

NEWSVIEWS

EXCHANGE CLUB of MATTOON

ILLINOIS GOVERNOR EDWARD COLES

Edward Coles railed against slavery throughout his life.

“Believing slavery to be both injurious and impolitic, I believe myself bound, both as a Citizen and an Officer, to do all in my power to prevent its introduction into the State.” – Edward Coles.

Born in Virginia and inheritor of a plantation with slaves. In 1819 Coles boarded his slaves on two flatboats and declared that they were free and he purchased 160 acres of land for each family. Coles was instrumental



in the 1824 defeat of a pro-slavery referendum in Illinois. Coles became the second governor of Illinois (1822-1826) having won that race against a staunch pro-slavery opponent.

A very informational history lesson by Mr. Charles Titus shown here with his favorite companion Elda Ueleke.

MARCH 2026

AI Has been employed in developing some of this NEWSVIEW data



Covenant of Service

Accepting the divine privilege of single and collective responsibility as life's noblest gift, I covenant with my fellow Exchangites:

To consecrate my best energies to the uplifting of Social, Religious, Political, and Business ideals;

To discharge the debt I owe to those of high and low estate who have served and sacrificed that the heritage of American citizenship might be mine;

To honor and respect law, to serve my fellowmen and to uphold the ideals and institutions of my Country;

To implant the life-giving, society-building spirit of Service and Comradship in my social and business relationships;

To serve in Unity with those seeking better conditions, better understandings, and greater opportunities for all.

COLES COUNTY COUNCIL ON AGING

The center provides seniors with many resources as well as daily activities. There are many groups for help as well as friendly understanding of aging. There are support groups for caregivers and sources for those that might be homebound. At the center there are games of Bingo, as well as meals through peace meals, and informal coffee chats.



Services for the community include through the Illinois Department on Aging, the APS Program works available to protect older adults, adults with disabilities, and caregivers by investigating concerns of abuse, neglect, exploitation, and self-neglect.

Need help with understanding the many programs available to seniors or the community see a member of the SIS program which supports adults 60+ and individuals with disabilities of any age by offering free advocacy and guidance on Medicare, Medicaid, long-term care, and more.

Public Transportation through Dial-A-Ride provides accessible public transportation in Coles and Douglas counties for all residents, regardless of age or ability. Services include rides to medical appointments, grocery stores, often at reduced rates.

Public Relations Coordinator Ashley Berkheimer is shown, after her informative presentation, with President Lucy Perkins and President-Elect Larry Maxedon.

CHARTER BANQUET

EXCHANGE CLUB of MATTOON

March 27, 1976

The permanent organization meeting of the Exchange Club of Mattoon was held on February 18, 1976 as a Bi-Centennial Club with 26 members.

The Exchange Club of Champaign was the sponsoring club when Carl (Big Luke) Larson was President. The sponsoring club committeemen were Owen Fabert and Oscar Wilson.

The Charter Banquet was held at the Mattoon Holiday Inn. The Charter presentation was held by Past National President William Miller, from Elkhart, Indiana.

District President Ken Mullenix and District President-elect William Harvat were present, as were District Secretary Merle Dunn and District Director Bill Dieker. Members from the Exchange Clubs of Fond Du Lac, WI, Champaign, Rantoul, Lincoln, Bloomington, Rock Island, Galesburg, and East Moline-Sylvis were in attendance.

Charter Officers :

- President - Carl Larson
- Vice-President- Jim Fishman
- Secretary - Bob Young
- Treasurer - Dennis Gathmann
- Board members - Don Hankens, Pill Fisher, Del Moncel, Jerry Parker, George Stone, and Larry Fieldman.

CHARTER MEMBERS



FISHER

Beaumont, Jerry W. Berquist, H. Roy Black, Ted R. Burgess, Larry W. Burtard, Dennis L. Druin, James R. Fieldman, Larry S.

***Fisher, Wilford (Pill) D.** Fishman, James ***Gathmann, Dennis**

A. Gill, Norris L. ***Gutzler, Larry**



GATHMAN

J. Hanken, Don Larson Jr., Carl R. Lawson, Merle Lea, Hart Lehmann, Paul Martin, Lindel R. Moncel, Delbert L. Moyer, Warren M. Myers, Frederick E. Oelke, Ralph Olmstead, Raymond

***Parker, Gerald L.** Racette, Henry R. Shimkos, Paul D. Sinner, Donald E. ***Stone, George L.**

***Swick, John M.** Tate. Donald R.

***VanKeuren, William Volkman,**

Earl L. Walden, Wilson W. David

Young, Robert E.

