, 2023

3 Georgia Housing Study (Georgia Public Policy Foundation) Chris Denson
10 Piedmont CEO (Piedmont Health Update) Steve Daugherty
17 GRSP Student Pasindu Mahagamage
24 Future of Macon Chamber of Commerce Jessica Walden

Link for Makeup

Please click this link to view the Zoom recording of the February 13 meeting: <https://tinyurl.com/2njv54b5>

MEETING February 13, 2023

Attendance: 58.8% - 54 in person, 23 Zoom, plus 10 guests

CART \$41.00

Club Membership 148

Past President Jim Manley filled in for an absent Susan Welsh. After ringing the bell to start the meeting, he said today's program will have a lot of special moments. Jim remarked that Campus Clubs, the subject of today's program was started here at First Presbyterian Church. The singing and pledge was a special event since it was provided by three students from the Academy for the Blind. The three girls sang *My Country 'Tis of Thee* in beautiful harmony. Bowen Shoemaker then gave the prayer, which she admitted came from the Vineville Methodist church bulletin courtesy of Jimmy Asbell.

Jim then welcomed the ten guests, including Will Pounds, a recent Mercer MBA graduate who has been doing an internship with Synovus and will be employed there. Will was later put to work passing around the microphone for CART brags. Student Kevin Jackson of Southwest High School was present with his Principal Bernard Young.



We had two birthdays this week, and four club anniversaries, including Rusty Bradford's 28th year with the club. Jim then gave the microphone to Will to pass around for CART brags, which raise money for Alzheimer's research. Jim Crisp led off with a report on the Rotary Speech Contest. He said it was an exciting, breakthrough year. It was held at the Museum of Arts & Sciences and there were nine student participants, which is more than usual. Dell Bunker was a great help in putting it together. The three winners will give their speeches at a future club meeting. Many good brags followed, and images are at the end of today's newsletter.



Asha Ellen then came up and said she's excited to announce the spring community service project. Our club is assisting in the county-wide cleanup of March 4. This takes place at various places but our club and the Downtown club are helping at Carolyn Crayton Park. We'll be cleaning up the entrances and will be there for three hours, from 9:00am until noon. More information on this is available at the end of this newsletter. A sign-up sheet was available at the meeting and will also be at the meeting of February 27 but members can also sign up online.

The club then inducted its two newest members, Cameron Bishop and Andrew Eck. Amy Rauls introduced Cameron, who is CEO of Wesley Glen Ministries and holds the classification of Adult Care. He was previously Director of Training at the Methodist Children's Home and owned a private therapy practice serving people recovering from trauma. Jim Crisp gave an effusive introduction of Andrew Eck, whom he described as a serial entrepreneur who founded three companies before graduating from Mercer and three since. He is founder and President of Georgia Artisan and will hold the classification of Custom Wood Furniture.



New members Andrew Eck (far left) and Cameron Bishop (far right)

Nancy White then came to the podium to introduce our speaker, Steven DeGeorge. When the program on Campus Clubs was first announced, Executive Director Robin Crosby was going to be the speaker and Nancy asked to introduce her since they are first cousins. Robin was unable to make it, but Nancy said she has an even more unique connection to Steven. His aunt was Nancy's house mother at boarding school in Pakistan.

Steven is the Program Director for Campus Clubs and has lived and worked in our community for 12 years. He earned his Master's Degree in social work from the University of Louisville, where he played soccer, but married a girl from Macon and brought his loves of soccer and community centers to our city. Campus Clubs hosts a bike shop, a robotics team, visual arts classes, an aviation program, and sports leagues of all kinds, all driven by a Christian philosophy.

Steven began by showing a video that he said would supply a great overview of Campus Clubs. A similar video can be viewed at <https://youtu.be/DDA2jyMcxto>

