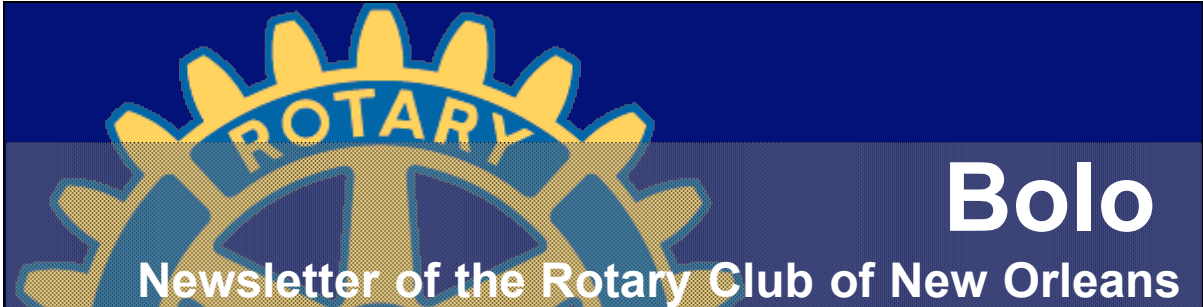


From: Bolo Editor <bharrell@bcm.org>  
Subject: **New Orleans Rotary Club Weekly Newsletter**  
Date: September 15, 2008 9:31:39 AM CDT  
To: [REDACTED]  
Reply-To:



September 17, 2008

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**This Week's Speaker: Mark Samuels**

**President & Co-Founder, Basin Street Records**



Mark started Basin Street Records in September 1997 as a hobby while working in the energy industry. Before the flooding in 2005, it had grown to an award-winning label with five full time people housed on Canal Street. The office and Mark's home were flooded. He has now rebuilt his home and has moved the company into a home office. Mark received a BBA and MBA from the University of Texas at Austin and early in his career worked for the New Orleans' World's Fair, for Andersen Consulting (now Accenture), and for the SulfaTreat Company (purifying natural gas around the world). Mark has three children, Geoffrey, Eric and Naomi who can be seen handing out fliers for upcoming shows.

Basin Street Records is home to nine artists and 28 commercial recordings. Artists on the label (Los Hombres Calientes, Jon Cleary, Kermit Ruffins, Henry Butler, Jason Marsalis, Dr. Michael White, Irvin Mayfield, Theresa Andersson and The Headhunters) have received a Grammy nomination, Billboard Latin Music Awards, Downbeat Critic's Poll awards, numerous Big Easy Entertainment Awards, a multitude of offBEAT Best of the Beat Awards and many other accolades.

Question: What are some of the difficulties of running an indie label like Basin Street? Answer: Time and money. Seriously, cash flow is painful in this business. The biggest problem I think, though, is due to people stealing music

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(Napster, etc. and burning CDs). This problem doesn't directly affect our label like it does pop artists, but the trickle-down effect is that retailers are taking a beating, going bankrupt, or close to it, and are really watching their inventory levels closely. This keeps retailers from stocking enough of our product.

Question: With an abundance of quality music in New Orleans, why aren't there more labels? Answer: There isn't an abundance of people who work hard.

Hurricane Gustav caused us to cancel Mark's scheduled presentation two weeks ago but he graciously adjusted his calendar and will join us today. Please extend a Rotary Welcome to Mark Samuels.

Taken from Relix Magazine: Interview with Mark Samuels, April-May 2003

Basin Street Records, 4130 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA

[Learn More About Basin Street Records](#)

## Reserve the Date: Abita Brewery Tour Scheduled

**Tour at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 11, 2008**

The New Orleans Rotary Club is booked for the 11AM Abita Brewery tour on Saturday, 10/11/08. There is no LSU home game on that day so you should be clear to attend. The tour lasts about an hour, and includes a beer "tasting" of any Abita beers available on tap. There is no cost for this tour & tasting.

Abita Brewery 21084 Hwy 36 Covington, LA 70433

Lunch is planned after the tour at 12:30PM at Dakota Restaurant in Covington for those who wish to participate. Dakota is not usually open for lunch on Saturday but they are opening only for our Rotary Club as a private party. There will be a cash bar and limited menu for a cost of \$32 per person.

**You Must RSVP** Rotarians can sign up for either or both the brewery tour and the Dakota luncheon through Cindy Markham (504-228-2719). We must give Dakota a guarantee of at least 50 people, so "no-shows" will be billed accordingly.

Dakota Restaurant 629 N Highway 190 Covington, LA 70433 (985) 892-3712

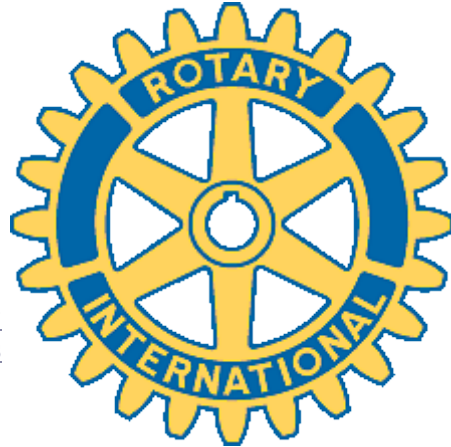
[More About Dakota Restaurant](#)

## Know a Prospective Rotarian?

### Applications Available

If you know someone who should be a Rotarian, invite them to lunch! Applications are available on our website and from President Philip, Kevin Laborde, or Cindy Markham.

[Download New Member Applications](#)



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**Last Week's Speaker:** Dr. Peter Scharf, Criminologist

### **Upcoming Speakers:**

Today: Mark Samuels President Basin Records

September 24: Sheriff Newell Normand

Byron Harrell, Sc.D.  
Rotary Club of New Orleans

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Web: <http://www.neworleansrotary.org>

  
  
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