* CURRENT CLUB MEMBERS



PARKER



STONE



SWICK

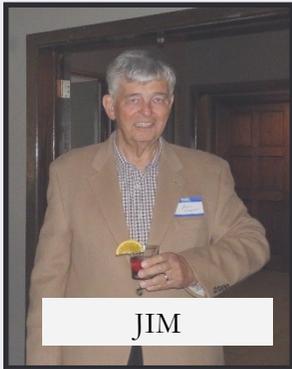


VANKEUREN

50th ANNIVERSARY OFFICERS



**PRESIDENT LUCY PERKINS, PRESIDENT ELECT LARRY MAXIDON
SECRETARY DENNIS BOOKER TREASURER ROBERT RIGGERT**



JIM



SCOT



GARY

**JIM RUZON, PAST DISTRICT PRESIDENT JOLIET
SCOT WARREN PAST NATIONAL EXCHANGE PRESIDENT
GARY PRAZNIK PAST DISTRICT PRESIDENT SUN PRAIRIE WISCONSIN**



**SPECIAL
GUESTS**



DAWN PORTER PAST DISTRICT PRESIDENT JANET JACOB LINCOLNLAND DIEECTOR

WEDNESDAY MARCH 25, 2026





CELL PHONES
OFF OR SET
TO VIBRATE
@ MEETINGS

Thanks!



EXCHANGE
www.mattoonexchange.org

Wednesday Mornings
7:00 am American Legion



Exchange Club of Mattoon
P O Box 1452
Mattoon, Illinois 61938

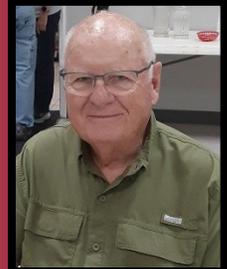
Lucy Perkins



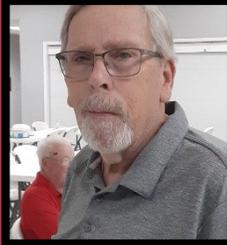
2025-2026

OFFICERS
EXCHANGE CLUB
of MATTOON

Larry Maxedon



Robert Riggert



Dennis Booker



Dave Coen



President Lucy Perkins

President Elect

Larry Maxedon

Secretary Dennis Booker

Co-Treasurers'

Robert Riggert & Dave Coen

March 27, 1976

March 27, 2026

50 YEARS OF SERVICE

CLUB ACCOUNTS

February 28, 2026

Operations Account:
\$3,937.95

Project Account:
\$7688.86

Scholarship Account:
\$103.75

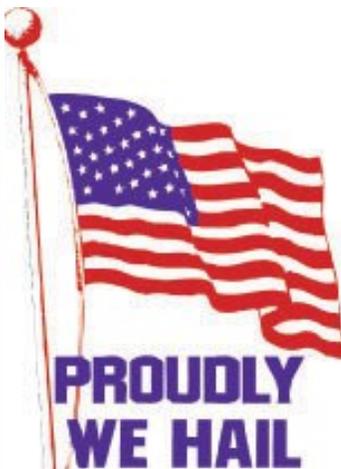
Scholarship CD
\$8,549.49

Cash Account:
\$158.70



EXCHANGE

www.mattoonexchange.org



NATIONAL EXCHANGE



MAXEDON HAS PLANNED

APRIL

PROGRAMS

April 1

Emily Hayden
Mattoon YMCA

April 8

Mattoon MPD

April 15

Tracy Haddock—SBL
Races for all Paces

April 22

Master Gardener

April 29

Tyler Yoder
Emerald Acres

RAMBLINGS

The median age of residents in Mattoon, Illinois, ranges from approximately 40.8 to 42.8 years, based on data from 2021 through 2026.

This is slightly higher than the national median age of 38.8, suggesting an older overall population.

Approximately one-fifth of residents are age 65 or older, while about 21% are under the age of 18.

The population is relatively evenly distributed between those under and over age 45, with a substantial concentration in the 30 to 64 age range.