

# Rotary

## Club of Shades Valley



### Club Meeting

Shades Valley  
Meets at Birmingham Botanical Gardens  
2612 Lane Park Rd  
Mountain Brk, AL 35223-1802  
Time: Monday at 12:30 PM

### Speakers

October 17th  
[Larry D. Thornton, Sr. - President and Owner of Thornton Enterprises, Inc.](#)

October 31st  
[Warren St. John - Author](#)

October 24th  
[Andy Kennedy - Head Basketball Coach UAB](#)

November 7th  
[Beth Stubbs, PDG - Rotary International Director-Elect 2023-25](#)

## 22 10

By Jon E. Lewis on Tuesday, October 11, 2022



### **Larry D. Thornton Sr.**

Entrepreneur | Artist | Author | Servant Leader

Larry Thornton is President and Owner of Thornton Enterprises, Inc., a McDonald's Franchisee. He serves on the Board of Directors for Coca-Cola Bottling Company United, Inc, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta - Birmingham Branch, The Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind Foundation, Freshwater Landtrust, Birmingham Botanical Gardens and First Commercial Bank (Synovus). He is primarily known as a businessman and artist, however, in April of 2019, he released his first book, *Why Not Win? a reflection on his fifty-year journey from the Jim Crow South to America's boardrooms and the lessons he learned.*

Larry is known for saying he is excited about the book but is more excited about what the book is doing. Since the book, the Why Not Win Institute, a leadership and professional development initiative has launched and been delivered at Clemson University, Auburn University, Texas A&M University,

University of Alabama, Fisk University, Alabama A&M University and Alabama State University. Thornton was born in Montgomery, Alabama and graduated from Alabama State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Fine Arts. He taught High School Fine Arts at Vestavia Hills High School and subsequently joined Birmingham Coca-Cola where he served as Advertising Manager and Director of Business Development. He was the recipient of the Moss A. Kendrix award, a national distinction presented by Coca-Cola USA for excellence in community relations.

Thornton has also served in the following capacities:

- A.G. Gaston Boys' Club Board of Directors
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters Board of Directors and Big Brother Volunteer
- Girls Incorporated, Board of Directors and Past President

United Way of Central Alabama

- Chairman of the United Negro College Fund in 1995
- Birmingham Museum of Art Board of Directors
- Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham
- Vulcan Park Foundation Board of Directors

Thornton is a past President of the Kiwanis Club of Vulcan and was named Kiwanian of the Year in 1988 and 1992, as well as State Kiwanian of the Year in 1993. He was elected in 1994 as Lt. Governor of the Alabama State District of Kiwanis. He is a current member of Birmingham Downtown Kiwanis Club, the largest Kiwanis Chapter in the world, and served as the 2020 president. He is a graduate of Project Corporate Leadership Class, Leadership Birmingham, and Leadership Alabama.

Thornton served as Advertising and Marketing Representative for McDonald's Corporation's National Marketing in the area of the African American Consumer Markets and Media Budget. In 2013 Larry was appointed by the Governor of Alabama, to the Board of Trustees of his alma mater, Alabama State University and was elected Chairman of the Board in 2014.

Larry continues to produce limited and open edition art. Some of the proud owners of pieces of the Larry Thornton art collection include world-famous Maya Angelou, Oprah Winfrey, former US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and President of McDonald's Corporation Worldwide, Don Thompson.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Semi-Annual Blood Drive** - October 11..Thank you to all who donated blood and/or volunteer time! A special word of appreciation to Chair John Gleissner and Director Rachel McKee for the coordination of this event!

### **AUTO DRAFT OPTION (ACH)**

The first auto drafts of banking accounts for payment of financial obligations to the club were withdrawn on Monday, October 3. For those of you who have authorized this option, we ask you to please confirm that the transaction went as expected and that we had no glitches. Thank you for your participation. All members are encouraged to consider this easy way of making timely payments!!

**Selection of Nominating Committee** - Selection of members of this year's nominating committee will occur on October 24. All members in attendance, in-person or virtual, may participate in the procedure which is described in a separate document.

**RCSV Board of Directors Meeting** - The October meeting of your Board will be held Thursday, October 20, 2022 in the law offices of Balch and Bingham, suite 1500, 1901 6th Avenue N.. The meeting begins promptly at six p.m. and will last about an hour. All interested members/prospective members are welcome to attend.

**Shades Creek Greenway** - The semi-annual maintenance of our "adopted" section of the Greenway will take place on Saturday, October 22, beginning at 8:30 a.m. and concluding about 11:00 a.m. Brush clearing, mulching, some planting, etc is planned. Shovels, rakes, weed trimmers are needed. A good set of work gloves are recommended. Come join your fellow members, socialize and serve together on this fun project! Family members and guests are welcome and encouraged!!

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## Zoom Details

**Via the web:**

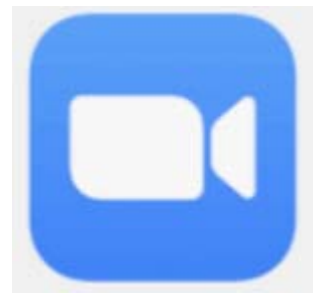
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84330344512>

Meeting ID: 843 3034 4512

Passcode: Yellowbowl

**Via phone:**

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)  
Meeting ID: 843 3034 4512  
Passcode: 5226307335



## Rotary Club of Shades Valley

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