

# Rotary Club of Durham



Thursday, December 7, 2023

## Club Meeting

Durham  
Meets at Durham Bulls Athletic Park  
PNC Triangle Club -- 3rd Floor 409  
Blackwell Street Durham, North  
Carolina 27701  
409 Blackwell Street  
Durham, NC 27707  
Time: Monday at 12:30 PM

## Events

No Events found

## Speakers

### December 11, 2023

[Brett Blair](#)

Presentation Topic: Love is the  
Way – A Rotarian’s Message  
for the Holidays

### December 18, 2023

[Holiday Lunch Celebration](#)

Holiday Lunch Celebration

## Club Leaders



[Erik Benson](#)  
Fundraising Committee Co-  
Chair



[Mary Kate Shirah](#)  
Grants Chair



[Elisabeth Harper Wiener](#)  
President



[Robinson O. Everett Jr.](#)  
President-Elect



[Craig Brown](#)  
Vice President



[Robert L. Wiley III](#)  
Secretary



[Reginald Dean Oakley](#)  
Treasurer



[Allie Balling](#)  
Public Image Committee  
Member

## Weekly Rotary Meeting -- 12.11.2023 Brett Blair

### Durham Rotary Club Weekly Meeting

Monday, 12.11.2023 -- 12:30 p.m. -- 1:30 p.m.

Durham Bulls PNC Triangle Club, 3rd Floor -- Durham

Guest Speaker: Brett Blair

Presentation Topic: Love is the Way – A Rotarian’s Message for the Holidays



**BRETT BLAIR, Founder and President of Best Life Global, LLC**

Dr. Brett Blair is the founder and president of Best Life Global, LLC. Best Life Global is a high-performance coaching and consulting firm. Brett is also the founding partner of Sanford Rose Associates, an executive search firm based in Brighton, Michigan.

Brett holds a Ph.D. in Industrial-Organizational Psychology, an MBA from Tennessee State University, and a BS in Industrial Engineering from the University of Missouri. Brett also studied at Sophia University in Tokyo, Japan. Before founding Best Life Global, Brett enjoyed a 25-year corporate career in international business. Brett’s passion is helping people, and he has real-world experience and practical perspectives from which to help entrepreneurs and professionals in various industries and during all seasons of life. He is recognized for his ability to lead others to maximize their potential through living a life of purpose, balance, and significance.

Brett is a member of the Rotary Club of Research Triangle Park, where he was President from 2018 to 2019. He is a member of the RTP Capital Angel Investment Group and a board member of NewHope Church in Durham.

Brett has published three books: *From Autopilot to Authentic*, *Living at the Summit*, and the



John Cross  
Club Director



Kenneth Andrew Cutshaw  
Club Director



Nina Morley Daye  
Public Image Committee  
Member



David Tulloch Durack  
Club Director



Darlene Fiscus  
Public Image Committee  
Member



Nichole Gantshar  
Public Image Committee  
Member



Rich Haney  
Club Director



Cecily Kalkhof  
Public Image Chair



Matthew Patrick McDowell  
Club Director



Shemecka McNeil  
Club Director



Lauren Phillips  
Club Director



Crystal Roberts  
Public Image Committee  
Member



Kim Shaw  
Club Director



Sara Shea Stephens  
President-Nominee



Rodney Clapp  
Sergeant-at-Arms



Barry C. Curtis  
Club Finance Advisor  
Second Century Fund



William G. Ingram  
Program Committee Chair



Anna Jenkins  
Fellowship Committee  
Chair



Edward H Pikaart Jr.  
Rotary Foundation Chair



Crystal Ellice Taylor  
Membership Chair



Tom Bagby  
Club Photographer



Ray E. Benson III  
Fundraising Committee Co-  
Chair

recently published memoir *Born â€œ Love â€œ Die*. He can be contacted at [bblair@bestlifeglobal.com](mailto:bblair@bestlifeglobal.com), and through his website at [www.brettblairphd.com](http://www.brettblairphd.com).

As I was finishing up my PhD in psychology, Kim was diagnosed with ALS. The love of my life was handed a death sentence. The year of caregiving for my beloved Kim during her journey with ALS was transformational, and forged me into a better human. I am uniquely aware of the fragility of life and I carry an urgency for each of us to live our best lives, each and every day.

