



**THE FUTURE OF ROTARY  
IS IN YOUR HANDS**

WEDNESDAY  
JANUARY 27, 2010

**Today**



**GENE HALLMAN**

*President & CEO, Bruno Event Team  
Executive Director, Alabama Sports Foundation*

### *Indy Grand Prix of Alabama*

Birmingham's Barber Motorsports Park has sealed the deal on a three-year contract with the Indy Racing League. Called the Indy Grand Prix of Alabama, the first of the races will be April 9-11, 2010. Races will be held around the same time in 2011 and 2012. Having an IRL race at Barber became a possibility in 2007 when the league held testing sessions at the Barber track. The tests served to evaluate the track as a potential site. IRL was looking to expand into the South, possibly near the location of Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, makers of the official engine of IRL, in nearby Lincoln.

The upcoming races will put Birmingham in the North American Indy circuit that includes cities such as Miami, Dallas and Toronto. Among the cities in contention with Birmingham to host the race were Houston, Nashville, Charlotte and Baltimore. The league initially was impressed by broad support in Alabama for the race. State and local governments were deeply supportive, as were the large crowds that turned out for the Indy test session in March.

Today's guest speaker, Gene Hallman, who along with many others, pursued this exciting event and will explain more about how they achieved success and what a high caliber race like this will mean to the area.

Gene currently serves as President and CEO of Bruno Event Team, a Birmingham-based sports marketing and event management company. He formed the company with partner Ronald Bruno in 1995. They currently employ more than 50 people.

Gene also created and serves as Executive Director of the Alabama Sports Foundation which serves as the sports lobbyist for the City of Birmingham and the State of Alabama. Additionally, he created Zoom Motorsports and Five Star Event Catering, exclusive promoter and caterer for all events at the Barber Motorsports Park and other large parties at high-profile locations throughout the city. Gene created Think Positive, an in-house creative services and media buying division of Bruno Event Team.

*Gene serves in numerous capacities in numerous sport events including golf (Executive Director for the Regions Charity Classic chief among them) Barber Motorsports Park racing, baseball and football. He also is involved in high school and collegiate events.*

Gene has served the community in a number of ways including Birmingham Business Alliance, Board of Directors; United Way's Alexis de Tocqueville Society Member; Bryant Jordan Scholarship Foundation. Board of Directors; Magic Moments, Board of Directors; March of Dimes, Advisory Board Member; and Emcee at the Annual Heart Ball Gala

Gene is a competitive long distance runner, having competed in New York City and Boston Marathons. He was also a Torchbearer for the Centennial Olympic Games, Atlanta 1996.

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Dwight M. Beeson Banquet Hall  
The Harbert Center

Lunch - 11:45  
Bell - 12:20  
Adjournment - 1:15

*Sunrise Rotary  
Announcement*

#### **FUTURE PROGRAMS AND EVENTS**

Feb 3 Brandon Falls  
District Attorney  
*Bingo*

Feb 10 Joe McInnes  
*Highway 280*

Feb 17 William Bell  
*Mayor of Birmingham*  
*TBD*

Feb 23 Juan Williams  
Special meeting on Tuesday, Feb  
23<sup>rd</sup>  
Rotary Club of Birmingham hosts  
the Large Rotary Clubs of North  
America

## ADDRESSES OF RECENT SPEAKERS



Jeff Reynolds, Chair  
UAB Music Department  
950 13<sup>th</sup> Street South, Hulse Center 231  
Birmingham, AL 35294-1260

Tom Broughton  
ServisFirst Bank  
850 Shades Creek Parkway, Suite 100  
Birmingham, AL 35209

James McManus  
Energen  
605 Richard Arrington, Jr. Boulevard North  
Birmingham, AL 35203

Eleanor Griffin  
*Southern Living* Magazine, Attn: Editorial Offices  
2100 Lakeshore Drive  
Birmingham, AL 35209

\*\*Meetings are recorded. Tapes are available for \$3.50 each, which may be added to Rotary invoices.

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### MEETING DAY:

Every Wednesday, 12:15 p.m.  
TELEPHONE: (205)251-1995  
FAX: (205)226-8825

[bhamrtry@bellsouth.net](mailto:bhamrtry@bellsouth.net)  
[www.bhmrotary.org](http://www.bhmrotary.org)

### OFFICERS & DIRECTORS 2009-10

*President:* Hatton C.V. Smith  
*Chairman of the Board:*  
Charles W. "Bill" Jones  
*President-Elect:*  
Charles D. "Charlie" Perry, Jr.  
*Secretary:* Henry Panion, III  
*Treasurer:* Edmund C. Doss  
*Sergeant-at-Arms:* Carl Duncan Hulsey  
*VP, Club Service:*  
Charles A. "Charlie" Collat, Jr.  
*VP, Communications:*  
Richard B. Yielding  
*VP, Community Service:*  
Elizabeth Broughton  
*VP, International Service:*  
Edgar B. Marx  
*VP, Programs:*  
Whitney "Whit" DeBardeleben  
*VP, Vocational Service:* Brenda M. Hackney  
*Executive Director:* Susan Jackson

### DIRECTORS:

Hubert W. Goings, Jr., 2007-2010  
W.T. Goodloe Rutland, 2007-2010  
David W. "Dave" Wood, 2007-2010  
James T. McManus, 2009-2011  
Alan Rogers, 2009-2011  
Sergio Stagno, 2009-2011

Membership: 557  
Honorary Members: 21

## SUNRISE ROTARY PROJECT

Today, Mitch Hungerpillar will make a brief announcement regarding the *Service Above Self* community projects of the Sunrise Rotary Club.

