



# Decatur Rotary Club

## SPOKE 'N WHEEL

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October 6, 2010

The Oakhurst Arts & Music Festival is this Saturday, October 9th and will be located at the center of the Oakhurst community in [Harmony Park](#). It will begin with a 5K Arts Run/Walk at 8 AM, followed by a day of entertainment and attractions from 10 AM to 7 PM.

The festival will also feature local artists, live musical performances ([view performance schedule](#)), a community area featuring Decatur-based nonprofit groups, a free activity area for children, food and beverages at Oakhurst's many restaurants, and of course, the annual parade! The parade starts at the Oakhurst Presbyterian Church at 2 PM and ends at the Solarium.

Also, please remember to visit our website at [decatur-rotary.org](http://decatur-rotary.org) where you can update your contact information, view videos from past Rotary meetings and find out who our upcoming speakers are. Don't forget to join our [LinkedIn Group](#) and [Facebook Page](#) as well!

Elliott Augustine & Andrea Greengard

### The Four-Way Test:

In everything that we think, say or do:

Is it the **TRUTH**?

Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?

Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?

Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

### President's Corner



## Announcements

A new Decatur Rotary directory is in the works. Has your contact information changed? If you have NOT sent in your updated information, we need it now. Email your changes to **Vee Nelson** at [vee@vnelson.com](mailto:vee@vnelson.com).

### Rotary Networking Resources

District 6900 has created this resource to help Rotarians in our district find employment. To find out more visit the district web site [www.rotarydistrict6900.org](http://www.rotarydistrict6900.org) and look for Career Networking.

Decatur Rotary is now on Facebook. Check out the page for updates and become a fan. [Decatur Rotary Facebook Page](#)

Decatur Rotary is now on LinkedIn. Check our page for updates and to join our group. [Decatur Rotary LinkedIn Group](#)

**NEW!!** Link to the most recent District 6900 Newsletter: [District Newsletter](#)

**Book Of**



**President C. J. Becker** called the meeting to order

### Announcements:

#### Thursday, October 7: Terrific First Thursday:

The Terrific First Thursday in October will be from 5:30 to 7:30 on October 7th at Twains (located at 211 East Trinity Place). We hope to see you there!

#### Sunday, October 24: World Polio Day

In honor of World Polio Day, The Rotary Foundation is happy to announce 2 for 1 recognition points for every online contribution of \$100 or more made to PolioPlus during October 18-24 2010, Central Standard Time. Please go to [www.rotary.org/contribute](http://www.rotary.org/contribute) to make your online contribution. Please join other Rotarians nationwide in contributing online to PolioPlus in honor of World Polio Day. Together we will End Polio Now.

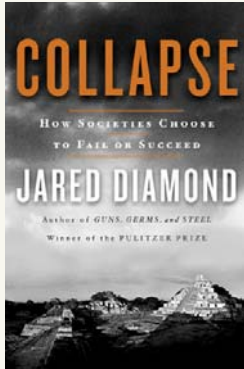
#### Thursday, November 6: Park Clean Up Day

When: 8:00 am to 1:00 pm (Registration: 8:00 to 8:30 am)  
Where: Dearborn Park, Decatur (Deerwood Drive at Midway Road)  
Food and live entertainment will follow the work session. For more info call 404-371-2540 or visit [www.ParkRenewalDay.com](http://www.ParkRenewalDay.com). You can also watch a short video about the event [here](#).

**Dr. Charles S. Bullock: University of Georgia, Political Science**

## The Week

### "Collapse" by Jared Diamond



#### Book Description:

This is the glass-half-empty follow-up to Jared Diamond's Pulitzer Prize-winning *Guns, Germs, and Steel*. While *Guns, Germs, and Steel* explained the geographic and environmental reasons why some human populations have flourished, *Collapse* uses the same factors to examine why ancient and modern societies have fallen apart.

