

**The Exchange Club of Kiawah-Seabrook
Box PMB-J 130 Gardener's Circle Johns Island, SC 29455**

Member Meeting 08-02-2023 @Seabrook Island Club

Ray Hoover, President, called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

Thad Peterson honored fallen South Carolina hero, Sergeant John D. Meador, and led members in the Pledge of Allegiance. See Addendum for bio

Announcements:

- Margorie Stephenson gave an update on the golf tournament and requested volunteers. Sign-up sheets on tables for both volunteers and raffle items
- Pat Welch gave an update on the Bohicket Run
- Roger Steele reminded members about the upcoming CSO at Gaillard concern/dinner combo

The evening's speaker was Charleston Mayor John Tecklenberg, bio and Tidelines article attached.

Next Meeting: 8/16/23 @ Seabrook Island Club

Speaker – Regina Creech with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention

Addendums:

Attendance

Fallen Hero

Speaker Bio and Tidelines Article

Minutes submitted on 8/15/23 by Lisa McDonald, Club Secretary

ATTENDANCE

Attended?	Member	Attended?	Guests/Special Meals
X	Victor Agusta		
X	Todd Anderson		
X	Bill Bane		
X	Phyllis Barber		
X	Dave Berry	X	Amber Berry
No	Wayne Billian		
X	Herb Boehm		
X	Rich Boss		
X	Ed Brett		
X	Cathy Cleary		
X	Wes Cleary		
X	David Cruse		
X	Carmin Degennaro		
X	Bob Driscoll		
X	Frank Farfone		
X	Joe Foti		
X	Bob Glenn		
X	Richard Gwyn		
X	Edward Hescamp		
X	Ray Hoover		
X	Bill Huff		
X	Maurice Isaac		
X	Phyllis Kaupp-Seas		
No	Ken Kavanaugh		
X	Ed Leary		
X	Bruce Ludwin		
X	Alan Madison		
X	Bob Mason	X No X X	Sherrie Mason Rene Black Scott Simpson John Tecklenburg - Speaker
X	Tony Mazzola		
X	Lisa McDonald	No	
X	Rick McDonald		
X	Jay Miller	X	Nancy Miller
X	Bill Nelson		
X	Lisa Owens	X	Brent Owens
X	Thad Peterson	X	Salley Peterson
X	Russ Preston		
X	Robert Quagliato	X	Add Charles Quagliato
X	Sam Reed		
X	John Reock	X	John Holland
X	Charles Riehl		
X	Ed Rigtrup		
X	Shirley Salvo		
X	Nancy Schibler		

Attended?	Member	Attended?	Guests/Special Meals
X	Charlie Septer		
X	John Sesody	X	Sue Dostal
X	Roy Sessions		
X	Roger Steel	X	Add Vivian Steel
X	Ken Steen		
X	Chris Stephenson		
X	Marj Stephenson		
X	Joe Thompson		
X	Dick Trent		
X	Stan Ullner	X	Carol Ullner
X	Bruce Van Voorhis		
X	Tom Webster		
X	Pat Welch		
X	Jack Wilson		
X	Kevin Winter		
X	David Woodman		
X	Mela Wyeth		

Attended?	Guest	Member	Type
X	Amber Berry	Dave Berry	Wife
No	Rene Black	Bob Mason	Prospect
X	Sue Dostal	John Sesody	Prospect
X	John Holland	John Reock	Prospect
X	Sherrie Mason	Bob Mason	Wife
X	Nancy Miller	Jay Miller	Wife
X	Brent Owens	Lisa Owens	Husband
X	Salley Peterson	Thad Peterson	Wife
X	Scott Simpson	Bob Mason	Family
X	John Tecklenburg	Bob Mason	Speaker
X	Carol Ullner	Stan Ullner	Wife
X	Add - Bob Simpson	Unknown	

TRIBUTE TO SC FALLEN HERO

Good evening fellow club members and guests.

In our past 2 meetings, we paid tribute to 2 of 3 South Carolina Army National Guard soldiers killed in a suicide attack during Operation Enduring Freedom. Tonight, we're paying tribute to the third fatality – Sgt. John David Meador II.

