



S W A P S

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Editor – Ronald Raleigh

2019/2020 Exchange Club of Macon

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“Installation of Officers & Board 2020/2021”

Rollin Middlebrooks, Volunteer Field representative will officiate at the “Installation Ceremony” for the 2020/2021 Officers & Board Members of the Exchange Club of Macon. The ceremony will take place June 25th at the **Fish’N’Pig** on Moseley Dixon Road at 5:45 PM. Please plan to attend – Officers and Board please dress appropriately. **Social distancing will be observed – you may consider wearing face masks.**

“Plans For The 2020/2021 Club Year Activities”

As the “outgoing” and “incoming” President, in an unprecedented way, I would like to use this forum to impart my appreciation for the past year, and to outline my “Program Development Plans” for the coming year.

As in past years our Club has performed well, meeting the requirements of the NEC for our National Service Award. We met the requirements through our “due diligence” to Exchange’s core beliefs, “Programs of Service”, and commitment to Child Abuse Prevention. The “laundry list” includes: **“Youth Projects”** - “Youth of the Month”, Youth of the Year”, A.C.E. Award, “My Day In Court”, and the Annual “Quick Think ‘A’ Thon”; **“Child Abuse Prevention”** - our Annual “Child Abuse Prevention Symposium” w/Crescent House, and various support activities through our “charitable” contributions; **“Americanism Projects”** - “Proudly We Hail”, our military appreciations, “Give A Kid A Flag to Wave”, and “One Nation Under God”; **“Community Service Projects”** - “Book of Golden Deeds Award”, “Crime & Fire Prevention” w/recognition of a “Law Enforcement Officer of the Year” and “Fire Fighter of the Year”, “Friend of Exchange”, “Baby Safety Month”

The Club also maintains **“Annual Charitable Giving”** to organizations and/or projects including the Georgia District Golf Tournament, the Forsyth Golf Tour (Exchange Club of Forsyth), the NEC CAP Symposium, the Georgia CAP Foundation, the NEC Earthquake Fund, NEC’s Multiple Sclerosis Fund, USO Serving With Honor, Campaign for Kids, Exchange strong, Blue Star Markers, Veterans Matter, NEC Foundation, Disabled American Vets, Shriner’s Children Hospital, Remember The Fallen, school supplies for the BOE, Baby Car Seat, NEC Relief Fund, National Day of Service, Feed The Hungry, Georgia Convention Silent Auction, Patriot Day, Giving Tuesday, Paralyzed Veterans, and Wreaths Across America.

All of our programs, projects, charitable giving, etc. is “what Exchange is about, and is the “bulk” of the Club’s expenditures – expenditures relying on the Club’s revenue sources and the Club’s savings. The preceding is part of my “Program Development Plans” for 2020/2021 Club Year.

Operating the Club's business within a "*balanced budget*" has always been a goal for my past "**3**" years as Club President – it has continued to evade being "*balanced*". As a result, my recommendation to the Club is to maintain the programs and projects as we have been doing, stay true to what Exchange is about, and to trim costs whenever possible. Build on the Club's meager revenue sources – membership dues, raffles, Clay Shoot, and the *Annual Lamar Taylor Memorial Golf Tournament*.

The **harsh reality** is that the Club's revenue sources have been negatively impacted by: 1) "*aging out*" - too many members have passed or had health issues that prohibit their membership continuance; 2) "*membership*" - the lack of any significant growth in new members and retention issues with past members; 3) "*apathy*" - the lack of many members being actively involved in the Club's fund raising activities, and meeting attendance (prior to COVID-19); and 4) "*COVID-19*" - due to social distancing, the Club has had to postpone fund raising activities as well as social activities, costs involved in our canceled meetings continue to negatively impact the Club's revenue as does the continued costs of District dues and National dues. I am reminded of a short quip that I have always held to "**make due with what you have – what you can count upon**".

I have appreciated the opportunity to serve as President of the Exchange Club of Macon for the past "**3**" *Club Years* and I look forward to the **2020/2021 Club Year** with tentative anticipation. The future of the Exchange Club of Macon is pessimistically optimistically unsure, however, I will do my best to best serve.

"Club News"

Walter Arnett has conferred with the management of **Meadows Gun Club** and our **Annual Sporting Clay Shoot** has been re-scheduled for August 22nd. The club will need "shooters", door prizes, sponsors, and raffle ticket sales for the Beretta Shotgun as we move forward with the event. Please contact **Walter** to donate, turn in any raffle ticket monies, sponsors, door prizes, or to volunteer the day of the event.

The "**Annual Exchangette/Exchangitte Valentines Banquet**" for **2021** has been scheduled with Idle Hour for February 4th 2021. More information to follow much later as we approach the end of the year.

Still looking for a venue to restart our weekly meetings. The current thoughts are to hold "**2**" meetings per month in lieu of "**4**" at least until the threat of COVID-19 subsides. Cases in Georgia and Bibb County are still on the "upswing" with new cases every day.

"The Exchangettes"

The **Exchangettes** held their first meeting for their **2020/2021 Year** on June 11th at Idle Hour Country Club. Their attendance was excellent with only "**2**" members not in attendance. Their regularly scheduled meetings have been arranged barring any more interference with COVID-19. Good luck ladies!

"Politically Incorrect"



EXCHANGE

EXCHANGE CLUB OF MACON, GA