



Member News

what's new & notable for our members & friends

Putting Unity in Community
~ For the past 25 Years! ~

March 2011

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"If the blind lead the blind, both shall fall in the ditch."

- Jesus Christ

DeKalb County Schools Interim Superintendent Reports to Class of 2011

Leadership DeKalb's Class of 2011 met with top administrators of DeKalb County schools on Education Day, March 17. The class heard presentations from Ramona Tyson, Interim Superintendent of DeKalb County Schools and Tom Bowen, Chair of the Board of Education. Both addressed current issues, including system

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

LD CLASS EVENTS

Economic Development & Transportation Day

Thursday, April 21, 2011

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YLD CLASS EVENTS

Civic Engagement

Monday, April 18, 2011

Georgia Perimeter College
Clarkston Campus
6 - 8 p.m.

MEMBER UPDATES

[Check this section each month for up-to-date information about your classmates -- our active members!]



1990

Judge Gregory A. Adams (left) received the **2011 Living Legend Award** by The Greater Travelers Rest Baptist Church in

certification, the search for a permanent superintendent, Vision 20/20 and sales tax options benefitting educational projects.

During a visit to the new school district offices on Mountain Industrial Boulevard, the class toured the Administrative and Instructional Complex (AIC) and DECA operations. Lunch was a special treat at the new Arabia Mountain High School (*see photo below*). The day began with Decatur's College Heights Early Learning Center and concluded with a stop at Decatur High School, where they heard from Decatur School System Superintendent Phyllis Edwards about the values of being a charter school.

Education Day was sponsored by AGL Resources, with supporting sponsorship from the Organization of DeKalb Educators, the DeKalb County School System, and Decatur City Schools.



Culinary students at Arabia Mountain High School line up for recognition by the class for the delicious meal they served for lunch. The Class of 2011 acknowledged the wonderful food with a standing ovation.



The Education Day program co-chairs wait as the class boards the bus...pictured are L-R: **Bruce Roaden '10, Bob Moseley '01, Dr. Jamie Wilson '04** outside the College

Atlanta. The award was presented in February by Pastor E. Dewey Smith.



1997

Virginia Newsome Vaughn

received the **2010-2011 Feminist Vision Award** by the Women's Studies Program at Agnes Scott College. Vaughn, who is Resource Coordinator for Side by Side Brain Injury Clubhouse, is Founding Director of the DeKalb Rape Crisis Center. The award was presented in March in recognition of her support for survivors of sexual assault and for her effort to eradicate sexual assault from our community.

2002

Demetrice Williams has a new position as Director of Community Relations for Agnes Scott College, where she is responsible for community relations and partnerships with the City of Decatur and metro non-profits. Williams had been Director of Special Events and Conferences.

2004

Attorney Kerry McGrath has joined the Board of Directors of the Inward Bound Center for Nonprofit Leadership, a new organization that provides coaching and leadership development programs to nonprofit organizations who are combating poverty, locally and globally. Learn more at the

Heights Early Learning Center in Decatur.



Members of the Class of 2011 board the yellow school bus as they travel around the county visiting schools.



Principal Merlon Jones welcomed the LD class at a session in the library of Elizabeth Andrews High School. Dr. Wilson (standing left) joined him at the presentation.

website:

<http://www.inwardboundcenter.org>.

2009

Terence Johnson, Director of Programs for the United Methodist Children's Home of Decatur, appeared on NBC-TV's *Celebrity Apprentice* to accept a \$40,000 donation from competitor Rapper Lil Jon, who chose the non-profit as his designated charity.

Rosalind "Ros" Kimber Lett has been named to the *Library Journal 2011 Movers & Shakers* list, which spotlights librarians who do extraordinary work for users and library services. Lett is with the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library, Huntsville, Alabama, but remains an active LD member and is also volunteering with Leadership Huntsville.

2010

Keith Sagars will receive the **National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development 2011 Award of Excellence in Leadership** at the organization's national conference in June. Sagars is Director of Career and Assessment Services at DeKalb Technical College.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

Martha Snelling '97, sends her appreciation to fellow graduates for their prayers and well wishes following the natural disasters that occurred recently in Japan. Members of her family live and work there but are unable to evacuate at this time due to the nature of their work.



