



Rotary



The Rotary Club of Macon

 **THROBS**

Published Weekly Since 1914

November 11, 2024
No Meeting – Veterans Day

In observance of Veterans Day, there will be no club meeting November 11. Originally called Armistice Day, the holiday began to commemorate the end of WWI, which was the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918 when the Armistice with Germany went into effect. At the urging of major U.S. veteran organizations, Armistice Day was renamed Veterans Day in 1954.

We salute all veterans and hope everyone has a meaningful holiday.

Please join us November 18 for our last regular meeting of the year. This will be a joint meeting with the other two Macon Rotary Clubs and will be held in our usual location. More information will be in next week's *Throbs*.



Link for Zoom Recording

Click here to view the recording of our November 4 meeting: <https://tinyurl.com/27v6495e>
(Please note that the first few minutes are truncated due to a technical problem.)

FUTURE MONDAY PROGRAMS AND CLUB EVENTS:

November, 2024

- | | | |
|----|---|----------------------|
| 11 | No meeting, Veterans Day | |
| 18 | Georgia Ports Authority, joint meeting with other two Macon clubs | |
| 19 | <i>Board meeting</i> | |
| 21 | <i>Stuff the Truck</i> | Club service project |
| 25 | No meeting – Thanksgiving | |

December, 2024 (no regular meetings in December)

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------|---|
| 2 | Christmas/Holiday Party | From 6:00pm at the Hay House |
| 9 | Burdell-Hunt event | Museum of Arts & Sciences, more details soon! |

MEETING November 4, 2024

Attendance: 54.6% - 61 in person, 10 Zoom, plus 3 guests

CART \$13, Raffle \$32

Club Membership: 144

This was our annual “Birthday Tables” meeting, and members sat at tables with others who shared their birth month. President Danny Gibson rang the bell to start the meeting and called on Dianne Brannen to lead the singing and Pledge of Allegiance. She chose *My Country ‘Tis of Thee*. Marcus Tripp, who has said a few prayers in his calling as a pastor, offered the prayer.

Danny then welcomed our guests, which included the speaker, the spouse of a member, and a potential member.

President Danny next recognized member birthdays and club anniversaries. This is the last regular meeting of the month (and year), since next Monday is Veterans Day and the following Monday is a joint meeting with the other two Macon clubs. Therefore, Danny called the names of all 11 Rotarians with birthdays this month. There are also some significant club anniversaries, and to avoid omitting someone here’s the full list:

- 1 year: Bradley Lenz and Sarah Nicholls
- 2 years: David Thompson
- 3 years: Andy Meador, Justin Andrews, Julie Petherbridge
- 6 years: Chris Edwards
- 8 years: Gary Abbott, Katherine McLeod
- 14 years: Karen Lambert
- 15 years: Dianne Brannen
- 19 years: Al Rogers
- 23 years: Tripp Yarbrough
- 24 years: Whit Evans
- 30 years: Lanier Anderson
- 32 years: Buddy Marshall

That amounts to an amazing 192 years of Service Above Self!

Next came CART brags, which raise money for Alzheimer's research. We had fewer than usual, so be thinking about something to say! And remember that you don't have to make a brag in order to put money in the blue buckets.

Notice Charles Olson in his captain's hat. This meant he was Table Captain and was tasked with gathering the table's donations to the Rotary Foundation.



President Danny said he had a lot of announcements today. So many, in fact, that his list is included as the next page of this newsletter. But he first offered an update on longtime member Malcolm Burgess. Malcolm is out of the ICU but is still at Piedmont Hospital. The club sent him a card but Danny encouraged members to send their own wishes.

Danny also asked all veterans to stand, and the members applauded them.

Kris Vaughn took the mic to explain how our club officer elections work. She began by saying that she took over for Rusty Bradford, who handled this for many years. This will be a two-part process, beginning with nominations. All members should get an email around 2:00 today and it has a link to a survey for nominating club officers. All club members are eligible for the board of directors unless they served on the board during the last two years. Nominations will be taken for President, Treasurer, Secretary, Sergeant at Arms and the seven-member board. Full instructions are in the email.

Though we don't meet next Monday, that is the week of elections and members will get a second email for the actual voting. Voting will remain open through midnight of Saturday, November 16. The results will be announced at our meeting November 18.

Questions about voting should be directed to Kris, and her email is krishvaughn@gmail.com.



