



# ROTARYGRAM

The Weekly Newsletter for the  
Rotary Club of Birmingham

**BUILDING COMMUNITIES,  
BRIDGING CONTINENTS**

Club No. 56  
Birmingham, Alabama  
Volume 99 Number 1  
4 Pages

Dwight M. Beeson Banquet Hall  
The Harbert Center

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

WEDNESDAY  
JULY 7, 2010

**Today**



**NO MEETING TODAY  
HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY 4TH OF JULY**

TODAY - there will be NO meeting. Have a safe and happy Fourth of July.

June 30 marked the end of Rotary 2009-2010: July 14 will be the first meeting of 2010-2011

Please attend to Welcome President Charlie Perry as the new President of the Rotary Club of Birmingham.

## **ROTARY 2009-2010 END OF YEAR THANK YOU AND SUMMARY**

At the beginning of 2009-2010, RI President John Kenny presented to all 1.2 million Rotarians his theme, *The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands.* His theme requires each club to build relationships now that will further the common goal of making Rotary stronger in the future. The stronger clubs become, the stronger Rotary International becomes, the more humanitarian good works can be accomplished. Improving the state of the world requires catalyzing global cooperation to address pressing challenges and future risks. Global cooperation in turn needs stakeholders from business, government, the media, science, religion, the arts and civil society to collaborate as a true community. To this end, Rotary clubs around the world engage leaders from all walks of life to shape the local club agendas that feed Rotary's global agenda. The Rotary Club of Birmingham members are those stakeholders and each president works to galvanize membership to strengthen the club and secure its place as an agent of larger service.

Each president comes to the new Rotary year with natural talent as well as a commitment to uphold the traditions of this club and to further the ideals of Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation. President Hatton's natural enthusiasm and passion for positive fellowship strengthened membership resulting in a net growth of nine new members and, through fellowship opportunities, members' knowledge of fellow Rotarians strengthened. Greeting each individual Rotarian and guest made a difference in the overall tone of the weekly meeting. Fellowship began the minute Rotarians

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### **FUTURE PROGRAMS AND EVENTS**

**WELCOME PRESIDENT CHARLIE  
PERRY!**

July 7 NO MEETING  
*Have a Great Holiday*

July 14 Dave Dionne  
Red Mountain Park

July 21 Hillery Head  
CEO  
Ram Tool

July 28 Jay Gogue  
President  
Auburn University

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### MEETING DAY:

Every Wednesday, 12:15 p.m.  
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[WWW.BIRMINGHAMROTARY.ORG](http://WWW.BIRMINGHAMROTARY.ORG)

### OFFICERS & DIRECTORS 2010-11

*President:* Charles D. "Charlie" Perry, Jr.  
*Chairman of the Board:* Hatton C.V. Smith  
*President-Elect:* Kate Nielsen  
*Secretary:* David Fields  
*Treasurer:* Paul Jones  
*Sergeant-at-Arms:* Edgar B. Marx  
*Program Chairman:* Rob Couch  
*VP, Club Service:* Jon Blankenship  
*VP, Communications:* Betsy Holloway  
*VP, Community Service:* Philippe Lathrop  
*VP, International Service:* Sanjay Singh  
*VP, Vocational Service:* Mimi Head  
*Executive Director:* Susan Jackson

### DIRECTORS:

James T. McManus, 2009-2011  
Alan Rogers, 2009-2011  
Sergio Stagno, 2009-2011  
Paige Daniel, 2010-2012  
Carl Jones, 2010-2012  
Ralph Smith, 2010-2012

Membership: 578

Honorary Members: 21

stepped off the escalator and was enhanced with Hatton's weekly Did You Know and Service Moment facts allowing members to learn more about fellow Rotarians. During 2009-2010, thanks to Kennon Walthall and VP of Club Service Charlie Collat, the club enjoyed more special fellowship events than ever before, beginning in September with the Rotary/Rotaract Wine Dinner at The Club when Vintner Linda Viviani from Napa Valley brought wine and explained their unique features; in December the spectacular music program organized by Henry Panion; the offsite meeting at Sloss Furnace to watch an iron pour in pouring rain; and in May club members sampled the cuisine of four Birmingham chefs and toured the refurbished cars at Old Car Heaven. What could make fellowship better than celebrating the birthday of our most senior member? President Hatton thought of everything to make Jim's 105<sup>th</sup> birthday a great occasion. He talked about Jim as a brave citizen and role model, even using Jim Head's good health as a means to calm flu fears.

