



MACON, GA

SWAPS

August 12th, 2021

Official Publication of the Exchange Club of Macon, Georgia

Editor – Ronald Raleigh

“Meeting Notes – August 12th at the Buffalos”

President **Ron Raleigh** opened the meeting, with a welcome for the guests and members – there was “1” guest (**Dale Washburn, Georgia House Representative for District ‘141’**) and “9” members present. **Chairman Bobby George** tendered the day’s invocation – member **Debbie McCreary** led the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

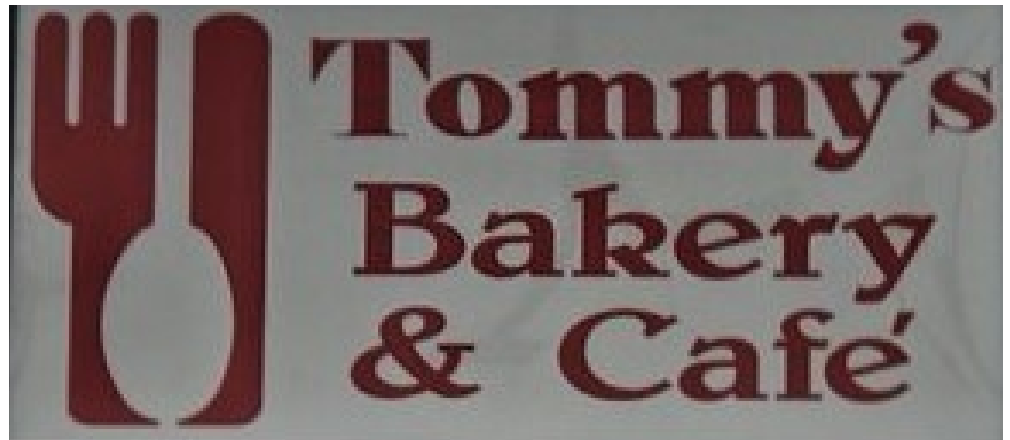
“Announcements”

* **August 16th** the Board will hold the monthly Board meeting – 6:00PM at **Bobby George’s** home.

* **August 19th** we will tentatively present our Annual *Proudly We Hail* award.

* **August 26th** our guest **John Regan** will bring us an update on local, statewide, & national gang violence.

* **September 25th** will be the **6th Annual Walter Arnett Sporting Clay Shooting** event at the “**Meadows Gun Club**”. **Walter** currently has “10” Sponsors, however, we can always use more sponsors as well as SWAG gifts, and volunteers to make this year’s event successful. **Walter** has brochures and window placards available for distribution – help “**get the word out**” - hand out the brochures to possible sponsors & shooters - place the placards in businesses you frequent The event will culminate with a luncheon for “shooters”, volunteers, and guests to be catered by **Tommy’s Bakery & Cafe**, **Tommy Sadler** owner and all around good person.



* **October 5th** the Club will hold the **24th Annual Lamar Taylor Memorial Golf Tournament**. The tournament will be held at Healy Point Country Club – 1:00PM “Shotgun Start”. Proceeds from the tournament to benefit the Annual Child Abuse Prevention Symposium held by the Crescent House, and several other charitable programs/projects around Middle Georgia. The brochures for the **24th Annual Lamar Taylor Memorial Golf Tournament** are ready – get multiple copies from **Rollin Middlebrooks** or **Bobby George** for distribution.

