



MACON, GA

S W A P S

January 7th, 2021

Official Publication of the Exchange Club of Macon, Georgia

Editor – Ronald Raleigh

2020/2021

Exchange Club of Macon

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Kemberlie Sanderson
Crawford Lovett
Debbi McCreary

Visit our website:
<http://exchangeclubofmacon.org>
as well as the
[Club's Face Book Page](#)

Meetings held at
"Buffalos" - Zebulon Rd.
Every 14 days
11:30AM to 1:00PM



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"Meeting Notes – January 7th at Buffalos"

President Ron Raleigh opened the meeting, welcoming the members and guests. There were a total of "8" members present and "1" guest, **Joel Neal** - our program speaker. **Crawford Lovett** tendered the invocation, and **Walter Arnett** led the audience in the *Pledge of Allegiance*. **President Ron Raleigh** made several announcements – 1) The Club's next scheduled meeting is January 21st. The speaker for January 21st will be **Rep. Mallory Jones** arranged by **Bobby George**; 2) Club Board meeting the third week of January – January 18th, at **Bobby George's** home; 3) *Youth of the Month / Youth of the Year* report; 4) the *Macon Annual Cherry Blossom Festival* is scheduled for 2021 – the *2020 Cherry Blossom Queen* has been "tapped" for duties and to "reign" the 2021 Festival, she is **Queen Alisia Ford** (picture attached), daughter of our Club Secretary, **Christina Ford** & dad, **Darrin**; and 5) 2021 meeting dates scheduled (list attached).

"Annual Exchangette/Exchangite Valentines Banquet"

The Banquet us scheduled for February 4th 2021. POST your calendars. The event will be held at Idle Hour Country Club, the entertainment has been arranged, social distancing will be maintained, but we can still have a great time of renewal and fellowship. Please plan to attend. This year, the membership of the Exchange Club will only have to pay for their guests at \$35.00 per guest. The Club Treasury will pay for the member. Members planning on attending must fill out a registration form and mail it to our **Club Treasurer Rollin Middlebrooks**. Any registered members failing to attend will be billed for the meal. Cancellations must be by January 22nd.

Banquet Committee member **Crawford Lovett** has "booked" the "Silver Dust" Duo for a "return engagement".



“Words of Wisdom for Today”

We eavesdrop in the “Hundred Acre Woods for today’s words – A. A. Milne

“What day is it?” - asked Pooh

“It’s today.” - squeaked Piglet

“My favorite day!” - exclaimed Pooh

“Member Announcements”

* **Walter Arnett** announced that the “*Boston Butt Sales*” were winding down. “**100” hams** have been sold to date. Gross income to date is in excess of **\$3,500**. Final “gross/net totals” to come as there is still some money to be collected.

* **President Ron Raleigh** for member, **Debbie McCreary**, reported that the candidates for the *Youth of the Year Award/Contest* were selected from “**32**” applicants representing “**9**” Middle Georgia schools. The “**9**” students will be recognized through the next several months individually or a couple together in order to maintain “social distancing” at our meeting venue. The “**9**” students will receive a Certificate and \$50.00. They will compete for *Youth of the Year* – the winner will be awarded with a Plaque and a **\$500** scholarship to the college of their choice. The winner will automatically be in competition for the *Georgia District Youth of the Year* – winning the District, the student will be competing at Exchange National with an ultimate scholarship for **\$15,000**. This year’s Competitive Essay topic is **“I recognize my responsibility in shaping America’s future. I have stepped out of my comfort zone during uncertain times and made a difference. I am part of history and here is where it started.”** The “**9**” *Youth of the Month* students competing for 2021 are **Aman Boricha-Masand** from ACE, **Bethany Jackson** from Central, **Sean O’Connell** from Covenant, **Avery Kemper**, from First Presbyterian Day School, **Elizabeth Bennett** from Mary Persons, **Akweley Allotey** from Mt. DeSales, **Jasmine Martin** from Southwest, **Jocelyn Tang** from Stratford, and **Katie Hatcher** from Tattnall.

“Program Notes December 17th”

Our program guest speaker is **Joel Neal, GM of Buffalos** and was arranged by **Walter Arnett**. **Joel** has been in the restaurant business for “**22**” years, was hired at the Zebulon location Buffalos in 2005 as Assistant General Manager, and was promoted to General Manager in 2013. The Zebulon Buffalos location opened in 1997 and is the busiest / highest sales volume of “**37**” Buffalos in Georgia. Buffalos is part of the “Fat Brand” out of California with all of locations franchised to local owners – they “buy” the Buffalos Brand & receive continuous corporate support. Buffalos’ policy is to create a family atmosphere as well as having a sports oriented feel with the decor and media. **Joel** hopes to be able to purchase the Zebulon Buffalos location when the current owners decide to sell.

Currently operating under COVID-19 restrictions and guidelines, getting back to normal is, hopefully, closer than it has been. His staff clean/sanitize daily, continue to wear masks, have temperature checks regularly, have to get tested at any sign of COVID-19 symptoms, and maintain the spacing & social distancing at the restaurant.

The most popular menu item is “chicken wings” – “**55**” to “**60**” “**50**” pound cases per week. “Kick’in Chicken Wraps” is a close second, followed by “Southwest Eggrolls”, and “burgers” with the “Hangover Burger” the best seller.



EXCHANGE

EXCHANGE CLUB OF MACON, GA



**CHERRY BLOSSOM QUEEN
ALICIA FORD**

**Legacy Queen Angela Boykin, Alicia, Princess Catie Beth Stejskal
Little Miss Khylie Wilkerson & Little Mister Walden Weatherford**

<https://cherryblossom.com>