

Rotary



Club of Gaithersburg

July 12th, 2020

Club Meeting

Now holding virtual meetings.

Our normal meeting place is the Holiday Inn Gaithersburg

Time: Tuesday at 12:15 PM (doors open at noon)

GaithersburgRotaryClub@gmail.com

Club Leaders

Emmyrich Vicente
President

Kelly Grossberg
Secretary, with Kumba Brewah

Dan Dellon
Treasurer

H. Winfree Irvine Jr.
Sergeant-at-Arms, with Dan King

Scott Rebein
Immediate Past President

Frank E. Senk Jr.
Area Governor

The Gaithersburg Rotary Foundation
Sara Torrence, President
Bob Bokma, Secretary
Jack Bell, Treasurer
Dan King, Member-at-large
Diana Swanson, Member-at-large

Events

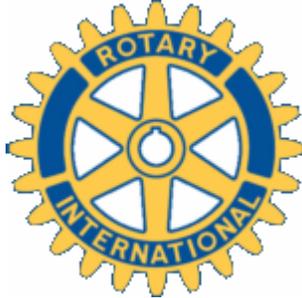
July 14th, 12:00 noon
Virtual Meeting
Speakers: John Kolm and Kendrick Brooks of the Rockville Rotary Club
Topic: The Haiti Water Project
Hear about a Rotary project that makes a BIG difference.

July 21st, 10:00
Virtual Meeting
Speaker: Sajan Mohamed, MBA
Topic: **Cyber Threats and Risk Management for Small Business**

July 28th, 12:00
Virtual Meeting
Speaker: Judith Clark of the Montgomery Village Rotary Club
Topic: Women Who Care

Whither Our Rotary Club

By Kenneth D. Weiss on Saturday, July 11, 2020



The world is changing, and so is Rotary. COVID-19 has sent the speed of change from 10 mph to 100. By one report, about seventy percent of Rotary clubs are now meeting virtually. Twelve percent meet physically, and the other eighteen percent did not share information or are not meeting. Some clubs that meet physically are streaming the proceedings for members who can't attend or are afraid to.

Also, clubs are adapting their meeting schedules and procedures, activities, and dues structures to attract dynamic young members. Good marketing won't do the job if the product is not right.

Eighty-year-old "young Turks" have been talking with President Richie about ways to modernize our 54 year-old club. There won't be a revolution because we're looking pretty good, but there may be small changes to help us grow in this brave new uncharted world. If those last few words sound borrowed from great literature, well, they are. Our club might be borrowing also - borrowing changes made by the most successful groups of Rotarians.

Great Lineup of Guest Speakers

T.O., Our program Chairperson, has been working overtime. See what he has for our members and guests:

- 7/14/20: John Kolm and Kenrick Brooks on **the Haiti Water Project**. See the need in Haiti. See what is being done. Har about it from two very dedicated Rotarians..

- 7/21/20: Sajan Mohamed, MBA, in charge of **cybersecurity** for a major financial firm. Topic: **Cyber Threats and Risk Management for Small Business**. Also, Geri Sliffman of GHS and our Foundation Board will award the **Linda M. Hanson Memorial Scholarship** to a tip-top graduating senior. **Invite guests for this one!** They will thank you for it.

- 7/28/20: Maybe Judith Clark, the founder and president of **Women Who Care Ministries**, serving women in the Montgomery Village area

- 8/4/20: Probably a club forum or speaker, Leena Palav, COO of Vision Spring, a not-for-profit organization whose activities now include supplying PPE products from China to African countries. Find how they do it!



John Ronald

Peace Action Network

Our speaker: Susan Kerin of the **Peace Action Network**, Montgomery County Chapter. They are part of a national network,

Ministries

July 31st, 1:00 to 2:00

District forum

Speaker: Sylvia Whitlock, **the first woman president of a Rotary Club**

Information and registration on the district website. **Sign Up For This.** You will want to her it.

August 4th

Club Meeting.

