

P.O. Box 49305 Atlanta, GA 30359

<http://DECAONLINE.tripod.com>

DECA 2001 Board of Directors:

- President – Cheryl Von Soosten, Frontier Woods
- Vice President – Wayne Daniel, Appling Heights
- Secretary – Mary Johnson, LaVenture Forest
- Treasurer – Scott Davis, Whispering Hills



DECA 2001 Neighborhood Representatives:

- Appling Heights – Jim Dorsey
- Beverly Hills – Melissa Slaughter
- Frontier Woods – Marty Locker
- LaVenture Forest – Liz Rouse
- Marlin Acres – Becky Norris
- Michelle's Court – Shirley Hammond
- Whispering Hills – Jeff Weeks



DECA 2001 Associates:

- Historian – Sheila Rotter, Appling Heights
- Newsletter – Bill Petritz, Appling Heights
- PDK Coordinator – Ron Dennis, Appling Heights
- Webmaster – Aaron Granger
- Zoning Coordinator – Bill Bevel, Whispering Hills

GA District 62 State Representative, Mrs. Sally Harrell, LMSW, to be Guest Speaker at DECA's Quarterly Meeting on July 19th

We look forward to welcoming Sally Harrell as the guest speaker to DECA's third quarter 2001 meeting on Thursday, July 19th at 7:00 in the Chamblee Library.

Mrs. Harrell was elected to the Georgia General Assembly in November of 1998. Previous to serving as a state legislator, Mrs. Harrell was active in the political arena as a policy analyst on children's issues.

She served as the Executive Director of the Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition of Georgia, Inc., and draws upon her past work experience at the Georgia Council on Child Abuse, Inc. and her work in a special education classroom of autistic children.

Mrs. Harrell was born and raised in Indianapolis, Indiana, and she completed her Bachelor of Social Work

at Georgia State University and her Master of Social Work at the University of Georgia.

Sally Harrell has been very effective and responsive to issues concerning the DECA community. For more information, see her website: www.sally.harrell@riverside.org

See you July 19th!

Letter From DECA's President

It's amazing how little I knew about our county government until I took an active role in preserving the quality of life in our neighborhoods by volunteering in local civic associations.

I have been actively involved with the Dresden East Civic Association for three years now: serving as Treasurer for 1 year and President for 2 years. It has been an eye-opening experience in many ways.

Learning about local neighborhoods, getting to know many interesting neighbors, and receiving information about DeKalb County through participation in the DeKalb County Civic Coalition, ABLE Group of Immaculate Heart of Mary, PDK Watch, Park Pride, DeKalb County Parks and Recreation and the Group Working to Revitalize Buford Highway has truly been enjoyable.

My role will shift next year, as I work with Marty Locker as a DECA Neighborhood Representative in Frontier Woods and further my public involvement through an association with the DeKalb Chamber of Commerce.

I believe to remain successful DECA needs to have various neighbors involved in our civic association since our greatest strength is membership numbers and caring, involved neighbors.

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DECA Needs You! ☺

Are you interested in helping your community? Do you enjoy meeting your neighbors and developing friendships with people who have similar interests as you?

If so, consider joining DECA's 2002 Board of Directors.

DECA Board of Director positions are informative and rewarding, and they don't

require much time. See page 2 for a description of the open positions for 2002.



Letter From DECA's President *(cont. from the cover page)*

We are a non-profit organization that strives to maintain the quality, safety and value of our community. We need the support of all our neighbors to keep this association going. This commitment includes not only your annual fee but also your ability and willingness to volunteer time to DECA.

Have you noticed that the two-bedroom/one-bath bungalows for sale along Dresden towards Brookhaven are now priced at \$199,999

and up? Did you know that some now consider our subdivisions to be a part of Brookhaven?

Take a close look next time you drive towards Peachtree Road. My husband and I even found similar homes immediately across from PDK airport priced much higher! Think about what this means for our home values. We are in a prime location, let's work to keep our values high and our community a great place to live!

I feel it is important for our neighbors to realize that our civic association is constantly working toward improving our community. At times, it can be challenging to work through the county system, but we are persistent in our efforts.

Together, we can accomplish a lot!

Cheryl Von Soosten – President



On April 28th, several enthusiastic DECA members also focused on cleaning up Dresden Drive by the entrance to Appling Heights and around the block of Shallowford Road through Frontier Trail

DECA and St. Pius X Partner for Park Cleanup



In an effort to restore Dresden Park as a vital, safe, and family-friendly park, DECA partnered with St. Pius X students and parents to sponsor a cleanup of the park on May 26th. The 45 participants, along with Ms. Leslie Thompson of Park Pride and Ms. Pat Katz of DeKalb County Parks and Recreation, picked up trash and cleared brush.

In addition to the work effort, it was a glorious morning, which offered everyone the chance to enjoy the weather and socialize.

Everyone brought power tools, rakes, gloves and great attitudes. Park Pride also supplied various trimmers, gloves and clippers. At noon, the group gathered for pizza, sodas and a job well done.

The steering committee for the park has met several times since to strategize the next step by August when they should be ready to provide a public presentation.



DECA Needs You! *(cont. from the cover page)*

The following DECA positions are currently available for 2002. Contact Liz Rouse, Nominating Chairperson, at 770.457.6862 or via email (stan30341@yahoo.com) to volunteer.