Ukrainian Delegation Visits LD Offices

Leadership DeKalb hosted business and government leaders from the Ukraine in March. LD Executive Director **Sara Fountain '92** made a presentation on the history and impact of the 25-year old leadership development and community training program.

The delegation was in DeKalb County during a tour of U.S. cities as part of the Open World program, which enhances the understanding and capabilities for cooperation between the United States and the countries of Eurasia and the Baltic States. Open World develops a network of leaders in the region who have gained significant, first hand exposure to America's democratic, accountable government and free-market system.

Jonathon Weintraub '95, DeKalb County Deputy Chief Operating Officer-Development Group, met with the delegates, who came from the Poltava, Vinnitsa, and Rivne regions of the Ukraine. Weintraub gave them an overview of county government structure and functions, along with information on county government issues, budget and taxation,

intergovernmental relations, economic development, infrastructure, transportation and the environment.

LD Campaigns for Membership Renewals, Scholarship and Program Support

In 2011, Leadership DeKalb celebrates its 25th Anniversary as our community's "go-to" organization for established and emerging leaders. At the end of this class year, we will have directly touched the lives of more than 1,000 men and women from diverse social, economic and cultural backgrounds, from business and non-profit professionals to state and local elected officials.

"Leadership DeKalb is an organization that makes a difference because of its active members," says Executive Director **Sara Fountain '92**. "Only with your support - through membership renewal, donations and involvement - can we continue to provide programs and special events for our graduates and the annual development program for new individuals in leadership positions who can secure a great future for DeKalb County and the metro region.

"This means we really need members to stay active from year to year but that we also need them to look at other ways to support the organization's ongoing programs."

THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS & SPEAKERS

EDUCATION DAY

SPEAKERS:

Thomas Bowen

Chair, DeKalb County Board of Education

Mera Cardenas

Executive Director
Arabia Mountain Heritage Area Alliance

Dr. Phyllis Edwards

Superintendent
City Schools of Decatur

Merlon Jones

Principal
Elizabeth Andrews High School

Suzanne Kennedy

Principal
College Heights - Early Childhood Learning Center

Dr. Sharon Ordu

Principal/Director
DeKalb Early College Academy

Dr. Angela Pringle '11

Principal
Arabia Mountain High School

Ramona Tyson

Acting Superintendent
DeKalb County School System

CO-CHAIRS:

The Membership Renewal form suggests ways members can maximize their investment. In addition to paying a membership fee, there are scholarships and programs that when supported increase the individual's membership level and result in even more benefits.

"With YOU as an active member, we can look forward to the next great quarter century of leadership development," says Fountain. For more information, visit our website at www.leadershipdekalb.org and click on the Join/Renew page.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Volunteerism, Partnerships Support County Parks

Susan Hood '10 and **Dave Butler '11** participated in "Bridging to the Future," the 10th Annual Park Pride Parks and Greenspace Conference held recently at the Atlanta Botanical Garden. Their presentation "**Community Partnerships, Necessity not Luxury,**" discussed partnerships between DeKalb County, community groups, local business, and non-profit organizations to improve and maintain the county's more than 140 parks.

Organizations such as Leadership DeKalb, Park Pride, Scout Troops, Atlanta Audubon Society, Trees Atlanta, schools, neighborhood associations are active supporters. Hood is with the DeKalb County Natural Resource Management Office and Butler is DeKalb County

**Robert Moseley '01
Bruce Roaden '10
Dr. Jamie Wilson'**

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YLD PERSONAL FINANCE

SPEAKER:

Marcus Turk '04

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

LEADERSHIP DEKALB'S LEGACY SPONSOR



LD EDUCATION DAY

Presenting Sponsor:

AGL Resources
Eric Greenwood '06
Region Manager

Co-Sponsors:

Organization of DeKalb
Educators
David Schutten '08
Executive Director

DeKalb County Schools

Decatur City Schools

Greenspace Environment Manager. Leadership DeKalb graduates regularly participate in volunteer workdays and events in support of county parks.

Library Foundation Celebrates Successful Fundraiser

The DeKalb Library Foundation celebrated raising \$40,000 at "A Mysterious Evening," an event March 12 at the Decatur Library with authors Honorary Chair Karin Slaughter, Kathryn Stockett and Mary Kay Andrews that benefited the books and materials collection at the DeKalb County Public Library.



