



ROME, GA

**Exchange Club of Rome Business Meeting
The Palladium
June 11, 2021 Noon**

Call to Order at 12:08 am, President Larry Walker presiding; Invocation by Terry Jones; Pledge of Allegiance by Stacy Walker

President Walker listed members with birthdays in the current week and called on Steve White to lead in discussion of fellowship items.

Announcements – Larry Walker made several announcements as follows:

- **District Convention** – President Walker asked President Elect Lee Roberts, who attended the Georgia District Convention, to give a report on the convention. He reported that the Rome Club was honored by winning the following awards in the Large Club Division: Exchange Member of the Year (John Fortune), Volunteer of the Year (Holly Kelly), Most Outstanding Treasurer (Carol Abrams), Best Fundraising Project (Tillman Clocktower 5K), and Best Community Service Project (Adopt-a-Mile with Main Elementary). John Fortune will be submitted to National Exchange Club for District Exchange Member of the Year.
- **Adopt a Pot** – President Walker called attention to the recently planted flowers in the concrete planters at the entrance to the Palladium and encouraged members to volunteer to be responsible for planting and maintaining flowers or plants in one or more of the remaining planters. Interested persons should see Larry Walker, Stacy Walker, or Fred Dent.
- **Respect for Law Program** – President Walker reported that he had been contacted by David Thorton of the Noon Optimist Club to participate in the Respect for Law Awards Program at the Palladium on June 21st. This is a joint program sponsored by the Noon Optimists, Kiwanis, and Lions Club and they have reached out to Exchange Club to join as well. The board of directors has approved our support of the program with a \$100 donation and attendance at the event, which begins at 11am and concludes with lunch. Members who wish to represent Exchange Club at the event should see President Walker following the business meeting.
- **Floyd County Public Safety Event** – Charles Long announced that the Exchange Club had been asked to prepare and sell hamburgers and hotdogs for the Public Safety Expo, to be held at the fairgrounds from 10am until 2pm on July 10th. Proceeds from the sale will be donated to the Floyd County Police Department to produce a recruitment video.

We are in need of around 10 volunteers to assist on that day. Volunteers should contact JP Cooper or Charles Long.

Membership

Beginning Membership 5/1/2021: 189
(Active 170, Active Family Primary-9, Active Family Additional-9)
Resignations: 1 (Wayne Rush, deceased)
Drops for Non-payment: 0
Inductions: 1 (Sheree Williams)
Ending Membership 5/30/2021: 189
(Active 173, Active Family Primary-9, Active Family Additional-9)
New Member Applications: 0

Sheree Williams, sponsored by Susi Edwards Edwards, was inducted by JP Cooper and welcomed into the fellowship of the Club by all.

Minutes & Correspondence – Secretary Gail Johnson emailed minutes from the May business meeting to board members prior to the meeting. Bryan Shealy made a motion to accept the minutes as distributed. Steve White seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Gail Johnson noted that there was no correspondence.

Treasurer's Report –Treasurer Carol Abrams was not present at the May business meeting and the financial report was not presented, therefore Treasurer Abrams presented the April report and the May report. For the April report Mike Elliott moved for approval and Diane Warner seconded and the report was approved unanimously. For the May report Bill King moved for approval and JC Grimes seconded and the report was approved unanimously. Carol noted that the receivables balance greater than 90 days was \$3,200, representing 7 members, and the balance from 61 – 90 days was \$3,966. She is in the process of preparing details to show when the members missed payments and feels that most of these are oversights that will be corrected. A copy of the report is attached to the minutes.

Past Dues

Gail Johnson reported that two months ago we had 22 members whose dues were greater than 90 days past due. After multiple attempts to reach these members only six members have been completely unresponsive to our outreach. Several members paid their dues in full, two members paid their dues and resigned in good standing, one member intends to resign in good standing, and six will be dropped for non-payment of dues. She reported that the following actions were approved by the board at the June board meeting:

Elizabeth Davis: Accept resignation

Tim Burkhalter: Accept resignation after receipt of that payment. There was a miscommunication with the Sheriff's Office as former Sheriff Burkhalter left office and his final quarter of dues were not paid.

Drop seven members who have not responded to our outreach for non-payment of dues.

In addition, John Upton is moving to Louisiana at the end of June and has requested that his membership be transferred to the Exchange Club of St. Tammany. Gail Johnson will work with the St. Tammany club to coordinate the transfer.

This will leave our ending membership balance at 180 for the year.

Committee Reports:

Americanism – Bill King

- Bill King reported in the absence of John Fortune, who is on vacation. The Memorial Day event was very successful. The service on Monday drew about 300 people and estimates for the car show on Saturday was about 1,000 attendees.
- Call to Honor – Bill King –
 - Trip to Indiana with five stops in six days was the most successful trip to date. Donations in excess of \$6,500 were received. First day was in Frankfort at the Frankfort Public Library. Additional stops were for DAR presentations. Bill thanked members Jim Belzer, Mike Elliott, and Wain Bates for their participation in the tour.
 - Successful display at Georgia Exchange District Convention at Calloway Gardens June 3 – 6
 - Several displays are planned in July and August in Kentucky, Florida, Indiana, North Dakota, and Nebraska
 - Volunteers are needed for Tomb presentations, especially in November
 - Bill also announced that at the conclusion of the 2021 tours associated with the 100th Anniversary of the Tomb of the Unknown, proceeds from the Call to Honor donations will be donated in equal amount to the Tomb Society and the Family Resource Center.

Awards – Gail Johnson reported that much gratitude is owed to Buzz Wachsteter for spearheading the District award submissions this year and reiterated the amount of time and work that went into applying for the awards. She congratulated the award winners from the club.

Community Service – Bill King

- Adopt-A-Mile project received the Georgia District Most Outstanding Community Service Award. Since this was a project in cooperation with Main Elementary School Bill said that the plaque would be presented to the Exchange Club and the Exchange Club would then present the plaque to the principal of Main Elementary at a future meeting for display at the school.
- All other community service projects for the year have been completed.

Programs – Lee Roberts

June 19, 2021 – Craig McDaniel, Rome Mayor – Housing Shortage in Floyd County

June 25, 2021 – Dinner meeting – Officer and Board Installation

July 2, 2021 – No meeting (Independence Day holiday weekend)

July 9, 2021 – Business Meeting

There were no reports from the following committees: Member Support, Publicity, Social, Toys for Tots, Youth

CAP & FRC – Tina Bartleson reported that Night at the Movies attendance was around 275 people, which is down from previous years. Income at around \$9,000 is about half on what we normally make. The event will return to February next year. Next fundraiser is the Tillman Clocktower 5K on August 21st. We also received a \$1,500 grant from the Georgia District.

Shemika Roberts and Danielle McDaniel attended the Convention and accepted the grant on behalf of the FRC.

Amy Patterson and Tina Bartleson led the members in a fun and informative High Five Friday trivia game to spotlight the work of the FRC and the annual campaign.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:00pm

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Johnson
Secretary