Fellowship with the future generation is one way to ensure the future of Rotary and President Hatton urged his board members and committee chairs to seek ways to engage Rotaractors. During 2009-2010, opportunities for interaction with Rotaract were emphasized and created. The successful Rotaract Club of Birmingham was not only invited to all fellowship events, but Rotaractors were asked to participate in the planning of them. The Rotaract board of officers and directors was invited to sit in on a Rotary Club of Birmingham board meeting. Rotaractors attended, as a club body, two of the Rotary clubs' meetings and a mentoring program, Professional Partners, was started by VP of Vocational Service Brenda Hackney from Rotary and Jeris Burns from Rotaract. After several weeks of vocational exchanges between 12 Rotarians and 12 Rotaractors, Brenda and Morris hosted a reception at their home for all participants to celebrate a successful venture.

Partnering with other worthy organizations is another way to spread Rotary's values and achieve goals. With a heavy emphasis on vocational service, the Rotary Club of Birmingham along with the Birmingham City School System acknowledged local teachers and principals in two separate recognition programs to thank our educators. President Hatton represented the club at the board of education meeting and personally thanked each teacher and principal for their dedication to education, their Service Above Self.

In an important partnering venture, VP of International Service Edgar Marx led the club in the effort to provide mammography machines to the women in Sri Lanka. The project has been carried out by partnerships with the Rotary Club of Colombo, Sri Lanka, General Electric, Hologic and Dr. Dick Hirsh of RMI (Radiology Mammography International). In the partnerships, Colombo Rotarians established an Early Cancer Detection Center. Until this project, there was no screening equipment but there were some dedicated doctors who usually saw patients too late to save them. Because of this project, now women in Sri Lanka who cannot afford the fees for the few existing mammography machines will have access to mammograms and early breast cancer detection. With the installation of the first of two mammography machines, there will be an immediate, life-saving reality. An unexpected, but valuable component of this project is the attention Dr. Dick Hirsh and his team will provide to the medical community in Sri Lanka working with breast cancer patients. President Hatton gave his full support to Edgar and this project, even designating that his end-of-year gift from the club benefit the project.

Rotaract President VJ Graffeo addressed Rotarians from the Rotary podium and president Hatton addressed Rotaract from their podium. President Hatton supported with enthusiasm the goals and activities of District 6860 and Rotary International. He supported District Governor Georgia Medori and attended the District 6860 Foundation Dinner, the District Conference, the RI Convention in Birmingham, England, the district visit to RI headquarters. He welcomed Rotarians to this club from England, from Columbia, South America, from Sri Lanka, from India, from Turkey, from Canada and many U.S. states.

VP of Programs Whit DeBardleben considered, plotted, and confirmed speaker recommendations from his program committee in monthly breakfast meetings. President Hatton did not miss a meeting and contributed greatly to the line-up of terrific speakers.

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As a result, club members heard from able fellow Rotarians: Don James, Chris Oberholster, Mayor William Bell, James McManus, John McMahan, Will Ferniany, Tom Broughton, Raymond Harbert, Charles Caldwell and Carol Garrison. Dan Cathy of Chick-Fil-A was considered one of the most motivating, and some thought Dave Walker's talk on the U.S. economy was alarming yet the most informed talk on the current and future fiscal condition of our country. Warren Stephens of Little Rock and Randall Stephenson of AT&T were equally impressive as was Lily Ledbetter on The Fair Pay Act and Wick Moorman of Norfolk Southern. President Hatton and Whit encouraged programs on timely issues like Rele Evans/Jeff Brewer on the Lane Parke/Mountain Brook Development plan; Brandon Falls on Bingo; Joe McInnes and Linda Figg on plans for Highway 280; Bill Finch on the Gulf Oil Spill; Jeffrey Bayer on the Pizitz Building; and Jim Cairns on the county commission. Three in national government and state government whose leadership affect us all came to speak: Governor Riley, Spencer Bacchus, and Parker Griffith. We heard from speakers on sports and resorts, on international topics - German/American relations from the German Ambassador to the U.S., a talk on Af-Pak., a talk on Russia and Eastern Europe, a talk on the U.S. immigration laws, and on India from the GSE Team, on local urban design, on local companies with regional readership, a fascinating talk on computer pathology, an informative talk on Alabama water wars, and a talk from an economist. We heard about the state of education in Alabama and positive results from A+. We heard from the NRA. We heard from the Birmingham Botanical Gardens and we heard from the Democratic candidate for Governor of Alabama. We heard the sad account from a former HealthSouth executive. Whit lined up Juan Williams as the keynote speaker for Wednesday luncheon of the Large Club Conference. As a thank you to each speaker, President Hatton presented each with a copy of Bill Hull's Four Way Test book and a contribution in their honor to the Pre-K Initiative, the club's signature project.

