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Thank you to North Main Financial, our Splash Sponsor for June/July. If you are interested in advertising in Splash, contact Bill Russell at 704-892-1922.

Member Spotlight

Metrolina Greenhouses Celebrates 50 Years!

Huntersville-based Metrolina Greenhouses celebrated 50 years in business this past April. The family-owned business is the largest single-site, heated wholesale greenhouse operation in the U.S. The privately owned producer of ornamental plants, including annuals, perennials, shrubs and trees, spans more than 200 acres of greenhouses and 1,000 acres of land in Huntersville, North Carolina and York, South Carolina.

Founded in 1972 on one acre by Tom and Vickie Van Wingerden, who came to the U.S. from the Netherlands in 1971 with \$500 and a dream, Metrolina Greenhouses has grown over the past 50 years to become one of the largest and most innovative greenhouse operations in the world.

Van Wingerden was recognized by the Lake Norman Chamber in 2010 with the Robert Cashion Business Person of the Year. Metrolina was recently the host for the Chamber's Leaders & Legends Entrepreneur program.



LAKE NORMAN
chamber of commerce

Our Monthly Events Include

Businessworks!
Mix & Mingle
WINS Networking Breakfast

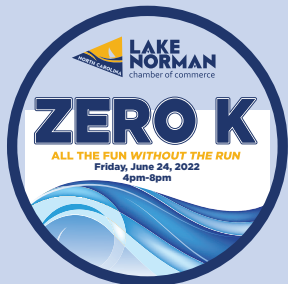
Business After Hours
Focus Friday at The Chamber
Business Mixer

Get the latest event info at LakeNormanChamber.org

Lake Norman Chamber of Commerce
19900 W. Catawba Ave.
Cornelius, NC 28031

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Make A Splash With The Chamber! *Featured Events*



Lake Norman Chamber Zero K

Friday, June 24
4:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Hosted by
Lost Worlds Brewing
19700-D One Norman Blvd, Cornelius

Presented by
Lake Norman Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram

\$40

"All the fun without the run!"

Don't miss this fun event:

Featuring Live Entertainment and a Food Truck

Register at LakeNormanChamber.org

scan with phone



9th Annual Lake Norman Chamber Women's Conference

Thursday, August 11
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

The Peninsula Club
19101 Peninsula Club Drive, Cornelius

Presented by **Atrium Health**

"Embracing and Celebrating the Power of You!"

\$75

Register at LakeNormanChamber.org

Connect. Engage. Grow.

June 2 10:00 am - 11:30 am
Quarterly Nonprofit Roundtable Meeting
 Cool Kids Clubhouse, 9601 Holly Point Dr, Huntersville. Regional nonprofits are encouraged to attend and share upcoming events.

June 8 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Hampton Inn Northlake Open House
 7911 W. WT Harris Blvd, Charlotte. Stop by and celebrate their open house: Tours and Networking.

June 9 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm
Rustic and Main Business Mixer
 11957 Ramah Church Rd, Huntersville. BBQ and Cold Drinks.

June 14 8:30 am - 10:00 am
WINS Networking Meeting
 Brick Row, 19725 Oak Street, #9, Cornelius. "Summer Fashion Show" - join us for networking, mimosas, sweets and a fashion show!!!

June 16 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm
Mooresville Dermatology/Eterna Aesthetics (Piedmont Healthcare) Business AfterHours
 Join us as we celebrate our 1 Year Anniversary in a business networking event.

June 17 8:30 am - 9:30 am
Focus Friday, featuring NC State Senator Danny Britt
 A virtual discussion of the Judiciary and Court issues, plus legislation under consideration. Contact the Chamber for ZOOM credentials.

July 7 9:00 am - 10:00 am
Fifth Third Business Before Hours
 19212 West Catawba Ave, Cornelius. Don't miss this opportunity to kick the day off with networking at Fifth Third Bank's state-of-the-art financial facility!