Today, I am blessed to be able to combine my life experience, work experience, education and passions to help my clients flourish in their personal and professional lives. My journey in both corporate America and entrepreneurial endeavors brings real-world experience to our conversations. Iâ€™ve loved. Iâ€™ve lost. Iâ€™ve lived it.

My experience with being coached completely transformed my life, and it was this experience that moved me into the profession of coaching as my career. With a unique bias for action, I work one-on-one with high performing people as their coach to help them achieve their goals - faster and better than they would do on their own.

As a certified coach, I tailor the specifics of each coaching relationship to the unique needs of my clients. I continue to be amazed by the growth, impact and joy that my clients experience through their coaching journey.

I remain optimistic, energetic and excited to embrace each day. I love what I do for a living, and am excited to help as many people as possible with the time I have left.

## Holiday Rotary Singers Rehearsal This Coming Monday 12.11.2023 -- 11:30 a.m.



*Sounds  
of The  
Season*

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SINGING WITH OUR ROTARY SINGERS**

Sharon



John J. Zenner III  
Club Photographer



Geraud Staton  
iPast President




Newman C. Aguiar  
Past District Governor

**AT OUR HOLIDAY LUNCH CELEBRATION MEETING ON 12.18.2023,  
PLEASE MAKE PLANS TO JOIN US FOR REHEARSAL  
THIS COMING MONDAY, 12.11.2023 AT 11:30 A.M.!!  
QUESTIONS: PLEASE CONTACT SHARON**

**LET'S RING THE BELL!**



**Let's Ring Again This Year  
For The Salvation Army!**



Durham Rotary Club

**Let's ring for the Salvation Army!**

**RH** Rich Haney

Let's ring again this year for the Salvation Army.

The location will be the Sams Club at 4005 Durham-Chapel Hill Blvd, Durham, NC 27707.

We will ring Tuesday, December 12th - Saturday, December 16th.

Questions: Please contact John Cross or Rich Haney.

Our sign-up link for this year is at [Durham Rotary Club: Let's ring for the Salvation Army! \(signupgenius.com\)](https://durhamrotaryclub.org/let-s-ring-for-the-salvation-army/). Last year, when we had some inclement weather, we raised \$2116. The year before, we raised \$1928, giving a total of \$4044 for the last two years. And it was much appreciated!

\$4044 for the last two years. And, it was much appreciated!

We are tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> – Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at Sam's Club at the old South Square Mall. But if members would like, we can still switch to New Hope Commons and also adjust the dates and times.

### **MLK Meal Packing Event 2024**

## **MLK MEAL PACKING EVENT!**

### **DURHAM ROTARIANS!**

Below you will find the sign-up genius link for **THREE LOCATIONS** for the MLK Meal Packing Event. The sign-ups will be open to **ROTARY CLUBS ONLY until December 9**. After that, the sign-ups will be opened up to members of our community and will fill up very quickly. You can also sign up friends/family members that would like to volunteer with you.

#### **DURHAM Set-Up:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090C49AAAE2AA0FC1-46190872-mlkday>

**\*\*This is on Sunday evening**

#### **DURHAM Main Shift:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090C49AAAE2AA0FC1-46275349-mlkday>

#### **CLAYTON Main Shift:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090C49AAAE2AA0FC1-46275982-mlkday>

#### **RALEIGH Registration/Main Shift:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090C49AAAE2AA0FC1-46275845-mlkday>

*ANY  
Questions?*

**CONTACT JOYCE McKINNEY, AT: [jcmckinn@gmail.com](mailto:jcmckinn@gmail.com)**

**Mardi Gras! SAVE THE DATE!**

**SAVE THE DATE!**



**MARDI GRAS! SAVE THE DATE!**

Thursday  
February 8,  
2024



@ Durham  
Bottling  
Company

Interested in sponsoring, planning,  
or participating??  
See Erik or Ted!

STAY TUNED! MORE TO COME...



