

# Rotary



# Club of Decatur



## Club Meeting

Decatur  
Meets at DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel - Decatur Riverfront  
1101 6th Ave NE,  
Decatur, AL 35601  
Decatur, AL 35601  
Time: Monday at 12:05 PM

## Club Leaders



Charles R. Johnson Jr.  
President



Terri Collins  
President-Elect



Julia Smeds Roth  
Vice President



Aaron Bell  
Treasurer



Donna L. Whitten  
Secretary



Ellis B. Chenault  
Sergeant-at-Arms



Kathy Hammond  
Public Relations Chair



Willie LaFavor  
Director-Club Service



Ronnie D. Dukes  
Rotary Foundation Chair



Rachel Lynn Keith  
Stars and Stripes Flag Coordinator



Kay Woller  
Director-Community Service



Jeffrey S. Brown  
Director-International Service



Milton Edward Yarbrough III  
Club Programs Chair

Davis Fite

## Events

July 31st, 12:05-1:00 PM

[Decatur Weekly Club Meeting - Speaker Phil Wirey](#)

**Speaker:** Phil Wirey

**Subject:** Native American history of Decatur.

August 14th, 12:05-1:00 PM

[Decatur Weekly Club Meeting - Speaker Jason Pitts](#)

**Speaker:** Jason Pitts, manager of The Little Cigar Shoppe

**Subject:** Introduction to Fine Cigars

August 28th, 12:05-1:00 PM

[Decatur Weekly Club Meeting - Speaker Randolph Russell](#)

**Speaker:** Randolph Russell

**Subject:** American history.

August 7th, 12:05-1:00 PM

[Decatur Weekly Club Meeting - High School Football Coaches](#)

August 21st, 12:05-1:00 PM

[Decatur Weekly Club Meeting - Speaker Libby Patrick](#)

**Speaker:** CEO Libby Patrick of Sims Patrick Studio

**Subject:** Renovation of McEntire RiverRunner Hotel.

Community Bio for Philip D. Wirey

updated June 2023

Phil was raised in the small town of Clinton (originally called Burrsville) just outside of Knoxville, Tennessee. After finishing public school he attended Carson Newman Baptist College and the University of Tennessee where at UT he received a chemical engineering degree in 1979. That same year he went to work for 3M in Decatur, where he worked for 36 years before retiring. As a hobby he researches local history, gives talks, and conducts walking tours about Decatur history he has rediscovered.

Phil became involved with local history while researching his family's history and joined the Morgan County Genealogical Society where he has served as vice-president and is a past winner of the Elbert Minter Award. Phil is currently the vice president of the Morgan County Historical Society and in 2023 was appointed to the Decatur Preservation Commission. His historical research has led him to studies of the early Decatur - Trinity area and its first settlers along with working with the Alabama Historical Commission in registering Kimbell and Fennel Cemeteries in Trinity. He helped in documenting the Garth and Menefee cemeteries in West Decatur and the Lafayette Street Cemetery located in downtown Decatur. His work has included documentation of the Old State Bank directors and presidents, the founding fathers of Decatur, and early local Paleo and Archaic archeological sites and archeologists that worked these sites in the 1950's and 1960's, as well as supplying input for the Native American Trail Signs at Point Mallard. Phil has worked with the English Department at Calhoun in researching the burial site of the southwest humorist, George Washington Harris, whose last residence was in Decatur. He has worked with the local churches in documenting early church locations, ministers, and members in the Decatur area. Phil has also developed various maps of the Trinity and Decatur area including downtown Decatur City plot maps, Decatur Civil War landmark maps, and various maps on early homes and businesses in downtown Decatur. His past work included working with Sheryll Cashin, Georgetown University professor, in promoting her book, *The Agitator's Daughter*, which documented Decatur's Cashin family. Along with this he documented early prominent African American families in the Decatur area for The Decatur/Morgan County Convention & Visitors Bureau video entitled *Lift Every Voice and Sing*.

George Washington Harris Ceremony April 2008,  
Oakville Indian Mounds Ceremony May 2007

He assisted the 3M Corporate office in obtaining multiple donations to both the Oakville Indian Mounds in Lawrence County and the Walls of Jericho Project with the Nature Conservancy in Jackson County. Phil married the former Beth Hale of Decatur and they have two daughters and five grandchildren.

