



BULLETIN: For Wednesday, April 30, 2025
www.BelmontRotaryClub.com



Club Meeting

Belmont First Presbyterian Church
102 S. Central Ave.
Belmont, NC 28012

Time: Wednesday at 12:30 PM

Birthdays



William Jacob McLean III
 May 1st

Wedding Anniversaries



Wallace N. Aldrich
 May 8th



Don M. Hartsoe
 May 20th



Tammey C. Thomas
 May 20th



Jennifer Grant
 May 21st

Club Officers



Kenneth J. Pahon
 President-Elect
 President



Jennifer Grant
 Treasurer

Bradford R. Frazier
 President-

Speakers

April 30th

Barry Dyche, Franklin Templeton Investments

Barry Dyche is vice president at Franklin Templeton Investments, and he will speak about the economy and the financial markets. Rotarian Thomas Hunter, III will host the program.



LAST WEEK AT ROTARY

Belmont Rotary welcomes Tyler Bruce

Wednesday, April 23, 2025

Belmont attorney Tyler Bruce (center) was inducted as the latest member to join the Belmont Rotary Club in a ceremony at the weekly club meeting on April 23, 2025, at Belmont First Presbyterian Church. Tyler's firm is Bruce Law, located at 202 S. Main St., Belmont, NC 28012. Club President Ken Pahon (right) presided at the induction. Ted Hall stood in for Rotarian Don Hartsoe, who proposed Tyler for membership, and was unable to attend.



Dahlia Grove is combating abuse with love

Wednesday, April 23, 2025



Nominee



Ted B. Hall
Public
Relations/Image
Chair



Michelle Petty
Membership Chair



Thomas M.
Hunter III
iPast President

District Officers



Kevin Kendrick
District Governor



Donna M. Moffett
DG - Elect



Laurel Roe Morris
Assistant
Governor- Gaston
County



Dahlia Grove Founder & Executive Director Gayle Smith and Rotarian Mike Giang, who hosted the Rotary Club program on how Dahlia Grove helps victims of abuse. The photos below show a few of the many products made by women recovering from abuse who are participating in the Dahlia Grove program.

**"When you love people well,
you break down the walls so healing can begin."
-- Gayle Smith, Founder/Director**

Dahlia Grove
love changes everything

A local non-profit organization named for a delicate flower is fighting human trafficking, domestic violence and addiction with handmade jewelry, bath and body products and home cooking served with a heaping helping of love.

Gayle Smith founded Dahlia Grove in 2016 and named it for her father's favorite flower. Its purpose is to provide a bridge out of abuse, addiction and poverty for women victims. "Love changes everything," is the Dahlia Grove slogan.

"Human trafficking generated more money last year -- \$150.2 billion -- than drugs or guns," Smith told members of the Belmont Rotary Club at a recent meeting. She said trafficking through force, fraud or coercion can involve forced sex or labor.

Women victims are referred to Dahlia Grove by law-enforcement or other community agencies. Once accepted into the two-year residential program, participants are provided "a sanctuary of support services, educational opportunities, paid vocational training and employment and safe permanent housing for healing and restoration."

Participants in the program work in the catering service or in making and selling handmade products ranging from jewelry to bath and body products and candles. All participants are required to save a portion of their earnings. "Our last group of graduates each had at least \$10,000 in the bank," Smith said.

"We have a broken world," she told Rotarians, referring to the amount of human trafficking and domestic violence she sees. "But when you love people well, you break down the walls,



so healing can begin."

Loving people well at Dahlia Grove includes helping victims obtain medical, dental and vision care and coverage, substance abuse treatment, sexual trauma therapy, continuing education, financial coaching, computer literacy, job training and placement and a life-long sisterhood of friends and supporters.

Here's how to support the mission of Dahlia Grove:

- Dahlia Grove offers a catered lunch open to the public, 11:15 - 1:15, each Thursday at Belmont First United Methodist Church and each Friday at St. Stephen United Methodist Church in Charlotte.
- Purchase Dahlia Grove products at <https://www.dahliagrove.org/store>
- Make a tax-deductible donation at: <https://dahliagrove.kindful.com/> Dahlia Grove is a 501c3 non-profit organization
- Volunteer. Click this link for information: <https://www.dahliagrove.org/volunteer-with-us>

"We can never make enough candles or enough meals to cover our \$628,000 annual expenses," Gayle Smith said.

For more information on Dahlia Grove, call 704.420.0515, or visit <https://www.dahliagrove.org/>
