



The Rotary Club of Macon



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April 1, 2024

No Meeting – No Fooling!

In keeping with our policy of three meetings per month, there is no meeting Monday, April 1. If anyone tells you to come, they are fooling you!

While its exact origin is unknown, there are many theories surrounding the designation of April 1 as Fools' Day. It was first mentioned in 1508 in France, and was later practiced in the Netherlands. In 1686 John Aubrey referred to the celebration as "Fool's holy day", the first British reference. On 1 April 1698, several people were tricked into going to the Tower of London to "see the Lions washed." So, enjoy your off-meeting day, and if you want to see lions washed I understand they do this only on April 1 at Hudspeth Animal Hospital.



Link for Zoom Recording

Click here to view the recording of our March 25 meeting: <https://tinyurl.com/27obday6>

FUTURE MONDAY PROGRAMS AND CLUB EVENTS:

April, 2024

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| 1 | No Meeting |
| 6 | Pleasant Hill Clean-up service project |
| 8 | Bibb County CTAE Dr. Cassandra Washington
(Career, Technical & Agricultural Education) |
| 15 | Macon Black Culture Marshall Talley et. al. |
| 16 | Board Meeting at Fountain of Juice |
| 22 | No Meeting |
| 27 | Rebuilding Macon service project |
| 29 | Maerz Music Scholars |

New Member Approval

At their meeting of March 19, the Board approved the membership application of Emily T. Brown, who would hold the classification of Private School/Religious, Additional.

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

MEETING March 25, 2024

Attendance: 54.2% - 56 in person, 15 Zoom, plus 7 guests

CART \$46.41, Raffle \$38

Club Membership: 145 (including today's induction)

President Stephanie Folsom rang the bell to start the meeting and welcomed members and guests. She said The Macon Rotary Club charter date was March 1, 1914, making us one of the first 100 Rotary clubs in the WORLD. After thanking pianist Jackie Riley, she asked Katy Carr to lead the singing and pledge. Katy led us in the old familiar *God Bless America*. Cameron Bishop followed with a wonderful prayer, thanking God for the many gifts we have here in Macon.

Stephanie then welcomed our guests which included Alex Morrison's wife Julia and very young son Jonah.

Four members celebrated birthdays last week: Malcolm Burgess, Karla Redding, Chris Edwards and Susannah Maddox. Since we don't meet next week Stephanie offered early birthday wishes to Ivey Hall and Karen Lambert.

Six members have club anniversaries, including Past President Susan Welsh with 12 years and Lynn Murphey with 27.

It was then time for CART brags, which benefit Alzheimer's research. Austin Sturdivant started by showing off his NC State socks. NC State is in the Sweet 16 of basketball and beat UNC to win the ACC tournament for the first time in 37 years. Rebecca Grist's daughter has accepted a job in Baltimore with the



Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Several members congratulated the Cherry Blossom team for another successful festival, and Jessica Walden particularly appreciated the opening of the new amphitheater where Lynyrd Skynyrd led off with their song *Working for MCA*. Almost 50 years ago, Jessica's father Alan signed the group to their first record contract, with MCA.

That was just a sampling of the good news our members proclaimed today!

It was then time to introduce our STAR student, and this week we welcomed Ciara Bond of Northeast High School. Ciara's Principal, Donna Walker-Thompson, introduced her. Ciara is a senior and Salutatorian of this year's class. She plans to attend Kennesaw State University and major in Biology before going to med school to become an oncologist.



President Stephanie once again reminded the members we have two Service Projects coming up on the first and last Saturdays in April. The first, on April 6 from 9:30am to noon, is a Pleasant Hill Neighborhood Cleanup in conjunction with Keep Macon-Bibb Beautiful and Community Schools United. This takes place at the L.H. Williams Recreation Center, [325 Pursley Street](#), and lunch is offered to participants. You can [sign up online](#) or on the sign-up sheets available at this and subsequent meetings.

The second is our own club's workday with Rebuilding Macon. This year, we will be working Saturday, April 27. Two shifts are available – 8:00am to 11:30am and 11:30am-3:00pm. End times are approximate, and you can sign up to work either or both shifts. You are also welcome to drop by the job site any time, since even 30 minutes can make a difference. The location is still pending but will be announced in April. To sign up, click [this link](#) or use the sign-up sheet in person.

