



August 5, 2015 | Be Involved, Be Engaged, Celebrate Rotary

In This Issue

<b>At the Podium</b>
Aug. 14 Bob Bachman Emory University Hospital
Aug. 21 Debra Lowe Rotary Foundation
Aug. 28 Terri Kruzan Decatur Study on Aging
Sept. 4 No meeting
Sept. 11 Renay Blumenthal Grady Foundation
Sept. 18 TBA

# first thursday *Social*

August 6 | 5:30-7:30 PM  
The Marlay House  
426 W. Ponce De Leon Ave.  
Decatur 30030

Join us for our August Thirsty Thursday and remember to BYOW (Bring Your Own Wallet) for your beverages, etc.

## This Week at Rotary

Sept. 25  
Dave Schmit  
Schmit & Associates

Friday Lunches  
catered by  
Oakhurst Market

## Decatur Rotary Club Officers

President:  
Scott Thompson

President-Elect:  
Amy Nash

Past President:  
Peter Michelson

Secretary:  
Doug Robinson

Treasurer:  
Pete Pfeiffer

Sergeant-at-Arms:  
John Drake

## The Four-Way Test

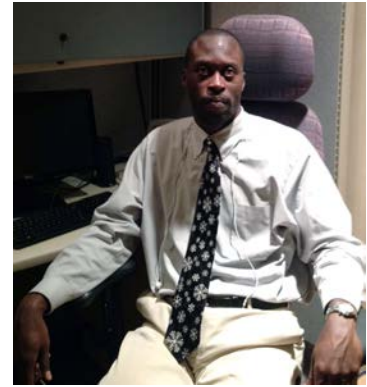
In everything that we  
think, say or do:

Is it the TRUTH?

Is it FAIR to all  
concerned?

Will it build  
GOODWILL  
and

**Garrick Scott**  
President, Georgia Office  
National Federation of the  
Blind



Garrick Scott was born in Warner Robins, Georgia. He has a daughter, four brothers and five sisters. His vision loss is due to a hereditary eye disease known as retinitis pigmentosa.

Scott graduated with a BA in communication studies from Gardener Webb University in Boiling Springs, North Carolina. Scott says he pursued this degree because it had 90% of all the things he enjoyed such as radio and TV work, newspaper and drama classes.

Shortly after graduation, Scott was attending a Foundation for Fighting Blindness meeting in Atlanta and heard about the National Federation of the Blind. He began working at National Federation of the Blind in 2004. He is currently in his ninth year as the president of the NFB of Georgia. Scott has served as an outreach coordinator for the NEWSLINE program (GA Audible Universal Information Access Service) for two years. His love of media and information proved to be an asset in this field.

This insight was the stepping stone for his involvement in the NFB and other blind-related activities. In 2002, he was nominated for membership to the advisory board for the Library for Accessible Services, formerly known as the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. In 2004 he received his state certification to be a peer counselor for people with disabilities.

Garrick has continued to work diligently in the blind community. He currently serves as chairman of the board for Disability Link, a center for independent living. He is a 2011 graduate of Leadership DeKalb, a program designed to foster future leaders in the county.

His plans as president are to continue promoting the mission and philosophy of the NFB, to personally increase usage and participation in the NFB NEWSLINE, and to encourage blind citizens of Georgia to live the lives they want.

## BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

[For more information visit our website.](#)

[Check our club's calendar](#)

[District 6900 Website](#)



## Good to Know

Meeting Place  
Old Courthouse  
Downtown Decatur  
101 E. Court Square

Meeting Time  
Every Friday  
12:15 to 1:30 pm

Our Club  
#4132, District #6900.

Mailing Address  
Decatur Rotary Club  
PO Box 845  
Decatur, GA 30031

Dues & Donations  
\$275 quarterly dues  
\$700 annual donation

Newsletter Submissions  
Deadline is Monday at noon.  
Send your news to  
Adrienne Vinson at  
[adrienne.m.vinson@gmail.com](mailto:adrienne.m.vinson@gmail.com)

## Last Week's Speaker Recap



Linda Harris (far left) introduced our speaker, Daren Wang (second from left), executive director and founder of the AJC Decatur Book Festival. Also pictured is Philip Rafshoon (center), program director.

This is the Decatur Book Festival's tenth year. Mr. Wang began by describing how he got his inspiration for the festival while attending the South Carolina Book Festival in Columbia. Mr. Wang credited City of Decatur staff with being very easy to work with and with having the attitude that they could make the festival happen.

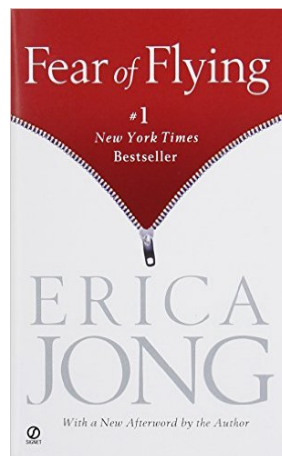
Mr. Wang estimates that the first festival drew 40,000 people. Arianna Huffington delivered the first keynote shortly after she founded the Huffington Post.

Mr. Wang then introduced Philip Rafshoon, the festival's programming director. Mr. Rafshoon described some of this year's lineup which includes:

- A conversation between Erica Jong (Fear of Flying and Fear of Dying) and Roxanne Gay
- Christopher Moore (Secondhand Souls)
- Amy Stewart (Girl Waits with Gun)
- Samuel Delaney (A B C)
- Ron Rash (Above the Waterfall)
- Pat Conroy
- Sara Paretsky (Brush Back)
- Greg Isles (Natchez Burning)
- Elizabeth Alexander (The Light of the World)
- Kent & Amber Brantly (Called for Life)

- Kevin Gillespie
- Hugh Acheson
- Natalie Dupree
- Meg Cabot (Princess Diaries series)
- Kristan Higgins
- Robyn Carr

Mr. Rafshoon also described some new events at the festival, such as the "Memory Makes Us" tent, where authors will create a book, in real time, with the help of festival-goers. The festival will also include numerous musical and theatrical performances to entertain every attendee. The children's venue at the Decatur Recreation Center will be also be a tremendously entertaining focus for our youngest literary devotees!



President Scott Thompson presented the book, *Fear of Flying* by Erica Jong, to be placed in the DeKalb library system in honor of the speaker's visit.

## News and Announcements



### Invocation

Given by David Ewing (above)

### Guests

Michelle Bolden, guest of the club

Paula Seville, guest and daughter of Carl Seville

### Announcements

Joan Harrison, wife of Bill Harrison, passed away peacefully on July 27, surrounded by her family. A memorial service is planned for Saturday, August 15, at 4 pm at the Central Congregational United Church of Christ at 2676 Clairmont Rd. NE, Atlanta 30329.

Remember! Decatur Rotary's First Thursday gathering is scheduled for this Thursday, Aug. 6, from 5 to 7:30 pm at the Marlay House at 426 W. Ponce de Leon Ave. in downtown Decatur. Please plan to join us for great fellowship!

At the next meeting of the board of directors, the board will consider a small increase in quarterly dues. Decatur Rotary's quarterly dues are among the lowest in metro Atlanta, and the club has not increased dues in nine years. To account for increased costs, the board is looking at an increase in the range of \$25-\$50 a quarter.

## Acknowledgements

Thank you to our reporter James Cobb, our photographer Mark Hastings, this week's editor Adrienne Vinson, and our graphic designer Marcia Lampe. Great job!

Sincerely,

The Rotary Bulletin Committee  
Decatur Rotary Club

**Directions:** Old Courthouse on the Square