ANNOUNCEMENTS & IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THE RCeM

NOVEMBER 4, 2024

FROM: D GJ

- WE WILL NOT MEET ON NOV. 11 - VETERANS DAY
PLEASE ACCEPT OUR GRATITUDE FOR ALL WHO HAVE SERVED.
- NOVEMBER 18, 2024: WE WILL MEET AT OUR REGULAR TIME & PLACE
WE WILL NOT FOLLOW OUR NORMAL MEETING PROTOCOL AS IT WILL BE A JOINT MEETING WITH THE DOWNTOWN & NORTH MACON ROTARY CLUBS.
• OUR SPEAKER WILL BE LEE BECKMANN WITH THE GEORGIA PORTS AUTHORITY •
WE WILL HAVE THE NEWS MEDIA COVERING THE EVENT - ATTEND - ARRIVE EARLY & BRING A GUEST
- ROTARY CLUB OF MACON - ELECTION •
NOV. 4 - YOU WILL RECEIVE A LINK - SUBMIT NOMINATIONS
MONDAY NOV. 11 - YOU WILL RECEIVE A SECOND EMAIL WITH A LINK FOR THE ELECTIONS
WE WILL ANNOUNCE OUR ROTARY BOARD FOR 2025-26 FY & THE PRESIDENT FOR THE 2026-27 FY
EITHER AT THE NOV 18TH MEETING OR VIA E-MAIL.
- BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING NOV. 19 - FOJ AT 6:00
- SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING DEC. 10 & 11 at KROGER ON VINEVILLE
 - SIGN-UP SHEETS - ON LINE - OR CONTACT GEORGE LEE OR DANNY GIBSON
- STUFF THE TRUCK - WALMART ON ZEBULON - NOVEMBER 21, 2024 - 6:00AM-7:00PM
A LOT OF FUN PLEASE VOLUNTEER • SIGN-UP INSTRUCTIONS WILL BE DISSEMINATED VIA E-MAIL
- ROTARY CHRISTMAS PARTY • DECEMBER 2, 2024 AT THE HAYHOUSE
PLEASE SIGN UP - \$40.00 FOR INDIVIDUAL / \$80.00 PER COUPLE
- WE NEED TO RAISE MONEY TO COVER THE \$5,000.00 DONATION TO PURCHASE NON PERISHABLE FOOD & PERSONAL HYGIENE PRODUCTS FOR HURRICANE HELENE VICTIMS.
 - MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF CENTRAL GEORGIA
 - IN THE MEMO LINE WRITE: ROTARY CM-HHRF
- BURDELL-HUNT MAGNET SCHOOL AT THE MUSEUM OF ARTS & SCIENCES, DECEMBER 9, 2024
 - MORE INFORMATION TO COME
 - PLEASE BE ATTENTIVE FOR E-MAILS FROM STEVE ALLEN OR DANNY GIBSON
- CHRISTMAS GIFT FUND FOR OUR GRSP STUDENT JOÃO VILELA
 - MORE INFORMATION TO COME
- ALTHOUGH WE WILL HAVE NUMEROUS OPPORTUNITY TO MEET & SOCIALIZE OVER THE NEXT 2 MONTHS, THIS WILL BE OUR LAST "NORMAL" MEETING DURING 2024, THEREFORE, I WILL BE SENDING MUCH INFORMATION VIA E-MAIL. I ASK THAT YOU BE ON THE "LOOK-OUT" & OPEN & READ COMMUNICATIONS.
PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CALL OR TEXT ME AT 478-731-9711 OR E-MAIL ME AT: deKalb1955@gmail.com or danny.gibson@metropower.com

President Danny thanked Foundation Chair Marcus Tripp for the work he did to make today's program a success. He then introduced our speaker, Elizabeth Hardin. She's known to most in this club, and served as President of the Downtown Club in 2003-04. She's currently District Treasurer, District International Service Chair and District Paul Harris Society Chair. She's attended three Rotary International conventions, in San Antonio, Chicago, and Atlanta.

Elizabeth grew up in Trion, Georgia the daughter of a Rotarian. Her maternal grandfather was also a Rotarian, making her a third generation, "full blooded" Rotarian.

She graduated *summa cum laude* from Shorter College (now Shorter University) in 1983. Upon graduation from college, she accepted an entry level accounting position with McNair, McLemore, Middlebrooks & Co., LLC, CPAs, in Macon. In 1993, she was invited to join the partnership and became the firm's first female partner. She later became the firm's administrative partner, the equivalent of a chief operating officer, until her retirement in July 2023.