July 12 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Lake Norman Chamber BizNet
 Marion Conference Room 19900 West Catawba Ave Cornelius, Suite 201. Join Chamber staff as they share how to get the most out of your business listing on the Chamber's website.

July 16 All Day
Big Day at the Lake
 On Saturday July 16th Lake Norman citizens will open their boats and hearts for deserving "Littles" and their "Bigs." Find out more about this unique community event at Bigdayatthelake.com.

July 19 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
Lake Norman Chamber Diversity Lunch n' Learn
 Marion Conference Room 19900 West Catawba Ave Cornelius, Suite 201. Topic: Culture Appreciation. Join us as we discuss the opportunities in our cultural differences.

July 21 9:00 am - 10:00 am
BusinessWorks
 Marion Conference Room 19900 West Catawba Ave Cornelius, Suite 201. Topic: A Path Forward: Adjusting your retirement plan for the road ahead. Speaker: T. J. Francomano, CRPC CPFA - Merrill Lynch Wealth Management. In Person and Zoom.

July 22 8:30 am - 9:30 am
Focus Friday
 Featuring Kandi Dietemeyer, President of Central Piedmont Community College. We will discuss the State of CPCC and Community Colleges, plus priorities and business impact. Contact the Chamber for ZOOM credentials.

Learn About NEW WEEKLY EVENTS By Email!

Send us your email address so we can let you know about all upcoming chamber events.

Email
Laura@lakenormanchamber.org

Signature Chamber Events

Lake Norman Chamber BUSINESS EXPO

Tuesday, October 11 10 am - 5 pm
 Huntersville Recreation Center

Lake Norman Chamber GOLF TOURNAMENT

Monday, October 31 9 am Shotgun Start
 NorthStone Country Club

Thoughts from a Cluttered Desk - Join us for the Zero K



Bill Russell
 President & CEO

There are few positives that come to mind when we speak of the pandemic which has gripped our nation economically, socially, and politically for well over two years. As health care officials continue to monitor rising cases even today, our businesses still feel the lingering effects in employment and shortages.

It could be a decade or more before we fully realize the implications of at "home learning" and the behavioral implications virtual instruction had on students - not just from an educational perspective, but the personal interaction they lost with other students.

Most join the chamber for the critical role we play in networking and professional development. The stay-at-home order issued in March of 2020 shut down many of our programs and most chambers closed their doors to ride out the storm.

Our Chamber remained open, creating virtual programs, and worked to keep businesses informed when many could reopen. While indoor gathering was prohibited for the most part and outdoor gathering was restricted to no more than 50, the chamber looked at ways we

could bring people back together in a safe but productive manner.

In August 2020, when restaurants were opening back up at half capacity, I met with Jack Salzman of Lake Norman Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram who had for nearly a decade cohosted the chamber's signature event - The Business Expo. We had an idea to bring an outside networking event to the lake - a Zero K.

We explained the Zero K was not really an athletic event. Folks would gather, the starting gun would go off, and then you simply networked - "All the fun without the run!" We mentioned that Lost Worlds Brewery had just opened that spring albeit under the constraints facing all our hospitality businesses.

Jack didn't hesitate when he said, "Let's do it!" and signed on to be our Presenting Sponsor. The 2020 Zero K was an overwhelming success as fields of 50 were set up over half hour intervals and folks who had been sequestered for months were able to gather again both professionally and socially.

On Friday, June 24th we will host our Third Annual Zero K. Held at Lost Worlds Brewery, we have moved it to a Friday afternoon to



2021 Zero K Participants

take advantage of the weekend. Musical entertainment will be provided by Brett Milstead, who will be playing that night from 6-9pm. A Food Truck serving Pita's will also be available.

Businesses are signing up to sponsor the Zero K and the event is open to the public. You can register online on the chamber's website or call the chamber for more details at 704-892-1922.

I hope you join us Friday, June 24th at the Lake Norman Chamber Zero K. Born out of an act of resilience, it remains.... "All the fun without the Run!"