



Decatur Rotary Club

SPOKE 'N WHEEL

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June 30, 2010

As I wrap up my term as editor of this bulletin, I want to thank the members who made the Spoke 'N Wheel possible this last quarter. Thank you **Clark Candler, Kyle Williams, Todd Speed and Mark Whatley**. I received your timely and well written reports every week. You never let me down. **Mark Burnett** your photographs were great and they arrived every Friday afternoon without fail. **Jon Manns** you were so good to be there backing up Mark when he could not attend. I could not have had a better team.

Brenda Leder

President's Corner

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?



Announcements

Decatur Rotary Club honorary member, **Donna Philips**, is on the cover of Rotary Basics, the 2010-2011 guide for Rotary International. You can see the cover at www.rotary.org/rotarybasics

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.

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 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](#)

NEW!! Link to the most recent District 6900 Newsletter:
District Newsletter

Guests & Visitors

Richard Puckett gave the invocation.

Our Guests included:

Sean Dammann-guest of **David Ewing**.



President Bryan Down called the meeting to order.

Announcements: Sadly, long time Rotarian **George Ingram** passed away recently. He will be sorely missed. No one did a better invocation at our meetings like George.

There will be no meeting July 2 in observance of the 4th of July holiday.

There will be a social at Ted's, located on the corner of West Ponce de Leon and Commerce, on Thursday, July 1 from 5:30 - 7:30. It will be the first social event for **President C.J. Becker's** new term. This will inaugurate first Thursdays socials during **C.J.** term.

Three new members were inducted.

1. **John Bennett** Introduced **John Kozak** who is a CPA and is a partner with Fulton and Kozak in Morrow Ga. He graduated from

Donna Brazzell-guest of
Darro Wiley.

Sharon Johnson-guest of
Betty Spiker.

C.J. Becker had much of her staff as guests. They included Lisa Jesup, Teresa Wiggins, Cathy Reynolds, Dianna Wyatt and Cathy McCumber.

Our Visitors included:

Suzanne Sykes, Assistant District Governor.

GA State with a Masters in taxation. He also teaches taxation at Clayton State College.

2. **Elliot Augustine** introduced **Ginny Porter** who is a grant writer with Research Associates located in Decatur. She graduated from Meredith College. Ginny is a former AmeriCorps member and currently a volunteer with the Food Bank.

3. **Ray Willoch** introduced **Geoff Koski** who is President of Decatur News On Line. He will be teaching a government/civics class at Decatur High School this year. He is married to Reagan and they have 2 children.

Speakers At-a-Glance

July 2: No meeting ...4th of July break.

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 - Roy
Strickland

PASSING OF THE GAVEL



This week was the passing of the gavel from **President Bryan** to our new **President C.J. Becker.**

Bryan thanked many people who helped make his year a big success. He commented on how Rotary has a model that works. There are over 33,000 clubs that are meeting every week around a good meal with good friends from different vocations. Together they serve their local communities and the world as a whole.

The yearly change in leadership brings in new blood, enthusiasm and ideas and **C.J.** will do a great job.

Bryan wanted to pass on many thank you's. He thanked the Sergeant at Arms Committee for doing a great job each week. That committee included **John Drake, Mark Treese, Bedros Sharian III** and **Bobby Atwater.**

Bryan thanked the three editors of the Spoke N' Wheel, **Brian Casey, Brenda Leder** and **John Bennett** who got out our bulletin each and every week.

Linda Harris did a great job getting out announcements for the Rotary Program and Bulletin Committees. **Doug Torbush** did a great job with the greeters each week. We are so lucky to have

Birthdays!



July 3, Warren Davidson
July 4, Robert Castellani
July 4, Robert Soens
July 5, Betty Spiker
July 8, Linton Broome
July 10, Walt Drake
July 16, Ted O'Callaghan
July 17, Joe Kusmik
July 17, Barbara Tedrow
July 19, John Kline
July 21, John Bennett
July 27, James Thibadeau
July 27, James Topple
July 30, Mark Whatley

Jean O' Callahan, club executive secretary, for all that she does and has done for Rotary for so many years!

Clairmont Place did a wonderful job each week preparing our meals.

We had truly wonderful programs this year thanks to **Scott Thompson, Peggy Merriss and David Ewing**. We had a Heisman Trophy Winner, a Lt. Governor, a Grammy Award winner, numerous authors, a world renowned golf course architect, superb economists, Baptist ministers and an owner of a package store who excelled in wines!

Bryan wanted to thank all of the Board of Directors including **Susan Cobleigh, Kirby Thompson, Eric Norwood and Bob Bachman**.

Bryan pointed out that that the club is in great shape and is poised to grow as witnessed by our 3 new members today. **Vee Nelson** has done a great job identifying new members and fine tuning the Rotary message.

Last year we increased our grant funding by 26%. **Tom Brown** raised \$12,000 for Haiti, **Jim Jarboe** did a good job with the Aids Awareness program and we had tremendous participation for the ML King Day. We donated dictionaries to every Decatur 4th grader. We expanded our support for our Agnes Scott student and have had quite a few more Paul Harris Fellows.

Many thanks to **Jack Gerlach** and his efforts as Treasurer, **Alan Dishman** as Secretary, **Vee Nelson** for her tireless effort and to the entire club.

Byran got a rousing standing ovation from the club as he passed the official gavel to **C.J.** She quickly pointed out that **Bryan** was getting carried away and certainly did not handle a gavel as a real judge like herself! She did give **Bryan** the coveted past President badge and pin. **Bryan** received a plaque suitable for hanging and a free round of golf at Callaway Gardens. I hope the course recovers from the future thrashing!



C.J. thanked Julia Carter for introducing her to Rotary. She wanted to honor the club and remind us that we are only 3 years away from our 75th birthday! The 3- year goal is to eradicate polio once and for all!

Our goal is to have everyone serve, give and party together this year! Amen.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Report by Mark Whatley

'Round the Room...



Our immediate Past President, **Bryan Downs**



Sergeant at Arms, **Doug Torbush**, Treasurer **John Bennett** and Secretary **Betty Spiker**



Our newest members, **Geoff Koski**, **Ginny Porter** and **John Kozak**



Accolades all around for the incoming and out going administrations.

Sincerely,

The Rotary Bulletin Committee
Decatur Rotary Club

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

[Forward email](#)