



# THE BULLETIN

FLORENCE EXCHANGE CLUB  
THE OLDEST SERVING SERVICE CLUB IN THE SHOALS BEGINNING JUNE 1921

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

**Fire/Law Day**  
Oct 27

**Jack Counts**  
Nov 3

**ONUG**  
Nov 10

**Veterans Day**  
Nov 11

**Frank Eastland**  
Nov 17



“Although Coach Steve Spurrier’s action last week to resign from coaching college teams, this does not end his desire to be a leader in the sport,” remarked Al Ford to the Florence Exchange Club members Tuesday.

“He is 70 years old and has accomplished many good things in coaching football teams,” he added. “Spurrier retiring mid-season does not detract from his record.”

Mr. Ford himself has a spectacular 20-year career as a football referee. Starting in the Gulf States, Ford said he was fortunate to have been selected to move up to the SEC.

“Now it is tough to be an applicant into the SEC,” Ford said.

A person must start at at the high school level (after much rigorist rules training plus physical endurance), with at least five years experience before moving up to college level. “Each year in August, one must run a mile and a half and pass the rules update testing,” Ford said. “Some out of shape just don’t make it.”

Football officials are commonly, but incorrectly, referred to as referees, but each position has specific duties and a specific name: referee, umpire, head linesman, line judge, back judge, side judge, and field judge. Because the referee is responsible for the general supervision of the game, the position is sometimes referred to as head referee or crew chief.

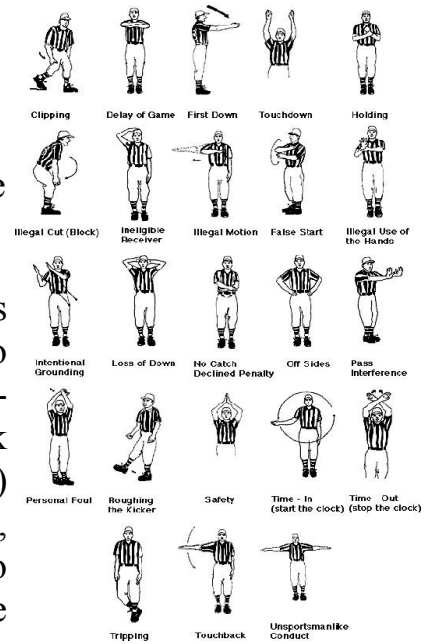
“Just recently you will see one more ref now called the ‘Center Ref’ who might be more younger and agile,” Ford said. “He is the one standing over the ball and running back to the left of the offense. He watches the left tackle for infractions.”

Officials play a very important role in the game, from keeping the game rolling along and calling penalties when a rule is broken, to making sure the athletes don’t unnecessarily hurt each other. Officials are responsible for monitoring the game clock and play clock, enforcing the rules of the game, and recording all rule infractions.

## 2014-2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Adin Batson, Pres**  
**Bert Bretherick**  
*Pres. Elect*  
**Brian Maples**  
*Vice Pres.*  
**Teresa Robertson,**  
*Imm. Past Pres.*  
**Laura Williams,**  
*Secretary*  
**Howard Tinsley,**  
*Treasurer*  
**One Year**  
**Frank Eastland**  
**Jenny Mitchell**  
**Vance Persall**  
**Two Year**  
**Frank Hatchett**  
**Joe Patterson**  
**Doug Evans**

Ford now serves as part of the SEC Replay Official Team. In 2006, the NCAA Football Rules Committee enacted instant replay guidelines and added them to the football playing rules. For games involving two schools from the same conference, league policy determines whether replay will be used. For non-conference games, the home team makes the determination.