VP of Club Service Charlie Collat oversaw the 52 weeks of invocations, greeters, improvements in technology (the new badge scanning system is working very well), new member processes, and more. Great quarterly captains and reliable club members came through week after week. And, a terrific new recipient of the 2010 RCB Spain Hickman Distinguished Service Award was selected - Charles Collat, Sr.

Elizabeth Broughton served as the VP of Community Service. She organized the traditional projects - Salvation Army bellringing and the Holiday Boarding Homes collection, sorting and distribution with Greg Womack leading the way. The club's signature project - the Pre-School Learning Initiative - grew under Al Folcher and Leslie Carlisle's management.

The biggest club effort in years occurred during 2009-2010 - the Rotary Large Club Conference, chaired by Richard Yielding, VP of Communications. Over sixty club member volunteers and over fifty Rotaract member volunteers helped with the programming and greeted the 150 guest Rotarians and Executive Directors from all over North America. President Hatton charged all with the mission of putting Birmingham's best foot forward, turning on southern hospitality, and showcasing our great city. Richard managed the event with a team consisting of Duane Donner, Philippe Lathrop, Sanjay Singh, April Mason, Brenda Hackney, Jon Whetsell, Danny Markstein, President Hatton and Lynn Gay, Kennon Walthall, Bill Jones, Margaret McCollum and Susan Jackson. Five Rotarians loaned their homes on Crest Road for the finest "dine-around" ever - Tom Adams, Steward Dansby, Charles Caldwell, Cameron and Scott Vowell and Rusty Stewart. Frank and Pardis Stitt and Chris Hastings and Lawrence Pijoux participated in the event ensuring guests experienced our exceptional food and local history.

The club foundation, chaired by Jim Hughey, supported local and international good works (which will be listed in the next RotaryGram) with the \$15 per quarter member contributions and the pre-school centers were supported by funds in the club's growing endowment. New pre-school scholarships for children whose families cannot pay the fees were established through the club foundation. The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International was supported in the tradition of this club, approximately \$100,000 went to polio eradication, clean water, health and peace initiatives and ambassadorial scholarships.

President Hatton advanced the club and did his part to protect the future of Rotary. He brought fun into the meetings along with clear vision and good management.

*Thank you, President Hatton!*

## ADDRESSES OF RECENT SPEAKERS

**Mary Boehm**  
A+ College Ready  
1230 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue North  
Birmingham, AL 35203

**Mike Cutler**  
<http://michaelcutler.net>

**Don James**  
Vulcan Materials Corp.  
PO Box 385016  
Birmingham, AL 35238-5016

**Ron Sparks**  
Democratic Nominee for Governor  
PO Box 230746  
Montgomery, AL 36123

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

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### RCB RECEIVES THANKS FOR GIFT FROM CLUB FOUNDATION

*For a small gift in support of a UAB Dept. of Pediatrics  
Program*

Thank you for the Rotary Club of Birmingham Foundation's support of the UAB Department of Pediatrics and the inaugural Shaken Baby Prevention Program 4K Stroll and Education Fair. Your Donation of \$500 makes a significant impact in helping our program raise funds needed to expand our community. Thank you again for your support of this wonderful new event. Your help will create new opportunities for the UAB Department of Pediatrics and the children and families that we are honored to serve.

Sincerely,

Samika L. Williams  
Development Officer