### ROTARY CLUB OF BIRMINGHAM IS HOSTING THE 2010 LARGE CLUB CONFERENCE AND NEEDS YOUR HELP

The RCB is delighted to be the host club to Executive Directors (E.D.s) and President Elects (P.E.s) of the large (300 members plus) throughout North America. The conference was organized in 1959 by the large club executive directors to help prepare incoming presidents for their year of club leadership by sharing information and experiences with other large Rotary Clubs in a formal setting. Information regarding Rotary International and district relationships was frequently included in the agenda and as of recent years, it has become a focus.

From Feb 21-24, 2010, 140 E.D.s and PE's from most of the nation's big cities as well as from Canada will be in town for the Large Club Conference. Their meeting time will be split between Ross Bridge and The Harbert Center. In addition to the formal meetings, conference participants will experience two of Birmingham's finest chefs (Frank Stitt and Chris Hastings) at Highlands Bar & Grill and at home-hospitality dinners on Crest Road plus a tour of the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute.

The regular RCB weekly luncheon meeting that week has been changed to Tuesday so that all 140 guests could attend a meeting with RCB Rotarians. Guest speaker for that meeting, Juan Williams, was selected well in advance. The LCC Committee hopes that many Birmingham Rotarians will volunteer to help. We will need club members to be a table captain and facilitate conversation and Southern Hospitality on Tuesday, Feb 23 but **the biggest need is the need to transport guests to/from the airport and Ross Bridge.** Please email the Rotary office, [bhamrtry@bellsouth.net](mailto:bhamrtry@bellsouth.net)

### In Rotary's Past



**1918** - On Tuesday, June 4, 1918, Kiwanis Club of Birmingham challenged Rotary to a baseball game at Rickwood Park. The proceeds of the game went to the winner of the game and the ultimate beneficiary, The Boy's Club. Several of those playing for Rotary that summer day were Thornton Estes, W. D. Nesbitt, Henry Edmonds, Sax Crawford, and Frank Shephard. In the end Rotary won 23 to 11 and gave the promised contribution to The Boy's Club.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBER

ROBERT SIDNEY "SID" McANNALLY #327  
ADDITIONAL ACTIVE (2009)  
ENERGY: Exploration and Production  
Executive Vice President- External Affairs  
Energen Corporation 326-1877  
605 Richard Arrington Boulevard North 326-2704 (fax)  
Birmingham, AL 35203



[sid.mcannally@energen.com](mailto:sid.mcannally@energen.com)

Res., 3420 Brookwood Trace  
Birmingham, AL 35223 972-1335

Born, September 30, 1963  
Decatur, AL

Spouse: April

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## THANKS TO ALL

*Dear Rotarians:*

*Thank you very much for your emails, cards, flowers, visits, calls, thoughts, prayers and concern.*

*I am appreciative of President Hatton's updates and can vouch that each update has correctly advised you of my progress. On Monday, Jan 11, the day of surgery, I needed every one of your thoughts and prayers to get through.. I did get through that bad time with your help and have recovered enough to resume a semi-normal schedule.*

*I am appreciative of Margaret McCollum and Michelle Banks who ran things in my absence. Two weeks out of the office and possibly a slow two more weeks called for willing and able substitutes. They have been more than wonderful and, again, many of you extended such kindness to help them.*

*I am also appreciative of the Sultans, both fellow Rotarian Farah (my Internist) and her Cardio-Thoracic Surgeon husband Parvez (my Surgeon). There is no doubt in my mind that Parv and the tremendously professional staff at Trinity Hospital were the best choice for me. My surgery was complicated, delicate, and difficult - something stressed to me by each of the six doctors/surgeons I saw prior to making the decision.*

*I am supremely appreciative of President Hatton who instantly became my "Communication Strategist" and "HealthManager" and spent hours going over the best ways to delegate office responsibility. Richard Yeilidng, who is chairing the Large Club Conference, our biggest project, did the same. Their concern for me as well as the continuation of club management in the event of a month long recovery speaks to their commitment to all of you and to me.*

*Throughout this long list of Rotarians and others to thank, you might not realize how valuable your thoughts for my recovery were to me. I wish I could explain the strength your thoughts and prayers gave me and in what circumstances your comments came to me. Until I can figure a way to do that, just know that I know, for sure, I was never alone.*

*I look forward to seeing you very soon.*

*Susan Jackson*

