



Rotary



Club of Belmont

Celebrating 100 Years 1925-2025

BULLETIN: For Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2025
www.BelmontRotaryClub.com



Club Meeting

Belmont First Presbyterian Church
102 S. Central Ave.
Belmont, NC 28012
Time: Wednesday at 12:30 PM

Birthdays



Kenneth J Pahon
February 24th



Whitney Norton
March 2nd



Thomas M Hunter Jr.
March 7th



Gary E. McCord
March 12th

Wedding Anniversaries

No Wedding Anniversaries Found

Club Officers



Kenneth J Pahon
President-Elect
President



Jennifer Grant
Treasurer

Bradford R. Frazier
President-Nominee

Speakers

February 12th

Dr. Brad Frazier

Rotarian Dr. Brad Frazier of Belmont Abbey College will present a program on a topic to be announced.

February 19th

Speaker and program topic TBA.

Rotarian Chad Hammond will host the program.

February 19th

Board Meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Club President Ken Pahon presiding.

February 26th

Speaker and program topic TBA.

Rotarian Ted Hall will host the program.

New sign introduces motorists to Belmont Rotary

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

Belmont Rotary Club President Ken Pahon purchased this sign to inform passing motorists on Central Avenue about club meetings each Wednesday at First Presbyterian Church. Ken puts out the sign in the morning on meeting days and picks it up after the meeting.



Club supports Rotaract Food & Clothing Drive

Wednesday, February 5, 2025



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



Belmont Rotarians responded in a big way to the Belmont Abbey College Rotaract Club Food & Clothing Drive in support of the Gastonia Street Ministry. Members brought food and clothing donations to the Feb. 5, 2025, club meeting. Belmont Abbey Rotaract President Anthony Rutler attended to accept the contributions and thank the Rotarians,

LAST WEEK AT ROTARY

Keanu Trujillo - Alchemy Co-working

Wednesday, February 5, 2025



Keanu Trujillo, founder of Alchemy Co-working in Gastonia and the non-profit Conduit Carolinas, spoke recently to members of the Belmont Rotary Club. Rotarian Kathy Gauger, President & CEO of Catherine's House in Belmont, hosted the program.

**"We don't have members; we have partners.
It's about building relationships.
We don't share space; we share relationships."
-- Keanu Trujillo
Alchemy Co-working**

When Keanu Trujillo relocated with Elevation Church to Gaston County from his home state

of New Mexico several years ago, he had never thought of himself as an entrepreneur and had no dream of becoming one or of helping others achieve their entrepreneurial dreams.

He credits key people who came into his life here with helping him realize both of those objectives. Trujillo is now a business coach with his own company and also is the founder of Alchemy Co-working at 121 W. Main Ave., in downtown Gastonia, where more than 70 "partners" are supporting each other as they grow their own businesses.

He told his story at a Belmont Rotary Club meeting recently.

Trujillo said meeting his business partners Preston and Somer Wilson, founders of the William Henry Signature Salons and other businesses, and mentors John and Jennifer Church, who redeveloped the Chronicle Mill in Belmont, helped him realize he could be an entrepreneur himself and that he wanted to help others pursue their entrepreneurial visions. That's where the dream of Alchemy Co-working was born.

It began in a dilapidated two-story building that formerly was the home of Smith Drugs. About a million dollars later, the Alchemy Co-working building, which opened in March 2024, is a beautiful addition drawing entrepreneurs of all ages to downtown Gastonia.



"Alchemy" is an ancient term referring to attempts to turn lead into gold. Trujillo defines his version of "Alchemy" as: "The process of making the ordinary extraordinary."

At Alchemy-Co-working, business owners pay a monthly fee as low as \$149 for their dedicated desk or office space, with access to meeting rooms, a conference room, private phone booths, printing equipment, a podcasting studio and a coffee shop called the Wandering Cup owned by Melanie and Mike McDaniel. Day pass partnerships can be purchased for only \$25 and week passes for \$99.

"We don't have members; we have partners," Trujillo told Belmont Rotarians. "It's about building relationships. We don't share space; we share relationships."

The offices at Alchemy were filled just three weeks after opening, Trujillo said. "But it's not about creating more space," he added, "it's about creating space for more people." The partners at Alchemy collaborate, learn from each other and form lasting relationships.

Trujillo also is the founder of a nonprofit called Conduit Carolinas, which was formed in the aftermath of Hurricane Helene and has collected and supplied more than 350,000 pounds of items and \$250,000 to help hurricane victims in Western North Carolina. After starting to collect donations at CompleatKidz in Belmont, Conduit Carolinas now has a 55,000-square-foot warehouse in Sanley.

To learn more about Alchemy Co-working, call 704.753.8722, or visit www.alchemycowork.com.

For more on Conduit Carolinas, visit on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61568172623780>