Attending "A Mysterious Evening" were (l-r) LD Executive Director **Sara Fountain '92**, DeKalb Library Foundation Executive Director **Donna Brazzell '09**, and Acting Library Director **Alison Weissinger '08**.

Rape Crisis Center Fundraising Event Planned for November

Leadership DeKalb graduates are active in the organization of "A Night in Good Taste," the annual wine tasting and auction that benefits the DeKalb Rape Crisis Center. Planning the event for November 17 at the Druid Hills Golf Club are Chair **Julie Childs '88**, **Susan Reese '92**, **Sandra Smith '05**,

YLD PERSONAL FINANCE

Decatur First Bank
Judy Turner '93

Your support of Leadership DeKalb and Youth Leadership DeKalb events and programs is really appreciated!

Beth Jansa '01 and **Rebecca Wasserman '07**. **Bob Wilson '87** is Honorary Chairperson in recognition of his role in helping to found the organization and the service he has given over its 21-year history.

Volunteers Needed for Stream Cleanup

DeKalb County Adopt-A-Stream is hosting a South River cleanup on **Saturday, April 16** from 9 a.m. until noon at Everett Park, 5096 Klondike Road in Lithonia. Volunteers are needed to help remove trash and debris from the banks. They should be prepared to get in and out of the river, wade in knee-deep water and walk over rocks and logs. Closed-toe shoes are required. Hats, work gloves, bug repellent and clothes that can get dirty are recommended.

Anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian who will be required to grant written permission. Parking is limited. For information or to register, contact Michael O'Shield, environmental education specialist, at 770-724-1456 or email msoshield@dekalbcountyga.gov.



**YLD Class of 2011 Visits State Capitol,
Meets with Georgia's New Governor**

Thanks to **Dave Schutten '06** for helping plan the itinerary for an interesting day of meeting elected leaders and understanding the legislative process. Our students heard from several representatives and senators about the issues facing DeKalb and Georgia and visited the House and Senate chambers. **Brad Bryant '89** spoke to them about state education issues.

Thanks also to **Dr. Karen Wheel-Carter '10, Denise Walker '09, and Janice Barrocas '09** who assisted YLD Director **Beth Jansa '01** with the plans for the day.

CARPE DIEM



JOB OPENING: *Competitive, gregarious leadership needed for Class Liaison positions! No pay, just another way to showcase your class as the best class ever.*

In our last issue of **Member News**, we introduced the new co-chairs of our Class Liaison Committee. **Roshonda Coleman '10** and **Greg Taube '04** stepped up this daunting task and now they're linking with YOUR individual Class Liaisons to make sure every class is represented by committed members who will help their class stay connected.

This week, they are contacting those folks in our files who raised their eager hands at

graduation - or since - and said they would serve as Class Liaisons, bless their hearts! The dilemma is that some of these folks have since had to relinquish the position. If you are one of those, or if you wanted to be Class Liaison but missed the opportunity, now is the time to get back in touch with Roshonda or Greg and become active on the committee.

Specifically, we need to hear from representatives of the following classes: 1989, 1991, 1992 and 1996. If you are interested in serving as a liaison for one of these classes, please let them know.

The Class Liaisons Committee is one of our most important efforts and we look forward to connecting each class in meaningful ways. Our graduates are some of the most influential leaders in the region. It's critical that we maintain contacts within our active member network so that we can come together when necessary - for social events, such as the upcoming 25th Anniversary reunion, or as social advocates.

We appreciate Roshonda and Greg...and you, too! Take a moment to thank them, and get involved if you can!

Sara A. Fountain '92
Executive Director

***New Parking Procedures Now in Effect
At LD Office Building in Downtown
Decatur***

Planning to visit the Leadership DeKalb Office? Here's something you'll need to remember!

The parking lot at the Leadership DeKalb office in the Decatur Court building now has new payment procedures.

As of January 3, 2011, automated tickets are issued at the gate upon entrance and automated payment is required on exit. Validated tickets and cash or credit card payments will be accepted. When visiting the office, please bring your parking ticket with you and submit it to our Office Manager for validation before leaving. Thank you!



Leadership DeKalb brings together current and emerging leaders to make DeKalb a better place to live and work. We achieve this by connecting a diverse group of informed leaders who create collaborations and partnerships to impact community needs.



Leadership DeKalb

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To contribute news to the newsletter:
newsandevents@leadershipdekalb.org

