



MACON, GA

# SWAPS

February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Official Publication of the Exchange Club of Macon, Georgia

Editor – Ronald Raleigh

2019/2020

## Exchange Club of Macon

Ronald Raleigh  
President

{Vacant}  
President Elect

Christina Ford  
{Secretary}

Rollin Middlebrooks  
{Treasurer}

## Board of Directors

Bobby George  
{Chairman}

Walter Arnett  
Debbi McCreary  
Kemberlie Sanderson  
Crawford Lovett

Club meets four Thursdays  
a month at Riverside United  
Methodist Church  
735 Pierce Avenue

Lunch - 11:30 AM  
Meeting - 12:15 PM

Visit our website:

<http://exchangeclubofmacon.org>



## “Exchangitte of the Year 2019/2020”



On February 6<sup>th</sup>, the Macon Exchange Club with the Macon Exchangette Club held our annual “Valentines/Sweetheart Banquet. The Macon Exchange Club was pleased and honored to announce the “*Exchangitte of the Year*” - **Debbi McCreary**. **Debbi** joined Exchange in 2017. She “stepped right in” - elected to the Board of Directors – supporting all of the Macon Exchange Club events with her time, money, and expertise – she assumed the responsibility for all of the Club’s youth programs to include the “Youth of the Month”, “ACE”, & “Youth of the Year”. Congratulations **Debbi**.

## “Friend of Exchange”

**Sammy Raffield** receiving the Macon Exchange Club’s “*Friend of Exchange*” award.

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As the owner of “*Raffield Tire Master*”, **Sammy Raffield**, has been a staunch and continuous supporter of the “*Lamar Taylor Memorial Golf Tournament*”, the “*Sporting Clay Shoot*”, and other Club activities. **Sammy** is one of few, if not the only, supporter that



has always been interested and supportive in the missions and core beliefs of the Macon Exchange Club. “*Raffield Tire Master*” began business with the first “store” on Rocky Creek in 1953. **Sammy’s** father operated with the community in mind and has passed that legacy on to his children and his grandchildren. In that “vein”, **Sammy** monetarily supports many other organizations in the Middle Georgia area. In addition, the **Sammy** remains employee minded evidenced by the facts - several employees that began the business with them have over 25 years in service. **Sammy’s** core values have remained stable. Congratulations are well in order for **Sammy**.

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## “Meeting Notes”

**President Ron Raleigh** opened the meeting February 13<sup>th</sup>, welcoming guests and members. Guests included our special speaker **Commissioner Mallory Jones** and **Sammy Raffield**, owner of “*Raffield Tire Master*”.

**Ron’s DID YOU KNOW** thought for the day was: **“There are blessings hidden in every trial in life, but you have to be willing to open your heart to see them.”**

**Jackie Riley** was “subbing” for **Bonnie Johnson** on the piano for our “luncheon” listening pleasure with the “oldies”. **Ron Raleigh** tendered the invocation – the “*Pledge of Allegiance*” was led by **Crawford Lovett** – **Curtis Jordan** led us in song - “*America the Beautiful*”. There were “8” members present and “2” guests. The number was small but the quality was there. Please make plans to join us next week as we welcome **Sheriff David Davis** as our guest speaker. He will be addressing us with an “*Up Date on The Sheriff’s Office and on the Up Coming 2020 Election*”.

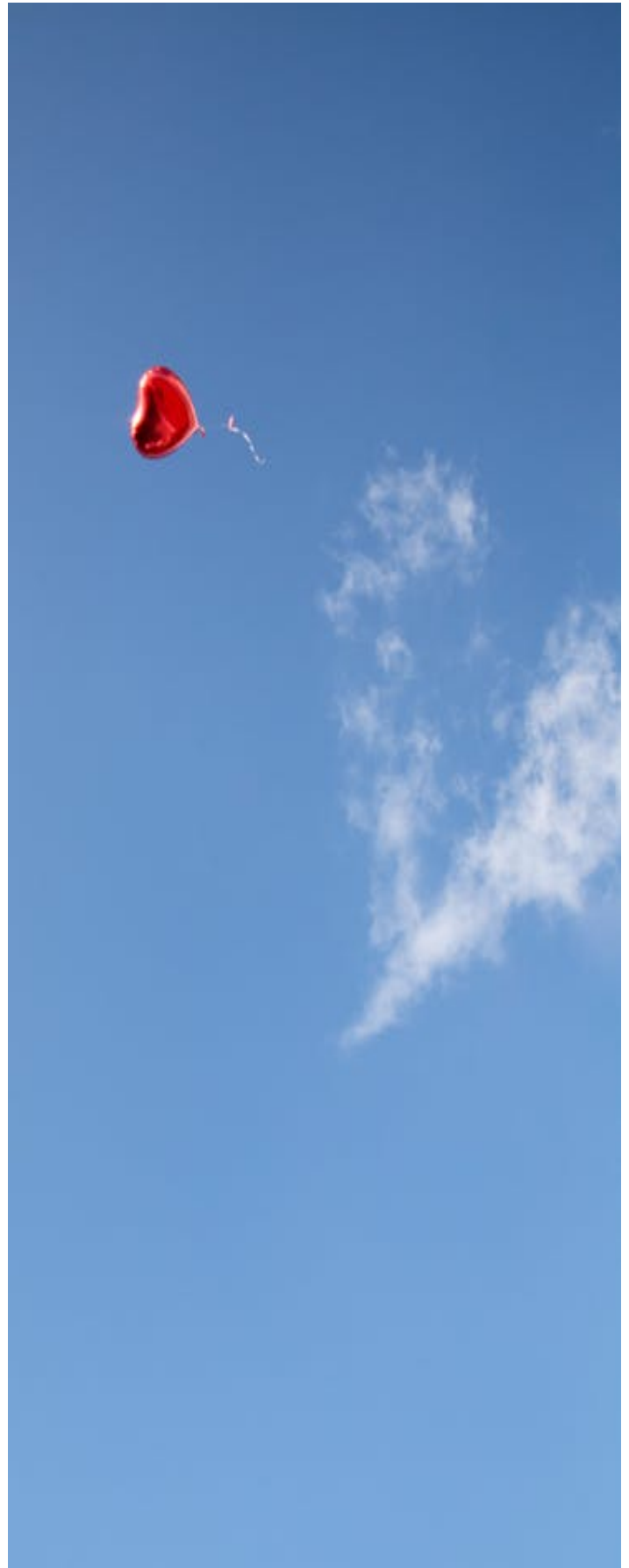
## “Saddened Yet Rejoicing”