Philip David Wirey

3717 South Woodtrail Road, SW, Decatur, AL 35603  
256-351-0629 home, 256-566-9005 cell, pdwirey@aol.com

# Decatur, Alabama (Indian) Native Americans

by Phil Wirey (MCHS, MCGS, CAS)



Decatur Point

## Native American Periods

Paleo-Indian -	14,000 + years BP
Archaic -	9,000
Woodland -	4,000
Mississippian -	2,000
Historic -	1,000







Ninety Artifacts



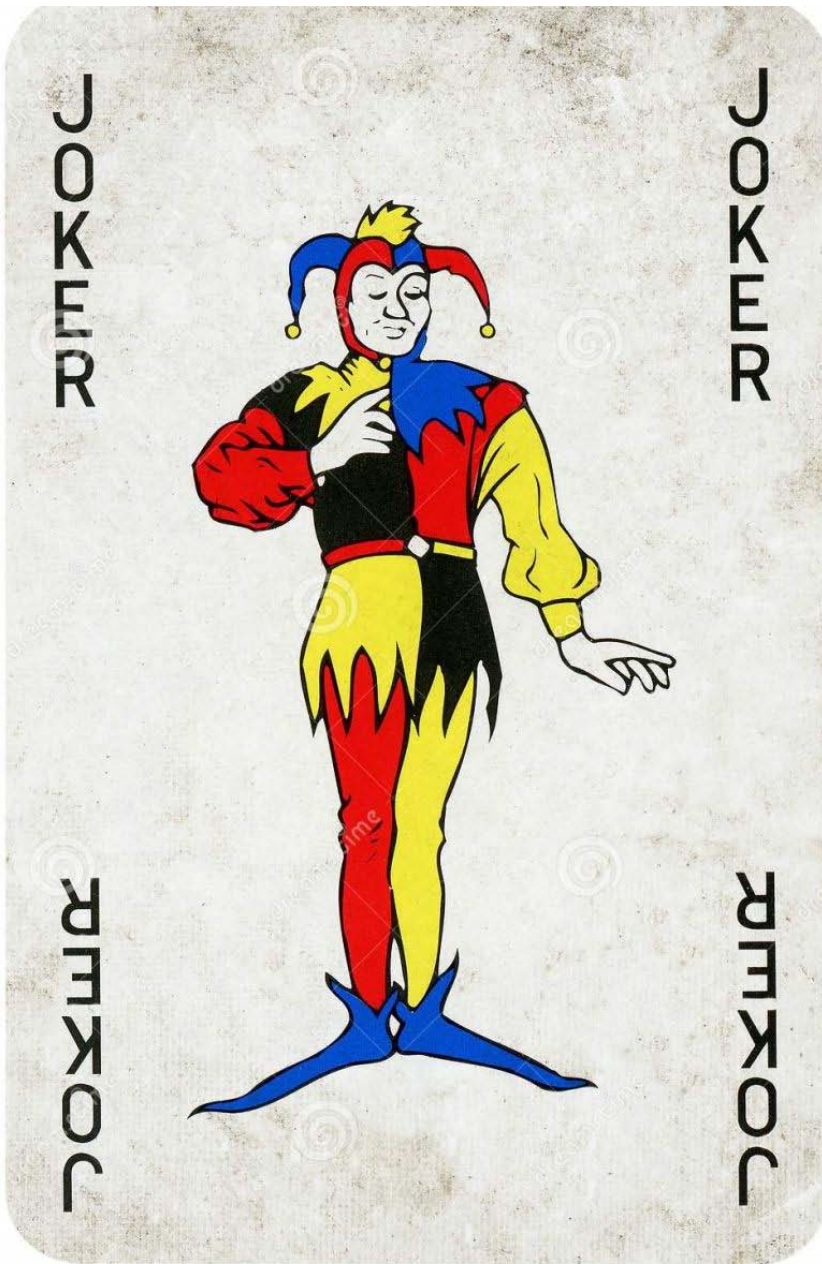
Maurice Jones Collection  
Morgan County Archives



Bill Simms Collection

-  Director-Youth Service
-  Mark Moody  
Membership Chair
-  Nathan Tomberlin  
Past President
-  Wendy Taylor  
Assistant Governor

Joker Drawdown



The Joker drawdown jackpot is stacking up! Be sure to buy your tickets at the front desk, 1 for \$2 or 3 for \$5. YOU could be the one to leave our meeting with a fistfull of cash!!!



**Stars and Stripes over Decatur**



# STARS AND STRIPES OVER DECATUR FLAG PROGRAM

**SIGN-UP  
TODAY**



<https://app.helpingwithflags.com/DecaturRotary>

Place your here ----> <https://app.helpingwithflags.com/DecaturRotary>

## Birthdays



[Jon R. Sedlak](#)  
August 1st



[Noel Lovelace](#)  
August 2nd



[Willie LaFavor](#)  
August 11th



[Jenny Parker](#)  
August 15th



[Alex Beaubé](#)  
August 15th