- **President** – direct and coordinate DECA activities, preside over general meetings, act as spokesperson, sign official documents, monitor expenditures.
- **Vice President** – act as coordinator and liaison to Neighborhood Reps, coordinate membership committees, coordinate fund raising with the Treasurer, preside at general meetings in absence of President.
- **Secretary** – record and preserve the minutes of all meetings, see that copies of minutes are received by all members of the Board, maintain and preserve the By-laws of the association, assist in correspondence of the association as needed.
- **Treasurer** – collect all funds, deposit, maintain and preserve financial records, disburse funds accordingly, secure general meeting space, maintain accurate membership files with secretary, prepare taxes if necessary.
- **Newsletter Editor** – receive articles for newsletter, create an attractive newsletter to be distributed quarterly to DECA community, assist in editing of articles as deemed necessary.
- **Neighborhood Reps** – promote DECA membership, act as liaison between Board and DECA members, post meeting signs, distribute newsletter, maintain balance in subdivision.



Adjustment to DeKalb County's Sanitation Rates

A hearing at the Maloof Auditorium was held on June 26th to discuss the sanitation increase proposed by our CEO.

It will be the first increase in five years for DeKalb County even though our population has grown by 20,000.

Currently, DeKalb County has one of the lowest sanitation rates in the 11-county metro area, and it offers more

services than any other metro county.

DeKalb County Sheriff Speaks to DeKalb County Civic Coalition

Where can you stay for 28 days, get three square meals a day, free medical care, and safe night's sleep? Most of us would think of an all-inclusive resort or cruise, but for some it is the DeKalb County Jail.

The guest speaker at the June 18th DeKalb County Civic Coalition (DCCC) meeting was Sheriff Thomas Brown. Wayne Daniel and Cheryl Von Soosten represented DECA.

Sheriff Brown's background with DeKalb County prior to becoming the county sheriff includes Fire Chief in 1985 and Public Safety Director for 11 years. His main role as sheriff is that of an Administrator: he sets budgets, policies and strategic plans for the jail, and he serves warrants and provides security for the Courts.

Some interesting points from his presentation are highlighted below.

- The County Jail was designed to last 65 years
- It has two generators to secure the jail during a power failure
- It holds up to 3,600 inmates
- As of this meeting, there were 3,000 inmates, of which 470 are "in holding" for the INS
- DeKalb County makes \$70/day for each INS inmate it holds
- The average stay for an inmate is 28 days
- Some people actually commit a crime just to receive three meals a day, medical care and a safe place to sleep
- The jail serves 10,000 meals a day
- The biggest challenge at the jail is disease; TB and AIDS/HIV are at the top of this list followed by other sexually transmitted conditions
- All inmates must be tested with 3-5 days of check-in
- Currently, the budget for the jail is \$50.9 million
- There are major contracts for food service (\$2 million/year), medical care (\$8.3 million/year), maintenance (less than \$2 million/year), and security (\$325,00-\$450,00/yr)
- With a staff of 770; 100-125 of these individuals are civilians
- Sheriff Brown is currently carrying 35 vacancies at the detention level
- 65% of the detention officers are female

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The next DECA public meeting will be Thursday, July 19th, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Chamblee Library



DECA Membership Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Phone _____

Fax _____

Email _____

Subdivision (Circle One):

Appling Heights • Dresden Square •

Frontier Woods • LaVenture Forest •

Marlin Acres • Whispering Hills

Membership Category:

____ Standard (\$10)

____ Sustaining (\$50)

Signature _____

Date _____

Note: You may also join or renew online

<http://DECAONLINE.tripod.com>

DECA Is Making Progress But Needs Your Support

A DECA member who is concerned about the current membership support submitted the following article.

In 2001 to date, DECA:

- Prevented two businesses from opening in private homes on Shallowford Road
- Published and delivered quarterly newsletters with information that should be of interest to all local home owners
- Held quarterly meetings on topics concerning DeKalb County and the six neighborhoods within the Dresden East Civic Association (DECA)
- Sponsored spring and fall clean community beautification events
- Sponsored several neighborhoods gatherings as a way to help you get to know your neighbors
- Sponsored a holiday social
- Assisted with minor repairs to subdivision entrances
- Vigorously reported local code violations, monitored progress and followed up with the County Code Department
- Actively participated with other associations to keep its members informed on DeKalb County issues

If DECA is to be successful, it will take your support! What can you do?

- Get involved: some of the current members have served for four years; it's time for a change of the guard
- Help financially: every household needs to pay their dues annually; it's only \$10 and it's tax-deductible
- Stay concerned: attend quarterly meetings and take an active role in maintaining our community value

Thanks for your future support. We have more strength in numbers than as individuals, and remember DECA benefits all of us.

New DECA Email Site

A DECA email group has been created on Yahoo.com. Entitled DECA_Atlanta; the service enables a free, easy-to-use email group service that can be used to keep you in the loop on up-to-the-minute DECA happenings.

To learn more about the DECA_Atlanta group, please visit

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/DECA_Atlanta

To start sending messages to members of this group, simply send an email to:

DECA_Atlanta@yahoogroups.com

You can also continue to use the DECA Web site, available via two different addresses:

<http://members.tripod.com/DECAONLINE>

or

<http://DECAONLINE.tripod.com>



2364 Dresden Drive to be Custom Counter Business

Many DECA members have inquired about this brown building with graffiti that connects the BellSouth parking lot to Dresden Drive.

Recently, work started inside one-half of the building.

Further investigation determined that the building will house a custom kitchen counter top business in the near future.

The new tenants will be painting the building within

the next four weeks.

Should you need new countertops, entertainment centers or custom computer desks; consider checking with this newly established neighborhood business.