**Edgar Ennis, Sr.**, the father of **Ret. Judge Ed Ennis** passed away peacefully on February 12<sup>th</sup> at the age of “99” years, “11” months, & “12” days. Keep the **Ed** and the family in your prayers.

Also, keep **Charles Cleary** in your prayers as he copes with the loss of his wife of “67” years, **Martha (The Cake Lady)**. **Charles** is planning to be back with us next week.

## “Announcements”

- \* The “**CAP Symposium**” is scheduled for April 8<sup>th</sup>.
- \* The “**Annual Sporting Clay Shoot**” is scheduled for April 11<sup>th</sup>. **Walter Arnett** plans, and implements the event and needs the memberships support for sponsors, SWAG-BAG gifts, door prizes, and volunteer the day of the event.
- \* **Walter** is also arranging for a **raffle** for April. He has arranged for an “at cost” purchase of a “*Beretta A400, 12 Gauge Shotgun*” from *Meadows Gun Club* as the prize. Tickets will be “1” for \$5.00 / “3” for \$40.00. He will announce when the tickets are available.
- \* “**My Day In Court**” with **Ret. Judge Ed Ennis** at the podium will be on March 12<sup>th</sup>.
- \* The “**Annual May BBQ**” will be at the “*Fish ‘N’ Pig*” on May 14<sup>th</sup>. Cost & entertainment to be announced.



**HAPPY VALENTINES DAY !!!!**

## **“Program Notes”**

Thursdays Program was arranged and introduced by **Bobby George**. I have always said “*When something happens for the first time it is an ‘accident’, the second time it is a ‘coincidence’, and the third time it is a ‘habit’*” - our speaker has certainly become a ‘habit’. I can not remember the number of times **Mallory Jones, County Commissioner** has spoken with the members on the “state of the County, elections, Commissioner activities, etc.

**Mallory** prefaced his remarks with a question - “*Why run for Public Office?*” The reality of serving in any *Public Office* is that “everybody has a problem, there are always multiple community issues, there are always complaints, everyone is never satisfied, and everyone wants whatever issue or problem fixed now.”

**Mallory** continued his remarks by giving examples of accomplishments by the Board of Commissioners with himself the catalyst for change and problem solving. The examples run from traffic light installation to his work on increasing specific allotments for police & firemen from \$100 to \$200, noting that our Deputy Sheriffs starting out are paid almost \$5,000 less than those in Monroe County. We still have a long way to go to adjusting our first responders salaries – noting that Bibb is currently understaffed by some “**135**” Deputies.

He remarked that the “*Macon Tracks Club*” had asked permission to create a “park like space” on Rivoli at Old Forsyth Road. The request involved the GDOT, County Departments, assuring the property involved was lien/ownership free (some of the residents around the intersection claimed to own the land), and pass the Commissioners. The Track Club funded and completed the project.

**Mallory** answered his original question - “I am a problem solver by nature and want to serve the people in our community.” I am running for the third time and, with the other candidates, I hope that we will have at least “**6**” Commissioners of “*like mind*” so we can get things done. The Mayor can only serve “**2**” terms and can not run this year – Commissioners can serve only “**3**” terms so “we have a chance to get some new people on the Board.”

My dad used to say “**common sense is not common anymore**” - I hope the new people can demonstrate some common sense. **Mallory Jones III >>>>**

