



The Rotary Club of Macon

 **THROBS**

Published Weekly Since 1914

April 22, 2024
No Meeting

There is no regular club meeting April 22 but if you miss seeing Rotarian friends be sure to join us Saturday, April 27 for our Rebuilding Macon service project. Details are in the article below.



Link for Zoom Recording

Click here to view the recording of our April 15 meeting:
<https://tinyurl.com/24dqk9dj>

FUTURE MONDAY PROGRAMS AND CLUB EVENTS:

April, 2024

- 22 No Meeting
- 27 Rebuilding Macon service project
- 29 Maerz Music Scholars and Vendela Danfors, GRSP student

May, 2024

- 6 No Meeting – Spring Picnic at the Macon Amphitheater from 6:00pm
- 13 Rhythm & Rally/Sports Tourism John Roberts and Ann Starley
- 20 TBA
- 21 Board Meeting, Fountain of Juice

MEETING April 15, 2024

Attendance: 56.5% - 61 in person, 18 Zoom, plus 6 guests

CART \$48, Raffle \$52

Club Membership: 145

President Stephanie rang the bell to start the meeting. As always, she welcomed everyone in attendance, offered thanks to Jackie Riley and reminded the members of our club's great history of service.

Ivey Hall came up to lead the singing and pledge, and chose the perennial favorite *God Bless America*. Jean Bragg followed with a wonderful prayer that reminded the members of the Rotary spirit of love and service to others.

Stephanie then welcomed our guests, which included Macon Mayor Lester Miller and Zoe Talley, guest of the speaker. Sam Hollis and Chris Turner recently celebrated birthdays, and Steve Allen's is the 17th (I didn't want to have one, but the only alternative was much worse). Two members have club anniversaries, and Albert Reichert's 58 years of service drew a standing ovation.

It was then time for CART brags, which raise money to support Alzheimer's research. Here are some of them:



Chip Horton, Principal of Westside High School, then introduced his STAR student. Chip said he has done this at several past Rotary meetings but this time is special since the student is his son, Michael Horton III. Michael is a senior at Westside who will attend Mercer this fall in the School of Business. Michael thanked the club for inviting him and then sat down, but was prodded by Dan Sims to tell more about himself and his school activities. He has maintained a 4.0 GPA since the 9th grade, plays football and basketball and has participated in track and field and wrestling. He's also active in several student organizations including FBLA and the student lighthouse team, which prepares snacks for the Backpack Buddies program.



President Stephanie then reminded the club that our next Community Service Project will be Saturday, April 27th with Rebuilding Macon. The location will be at 525 Crisp Street. See the article below for more information and the link to sign up.

Another tri-club social event with the Wednesday and Thursday clubs is scheduled for Thursday, April 25. This will be from 5:30 at the Taco Mac, [5433 Bowman Road](#).

Our Spring Picnic is Monday, May 6 from 6:00-8:00pm at the Macon Amphitheater. There will be no regular meeting that day. This will be a great chance to see Macon's newest facility without a huge crowd and we will be entertained by Jackson Griffith, a singer-songwriter from Warner Robins. We'll also unveil our Peace Pole, which was described in last week's *Throbs*. Donations from members are very appreciated, and you can [click here to donate](#).

It was then time for a Vocational Spotlight, which we haven't done in a while. As a reminder, members are encouraged to say a few words about their vocation and work. Many of us know Jeff Wilhelm as a financial advisor with Northwestern Mutual but Stephanie asked Jeff to share at least two things we didn't know about him.

Jeff said his classification with the club is Financial Advisor but he actually wears two hats. He's a registered representative of the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company and also a financial advisor with Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company. This allows him to really interact with the business community in Macon, and he was drawn into this work by a desire to serve others. In addition to his job, Jeff has been an Ambassador with the Chamber of Commerce and is currently in the Leadership Macon 2024 class. As a relatively new Rotary Club member, it's been a pleasure to get more involved in the community.