**Pending New Member -- PRALHAD KHATRI**

**PENDING NEW MEMBER  
PRALHAD KHATRI  
SPONSORED BY: PHIL APOSTOLICO  
INDUCTION DATE: 1.8.2024**



**PRALHAD KHATRI  
OWNER/GENERAL MANAGER -- SKYZONE**

**Pending New Member -- JANE FRANCES BROWN**

**PENDING NEW MEMBER  
JANE FRANCES BROWN  
SPONSORED BY: PRESIDENT-ELECT ROB EVERETT  
INDUCTION DATE: 1.8.2024**



**JANE FRANCES BROWN  
Mission Multiplier -- CEO & Managing Director  
Consultant**

**Pending New Member -- TAL LEWIN WITTLE**

**PENDING NEW MEMBER  
TAL LEWIN-WITTLE  
SPONSORED BY: RODNEY CLAPP  
INDUCTION DATE: 1.8.2024**

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**TAL LEWIN-WITTLE**  
**Durham Habitat For Humanity**  
**Assistant Director of Institutional Giving -- Fundraising**

**Pending New Member -- DR. MELANIE S. PITCHFORD**

**PENDING NEW MEMBER**  
**DR. MELANIE S. PITCHFORD**  
**SPONSORED BY: CRYSTAL TAYLOR**  
**INDUCTION DATE: 1.8.2024**





**DR. MELANIE S. PITCHFORD**  
**Founder of Principal Blueprint Academy, LLC**

**Pending New Member -- KATHLEEN COLLIER**

**PENDING NEW MEMBER**  
**KATHLEEN COLLIER**  
**Sponsored By: Mimi O'Brien**  
**Induction Date: 1.8.2024**





**KATHLEEN COLLIER**

**The Mary Duke Biddle Foundation Program Associate**

**Congratulations To Past-President Indira Everett -- Career Change & New Adventure!**

*Congratulations*

TO

**PAST-PRESIDENT, INDIRA EVERETT!!**



***A MESSAGE FROM KEVIN McLAUGHLIN  
VICE-PRESIDENT,***

***NC GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS & EXTERNAL RELATIONS***

As 2023 comes to a close, Iâ€™d like to share that after 26 years of service, John Elliott, will retire at the end of this year.

John started his career at Carolina Power and Light in Florence, South Carolina in the Economic Development department and has held a variety of positions in the company, most recently as the Vice President of NC Government and Community Relations. His time as Vice-President has been one of significant accomplishments for the GCR team including local support for North Carolina's H951, for the first-ever Carbon Plan, and for new generation and investments into our communities. Moreover, John helped me operationalize our goals and objectives with targeted local work plans and a more robust Storm Plan improving our brand at the local level.

With Johnâ€™s retirement, effective January 1, 2024, Indira Everett will become Vice President of NC Government and Community Relations and report directly to me. Jimmy Flythe, Martha Wegner, and Lisa Parrish will report to Indira, and we will backfill Indira's role as East Director and Durham-Area Manager.

Indiraâ€™s energy career began over 30 years ago in the Legal department at Carolina Power & Light. She later joined the Public Affairs team at Progress Energy

where she provided legislative support to lobbyists in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Washington, DC. She also had responsibility for cultivating mutually beneficial relationships with third party allies, coalition groups, and members of the environmental justice community. Before the merger with Duke Energy, she oversaw a two-year campaign election cycle and managed the Political Action Committee (PAC) for North Carolina, South Carolina, and Florida. Most recently, Indira led our NC Environmental Justice strategy transforming our corporate goals into action across North Carolina.

**W. Kevin McLaughlin**

*VP Government Affairs & External Relations*

**Giving Through Rotary Direct Is Easy!**

**Recurring Giving through Rotary Direct is Easy!**

- Choose any **amount**  
\$10 or more
  - Choose any **frequency**  
monthly, quarterly or annually
  - Choose the **fund**
    - **Annual Fund – SHARE**  
support our grants
    - **Polio Plus**  
support Rotary's #1 humanitarian project
- 3 Ways to Enroll**
- **Phone:** **866-976-8279**
  - **Mail** form
  - **Online:** **Sign In** to My Rotary, then click **Donate** button

**Rotary Direct Makes Giving Easy**

- Link to Rotary Direct donation page
- How to enroll in Rotary Direct 1-min. video tutorial



**Rotary Direct Makes Giving Easy**

• Link To Rotary Direct Donation Page

<https://my.rotary.org/en/rotary-direct>

• How To Enroll In Rotary Direct 1-Minute Video Tutorial

[Rotary Direct Tutorial](#)

[youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)

