



Rotary



# The Rotary Club of Macon

## THROBS

Published Weekly Since 1914

September 19, 2022

Flint Riverkeeper  
Gordon Rogers

### FUTURE MONDAY PROGRAMS approved by the Board of Directors:

#### September

26 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Dr. Ansley A. Booker

#### October

3 Start Up Macon Andrew Eck

10 No Meeting, Columbus Day

17 EOS (Entrepreneurial Operating System®) Rob Betzel

24 The Partnership for Inclusion Innovation Debra Lam

31 Salvation Army Sgt. Melissa White & Cheryl Coleman

#### November

7 No Meeting, but may attend Crimestoppers Veteran's Day

14 Read for the Record Book Author Antwan Eady

21 No Meeting Thanksgiving

28 Current State of Healthcare Robert Luisana

#### December

There are no regular Club meetings in December but watch for upcoming information on the Christmas party and Burdell-Hunt event.

Link for Makeup

Please click this link to view the Zoom recording of the September 12 meeting: <https://tinyurl.com/2lap9m2l>

### New Member Approvals

At a special meeting with the District Governor on September 12, the Board approved the membership applications of David Aiello (Venue Management) and Jeane Easom (Commercial Appraisal). Members have 10 days to make comments in writing to President Susan Welsh. It was also noted that the application of Christele Nicolas Parham (IT Consultant) was approved June 21 but was not posted in Throbs.

# MEETING August 12, 2022

Attendance: 67.2% - 62 in person, 24 Zoom, plus 6 guests

CART \$

Club Membership 145



(l-r) DG Elect Felix Smith, Past DG Bill Strickland, Albert Reichert, Jr., District Governor Heather Kellen, President Susan Welsh

President Susan Welsh rang the bell to open the meeting. She welcomed District Governor Heather Kellen, District Governor Elect Felix Smith, Past District Governor Bill Strickland, Assistant District Governor Amy Mailey, and a visiting Rotarian from Perry. All came to support Heather in her official visit to our club. Ivey Hall led us in singing *America the Beautiful* and new member Katy Carr offered the prayer.

Susan then recognized birthdays and club anniversaries of the last two weeks, including Past President Elbert McQueen's 25<sup>th</sup> year with the club and Kathryn Dennis' 60<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Susan explained how we use "brags" to raise money for CART, and said our donations topped \$10,000 last year. There were many good brags, perhaps more than usual due to the presence of the District Governor. Here's a sampling:



President Susan reminded members of important upcoming dates, including Rotary Night October 10 at the National Fair in Perry, and October 27 Read for the Record (RFR). Sherrie Marshall will give an overview of RFR at the next meeting. Finally, volunteers are still needed for the October 22 Macon Beer festival, which was begun by the Downtown Rotary Club and raises money for prostate cancer research. [Sign up here](#) and you'll get a free ticket to the event! (Go to [themaconbeerfest.org](http://themaconbeerfest.org) if the link doesn't work for you.)

President Susan then announced some results of our member survey, which were very positive:

- **95% or more** of us are either “**satisfied**” or “**very satisfied**” with membership in this club, weekly meeting arrangements, programs and speakers, and even with dues. A significant number of “comments” expressed some variation of: “our club’s large, so I’d like more opportunities to get to know my fellow Rotarians.” Lots of requests for more classification talks, vocational spotlights, brags, and other ways to build goodwill and better friendships. Thankfully, this year, there will be lots of opportunities for increased engagement now that we’re out of pandemic!
- And because about **20% of us** expressed interest in **adding another service project**... we’ll add something fun and meaningful for the Spring that engages our club with environmental awareness (like a litter or river clean-up day).
- Only half of us use district and international tools (like Rotary.org and DACdb), which might be because **97% of us** feel the club does a **good job communicating** to members.
- **More than 80% of us** wish to continue offering a **virtual meeting option**. But those who want the lottery back... feel strongly that you **must be present to win**.
- While overwhelmingly positive... the survey **findings did offer valuable direction** for this year’s Board especially related to how we might **increase our impact in the community through service** and how we might **expand our membership** by not only retaining more retiring and relocating members but also welcoming new dynamic purpose-driven professionals who represent a wider spectrum of today’s emerging vocations.

President Susan then called on Assistant District Governor to introduce District Governor Heather Kellen.

Heather has been a member of the Perry Rotary Club since 2008 but had an interesting journey. She was born in Washington State and was raised there and in Alaska. Heather holds a Doctorate in Physical Therapy and has practiced for 17 years. She also works as an adjunct professor at Central Georgia Technical College instructing Physical Therapy Assistants. Heather holds a Bachelor of Arts in Communications/Journalism and worked in Alaska and Washington as a news reporter for newspaper, radio, and television before moving to Florida for graduate studies. She stayed in the South to practice physical therapy in middle Georgia. With Rotary, she has administered polio vaccines in India and been a member of a vocational training team in Myanmar, and is active in community service in Perry.

The District Governor was greeted with a standing ovation. Heather began by congratulating the club as a “star” in District 6920 with a proud history since 1914. We are major contributors to the Rotary Foundation and support District initiatives in many ways.



The District Governor said she wanted to direct her talk to the newest Rotarians in the room, and asked how many had been members less than three years or five years. She then explained how she began Rotary as a “back bencher,” attending meetings for the meals and social interaction and had to be convinced to try a service project. However, the experience opened her awareness, made her fall in love with Rotary, and encouraged her to do more.

Rotary is truly worldwide, and it’s astonishing what we are doing in the world. Rotary is even talking with the Taliban about ways to eradicate polio in Afghanistan, and is getting cooperation. There are 535 districts in the world, with about 1.4 million Rotarians (counting the newly-added 200,000 Rotaractors). Something that begins as a club project can become an international project.

Our district has two BHAGs (big hairy audacious goals). The first is to contribute \$1 million to the Foundation. Donations to the Rotary Foundation can be earmarked for Polio Plus, which will be the great legacy of Rotary. Our infrastructure for distributing polio vaccines was used in the global fight against COVID. She said some may question why we should send money to other countries rather than spending it at home. She cited her experience in Pakistan where several school children would share one stubby pencil and a piece of paper. A small donation of school supplies could make a tremendous difference there.

The second goal in to increase membership from less than 2,800 to over 3,000 and to increase female membership from 26 to 30%.

The members had lots of questions for the District Governor, and the meeting concluded with the recitation of the Four Way Test.

*Thanks to Milton Heard for supplying most of these pictures. You can see more at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/mheardiv/sets/72177720302047975/>*

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## Donations 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 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](mailto: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 Throbs link
Anytime	Rotary Project or Rotary Committee Meeting
Anytime	Volunteer at Macon Volunteer Clinic
Oct. 22, 2022	Volunteer at Macon Beer Festival

## 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:steve@eggmedia.com) so your makeup can be recorded. Do not expect the club you visit to report to our club.

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### *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](mailto: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!*

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### **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 as indicated below.

**[www.maconrotary.com](http://www.maconrotary.com)**