



MACON, GA

SWAPS

September 2nd, 2021

Official Publication of the Exchange Club of Macon, Georgia

Editor – Ronald Raleigh

2021/2022 Exchange Club of Macon

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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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"Meeting Notes – September 2nd at Buffalos"

President **Ron Raleigh** opened the meeting, welcoming members – there were "8" members present. Chairman **Bobby George** tendered the day's invocation – member **Jeff Amerson** led the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

"Announcements"

* **September 9th** the Club will be celebrating National Baby Safety Month with **Christina Middleton Director of Caring Solutions** with a donation of "3" baby car seats for distribution to Caring Solution clients.

* **September 20th** Exchange Club of Macon Board Meeting.

* **September 23rd** former Exchange Club Past President, **Wade McCord, Macon-Bibb County Tax Commissioner**, will be our guest speaker.

* **September 25th** will be the 6th Annual Walter Arnett Sporting Clay Shooting event at the "Meadows Gun Club". **Walter** has brochures and window placards available for distribution – help "get the word out" - hand out the brochures to possible sponsors & shooters - place placards in the businesses you frequent The event will culminate with a luncheon for "shooters", & volunteers to be catered by **Tommy's Bakery & Cafe**.

* **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 Prevention of Child Abuse, Crescent House, and Exchange Club's Charity Programs of Service. The brochures for the 24th Annual Lamar Taylor Memorial Golf Tournament are ready – get multiple copies from **Rollin Middlebrooks** or **Bobby George** for distribution.

* **October** is National Crime and Fire Prevention Month. On **October 7th** we will celebrate with Sheriff David Davis as he presents the Exchange Club's Law Enforcement Office of the Year Award – **October 21st** we will celebrate with the Interim Fire Chief Shane Edwards as he presents the Exchange Club's Fireman of the Year Award.

"Ponder Point Quotes"

"Be yourself; everyone else is already taken." - Oscar Wilde

"If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything." - Mark Twain

"In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life: it goes on." - Robert Frost

"Two things are infinite: the universe and human stupidity; and I'm not sure about the universe." - Albert Einstein



The Macon Exchangette Club promoted a “Back to School” Project for the *Methodist Children’s Home*, in Macon, with school supplies. Pictured at right is *Exchangette President Jan Jones* with the school supplies collected by the Club’s “14” members. The Club has diminished through the years but the ladies are still very active in support of their projects and Exchange ideals in Middle Georgia. Well done ladies!!!

“Program Notes September 2nd”

Our scheduled guest speaker, *Dr. Alan Justice*, could not be with us because he contracted a stomach virus. Hopefully, he will be well enough to reschedule for September 16th. *Dr. Justice* was to address us on his views of COVID, and the current status of the COVID variant. *President Ron Raleigh* filled in for *Dr. Justice* with information on the current status of COVID in Georgia, especially Bibb County.

Ron shared that COVID cases and KIA (Killed In Action) have been rampant since the end of July, through out August. **Statistically**, state wide, there were “31,421” new cases in July compared to “164,953” new cases in August. State wide there were “245” KIA’s in July compared to “1,122” KIA’s in August. In Bibb County there were “583” new cases in July compared to “3,548” new cases in August with “2” KIA’s in July compared to “28” KIA’s in August. Statistics do not reflect the anguish of the families impacted by the disease. The increase does not look like it is significantly slowing down at this point.

“5” states – Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, Florida, and Texas currently have less than “10%” ICU availability for patients. August has been the “6th” worst month since the COVID Pandemic began in January 2020.

In Georgia there is also a shortage of medical personnel and *Governor Kemp* has deployed “2,500” National Guard members to supplement Georgia’s hospitals. He reiterated the necessity for all Georgian’s to receive the COVID vaccine and to use caution and masks daily. In Bibb, the Georgia Regional Library has reinstated the mandate for masks when visiting the library. Bibb County BOE schools will go back to virtual learning through September 20th and the COVID issue will be reviewed at that time to decide on in person or virtual learning.

The onslaught of the COVID Pandemic impacted, to a greater degree, the age grouping of “30 to 59” followed by those “18 to 29” and over “60” with the “0 to 17” age group the least. The new variant impacts the age group of “30 to 59” the most but the “0 to 17” group are impacted to a greater degree than all the other age groupings. However, those in the age groups over “30” still make up the greatest part of hospitalizations and KIA’s, though those “18 to 39” are being hospitalized and dying in greater numbers due to the Delta variant than before. Georgia registered the youngest child that has contracted COVID at age “6” months. The “combat” plan is to get back to the basics – hand washing, masks, vaccine, and social distancing.