

Rotary



Club of Gaithersburg

August 8th, 2021

Club Meeting

Meets at Lu Buffet
[218 N Fredrick Ave](#)
[Gaithersburg, MD 20879](#)
Time: Tuesdays at 12:15 p.m.
(buffet lines open at 11:00 a.m.)

As of now, club meetings are not being made available to members or others who do not attend in person. The proceedings are summarized in our weekly bulletins.

Club Leaders

Janet Greiner
President

Kelly Grossberg
Secretary, with Kumba Brewah

Dan Dellon
Treasurer

Emmyrich Vicente
Immediate Past President

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

Sara R. Torrence
Rotary Foundation Chair
- Dan King, Vice Chair
- Bob Bokma, Secretary
- Diana Swanson, Treasurer
- Nancy Scull, Member-at-large

Mark P. Milby
Area Governor

Events

August 10th
Cyber security
Speaker: Fernando Carvajal
Subject: Cyber security

A vital topic for all of us, and Fernando presents it well.

August 14th, 9:00 to 10:30
District virtual presentation:
Build your club with a monthly day of service.
Info. on the district website.

August 17th
Gaithersburg Sustainability Program
Speaker: Debrah Moran

Note: The GoFundMe link in a previous newsletter, to donate funds to purchase low-cost pulse oximeters for India, was incorrect. Here is a new link provided by Dr. Gowda: <https://gofund.me/cbe66cac>

Anatomy of a Rotary Meeting

By Kenneth D. Weiss on Saturday, August 7, 2021



First, we take time to meet and greet and pick up great food.

There is an opening bell, the Pledge of Allegiance, and a non-denominational prayer, often related to the subject of the guest speaker. If a member has just had or is about to have a **birthday**, we recognize it (of course).

The secretary asks the guests to introduce themselves. Ours on August 3rd were **Payman Ferrett**, invited by Rob, and **Frank Uyakonwu**, invited by Bob. Then, Immediate Past President Richie gave a quick introduction to Rotary and the Rotary Foundation.

Membership Chair John installed **Joe Ilagan** as our newest member. His sponsor is Richie. Jose came from the Philippines and now works for FNB



Bank in Olney. New members are the life blood of our organization.

We enjoyed a superb talk by **Kelly McKenna**, a decorative painter (retired) and golf partner of T.O. See the next story.



Bob brought out the blue buckets to collect **coins for**

Alzheimer's research. Kelly announced a "meet and greet" in our **butterfly garden** on August 28th. Someone, probably Richie, said we would work in the Gaithersburg Help **food pantry** on August 19th. Dan reported on research to help us decide whether to continue **distributing dictionaries** to third grade students.

Sometimes there are fines, but not last Tuesday. There were, however, many **happy dollars**, mostly for the speaker. Kelly had a large bill and wanted her change up front, while Bob introduced a new concept - the happy IOU.



After the closing bell, seven members stayed for dessert and very nice chit chat. Our group has real camaraderie.

Note: It is a coincidence that these photos show only men. Women are welcome in Rotary, and about one-third of our club's members now are women.

Subject: Gaithersburg Sustainability Program
Hear, from a city staff member, about important city activities.

August 24th
classification talk
Speaker: TBS
Subject: Classification talk

August 31st
Happy hour
Details to be announced.
Probably at 5:30 p.m. in Boca Botanas in the Festival Shopping Center

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?



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

What Kind of Painter?

T.O.'s golf partner, **Kelly McKenna**, was billed as a painter, as in making art, but it turned out he was a **decorative** painter. He gave unique touches to the insides of houses including mansions and embassies. How he got there is a very good story.

Kelly started working at the age of 12. When he was 15, his parents said they wouldn't have money for college, so he worked harder and earned his own. He was a top student and was offered a free ride to earn a master's degree but thought about it and turned it down.

He lived in a rented house and asked if he could paint it. The owner said "yes," and he made it look so nice that she told her friends. Soon, a **decorator** was giving him work. When she asked for a higher commission, he said, "bye bye" and went on his own. "My goal is to make people feel special about their house," he said. He started mixing custom colors. Sometimes, he would ask a client to pick an item in her house, of which she really liked the color, and he created a paint to match it.

Kelly spoke of working for 27 years with a friend who "... could learn anything." He had clients who are well known but does not talk about them. Some would give him presents or invite him to play golf and use their vacation houses. When Kelly retired, his savings were adequate, and he simply gave his business to a friend.

Asked how he became so good, Kelly said that, for ten years, he meditated for an hour in the morning and another in the evening. He studied from books on painting. He learned to **read a room** and read a customer. While most painters give an estimate in 30 minutes or so, he said, he would take 2 hours. A final bit of advice to us was, "If (clients or potential client) start complaining about people who worked for them, you know you're next." Our group strongly doubted that he was ever next.