Sgt. Meador died on June 20, 2012 in Afghanistan along with two other South Carolina Army National Guard soldiers - 1st Lieutenant Ryan D. Rawl and Sgt. 1st Class Matthew Bradford Thomas.

Born on Oct 28th, 1975 in Beckley, West Virginia, Stg. Meador was a son of Sharon and John Meador. He was a 1994 graduate of Lexington High School where he was a state wrestling champion. He later devoted his time coaching wrestling at White Knoll Middle School and caring deeply for the concerns of his wrestlers. Sgt. Meador enlisted after graduating high school and served his country in the United States Army. He then served with the South Carolina Army National Guard 132nd Military Police Company in Columbia and finally the 133rd Military Police Company in Timmonsville, SC, nicknamed the Palmetto Regulators.

Sgt. Meador was a member of Lexington County Sheriff's Department. He was said to be true carpenter and owned a wood working business. He loved hunting and the outdoors. He loved to cook, grill and bake so much that some of his friends called him "Bobby Crocker."

In Nov 2011 Sgt. Meador's unit was deployed to Afghanistan. Eight months later around noon on June 20, 2012, he and his unit were at the foot of the mountains along the Pakistan border in the city of Khost, about 90 miles southeast of Kabul. They were operating a checkpoint in a crowded market carrying out finger printing and retina scans, looking for insurgents and searching for explosives. In the crowd, a suicide bomber detonated a vest packed with small ball bearings killing the 3 SC guardsman and wounding 5. The blast also killed 21 Afghans and wounded many more. It was the deadliest day for the SC National Guard since the Korean War.

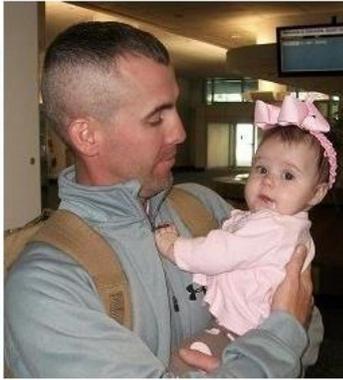
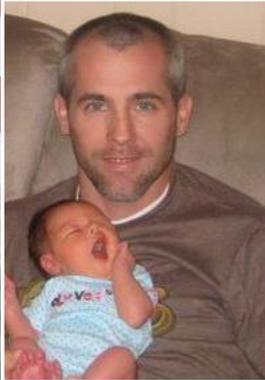
On that day, Sgt Meador left behind a loving wife, Christy, three loving daughters, Brianna, Elana, and Olivia, his parents, Sharon and John, and two brothers, James and Michael.

A note, written on Sgt. Meador's tribute page states: Our thoughts and prayers are with your family. This is what it makes our country free. That men and women heed the call to serve knowing the stakes are high and still following their hearts. All gave some, but some gave all.

As an indication of our respect for Sgt. John David Meador II and others who gave their lives for our country, the club places US flags around our community several times a year. Each flag has a yellow ribbon attached with the name of a fallen hero.

Sgt. John David Meador II, we salute you and your sacrifice on our behalf.

Please stand and join me in reciting the pledge of allegiance.



Sgt. John "J.D."
David Meador II

133rd Military Police Company

Operation Enduring Freedom

Khowst, Afghanistan

June 20, 2012

We Will Never Forget



Mayor John Tecklenburg



Charleston Mayor John Tecklenburg spent much of his career as a businessman and entrepreneur--a family legacy that began with the opening of his great-great-grandfather's corner grocery store at St. Phillip and Wentworth streets in 1867. Mayor Tecklenburg founded Southern Oil Company in 1978, which he successfully owned and operated for nearly 20 years. Upon selling the business, he was appointed to serve as Director of Economic Development for the City of Charleston, where he helped lead the revitalization of Upper King Street.

Mayor Tecklenburg holds a bachelor's degree in Chemistry from Georgetown University in Washington, DC and also attended the Berklee College of Music in Boston where he pursued his lifelong passion for music and jazz. Since becoming mayor in 2016, Mayor Tecklenburg has been committed to improving citizens' quality of life and making Charleston a city of opportunity for all.