Elizabeth began by saying that Rotary encourages clubs to have at least one Rotary Foundation (RF) program each year, so most members have heard this before. She said she looked for some new information to share but also tried to make it applicable to new members as well.

She thanked the club for its legacy of giving, and noted that our all-time giving to the RF is \$927,000. Last year we gave \$26,700, with just \$100 of that designated to Polio Plus. We have at least 78 Paul Harris Fellows, and two Paul Harris Society members. Two are members of the Bequest Society, with at least \$10,000 pledged in their wills. We also have seven Major Donors, which is a minimum of \$10,000 given to the Annual Fund.

These donations support a lot of good works throughout the world. Our RF is a 4-Star charity on Charity Navigator, which is their highest level. 91% of funds are spent on program awards and program operations, which is an almost unheard-of amount for a charity. This means that operating expenses are kept to the bare minimum.

When you give to Annual Fund-Share, the RF transforms your gifts into service projects that change lives close to home and around the world. After holding the funds for three years, half remain in the World Fund and other half comes back to the Rotary district where they originated. That's what funds the District Grants that our club relies on for many of our major service projects. These funds are also used for Global Grants in which local clubs or districts partner with a third-party nongovernmental organization for major service and building projects throughout the world.

Elizabeth showed several pictures of projects our district has supported in Serbia, Guatemala, and Panama. One member of our district, Miriam Rittmeyer from the Savannah East club, was profiled in Rotary Magazine of January, 2023. They called her “Lady Leonardo” and hailed her as a Renaissance woman who lead a hydroponics project in her home country of Guatemala. This used our District Designated Funds as well as cash donations from the Skidaway Island, Savannah club and the clubs of Guatemala Vista Hermosa and Glenview-Sunrise, Illinois. A video on this hydroponics project followed, and it showed how indigenous Maya women were able to grow food for both sustenance and commerce.

Of course, a signature program of RF is Polio Plus, which began in 1985. While polio had been eradicated in the United States, it still devastated much of the world. Thanks in large part to Rotary’s efforts, there has been a worldwide reduction of polio cases of 99.9%. In 2023, only two countries reported polio, and they had just six cases each. Unfortunately, due to war in Afghanistan and Pakistan, this increased in 2024 but our efforts there continue.



Current Status	
Since 1988, we've seen a worldwide reduction in polio cases of 99.9%. Only two countries remain polio-endemic: Afghanistan and Pakistan.	
Afghanistan	Pakistan
23	41
Reported Wild Poliovirus Cases	Reported Wild Poliovirus Cases
2023: 06	2023: 06
2022: 02	2022: 20
2021: 04	2021: 01



With Your Help, We Can End Polio for Good.

Elizabeth cited many other good things the Foundation is doing, and encouraged us all to continue our giving. Legacy giving is especially encouraged. Elizabeth used what she calls the 10 Year Plan to Major Donor by donating \$1,000 per year for ten years. You can become a Paul Harris Fellow with just \$1,000 in cumulative giving, but a pledge of \$1,000 per year makes you a member of the Paul Harris Society.

After the program, it was time for our raffle to raise money for the CART fund. The pot was up to \$875 and Cater Thompson had the winning ticket but couldn’t draw the Queen of Clubs to be a winner. There will be no more chances this calendar year, so this means we will go into the New Year with close to \$1,000 at stake!

The meeting concluded with recitation of the Four Way Test.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Thanks to the 24 members who have already signed up for a Salvation Army bell-ringing slot! One-hour spots are still open on Tuesday, December 10 and Wednesday, December 11, 10am until 5-6pm. Twelve more would give us the minimum one person at each door, while 40 more would allow two per door, which is ideal.

Signup sheets will be available at the three remaining club meetups – the joint meeting November 18, the December 2 party at the Hay House, and the December 9 event at the Museum. To sign up now, contact George Lee by email at ghlengineering@gmail.com or text him at 478-955-3307.



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. These online donations qualify as a tax deduction (but ask your accountant). 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**. (This link requires logging in to DACdb. If you have trouble with that, use <https://mycartfund.org/NewUser.cfm> instead.) All donations to CART go to support cutting-edge research on Alzheimer's.

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
Anytime	Viewing of Monday meeting recorded on Zoom - See current or past <i>Throbs</i> 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. **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 Gene Dunwody gdunwodyjr@dunwodybeeland.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 the Membership Chair 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!

Rotary Club of Macon
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