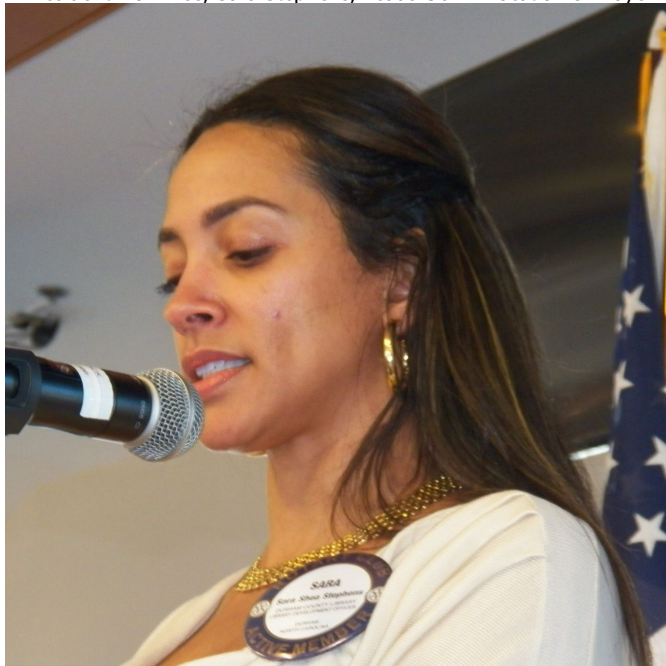
**Weekly Rotary Meeting -- 12.4.2023 Past-President, Don Stanger**

**Thank You, Past-President, Don, For Your  
Informative Presentation On 12.4.2023!  
Presentation Topic: Microchip Industry Overview**

**President Elisabeth Welcomes Rotarians & Guests To Our Monday Meeting!**



President-Nominee, Sara Stephens, Leads Our Invocation & Prayer



Rotarian, De Cutshaw, Shares A Foundation Project Review





**Our Speaker For Today's Meeting -- Past-President, Don Stanger**



**Weekly Rotary Meeting -- 12.18.2023 -- HOLIDAY  
CELEBRATION LUNCH!**



**DURHAM ROTARY CLUB WEEKLY MEETING  
MONDAY, 12.18.2023 --- 12:30 P.M. -- 1:30 P.M.  
DURHAM BULLS PNC TRIANGLE CLUB, 3RD FLOOR -- DURHAM  
MAKE PLANS TO JOIN US FOR OUR  
HOLIDAY LUNCH CELEBRATION MEETING!**



*Please Let Sharon Know (ASAP)  
If You Are Planning To Invite  
A Guest To Attend With You!  
Guest Lunch Cost: \$30.00 (Check or Cash Only)  
Checks Are Made Payable To: The Rotary Club of  
Durham*

**Do You Know Someone Interested In Joining Our Durham  
Rotary Club?**

By Sharon Kay Lassiter on Wednesday, October 5, 2022

**DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE INTERESTED  
IN JOINING DURHAM ROTARY?**



Contact Sharon For A Copy Of  
The Club's Membership Application

[slassiter38@nc.rr.com](mailto:slassiter38@nc.rr.com)

*[Or pick up an Application at a Monday Meeting]*



## **Durham Rotary Club -- SOCIAL MEDIA HANDLES**

By Sharon Kay Lassiter on Wednesday, October 5, 2022

### **DURHAM ROTARY CLUB SOCIAL MEDIA HANDLES**



[Durhamrotaryclub.org](https://Durhamrotaryclub.org)



[Durham Rotary Club](#)



[Durham Rotary Club](#)


















[Downtowndurhamrotary](#)



[@durhamrotary](#)

**Birthdays**

	<a href="#"><u>Robert K. Yowell</u></a> December 8th		<a href="#"><u>Nathaniel A.K. Erskine</u></a> December 8th		<a href="#"><u>Bhabesh C. Dash</u></a> December 11th		<a href="#"><u>Erik Benson</u></a> December 12th
	<a href="#"><u>Scott Warren</u></a> December 13th		<a href="#"><u>Frank Perry</u></a> December 14th		<a href="#"><u>David M. Crite</u></a> December 17th		<a href="#"><u>R. C. Waters</u></a> December 17th
	<a href="#"><u>Sam R. Miglarese</u></a> December 18th		<a href="#"><u>David Tulloch Durack</u></a> December 18th		<a href="#"><u>Ralph L. Haynes</u></a> December 23rd		<a href="#"><u>Peter deGreeff Jacobi</u></a> December 26th
	<a href="#"><u>Sarah S. Hill</u></a> December 30th		<a href="#"><u>Michael O'Foghlu</u></a> January 1st		<a href="#"><u>Newman C. Aguiar</u></a> January 1st		