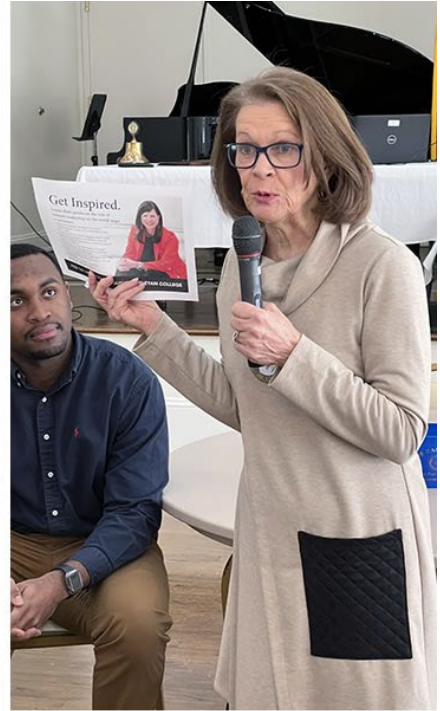
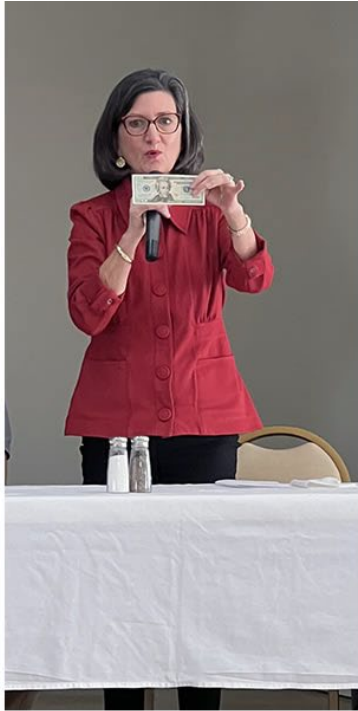
Steven said the video was produced about three years ago, before the COVID epidemic and Campus Clubs has had a slow recovery from that. They recently had a record 106 students in the building and there are between 160 and 170 students on the roster, mostly from the Pleasant Hill community. The staff is very small but they have established great connections including a Delta pilot who teaches the high school students the mechanics of flying using Ground School training manuals and flight simulators. At the end of the nine-month training, students take a field trip to Middle Georgia Regional Airport to ride on a real Cessna 172, the same plane they use in their virtual training. Mercer University pays their students to do work study at the center, and many other institutions and individuals have partnered to provide support to children who often come from very difficult home situations.



Steven added that, in spite of these accomplishments, the last three years have been the most heartbreaking time of his 15-year career in community service. He counted at least 16 children who have attended Campus Clubs but have fallen victim to gun violence. One mother who has sent all of her children to the center just lost her third son in three years, all shot and killed in the streets of the neighborhood. These tragic events serve to underscore the need to keep their hands to the plow and keep working, and Steven said he's thankful for so many friends in the community who have been such an important piece of this work.

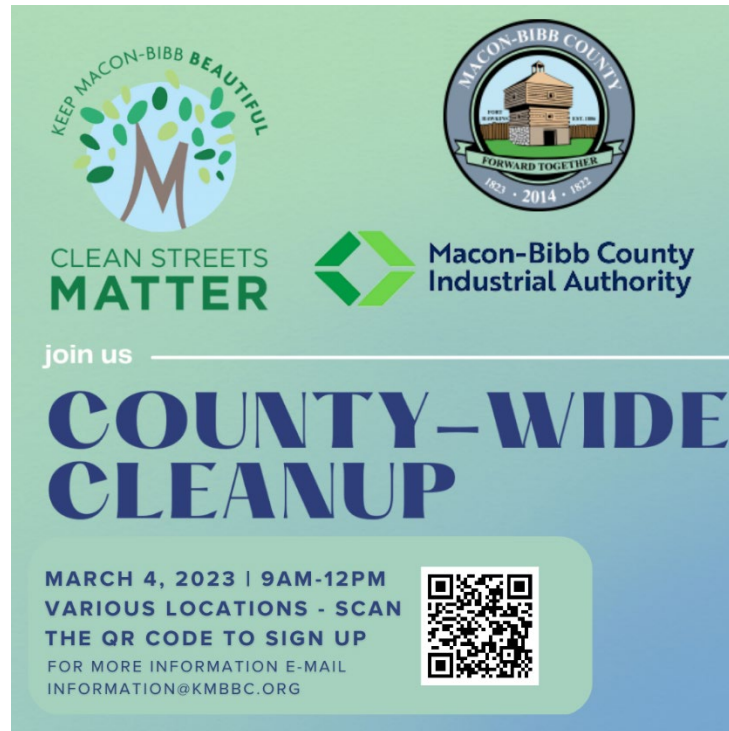
The club had many questions, and Steven went on to explain that, while students are encouraged to pursue college, they are also made aware of the various career paths that can better their lives.

As always, the program ended with recitation of the Four Way Test.



Spring Service Project

Our club is assisting in the county-wide cleanup of March 4. This takes place at various places but our club and the Downtown club are helping at Carolyn Crayton Park. Sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/2o2a5wm3> and choose the first option, "Carolyn Crayton Park."



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 Cater Thompson cater.thompson@jonescork.com.

Approved Makeups-Family of Rotary Events

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

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

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.**

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 good 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 Ethiel Garlington egarlington@historicmacon.org 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 Ethiel 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!

www.maconrotary.com
