

L to R: President Jane Durden, Judge Bobby Reeves, Dess Smith III.

### **Judge Reeves Speaks to Kiwanis**

The Kiwanis Club of Swainsboro held its weekly meeting Tuesday night, February 23, 2016 at Catered Creations at 7:00. With President Jane Durden presiding, we had 24 members in attendance with 4 guests. The guests were 3 members of the Metter Kiwanis Club, Gary Howard, Glenn Deal, Graham Daniel and Daisy Reeves, wife of Judge Bobby Reeves.

The program was hosted by Dess Smith, who introduced Bobby Reeves, Superior Court Judge in the Middle Georgia District. Judge Reeves gave us an update on the changes in the law in support of the state's move at justice reform. The program lessens the designations of crimes, felonies vs misdemeanors, in order to reduce the severity of the crimes and shorten the sentence that the court system can give a defendant. There has also been a change in developing a jury pool, expanding the pool to include more people. All of this has reduced the number of felony convictions and changed jury awards for civil cases. Other new accountability courts have been established to handle specialized, focused crimes, most notably, drug offenses. Bobby noted the two growing crime problems are drugs and gangs. He noted their effect on other crimes like murder and theft.

President Jane reminded us that the Mid-Winter Training is March 11/12 at Carrolton. She said that so far we have four members who plan to attend. See President Jane if you wish to attend.

Chair Tim Goodman reminded everyone about our first run timing on March 3rd. He also reminds everyone about the Sousa Spectacular at East Georgia State College on February 25th, the Chase Rice Concert at the College on April 29th, and the BRAG stop in Swainsboro on June 9th.

Tim also passed out sales information for the Tabloid. We have until March 29th to sell, sell, sell ! The Tabloid will be published on April 20th.

If you would like to become a member of the Swainsboro Kiwanis Club, please contact our Membership Chair Linda Lamb at 478-237-5188 or e-mail her at [hsdurden@bellsouth.net](mailto:hsdurden@bellsouth.net). Also, if you would like to find out more information about our Club and the many community service projects that we do each year, go to our Swainsboro Kiwanis Club website at: <http://www.swainsborokiwanis.org/> or to our Swainsboro Kiwanis Club Facebook page

