



The Rotary Club of Macon

♥ **THROBS**

Published Weekly Since 1914

July 31, 2023

No Meeting



There is no club meeting July 31, but join us August 7 when speaker Lauren Mauldin will let us know about NewTown Macon loans, which have helped transform and revitalize downtown Macon.

Link for Zoom Recording

Click here to view the recording of our July 24 meeting: <https://tinyurl.com/275tdsm2> Please note that we continue to have technical difficulties with AV equipment at the church and this affects the quality of recordings

FUTURE MONDAY PROGRAMS approved by the Board of Directors:

August, 2023

- | | | |
|----|--|--|
| 7 | NewTown Loans | Lauren Mauldin |
| 14 | History and Impact of Macon Pride | Scott Mitchell |
| | <i>(Note: Aug. 14 meeting will be at Fall Line Brewing Co., 567 Plum Street)</i> | |
| 21 | No meeting | |
| 28 | Affordable Housing Panel | Mike Austin, Wanzina Jackson, and Everett Verner |

September, 2023

- | | |
|---|------------|
| 4 | No Meeting |
|---|------------|

MEETING July 24, 2023

Attendance: 54.49% -56 in person, 12 Zoom, plus 3 guests

CART \$22.00

Club Membership: 142

President Stephanie Folsom rang the bell to start the meeting, and thanked Jackie for the wonderful music played as we were gathering. Jackie's playlist was classics made famous by Tony Bennett, who passed away July 21. Stephanie then called on George Lee to lead the singing and pledge. George said his son had once asked one of his college professors, "I have two questions. Which one do you want first?" George then asked which song we wanted before leading us in the usual *God Bless America*. Dan Sims then came up to offer the prayer, but began by reciting an inspiring teacher's poem.

Stephanie then welcomed our speaker, Jeremy Grissom, and two guests. Robbo Hatcher and Sam Robinson celebrate birthdays this week, and there are no club anniversaries.

It was then time for CART brags, and only two were offered. We have two weeks until our next meeting, so there is time to come up with many brags for August 7! Remember that all money put into the blue CART buckets goes directly to Alzheimer's research.



President Stephanie then reminded the club that the GRSP Conclave is August 18-20, and we still need host families for that weekend. We need your help placing 12 GRSP students. Stephanie said she is hosting students and offered a big thank you to Amy Rauls and Elbert McQueen who have also graciously agreed to be host families. Here are the details:

When? The nights of August 18 and August 19th and the morning of August 20th.

What is required? Room to host no fewer than two GRSP Students. If you have room for more, that is even better.

Host families will be responsible for picking up their students at First Presbyterian Church on Friday afternoon at 4:30. Transport the students to Fall Line Station for the Dinner and Program at 6:30. Pick them up at 9:30.

Saturday Morning, have the students at First Presbyterian at 8:30 for the first session. Please provide them breakfast.

4:00 – Pick students up at First Presbyterian Church

6:00- have students back at FPC for the Dinner and Show. At 9:00, all of the students will move to the coffee shop at Hotel 45 for social time. Rotarians are invited to have social time in Hightales Bar and Hospitality Suites

11:00 Host families Pick up the students at the coffee shop.

Sunday Morning at 9:00 Host Families deliver students for pickup at Hart's Mortuary Parking Lot (765 Cherry Street)

Please email Rebecca Grist at rgrist@gmail.com as soon as possible to let me know your availability.

If you would like to attend any of the dinners or events with your students, please use this link to register.

Here is the event link: <https://www.dacdb.com/index.html?EventID=77666486>

You may also view the event directly from the [GRSP website calendar](#).



Stephanie said our GRSP student this year is Vendela Elsa Sofia Danfors, from Sweden. She then invited Matt Shoemaker to come up and give us her bio.

Matt said she will be arriving August 6 and attending Wesleyan. Vendela was born in Stockholm, is an outstanding student, and is interested in art, music, theater and dance. She cycles 12.5 miles to school during the “reasonable months of the year” in Sweden. She has an interest in Rotary because her father was a Rotary exchange student in Canada at the age of 15 and it “affected his life in a very positive way”. She has spent time in Italy and speaks some Italian as well as English and Swedish. We encourage all members to get to know her during her stay in Macon.

Stephanie then announced that the raffle will be coming back in August. Past President Jonathan Alderman will be in charge this year, and he came up to give us the details. Jonathan was wearing some sort of badge from the FBI that he thought would give him more credibility. He then enthusiastically went over the rules:



- Those individuals eligible to purchase and win the raffle are:
 - Rotary Club Members in good standing
 - GRSP Students
 - The Receptionist
 - The Pianist
 - The Spouse, son or daughter of a member in good standing
- Ticket Cost is:
 - Pots up to \$1999 = Ticket Cost \$1
 - Pots between \$2,000 and \$2,999 = Ticket Cost \$2
 - Pots between \$3,000 and \$3,999 = Ticket Cost \$3 each or two for \$5
 - Posts between \$4,000 and \$4,999 = Ticket cost \$4 each or three for \$10
 - Pot over \$5,000 and above = Ticket Cost \$5 each
 - No change will be given for tickets purchased
- Queen of Hearts wins
- Must Be present to win
- You may gift your ticket to another qualified participant if you leave the meeting early
- Zoom Participants will not be able to participate
- Half the money goes to the winning card holder and half of the money goes to the CART Foundation

- At the discretion of the President and Board Chair, the winning ticket may be auctioned to those eligible if accepted by the winning ticket holder. The Macon Rotary Club will be paid 15% of any auction winnings by the Seller.

Good luck! The odds of winning this are many times better than the state lottery, and it goes to a good cause.

Past President Kathryn Dennis then came up to introduce our speaker, Jeremy Grissom. Jeremy is Macon-Bibb's first Macon Violence Prevention (MVP) Coordinator. Jeremy holds a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Savannah State University and a master's Degree in Forensic Psychology from Argosy University Atlanta. He comes to the MVP program with years of public safety experience, working with people who had already become part of the judicial system. He's worked in corrections in Chatham County helping people be ready to be good citizens when released, with probations and parole, and even as a criminal investigator for the state. It's those experiences, working with people who already had gone down a negative path, that made him want to get involved with people before they turned to crime.

Jeremy began by citing some sobering statistics. The U.S. marked 400 mass shootings over 200 days, more than ever before. Crime has increased around the world, but crime reduction takes a multifaceted approach. It begins with community effort.

Macon Violence Prevention (MVP) began by asking 30 community leaders and experts to come up with a strategic plan to prevent violence. This report was published on December 8th, 2021, and you can [download a copy here](#). In its beginning, MVP addressed mental health support, neighborhood pride and cleanliness, blight removal, public safety retention, assistance to homeless individuals and families, and support of raising wages to \$15/hour. Current programs and principles are in the graphic below:



A big part of the MVP program is its partnership with the Community Foundation of Central Georgia that considers applications for community-led projects and services that are designed to reduce and/or prevent violent crime in Macon-Bibb County. All funded projects must align with the Macon Violence Prevention Strategic Plan. Applications for grants are available now at <https://cfcga.org/grant/mvp-program/>



The members had more than the usual number of questions about this important topic. President Stephanie then closed the meeting by reminding members that we do not meet next week., and offered these words from Martin Luther King, Jr.: “Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that.” The meeting then concluded with recitation of the Four Way Test.



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 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 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!

www.maconrotary.com
