


From: Bolo Editor <bharrell@bcm.org>
Subject: **New Orleans Rotary Club Weekly Newsletter**
Date: February 16, 2009 9:31:41 AM CST
To: [REDACTED]
Reply-To:



Bolo

Newsletter of the Rotary Club of New Orleans

February 18, 2009

- This Issue**
- [Today: Sam Saia](#)
 - [Club Night Out](#)
 - [Rotary Day At City Park](#)
 - [Warren Easton Interact Opportunities](#)
 - [Board Training Series Available](#)
 - [Know a Prospective Rotarian?](#)

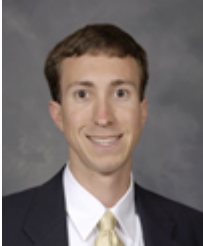
- Quick Links**
- [New Orleans Rotary Website](#)
 - [Membership Information](#)
 - [Rotary District 6840](#)
 - [Rotary International](#)

- Quick Links**
- [Register Now](#)
 - [Newsletter Archive](#)
 - [Related Topics](#)

Today: Sam Saia

New Orleans Redevelopment Authority (NORA)

Sam Saia is Executive Director of the New Orleans Redevelopment Authority, a position he has held since 2008. Prior to his current position, Sam was Project Manager for NORA. He has been a design engineer with LBYD, Inc. a privately held engineering firm.



He holds an MBA from the Emory University Goizueta Business School with a specialization in Real Estate Finance. He is a graduate of Auburn University with a degree in civil engineering. While there, he had the opportunity to design residential neighborhoods and commercial retail centers across the Southeast. He has also spent time working for a heavy civil contracting firm and two real estate development companies. He is proud to be part an organization where he has the opportunity to make a difference in redeveloping the City of New Orleans. Saia is a licensed Professional Engineer in the State of Alabama and licensed real estate agent in the State of Georgia.

The New Orleans Redevelopment Authority (NORA), formerly called the Community Improvement Agency (CIA), was created by La. R.S. 33:4720.51 et seq. to eliminate and prevent the spread of slums and blight in the City of New Orleans in accordance with Community Improvement Plans. Its powers include acquiring real property through negotiation, gift, or expropriation; disposing of said property by sale or lease; borrowing money; issuing bonds; and providing security to support slum clearance and neighborhood development.

More About Us

Join our list

Join our mailing list!

Join

For nearly thirty years, the CIA largely remained dormant and played only a minor role in the city's redevelopment plans. In recent years, NORA has charted a new path. Revived from stagnation, NORA has demonstrated itself to be a formidable partner in obtaining site control of the city's abandoned housing stock. Through its blighted property acquisition program, NORA has facilitated the expropriation and redevelopment of many of the city's approximately 30,000 vacant and abandoned properties. Additionally, NORA has extended its redevelopment efforts by initiating the Real Estate Acquisition and Land-banking Mechanism (REALM). Under REALM, NORA works with other city agencies to acquire blighted properties in a strategic fashion and then bundle those properties for sale or donation. By focusing redevelopment efforts on a critical mass of properties within a circumscribed geographical area, REALM helps to leverage private and non-profit reinvestment in particular target neighborhoods.

As a result of Hurricane Katrina, the number of blighted properties in New Orleans is expected to rise from roughly 30,000 to well over 100,000. The magnitude of the devastation and the scale of the impending redevelopment effort require NORA to take an even greater role in rebuilding New Orleans's neighborhoods. By initiating official Community Improvement Plans throughout the City and by fully utilizing its finance, property acquisition, and strategic planning capabilities, NORA will be assuming a lead role in the revitalization of this great city.

[Learn More About NORA](#)

Club Night Out

The "Ball & All" at Le Chat Noir, Friday, March 6

Those fantastic ladies from "The Ball and All" are back! Rickey Graham's hilarious take on Mardi Gras crews, which ran for an unmatched 4 years the first go round, is returning to Le Chat Noir for a short run. We are reserving tickets for Friday, March 6. The time is 8:00 pm, the cost \$34 per (which includes a \$5 bar credit) and parking is right next door for only \$2.00. This is the most popular locally produced show to ever hit our fair city and makes for a really fun evening.

Tickets are selling out as we speak, so if interested phone Bobbie at 218-8082 ASAP for reservations.

Rotary Day At City Park

Friday, February 20, 2009

Come meet Rotarians from Venezuela, Denmark, California, New York and Georgia. Rotarians, friends, neighbors and families welcomed (no age restriction.) Sponsors: Rotary

Clubs of Hitchin Tilehouse, Herts, England and Algiers U.S.A. Hurricane Katrina Repair of 20 Soccer Fields and 10 Baseball Diamonds. We will move several piles of old shredded Hurricane Katrina trees out of the Soccer area and spread them on the Park's walks and flowerbeds. City Park will furnish 75 wheel barrows with appropriate rakes and shovels. Registration desk on Harrison Ave. will be open at 8:30 A.M. with coffee and doughnuts. Look for our Rotary Banner on Harrison Ave between Marconi and Diagonal Dr. We will work from 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. The Algiers Rotary Club will provide lunch. You will be able to visit the World Famous Bronze Sculpture Garden in the afternoon free. Rotary Clubs may select one member to add up their volunteers or individuals may email. I need to get an idea of how many we will have for lunch. We will get an accurate count with names and clubs at the Registration Desk.

For More Information Contact: Michael Duplantier: duplantier@bellsouth.net or James "Jerry" Fortino email jfortino@cox.net cell 504-884-5676 Home 504- 367-6090 Work 504-367-8777

Warren Easton Interact Opportunities

Friday 2/20/09 Feed the Hungry 4:30-6:00 PM CPUMI Community Center 2128 Felicity St.

Monday 2/23/09 Host students from Huron High School Interact Club. Volunteering with Habitat for Humanity during the Mardi Gras week.

Interact is a community service organization sponsored by the Rotary Club of New Orleans. Interact meets every Monday afternoon at 3:20 p.m. at Warren Easton in room 319. If any Rotarians would like to come to any service project, contact the club sponsor, Ms. Judy Demarest at 504-324-7422 or you can email her at weinteract@yahoo.com.

Board Training Series Available

Coordinated by Junior League for Rising Stars

The "Get On Board!" Spring 2009 Training Series is accepting applications for individuals who would like to go through training with the goal of being placed on a nonprofit board at the end of the training. Energetic, talented and qualified leaders are needed to help nonprofits achieve their mission. Companies interested in getting their star employees more involved in the community can get more information at www.jlno.org. The training is \$250 and includes training, materials, light supper during training and a graduation celebration.

If you would like additional information, you may contact club member Rachael Schorr at 504-582- 2702 or by email at: rachael.schorr@smithbarney.com.

Deadline: Friday, February 20th

Know a Prospective Rotarian?

Applications Available//New Member Notices

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](#)



Last Week's Speaker: Michael Sniffen, Interim CEO, Touro Infirmary

Upcoming Speakers:

Today: Sam Saia New Orleans Redevelopment Corporation

February 25: NO MEETING HAPPY MARDI GRAS!

Deadline for Bolo Publication Sumissions: Friday 5:00 p.m.

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

Email: bharrell@bcm.org
Web: <http://www.neworleansrotary.org>

SafeUnsubscribe®

This email was sent to [REDACTED] by bharrell@bcm.org.
Instant removal with [Privacy Policy](#).

Email Marketing by

