



# Decatur Rotary Club

## SPOKE 'N WHEEL

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April 28, 2010

I spent the weekend in the mountains of North Carolina. It was wet and very chilly. Spring is just beginning there. A welcome site after a snowy winter.

Brenda Leder

### 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



**President Bryan** reminded us that ten or so of our members were enjoying the District Conference in Cobb County. He informed us that the Kusmik

**Announcements**

### **Past Presidents Day Wine Tasting**

Thursday May 6th from 6-8pm a wine tasting and light appetizers in honor of all Decatur Rotary past presidents. The social will be held at the offices of Robert L. Brown & Associates, 250 E. Ponce de Leon Ave (Wachovia Building) 8th floor. Please plan on attending, enjoying the food and drink, and honoring our past presidents.

Reminder for Club Members to make their reservations for the International Convention June 19-24, 2010 in Montreal.

All reservations are to be made through the Housing Bureau, Tourisme Montreal at <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/ri2010> or by calling 1-888-722-2220. Please do not forget to mention that you want to be staying in one of the rooms blocked for District 6900. Several rooms have been blocked at Montral Marriott Chateau Champlain for District 690

### **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](#)

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

## **Guests & Visitors**

**Scott Thompson** presented the invocation.

Our Guests included:

We had one visiting Rotarian, our speaker **Sheila Tschinkel**.

hospitality suite, a constant at the District Conferences, was in full swing. Also, a group of Decatur Rotarians enjoyed a fine dinner last night in conjunction with the Conference.

**President Bryan brought us three sad reports: first David Hughes father, Buddy, passed away last week. Second, Frank Carryl, one of our past Presidents, passed away earlier that day. Third, our fellow member Van Fraser has entered into the Hospice program and is not doing well at all. President Bryan encouraged us to all write notes of concern to the appropriate family members.**

In the final segment before the program, **Stuart Zola** presented to us a brief report on his work at the Yerkes Primate Center. He informed us that even though these are tough economic times for research facilities, the Yerkes center is enjoying good financial success this last year with over 57 million dollars in sponsored research. Two main areas of this research are stroke prevention and intervention research, and transplant research. As usual for Stuart, he concluded his presentation with a magic trick which was enjoyed by all.



Our Visitors included:

**John Bennett** presented Brock Peyer of Fidelity Bank; **Robert Soens** presented Geoff Roski of Decatur News OnLine; **President Bryan** introduced a guest of the Club Peter Michelson of Renewal Design and Build,. and finally our speaker had a guest, Janet Alling of Providence, Rhode Island.

## SHEILA TSCHINKEL



**Jim Crabb then introduced our featured speaker Sheila Tschinkel, an economist and Rotarian from the Atlanta Club. Sheila presented the economic outlook, both long term and short term. She is more**

**optimistic about the short term than the long term. She says that in the long term, we have to reign in deficit spending....it simply cannot last. She pointed out that at present there is a lot of excess slack and capacity in our economy. She projects short term growth of around 3.5 percent. She feels that the stimulus spending by the government has helped to jump start the economy, however, while this helped in 2009, it is not the only thing responsible for the growth we have seen in 2010.**

### Speakers At-a-Glance

April 30: Gordon Kenna

May 7: Wilbur Kurtz-Past  
President's Day

### Officers of the Decatur Rotary Club:

President - Bryan Downs

President-Elect - C.J. Becker

Past President - Mark Hastings

Secretary - Alan Dishman

Treasurer - Jason Conn

Sergeant-at-Arms - John Drake

District Governor - Roy Strickland

**Ms.Tschinkel thinks growth will slow a bit in 2011. She noted that the unemployment we are experiencing is due to the depth and the duration of the recession. Another concern is that in the last 30 years, income distribution has altered dramatically: there has been huge growth at the top and the bottom of the range, and a hollowing out of the middle. An even distribution would be healthier. The housing bubble made folks think they were wealthier than they were, and they generated far more debt than they would have normally. As a result, Sheila does not anticipate consumer spending helping us anytime soon.**

### Birthdays!



April 1, Bill Harrison  
April 3, Jim Phillips  
and Gary Sams  
April 4, Brian Cayce  
April 5, Bedros  
Sharian III  
April 7, Ed Turner  
April 8, Susan Cobleigh  
April 14, David Hughes

April 17, Bob Buckner  
April 19, James Crabb  
April 23 Zola Stuart  
April 27, Jim Miller  
April 28, Bob Biebel



**Sheila feels that in the long run, we have got to control Federal spending, and we have got to increase revenues by taxing. Also, in the long run, we have to fix the financial sector. She offered several measures to reform the sector, and said we have to figure out how to bring ethical, fair behavior into the mix. Ultimately, she does not think you can legislate this...you have to bring it about somehow in ways outside of legislation.**

**The book donated to the DeKalb County Public Library in honor of our speaker was *The Changing Global Economy*.**

The meeting was then adjourned.

Report by **Clark Candler**

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**'Round the Room...**

Mark Burnette's camera died. No candid shots for this edition.

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**Sincerely,**

The Rotary Bulletin Committee  
Decatur Rotary Club

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

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