Among his efforts to improve city-wide livability, Mayor Tecklenburg has paid particular attention to flooding and drainage relief, appointing the city's first-ever Chief Resilience Officer, and beginning the process of implementing the City of Charleston Flooding & Sea Level Rise Strategy, which outlines actions designed to make the city more resilient to effects of increased disasters and changing weather.

Mayor Tecklenburg has also led initiatives to address housing affordability and homelessness in Charleston. These have included the closing of Tent City, a sprawling homeless encampment that had developed in our North Central neighborhood, and the formation of the Mayors' Commission on Homelessness and Affordable Housing, which works to develop a long-term regional approach to these challenges.

In addition, he has championed Plan West Ashley, the largest, most comprehensive renewal and revitalization effort in our city's history. Modeled after the successful Downtown Revitalization Commission of the 1970s and 1980s, the West Ashley Revitalization Commission is working directly with citizens to implement Plan West Ashley, which will guide the area's development for years to come.

Mayor Tecklenburg and his wife Sandy are the proud parents of five grown children - Melissa, Suzanne, Paula, Joseph and John Henry. They reside in the Old Windermere section of West Ashley.

TIDELINES ARTICLE

<https://tidelinesblog.com/2023/08/11/mayor-tecklenburg-speaks-to-the-exchange-club-of-kiawah-seabrook/>

Mayor Tecklenburg speaks to members of the Exchange Club of Kiawah-Seabrook

“Leave it better than you found it” is a mantra that Mayor John Tecklenburg got from his father, and he has applied it to his leadership style and the approach that he takes to governing Charleston. Mayor Tecklenburg spoke to 70 members and guests at the most recent meeting of the Exchange Club of Kiawah-Seabrook. His commitment to improving our community was clear throughout his speech, and he addressed several concerns of the city at large, and also those issues specific to our community. The mayor said that his number one job is public safety, that it’s not possible to pursue the tenets of the Declaration of Independence, life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, if people don’t feel safe. With his “number one job” being public safety, Mayor Tecklenburg mourned the recent death of Charleston Police Chief Luther Reynolds. He’s proud that the city has a full compliment of firefighters for the first time in several years and that all property taxes fully cover the expense of police and fire in Charleston.

The mayor also addressed the impact of climate change on the city, saying that there have been seven hurricanes since he was elected. He stated that “Water is an existential threat to the city”, the harbor water level is fourteen inches higher than 100 years ago and the rate of increase has quadrupled. Now he expects that the water level will raise another foot by 2050. His administration is working to minimize the impact of rising water, and he cited the massive drainage tunnel under Septima Clark Parkway as one of the most important steps that the city has taken to mitigate flooding.

The mayor said that “we’re dealing with the challenges of success” when he spoke of the traffic issues on Johns Island. He is committed to adding additional traffic lanes between Maybank and River Road and the bridge to James Island. He also discussed the “pitchfork”, the addition of two exits on Maybank to divert traffic to River Road in order to lessen the traffic at the Maybank and River Road intersection. Work has begun on the northern fork, and negotiations are underway to secure the land for the southern fork.

He also discussed the area economy and the impact that was felt when the Navy base closed, and twenty-five thousand jobs disappeared almost immediately. He said there are five priorities that have made the area economy so robust; tourism, which is responsible for 51 thousand jobs in the city; life sciences led by MUSC; Logistics, Charleston has the deepest harbor on the east coast; Technology, Charleston’s Digital Corridor is growing quickly; and manufacturing with the arrival of Boeing, Volvo and Mercedes to the area.

The Mayor’s focus on “common sense, practical things” resonated with club membership and his optimism and enthusiasm for the city was apparent throughout his speech.

The Exchange Club of Kiawah-Seabrook is a service organization committed to community enrichment through the support and development of programs which focus upon the prevention of child abuse, youth development and education, Americanism, and community outreach.

The Club holds dinner meetings about every two weeks, providing an opportunity for fellowship and fun, along with a guest speaker discussing some aspect of life in the Low Country. Other activities include an annual holiday event and excursions to the Charleston Symphony throughout the year.

If you are interested in learning more about us, please fill out a membership application form at <https://ecks.memberclicks.net/>, or contact Bob Leggett at rmleqq8@gmail.com.