

Rotary



Club of Gaithersburg

August 21st, 2021

Club Meeting

Meets at Lu Buffet
and Grill
218 N Fredrick Ave
Gaithersburg, MD
Time: Tuesday at
12:15 PM

Environmental Sustainability

By Kenneth D. Weiss on Saturday, August 21, 2021

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 24th
Speaker: Jose
Ilgan
Subject:
Classification talk
**Learn about our
new member,
Jose, and what he
does for a living.**
August 28th, 4:30
p.m.
**PARTY in our
Monarch butterfly
garden at
Lakelands Park
Middle School.
This will be like**



Two words, eleven syllables - way too many, but they describe the subject well. A definition from an organization named Sphera is:

"Environmental sustainability is ... to conserve natural resources and protect global ecosystems to support health and wellbeing, now and in the future. ... the [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#) defines it as 'meeting today's needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.'"

In the city of Gaithersburg, the Master Plan covers the environment including water and air resources, soils and steep slopes, open space and greenways, forests and landscapes, and wildlife. It recognizes, for example, that "... , transportation affects air quality; air pollution affects water quality; impervious surfaces impact groundwater recharge and stream flows; and solid waste management affects air, land, and water quality."

Environmental Services, in the city, publishes the *Green in Gaithersburg newsletter*, to which one can subscribe at <https://www.gaithersburgmd.gov/government/enewsletters>. This entity works in several areas including green building initiatives, pesticide usage, and road salt reduction. There is also a private initiative, an excellent source of information, at www.GreenGaithersburg.com.

Our city has become a leader in sustainability. May it ever be so!

Deborah on Sustainability

Deborah Moran clearly came across as an expert on sustainability. Among other qualifications, she has a bachelor's degree from Ithaca College, studied in Costa Rica and has solid work experience.

The AC and the TV in Lu Buffet sprang to life just in time for her **Power Point presentation**. She spoke first about climate change and then

no other garden party!

August 31st, 5:30 p.m.

Happy hour at Boca Botanas in the Festival Shopping Center, off of Muddy Branch Road.

Member, take a guest of two.

September 7th
Back to the Lu Buffet for lunch and a CLUB ASSEMBLY.

September 14th
Speaker: Marya Hay

Subject: Equity initiative

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

sustainability (see a definition above). Then, she mentioned metrics, such as air quality, that help us see how good our bad our situation is. She mentioned greenhouse gases, of which vehicles are the main cause, and said Gaithersburg was working with the Montgomery County Energy Connection on energy use in buildings. Gaithersburg promotes the Maryland Green Construction Code.

Turning to **solar energy**, she said we could join the Capital Energy Solar Cooperative, at www.solarunitedneighbors.org, and use its website to find out whether solar is right for our homes. It isn't quite solar, but Gaithersburg is installing LED streetlights.

Then, Deborah got to the subjects of composting, **recycling**, bulk pickup and shredding, and the questions burst forth. She told us, briefly, what the city was doing and how to get information on, for example, what can be recycled. The city's program is only for residences, she said. The county handles commercial and industrial recycling.

She went on to discuss water quality programs such as stream cleanups and other environmental programs such as Weed Warriors, pesticide regulations, GPARK, Tree City USA, Green in Gaithersburg, and the city's environmental affairs committee. All in all, **the presentation was excellent**. We enjoyed it and learned from it.



Our Meeting Last Tuesday



Sol Gordon was with us on Tuesday, from the MVRRC. He said that club might decide to meet in the IHOP, a stones' throw from the Lu Buffet. That will give people a choice, breakfast or lunch, on the same day in the same area.

John and Janet **installed Margaret Young** as our newest member, with Janet as her sponsor. Margaret recently moved to this area and wanted to meet people and to serve others. What better way then through Rotary. She has volunteered to replace Jack in coordinating our work for the **Gaithersburg Help** food pantry.

Kelly and Sara spoke of our **party in the butterfly garden** on August 28th. Then, Ken gave a briefing on **Polio Plus** activities - a club meeting and a district luncheon (virtual). He said that Afghanistan was one of only two countries where the wild virus was circulating; however, the Taliban have a history of opposing vaccinations.

Dan K. mentioned that 46 years ago he was airlifted from the roof of the U.S. Embassy in Saigon. Also, his daughter worked at the U.S. Embassy in Kabul until a month ago. That is an adventurous family!

Then, the **happy dollars** poured forth, mostly for the new member and the speaker. **Rob** was happy that he

had ridden his bike to the Lu Buffet for the first time. He told of receiving a notice that a court date was cancelled; however, the date was the previous Tuesday. He sacrificed a Rotary meeting to go to court and was turned away.

Margaret offered \$10 for becoming a member, and **T.O.** responded with \$10 for her. John gave \$5 for this and that, and other members chimed in. We' are doing well with happy dollars. Now, **let's start the 50-50 again!**