Plays involving the sideline, goal line, end zone and end line, as well as other detectable situations, are reviewable (e.g., fumble/no fumble, pass complete/incomplete, touchdown/no touchdown, runner down/not down, player or ball inbounds/out of bounds, clock adjustments). Most fouls (e.g., holding, offside, pass interference) are not reviewable, except that in 2006, illegal forward passes, handoffs and punts from beyond the line of scrimmage, and too many players on the field are reviewable and the foul may be called after replay review. Also, while the foul of pass interference is not reviewable, it can be overturned on review based on touching of the pass. By rule, pass interference cannot apply if a pass has been touched by any player before the foul occurs, and the touching of a pass is a reviewable play at its conclusion from a secure booth in the press box. Most plays are routine and the game continues without interruption. If, however, the following criteria are met, the Replay Official may interrupt the contest by paging the game officials to stop the game before the next play starts. **(ED NOTE: info source is from the Wikipedia.)** Ford commented that he and the observer also now have conference calls from the SEC office regarding the review of all referee calls on the field. This helps in the “grading” of the officials. While there is occasional controversy over the appropriateness of overturned calls, the system is generally accepted as an effective and necessary way to ensure a fair game.



President Adin asked that those willing to provide cleaning supplies for the Attention Homes to bring them to the club meetings during October. (Sandra and spouse Hubert provided “a car-load” last week.) These are to help meet the state requirement of keeping the two boys and girls homes “up

to par”.



Dr. James Wells reported that he has joined the over “90 club” on October 14. Notice that he sports the new Exchange Club hat and he spent an afternoon recently hawking soft drinks at the fair. Congratulations Doctor!!!!

Dr. Joe Flippen invited FEC members to the dedication of the Freedom Shrine Thursday, Oct. 22 at Lexington High School.

October is traditional Crime Prevention and Fire Prevention month. On October 27, the Florence Exchange Club will recognize the deeds of Firefighter Jason Kelley, Police Officer Chris Weldon and Deputy Sheriff Randal McCrary. Family and other guests are invited to attend the event.



## One Nation Under God Luncheon November 10, 2015

The National Exchange Club program of One Nation Under God was started to help promote the belief that America is truly “One Nation Under God” and to make citizens deeply conscious of the transcendence of religious faith in the nation’s heritage and future.

For twenty years the One Nation Under God was a prayer breakfast sponsored by the Florence Exchange Club. The purpose of the breakfast was to call attention to the rich religious heritage and heritage of this nation. After the death of former Florence Mayor Eddie Frost, the name of the breakfast was changed to the ONUG and Eddie Frost Memorial Prayer Breakfast to honor the assistance Mayor Frost had given in support of the Breakfast.

Last year this was changed from a 6 AM breakfast to the regular noon time luncheon to match the changing habits of families. Starting at 11:30 AM to end at 1 PM, the Prayer Luncheon is sponsored by the Florence Exchange Club and is held in the Marriott Conference Center.

This year’s speaker will be Mr. John Croyle, founder of the Big Oak Ranch. Croyle was a defensive end for the University of Alabama’s 1973 National Championship football team, playing for the legendary Coach Paul “Bear” Bryant. At 19, John felt he had been given a gift to work with young people. His dream was to have the best children’s home in America. On the advice of Coach Bryant, John declined opportunities to the NFL to pursue his dream of helping children in need. Since 1974, nearly 2,000 children have called Big Oak Ranch home.



## Some thoughts to ponder. . . . .

My therapist told me the way to achieve true inner peace is to finish what I start. So far I've finished two bags of M&Ms and a chocolate cake. I feel better already. DAVE BARRY

You know you are getting old when the candles on your birthday cake start to cost more than the cake itself.

I changed my password everywhere to 'incorrect.' That way when I forget it, it always reminds me, 'Your password is incorrect.'

Give a man a fish and he will have food for one day. Teach him to catch fish and he will spend all day at the lake drinking beer.

A balanced diet means a cupcake in each hand.

It's better to shut up and give the impression that you're stupid than to say something and erase all doubt.

The safest way to double your money is to fold it over and put it in your pocket.

Practice makes perfect but then nobody is perfect so what's the point of practicing?

Never judge someone until you walk a mile in their shoes. By that time, they'll be a mile away and barefoot.

When nothing goes right, go left.

My mind is like lighting, one brilliant flash, then its gone...:(

Whenever I find the key to success, someone changes the lock.

Everyone has the right to their own opinion... Yours is just wrong.

I'm fat. But you're ugly. At least I can diet.

It takes patience to listen.. It takes skill to pretend you're listening.

If you have something to say, please raise your hand and place it over your mouth.

Many people bring joy in my household, some by coming, others by going...