



MACON, GA

# SPECIAL EDITION S W A P S

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Official Publication of the Exchange Club of Macon, Georgia

Editor – Ronald Raleigh

2019/2020

Exchange Club of Macon

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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>



MACON, GA

*“Thinking Of All Of You”*

**{ HANG IN THERE ! }**

“Shelter-In-Place / Stay at Home / Stay Safe”



May 25<sup>th</sup> is **“Memorial Day”**, a day of reflection and “thanksgiving” for those that have paid the ultimate price for our freedoms. We are engaged in another “frame” in time when sacrifice an, yes, even the ultimate sacrifice is prevalent. This month should be declared as a **“Memorial/Celebration Month”** with remembrance for those that were in the midst of the danger, serving each of us in one way or another.

*“The Stream of Life sometimes glides smoothly on, through flowery meadows and enamell’d planes. At other times it drags a winding reluctant Course through offensive Boggs and dismal gloomy Swamps.” - President John Quincy Adams.*



# EXCHANGE

GEORGIA DISTRICT EXCHANGE CLUBS

As we close out the month of April and a full month under “*shelter-in-place / stay at home*” guidelines from our government, and since this SWAPS will be in the “*snail mail*”, I wanted to recap Club news –

### **“ACE Award Winner – 2019/2020”**

We will be following up with **Bobbi** to forward her the ACE Plaque and the “\$500” ACE Award. When we are once again able to have our meetings, we will be inviting **Bobbi** along with **June O’Neal** for a more formal presentation to acknowledge her achievements. Congratulations to our “**2019/2020 ACE Winner.**” Thanks to **Debbi McCreary** for her work with **June O’Neal, Mentors Project** in naming our ACE Award Winner.

### **“Youth of the Year Award Winner – 2019/2020”**

**Stephanie Pierson** from Mt. DeSales was our winner this Club Year. A scholarship of “\$500” has been sent to the college of her choice. When we resume our weekly meetings, we will invite **Stephanie** for a more formal presentation and a chance to read her winning essay.

### **“Club Contribution”**

\* April is “Child Abuse Prevention Month”. The Exchange Club of Macon, in accordance with our historical contributions, has made a contribution to the **Georgia District Exchange** in the amount of “\$500”.

\* The Board agreed to continue our support for our meeting staff (Mary, Lacie, and our pianist) during our “down time” with weekly stipends equal to their weekly earnings as our servant staff, etc.

### **“Postponed Events –Due To COVID-19”**

The Board of Directors has agreed to postpone the following Annual Club Events – new dates TBA.

} The “**Annual Sporting Clay Shoot**”

} A special raffle for a “**Berreta 400 Shotgun**” will be extended - new raffle date TBA. Hopefully we will be able sell additional raffle tickets as COVID-19 restrictions ease.

} The “**Annual Boston Butt Sale**” has been canceled for July 4<sup>th</sup>, may be reinstated at a later date.

} The “**Annual May BBQ**” has been postponed – the new date TBA.

### **“Club Meetings”**

As to meetings, I feel that we need to at least wait until June to address future meeting dates. I have been tracking the numbers daily from the department of Public Health and the “raw” numbers do not agree with the Governor’s assessments and decision to “open the state”. Since March 31<sup>st</sup> to date, Bibb County numbers went from “20” cases and zero deaths to “305” cases and “10” deaths with the state numbers from “3,831” cases and “108” deaths to “26,261” cases and “1,132” deaths – new cases have averaged “768” per day with “759” today and “32” deaths per day with “54” today. Currently there are “5,048” victims in the hospital and it can take “4” to “5” weeks to recover followed by several weeks in rehab. Navicent has erected a mobile hospital unit to meet anticipated demand. According to my assessment, the state nor Bibb cases have not peaked.

Nation wide, according to the CDC, there are “1,045,035” cases (“33%” of the global totals) with “58,964” deaths. The death totals exceed the total service men & women lost in the Vietnam War.

The danger is still prevalent and will grow as the Governor “opens” the state. We need to be vigilant and patient so that, when we resume our meetings, we can feel and be safe.