

# Rotary



## Club of Gaithersburg

September 27th, 2020

### Club Meeting

The Rotary Club of Gaithersburg Maryland, USA is now meeting on the internet.

Time: Tuesday at 12:15 PM

For logon information, write to:

[GaithersburgRotaryClub@gmail.com](mailto:GaithersburgRotaryClub@gmail.com)

### 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

**The Gaithersburg Rotary Foundation:**

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

**Frank E. Senk Jr.**  
Area Governor

### Events

September 29th  
**No Club Meeting**  
**Service Project, Packing food at Church of the Nazarene,**  
8921 Warfield Road in Gaithersburg  
**Can work from 2:00 to 3:00 or 3:00 to 4:00**

September 29th, 3:30 p.m.  
**DACDB Seminar on adding new members.**  
Register at [rotary7620.org](http://rotary7620.org)

October 1st, 6:00 p.m.  
**Training on using the Donor Portal to raise funds for Alzheimer's research.**  
Register at [rotary7620.org](http://rotary7620.org)

October 6th  
**Club Meeting: noon on Zoom**  
**Speaker: Dr. Mohisin Mohiuddin,**

### Our Plans for Polio Plus

By Kenneth D. Weiss on Saturday, September 26, 2020



**COVID-19** was expected to ravage the continent of Africa but has not done so. One reason is the **infrastructure** set up by Rotary for the war against polio. It is being used well, and, when a **vaccine** against COVID-19 becomes available, the work done by Rotary on polio will pay off, big time.

All but two countries are now free of the wild virus, but there are large obstacles to work in Pakistan and Afghanistan, up to and including **murders of polio workers**. While there is polio anywhere, it is just a plane ride away, so children in more than 30 countries are still being vaccinated.

This year, our district Polio Plus Committee is encouraging **each of its 61 clubs** to hold a special event. The Gaithersburg club plans to dedicate its **luncheon on October 20** to polio. A survivor will be the guest speaker, and all money collected for fines and happy dollars, the 50-50, and maybe more will be donated to The Rotary Foundation.

Also, the committee is organizing a **virtual luncheon**, to be held on **World Polio Day**, Saturday, October 24th. There will be top speakers from Rotary International and the World Health Organization. There is no charge to attend, but each Rotarian and guest is encouraged to contribute at least \$45. Why that amount? Because that's the average given last year by members in our district.

Think of the advantage: In a virtual luncheon, **you can eat anything** you want to. Don't like chicken? Then, drop a lobster in the pot. **Register for this event** on the district website. Make sure to say whether you're a member or a friend and, with which club you're associated.

### Our Meeting Last Tuesday

What's that your Editor heard in the beginning? That soon-to-be-installed Sharinna is a **singer**. Our club has nearly enough now to form a chorus. We heard also that Stephen will play in a presentation of The Messiah, and that very many people in Gaithersburg now need help paying rent and utility bills.

**Our speaker** was most interesting. See the story that follows. Then, Area Governor Frank spoke of plans for a virtual **Charter Night** celebration. Those will be announced soon. President Richi said he would contribute, to the silent auction on Charter Night, **a week in a condo** on a Disney property. Also, he reminded us of the **service activity** at Church of the Nazarene on September 29th, in place of a meeting.

Then, Kelly briefed us on the 310-mile **Ride Allegheny**, in which she will participate soon. Reflecting on training rides, she said that, when she was hungry, exhausted, sore, legs burning, etc., she thought of soldiers and the sacrifices they make. This will be the 20th annual ride, she said. Six young men from The Kentlands organized the first one. Last year, 131 riders raised **\$576,000** to support wounded warriors and their families - combatting PTSD, providing prosthetics, preventing suicides, etc. This year, there will be 156 riders, including our Kelly. **For the link to donate**, contact her: [kellygrossberg@gmail.com](mailto:kellygrossberg@gmail.com).

**Acting Sergeant-at-Arms, Dan K.** levied fines for not wearing Rotary identification, and **Bob Rogers** answered a question about the percent of women in Rotary worldwide. It is 25% (and higher in the U.S.). Then, **happy dollars** poured forth for Caleb, Kelly, the donors to Kelly's bike ride, and more. **Susy**, with us from Argentina, pledged \$20 for the speaker, and **Richie gave** \$5 for family members who recovered from COVID-19. They are now donating plasma.

**Bob R.** had \$6 for reasons including his middle granddaughter's 10th birthday. **Frank** kicked in \$10 for various events including his daughter's camping trip in an unnamed desert (not the Sinai,

Associate Director of IBM  
Research Center (2007-2013).  
**Subject:** Artificial intelligence and  
the future world

October 13th  
**Club Meeting**

**Speaker:** Liz Nardin  
**Subject:** Capacity Partners -  
consulting for NGOs

October 20th  
**Club Meeting**  
**Speaker:** To be Scheduled  
**Subject:** To be Scheduled

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### 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?



we assume). It was ... an excellent meeting.

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## The Least Fortunate Among Us

How old is Caleb? Twenty, he said, becoming one of our youngest and most interesting speakers. He is a political affairs intern with **the Borgen Project**. This organization does congressional lobbying for people who are in extreme need. It's mission: *The Borgen Project believes that leaders of the most powerful nation on earth should be doing more to address global poverty. We're the innovative, national campaign that is working to make poverty a focus of U.S. foreign policy.*



Caleb gave a few numbers, such as (if we heard it correctly): 1.85 billion people live on less than \$1.90 per day. The Borgen Project focuses on persuading members of Congress to appropriate more money for U.S. and other agencies that help the poorest of the poor. "More children die of hunger than of any disease," he said. Also: "\$100 million per year would eradicate global poverty." The U.S. budget is more than **\$3 trillion**, and less than 1% goes to foreign aid. Other countries follow our lead, so more giving here would lead to more worldwide.

The Borgen Project helped prevent the U.S. from cutting its budget for global health, he stated. Cuts would have affected prevention of malaria, provision of bed nets, HIV testing, and more. Also, this group is working in favor of the "Pandemic Price Gouging Act," which would help control prices of vital supplies during health emergencies.

Asked how he got into the work of poverty relief, Caleb said he was inspired by the book, *The Life You Can Save*, by Peter Singer. He mentioned the dramatic effect of assistance in obtaining potable water and electrification. A **donation** to the Borgen Project, he said, was an excellent investment because it would help millions of people. The organization's website is **www.borgenproject.org**. Mention Caleb's name when you donate, he said, so the group's leaders can see the excellent work their interns are doing.

Finishing up, club members introduced Caleb to **Rotaract clubs**, and he expressed interest in joining one in Montgomery College when it is set up. Who knows? He might be President of it.

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