There are two meeting makeup opportunities in April. The first is the Gen. Robert L. Scott Memorial Golf Tournament April 8 at River North and will honor Carolyn Crayton. The second opportunity is the Malcolm Burgess Golf classic benefiting the Beverly Knight Olsen Children's Hospital on April 27, at the Brickyard.

It was then time to introduce our newest member, Richard Frazier, who is Artistic Director of Theatre Macon. Jim Crisp gave him an enthusiastic introduction, recounting how he first met Richard almost 17 years ago and within the first five minutes felt compelled to bring him to Theater Macon. Richard served for a while as the lead choreographer while also teaching theater and dance at Northside High School in Warner Robins. When Jim decided to retire, he felt Richard was the best person to replace him as only the second Artistic Director in Theatre Macon's history.

Richard was recently elected as the Vice President of the Educational Theatre Association and will become the Association's first black president in its nearly 100-year history when he takes



office in 2025. Richard also works as a contract Educator, Director, and Choreographer for iTheatrics in New York City, which specializes in adapting Broadway musicals for youth and providing education opportunities for youth worldwide.

We welcome Richard to the club!

It was then time for our program, and Susannah Maddux introduced photographer DSTO Moore. Susannah said he is a champion of Pleasant Hill and all of Macon. He is a self-taught photographer, but she said some things can't be taught, and DSTO's humanity connects him to his subjects. She encouraged the members to look at the prints displayed around the stage. When Susannah took over Macon Magazine over five years ago, DSTO was recommended by trusted and beloved photographer Matt Odom. DSTO has worked on several major projects, including the Macon Music project.

DSTO began by saying that isn't the name he was born with, but stands for Don't Stop Trying, Overcome. He is a third-generation resident of Pleasant Hill and when growing up he never thought being an independent artist was an option. In 2018 he took a leap of faith by quitting his job at Coca-Cola and becoming a freelance photographer. He learned a lot from Matt Odom, a very established photographer in Macon, and worked with him in 13 states over the last six years. DSTO said he graduated from MOU, or Matt Odom University.

He calls himself a documentary photographer. He organized his work into several series for gallery exhibition and editorial publication. These projects are each units of storytelling with a specific message behind them. One of his favorite projects was Macon Music, and in most of his photos he presents a person surrounded by things that mean something to them.



DSTO presented a slideshow with many of his favorites. He has enjoyed getting to know many people by photographing them and especially likes to welcome people to Macon through his work.

While working on a series about Pleasant Hill, he found many people had stories about their family members who had passed on, but in many cases there were no pictures. DSTO wants to make sure that doesn't happen again.



Shown above are just a few of DSTO's works. To see more, including several pictures of our club members, go to <https://www.dstomooore.com/work>

It was time for our raffle. The first two tickets were apparently held by someone who had left, so Stephanie decided to draw just one more. That one had a winner, but he failed to draw the Queen of Clubs so the \$245 pot rolls over to the next meeting.

As always, we concluded with the Four Way Test.



Ride Needed

Our GRSP student, Vendela Danfors, is in need of a ride to Athens going up on Friday, March 29 and returning Sunday, March 31. If you can help, please contact Matt Shoemaker at matt.shoemaker@jonescork.com or 478-745-2821 (office).

Rotary Friendship Exchange

Rotary District 6920 is part of a Rotary Friendship Exchange with District 4895 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The exchange for our district members took place last fall when five Rotarians spent two weeks in a cultural immersion in Buenos Aires. Rotarians accepted District 6920 members into their homes and clubs, and lifelong friendships were made.

In exchange, District 6920 is accepting six Rotarians from District 4895 April 19-28. Rotarian Dana Park from the Wednesday Club is looking for Rotarians to house and transport our guests from Buenos Aires.

If you are interested, President Stephanie Folsom asks you to either reach out to her or contact Dana Park. Dana's email is dana@theparkgroup.net.



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 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**.

Approved Makeups-Family of Rotary Events:

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

April 8 Gen. Robert L. Scott Memorial Golf Tournament at River North
April 27 Malcolm Burgess Golf classic benefiting the Beverly Knight Olsen Children's Hospital, Brickyard
Anytime Rotary Project (such the two April events mentioned above) 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!*