???????Details to be announced.



based in Silver Spring MD, which has more than 100,000 members. The group has a reasonable goal - to try to **reduce the level of violence.**

Susan became involved in promoting peace through Pax Christi and when a priest gave her a "gratitude jar," which, she said, is a bit like Rotary's happy dollars.

The national organization's priorities are as follows:

- Decrease the threat of **nuclear war**. The "Doomsday Clock" is ticking, and we are closer than ever to annihilation.

- Rationalize military spending. A cut of ten percent would pay for thousands of schools and teachers.

- Reduce **militarization** of the police, especially sales of used military equipment to police departments.

- Use diplomacy instead of economic sanctions. Sanctions hurt the general populace of a country and do not bring about regime change, and another, which your editor missed.

The Montgomery County chapter of Peace Action Network carries out local activities such as organizing protests. Recently, it referred members of the National Guard, to be deployed in Washington D.C., to the Military Hotline for guidance on whether they could refuse to go or to carry our actions that they deemed illegal.

At present, there is a **Youth Video/Writing Challenge**, related to peace, with a top prize of **\$500**. See information at <https://peaceactionyouthchallenge.wordpress.com>. Information about the organization as a whole is at www.peaceaction.org.

Frank, Ken and Susan mentioned **Rotary peace activities** in Northern Ireland, Israel and Palestine and Cyprus as well as scholarships to study at Rotary Peace Universities and the Rotarian Action Group for Peace, which is on the internet at www.rotarianactiongroupforpeace.org.

The Rotary Four Way Test

Of all that we think, say and do:

- Is it the truth?
- Is it fair to all concerned?
- Will it bring goodwill and better friendship?
- Will it be beneficial to all concerned?



Our Meeting Last Tuesday

For starters, on Tuesday, Frank recruited members of our club **to speak to the Montgomery Village Rotary Club**. This was obviously a good idea. There followed a brief discussion of our assistance to Germantown Help. Then, we said the Pledge of Allegiance with an echo (a member who joined by phone) and heard an excellent invocation about peace from Bob.

President Richie said that our member, Winfree, was doing well and would return when we met again in the Holiday Inn. Also, we will try to **live-stream** our meetings when we're back to the hotel.

Kumba had a guest, **Michael Kpaka**, a student at the Institute of Public Administration and Management in Sierra Leone. Virtual meetings make it possible for people from anywhere to visit us.

Diana, Frank and T.O., all in the medical field, briefed us on the status of **vaccines for COVID-19**. Then, President Richie summarize our active projects on this first meeting of the Rotary Year. We have opportunities for **volunteers**, and three **fundraisers** are open. Then he thanked several members, and the club and foundation directors, for the work they have done and will, undoubtedly, keep on doing. Diana has agreed to become Treasurer of the foundation, as of 1/1/21, **as long as Jack leaves (her) spreadsheets alone.**

T.O. asked about his **\$1,000 one-for-two challenge**. Frank said he had contributed \$500 and Richie \$100. That puts us 30% of the way. **We need that other 70%!**

A few more announcements, of course, and **the fun began**. Dan K., acting as Sergeant-at-Arms, quizzed us on the name of our new District Governor, and Ken tried to fine Dan for saying the Rotary Foundation had six areas of focus. It has just added a seventh - **the environment**.

Richie gave \$5 everything that is happening in Rotary, and **Kumba** had others for Richie's leadership, our speaker and her guest. **Dan K.** was happy for Winfree and **Bob** for CART, his wife, and scholarships for GHS and QOHS students.

Ken pledged \$39 for his "Jack Benny" birthday, and **Diana** matched it. Both had birthdays on July third. When **Jack All** was here, we had **three** July 3rd babies. **Rick** offered cash for the speaker and the Rotary New Year, and **Dan D.** kicked in \$5 for a bunch of good reasons. **Frank** did



likewise for \$3. **Happy dollars from the meeting came to \$107** - a nice boost to our bank account when it is all paid in.
