

Rotary

Club of Belmont

Bulletin



CLUB MEETING - Feb. 7, 2024
www.BelmontRotaryClub.com



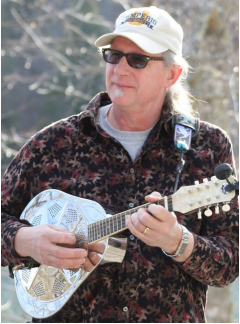
Club Meeting

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

Speakers

February 7th
Rotarian David Demperio

Get to know your fellow Rotarians, as David leads a program in which each club member has an opportunity to speak briefly about his or her present or past profession, family, hobbies, etc. and what being a member of Rotary has meant to him or her.



February 14th
Speaker and program topic TBA.

February 21st
Board of Directors Meeting
President Thomas Hunter, III presiding

February 21st
Speaker and program topic TBA.

Birthdays



Mike McKeever
February 2nd



Jennifer Grant
February 8th



Kenneth J Pahon
February 24th



Whitney Norton
March 2nd

Wedding Anniversaries

No Wedding Anniversaries Found

Club Officers



Thomas M. Hunter III
President



Kenneth J Pahon
President-Elect



Jennifer Grant
Treasurer



Ted B. Hall

Whitney Norton speaks to Charlotte Rotary on Haiti project

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Thousands of poor children in Haiti will be the beneficiaries when the Rotary clubs of this district raise more than \$200,000 to provide medical equipment for a children's wing being built at the Hospital Bienfaisance in Pignon, Haiti. Below is a photo of Whitney Norton, immediate past president of the Rotary Club of Belmont, who spoke to the Rotary Club of Charlotte recently about the project being led by the Belmont Rotary Club.



Rotary's Haiti hospital fundraiser is set for Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden on May 9



(These comments were made by Whitney Norton, (photo at left) immediate past president of the Belmont Rotary Club



Ted B. Hill
Public
Relations/Image
Chair
Webmaster



Whitney Norton
Rotary Foundation
Chair
iPast President



Michelle Petty
Membership Chair

District Officers



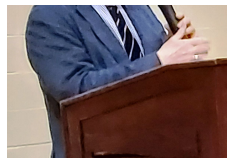
Debra L. Corbett
District Governor



Kevin Kendrick
DG - Elect



Laurel Roe Morris
Assistant Governor-
Gaston County



*immediate past president of the Belmont Rotary Club,
appearing before the Rotary Club of Charlotte.)*

Many thanks for the invitation and for setting up a time for me to discuss our Belmont Rotary Club's Haiti Hospital Bienfaisance fundraiser.

The fundraiser will be held at the Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden, in Belmont, NC, on May 9, 2024. and the keynote speaker will be model and actress Brooklyn Decker. (See her photo at right.)



The event will run from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Since there will be no other events at that time, guests will be able to view the gardens before the program. The dinner cost is \$100 per person. Invitation to follow.

The Hospital Bienfaisance is located in the northern central plain of Haiti. The hospital has an ongoing nursing training program, 65 beds, 6 clinics, and a full lab including a pharmacy. The hospital serves 150,000 patients per year.

Our Promise for Haiti Fundraiser is directed at completing the pediatric wing and supplying the necessary medical equipment to service the Pignon community.

We are hopeful that each of the district clubs can get behind this fundraiser with financial support and assist in raising \$206,000 in medical equipment to assure the opening of this wing in the near future.

Dr. Theodore Guy founded the Promise for Haiti in 1981 and this will be one of the key cornerstones of his life's work. Dr. Guy will receive an honorarium for his 40 plus years of services to the Haitian community and building the Pignon hospital.

Rotarians should know that Dr. Guy is a:

- Former District Governor for the Caribbean
- Original Founder of the Clean Water Initiative
- His life work spans from 1981 to the present
- His team has been a good steward to all Rotarian grants

Among those rotary programs are the following:

- Incinerator Grant
- Prosthetic Limb Project
- Waste Management Project
- Pignon Clean Water Initiative
- Addition of operating room lab and x-ray equipment

We want to thank all of you who can help in any way toward this worthwhile project: the Hospital Bienfaisance Pediatric Wing.

I will close with the Haitian proverb:

â€œMen aupil, chay pce LOUâ€ = Many Hands Make Light Work

On behalf of Promise for Haiti, Thank you.

LAST WEEK AT ROTARY

LEAD program offers some offenders an alternative to jail

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

LEAD Program Coordinator Adrien Sanders (left) told Rotarians at a recent meeting how the program she administers gives some low-level offenders an option to avoid prosecution and jail and instead receive help to overcome their drug abuse or other destructive behaviors. With her (from left) are Rotarian Mike Giang, who hosted the program, special guest Belmont Abbey College Rotaract Club Vice President Anthony Ruttler, and Belmont Rotary Immediate Past President Whitney Norton.



GASTON COUNTY

Let Everyone Advance with Dignity
Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion

Some low-level offenders arrested in Gaston County are being given a chance to avoid prosecution and jail by voluntarily participating in a program to help them confront their problems and change their behavior.

The program is called LEAD (Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion), and program coordinator Adrien Sanders told members of the Belmont Rotary Club about the effort when she spoke at a recent meeting.

Drug addiction, sex work activity, homelessness, poverty and mental illness are some of the most likely reasons people come in contact with the LEAD program, Sanders said. "The program is designed for people who keep, keep, keep having issues," she added.

LEAD originated in Seattle, Washington, in 2011, and began in Gaston County on Aug. 31, 2023, after the county received a \$1.2 million grant from the Bureau of Justice Administration. The program now has a staff of three, with 11 active cases and two referrals pending.

The program operates through the Gaston County Police Department now, but Sanders said she hopes it will be expanded to include municipal law-enforcement departments. Most cases are referred to LEAD by a police officer who arrests someone who needs help and is willing to cooperate to get it. But other community organizations also can make referrals.

"We are out and about meeting people where they are, not sitting in an office or in group sessions," Sanders said.

When an offender accepts being referred to the LEAD program, charges are not filed but are put on hold. "If there's a baby step being taken, we're working with them, she said. "We don't kick anyone out of the program, but we can change their status to inactive."

To help case managers meet the immediate needs of program participants, the LEAD program welcomes donations of bottled water, sports drinks, packs of crackers/trail mix, and non-perishable, microwaveable, individual-serving sized foods such as soup and macaroni. Donations of gift cards to fast food restaurants, grocery stores and big-box retailers are also appreciated.

Click this link for more information: [LEAD Program](#)