2021/2022 Exchange Club of Macon

Ronald Raleigh
President

{Vacant}
President Elect

Christina Ford
{Secretary}

Rollin Middlebrooks
{Treasurer}

Board of Directors

Bobby George
{Chairman}

Walter Arnett
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.
4 Thursdays per month
11:30AM to 1:00PM



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“Program Notes”

Our Guest speaker was arranged and introduced by **Chairman Bobby George. Dale Washburn** is the **Georgia House Representative for District ‘141’** serving north Bibb and south Monroe Counties since he was elected in 2018. Born and raised in Macon, **Dale** is a husband to Donna for “42” years, father, grandfather, and a businessman. **Dale** has been in the real estate business for “42” years and he founded Washburn & Associates, which specializes in real estate brokerage and consulting, and The Dale Washburn School of Real Estate; Dale has been teaching real estate for “20” years. **Dale** is also the author of two real estate licensing textbooks and numerous continuing education courses. **Dale** strives to combine knowledge, experience, work ethic, and integrity in dealing with whatever arises. You can learn more about **Dale** at www.washburnforstatehouse.com

Dale began his remarks with a short presentation on the state of the real estate business during the past year. He shared that the business is going through an “unbelievable time”. It is a “sellers market” with real estate selling for inflated prices. Giving an example, he shared - “a young couple wanted to sell their older home that had been renovated. We valued the home at \$179,000 anticipating a sale at \$170,000. The couple would not list the home for less than \$200,000. We acquiesced and listed it at the seller’s price, thinking no way it is going to sell that high. It sold in two days for \$208,000.” The market is unbelievable. It is artificially inflated and in a year or two the properties sold today will be worth a lot less.

Dale then moved on to his remarks around his service as Georgia House State Representative for District ‘141’. In his remarks, **Dale** shared his foundational structure for his political service - 1} it is a great honor to serve the people in his District as well as fellow Georgians; 2} in considering all legislation “what is best for families and best for Georgia business” should always be the first priority; 3} that less governmental regulation rather than more is always better; 4} public officials must diligently guard against allowing the ever increasing tax burden to continue to rise; and 5} his Christian beliefs lead him to believe that “God’s plan for society is a civil, orderly one, job oriented, and for the individual to do the best job possible – resulting in a better living environment for all Georgians – “*the rising tide floats all boats*”. Everyone impacts their life and lives of others.

Dale shared that in the political arena, the “sides” will always have differing beliefs in issues. In a lot of issues, the “sides” can meet on common ground and agree to the extent that the issues can be resolved to the betterment of the people of Georgia. On some issues, the “sides” will never meet. Giving an example, **Dale** shared - “on the issue of abortion, I believe that life begins at conception which means I can not vote for abortion. There is a lady that sits next to me in the House and she shed tears when I voiced my belief and voted against abortion. She would not speak to me and turn her back to me for several months after the abortion vote. She will not be “swayed” on the issue – nor will I.”

Dale shared that he was instrumental in writing and proposing “4” House Bills – “2” of which made it through the House, Senate, and was signed into being by the Governor. The most contentious Bill being the *Voting Rights Bill*. **Dale** shared that the Bill was not voter suppression – under the *Voting Rights Bill*, the voter has “17” days in which to vote (*days of early voting built into the Bill*) the voter can vote in person or by mail (*has to provide proof of who you are in the way of Georgia Driver’s License, or the last “4” digits of the Social Security number, or a photostatic copy of a utility bill*). Prior to the Pandemic, there were no Voting Drop Boxes and there will be less drop boxes as we move forward (*however, there are millions of drop boxes in Georgia – they are called mail boxes*).

Dale’s other approved legislative Bill was to allow for the voters to be able to decide on the OPLOST One Cent Sales tax. The OPLOST, if passed by the voters in Bibb when it comes up on the ballot, will reduce property taxes by “5” mills the first year and “7” mills the second year (*on a \$200,000 home, the tax savings could amount to \$400 the first year*).

Dale Washburn
Georgia State Representative for District 141



“Ponder Points”

“Shared joy is a double joy. Shared sorrow is half a sorrow.” - Swedish Proverb

“The unselfish effort to bring cheer to others will be the beginning of a happier life for ourselves.” - Helen Keller

“And Ain’t It the Truth”

“Sometimes you have to play the part of a fool to fool the fool who thinks they are fooling you.”



EXCHANGE

EXCHANGE CLUB OF MACON, GA