

Rotary



Club of Gaithersburg

September 12th, 2020

Club Meeting

The Rotary Club of Gaithersburg, Maryland, USA expects to meet via Zoom for the rest of this year. For logon credentials, contact: GaithersburgRotaryClub@gmail.com Time: Tuesdays at 12:15 PM

Club Leaders

Emmyrich Vicente
President

Scott Rebein
Immediate Past President

Kelly Grossberg
Secretary, with Kumba Brewah

Dan Dellon
Treasurer

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

Frank E. Senk Jr.
Area Governor

The Gaithersburg Rotary Foundation

Sara Torrence, President
Bob Bokma, Secretary
Jack Bell, Treasurer
Diana Swanson and Dan King,
Members-at-large

Events

September 15th
Club Meeting on Zoom
.September 17th, 7:00 p.m.
Rotary Foundation Training
Leaving your legacy to support
the Rotary Foundation
Info. on the District website

September 19th, 9:00 to 2:00
Virtual Membership Seminar
Check this out on the district website. It looks excellent!

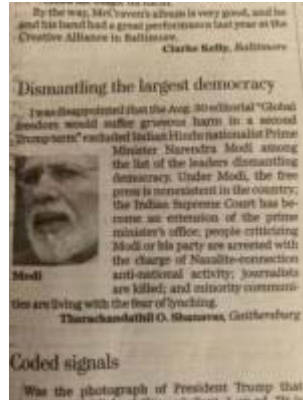
September 22nd
Club Meeting on Zoom

September 24th
Rotary Foundation Training -
Polio Plus
Info. on the district website
NOTE: Ken is on the district's
Polio Plus Committee this year.

September 25th, 2:00 p.m.
Infinite Possibilities - Women

Very Short Stories

By Kenneth D. Weiss on Saturday, September 12, 2020



T.O. in the W.P.: It is very hard to get a letter or article published in the Washington Post, but T.O., succeeded, and with an important letter about the government in India. See it depicted here.

Gaithersburg Rotary Foundation: Our foundation board has, in a sense, become the Fund Raising and Service Projects Committees for the club. The foundation is in good financial condition because COVID-19 forced the cancellation of some of its activities. **Former President, Diana** has taken on the work of Treasurer and is doing an excellent job.

A Fine Fireside Chat: On September 11th, five members of the club met on-line with **Sharinna Sarmiento** and **Bob Rogers** for a discussion on Rotary that went on twice as long as usual, not because anyone talked too much but because there was real interest and stimulating conversation. In brief, it was **good**.

Rotary and Racism: Toward the end of the meeting, Bob R. asked whether Rotary could do anything to help reduce racism and discrimination. Your Editor thinks Rotary itself is **largely free** of these evils. That enables us to look for ways of spreading the practice of inclusion **beyond** our 1.2 million members.

The Work of Family Services

On Tuesday, we learned about **Family Services, Inc.** in Gaithersburg. To quote its website: *Family Service's mission is to promote the resilience, recovery, and independence of individuals and families across the lifespan through mental and physical health, social service, and education, thereby strengthening communities.* It is now part of the Sheppard Pratt Health System.



The site goes on to say: *Founded in 1908, Family Services, Inc. ... provides a wide array of high-quality services to more than 12,000 people annually, from children to adults. ... FSI has extensive experience developing and implementing in-home and community-based services for children, adolescents and families, reaching out to the most vulnerable ... in Montgomery County. FSI operates prevention and early intervention programs that address family functioning and child development ... operates the County's shelter for victims of domestic violence, provides mentoring ... for "at-risk" youth, and manages an outpatient mental health clinic as well as residential, day and vocational programs providing comprehensive psychiatric rehabilitation ... to persons with persistent mental illness.*

Our speakers, **Lucia Torres** and **Helma Irving**, said many of their clients were Latino residents of Gaithersburg. This community has been hit hard by COVID-19 and loss of employment. Most people are getting enough food, thanks to foodbanks in the area, but find it very hard to pay for rent and utilities. The lack of **jobs**, said Lucia, is the biggest problem they have now.

Discussion centered on organizations in Gaithersburg and Germantown that provide assistance and on the shortage of affordable housing, for which the wait can be several years. **Rotary clubs** have given small grants and volunteer help to some organizations. Lucia and Helma said they knew families that were in great need of assistance. **Our club could give** small grants to them, directly, or through Family Services. The Gaithersburg Rotary Club and its foundation will carefully consider this opportunity to help people in need during the current crisis.

in Rotary

This one will be excellent!
Info. on the District Website.

September 29th

No Zoom Meeting or Happy Hour:

???????Community Service (packing food) at Church of the Nazarene in Gaithersburg. Each member can help from 2:00 to 3:00 or 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.

October 6th

Club Meeting on Zoom

Speaker: Dr. Mohisin Mohiuddin, Associate Director of IBM Research Center (2007-2013).

Subject: Artificial intelligence and the future world

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 build goodwill and better friendship?

- Will it be beneficial to all concerned?



Rotary Opens Opportunities

Wild Meeting Last Tuesday



A BIG meeting last Tuesday, and a lively one. Good attendance including **Stephen Czarkowsky** (accepted for membership and awaiting induction), Bob Rogers from Potomac Rotary Club, and guest speakers (see report on FSI).

First, opening ceremonies, then President Richie went straight to the guest speakers. **Richie** said he had volunteered with Family Services for several years. Helga, of FSI, informed us of free walk-in **testing for COVID 19** from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. on

Wednesdays, by the bus station at Lake Forest Mall.

After other announcements, Bob B., substituting for the substitute Sergeant-at-Arms, tried to levy **finer**, but, they fell by the wayside. Then, **Kelly** offered \$2 to the club for every member who donated for her 310 mile bicycle ride beginning October 1st. This is Ride Allegheny, to benefit **wounded American veterans**. You can check it out at http://events.operationsecondchance.org/site/TR/Events/RideAllegheny?px=1010822&pg=personal&fr_id=1060

Then, there were **happy dollars**, especially for our speakers and the two people approved for membership (Stephen and Susy). Richie had a sad buck; he had waited four hours to get connected to - something.

Bob R., who might transfer to our club, asked if he could get a **reverse fine** or happy dollar for signing on early to the meeting. Indeed, he **was** early. He reported seeking a new name for himself because our club already **has** a Bob. Note: Maybe "Plumb Bob" because he is not off, even one degree. Dan D. offered \$5 for the presence of two Bobs and two Dans.

Scott R. said he definitely missed our group. We miss him to and are glad he keeps logging in to meetings. Bob B. offered \$5 for the lively meeting, and Rick, a voice on the phone, donated \$5 as well. Ken was pleased by reports in *Rotarian magazine* on our former District Governor, **Peter Kyle**; former Rotary International President, **Frank Devlin** (recently deceased), who once visited our club, and the Rotary Club of **Amman Jordash**, which Ken attended several months ago.