It was then time for our program, and Bowen Shoemaker introduced our two speakers, Marshall Talley and Amber Jones-King. Bowen said she's known Amber since elementary school, where her mother was Bowen's second grade teacher. Amber went on to graduate from Savannah State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communications with a minor in Business Management. She also earned her MBA from Wesleyan College and is a 2019 graduate of Mercer Law School. Many may recognize her as a former anchor person and news personality. She's been a contract negotiator for Lockheed Martin and has been involved in business development and legal operations for Google Play and Meta. She's done so much incredible work in so many different areas. She's also a 2013 graduate of Leadership Macon and a 2022 graduate of Leadership Georgia. She's here today to talk about her work with Macon Black Culture.

Bowen met Marshall Talley when they were chosen for Macon Magazine's 5 Under 40, when they were both 39. He's the General Manager of Vibes and is co-founder of Macon Black Culture, a graduate of Northeast High School, and has been involved in our community in many impactful ways. He worked with Project ID to help over 750 members of our community obtain government ID's that are necessary to get access to housing, healthcare and employment. He is Vice President of the I Am King Foundation, which enlightens students with an emphasis on reading, math, and career training. Right now, he's most excited about the organization Macon Black Culture. Their first accomplishment was organizing the Inaugural Juneteenth Parade, with Bud Dupree as grand marshal.

Amber Jones-King led off by saying that Bowen was her mother's all-time favorite student, and was often pointed out to her as an example of how to behave and work in school. She's known Marshall since middle school and they share a love of growing up in Macon. Whenever they speak to school students they tell them to be proud of being from Macon because we are doing amazing things here.

Marshall said he and a couple of friends got together to start Macon Black Culture to be an organization that would empower the black community. They work with other organizations and community leaders to create partnerships. One of their key events is the Juneteenth Parade and the theme this year is Black Girl Magic.

Last year was the inaugural parade that drew over 1,000 people in spite of rain. This year there will be a weeklong celebration with other events as well. One is a gala and junior debutant presentation for sixth, seventh and eighth graders that will display their poise and elegance. There will also be a business crawl to promote black-owned businesses.

The parade will be Sunday, June 16 at 3:00. Part of it will deviate from the usual parade routes to include the part of Poplar Street that was home to many black businesses in the 1960's and '70's.

They then opened the floor for questions, and the members responded. You can view the full presentation at <https://tinyurl.com/24dqk9dj>



President Stephanie concluded by saying there is no meeting next Monday and we will resume April 29 with a special music program by the Maerz Music Scholars.

The lottery pot was up to \$304 but the winning card is still in hiding, so it rolls over to the next meeting on April 29. The meeting concluded with recitation of the Four Way Test.



For several years, one of our club’s service projects has been a workday with Rebuilding Macon. Rebuilding Macon, in partnership with the community, repairs the homes of low-income homeowners, particularly the elderly and disabled, so that they may continue to live in warmth, safety, and independence. This is a perfect example of the Rotary motto “Service Above Self.”

This year, we will be working Saturday, April 27 on a home at [525 Crisp Street](#). 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. Josh Rogers said:

“While the majority of the work will be scraping and painting, we always need help on the ground. We're always short on help to monitor safety, keep everyone hydrated, make runs to the hardware store, and generally encourage everyone. The bottom line is we could use help from every skill level and physical ability!”

To sign up, click [this link](#). You will need to log in to DACdb to complete your registration. (You do know how to log in to DACdb, right? If not, contact Steve Allen at steve@maconrotary.com) Thanks to Kathy McCollum, our Service Chair, for organizing the event. For questions, contact her at kmccollum@mgcfb.org.



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. We also need members to share a short vocational talk 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 27 Rebuilding Macon service project (see article above)
- April 27 Malcolm Burgess Golf classic benefiting the Beverly Knight Olsen Children's Hospital, Brickyard
- 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!