Book Selected By  
**Past President Frank Matthews**

**John Adams** introduced our guest speaker, Dr. Charles Bullock, an insider of national and Georgia politics. Dr. Bullock highlighted his ties to DeKalb County as a native of Tucker and his personal history with Decatur Rotary. Dr. Bullock's grandfather was a member of Tucker Rotary and would make-up absences with Decatur Rotary.



Dr. Bullock began his review of national and local politics with a wish for the new year - the commencement of the federal fiscal year. Nationally he says, Republicans will have a very good year in the 2010 elections following a pattern that a party will lose Congressional seats in the mid-term election after it wins the Presidency. The bad economy adds to this historical pattern, as voters will cast their ballot against the President's party as a vote of disapproval and unhappiness, Dr. Bullock explains. While Congress has been active, its' actions have mainly been unpopular with the American public from bailouts, health care and immigration. Americans believe that the nation is on the wrong track by a ratio of two to one. There is also an enthusiasm gap where the Republicans are excited and the Democrats are unhappy about the upcoming elections. This enthusiasm is traced to the general upswing in the number of Republican ballots cast, as compared to 1990 per Dr. Bullock.

## Guests & Visitors

**Doug Torbush** gave the invocation.

#### Our Guests included:

Sarah McClelland: guest of  
**James Brewer-Calvert**

Cindy Jollay: guest of  
**David Jollay**

Denise Warner: guest  
of **Jeremy Warner**

Our Visiting  
Rotarians included:

Turning to Georgia, Dr. Bullock announced with confidence that Georgia is a Red State. However, the electoral outcome is dependent upon which voters show up on Election Day. In 2008, 3.9 million Georgians voted in the general election. Thirty percent of those voters were African-American. However, for the run-off only twenty-five percent of the voters were African-American. Democrats in Georgia may see good numbers if African-American voters return to the polls in numbers similar to 2008.

However, Democrats statewide face incredible odds. The last time a non-incumbent Democrat won statewide office in Georgia was 1998. Every Republican candidate for statewide office leads their Democratic opponent by wide margins (10 - 20 points). The contest for Governor is the

none

## Speakers At A Glance

October 8, 2010:  
Dr. David Sapp

October 15, 2010:  
Ann Q. Curry

October 22, 2010:  
TBA

## Officers of the Decatur Rotary Club:

President:  
C.J. Becker

President-Elect:  
Jason Conn

Past President:  
Bryan Downs

Secretary:  
Betty Spiker

Treasurer:  
John Bennett

Sergeant-at-Arms:  
Doug Torbush

District Governor:  
Casey Farmer

## Birthdays!



October 8:  
John Robinson

only exception to the disparate comparison between Republican and Democrat. In the Governor's race, the Republican-nominee Nathan Deal continues to lead Democratic-nominee Roy Barnes, but only by 5-8 points. Dr. Bullock attributed the closer contest for Governor to the negatives of Deal.

Dr. Bullock concluded his analysis of national and state politics by encouraging every member of the Club to become educated on the issues/candidates and engage in the discourse, and especially to vote on November 3.



Photo: Dr. Charles S. Bullock: University of Georgia, Political Science

In honor of Dr. Bullocks' visit, the book donated to the DeKalb Library System was "Georgia Politics in a State of Change" written by Dr. Charles Bullock and Ronald K. Gaddie.

The meeting was then adjourned.

*Reported by Kyle Williams or President C.J. Becker*

*Photography by Mark Burnette*

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**'Round the Room...**

October 15:  
Scott Stevenson

October 19:  
John Kozak

October 19:  
Bill Moon

October 28:  
Judy Turner

October 29:  
Rick Garnitz



**John Adams** along with our speaker, **Dr. Charles S. Bullock**



**Elliott Augustine** training  
The Decatur Rotary Club Audio/Visual Support Group



Members talk with **President C.J., John Adams** and our speaker **Dr Charles Bullock** after the meeting



**Tom Adams** and **Hugh Goodwin** pose for a picture



**Bill Breen and Scott Thompson** catch up after the meeting

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*Sincerely,*

The Rotary Bulletin Committee  
Decatur Rotary Club

*Directions:* [Old Courthouse on the Square](#)