

Rotary



Club of Gaithersburg

June 8th, 2025

Club Meeting

Gaithersburg
Meets on First and
third Tuesday at La
Villa Restaurant and
on zoom
Fourth Tuesday -
zoom only
Second Tuesday - no
meeting.

LaVilla is at [18701 N
Frederick Ave.,
Gaithersburg, MD
20879](#)

Time: Tuesdays at
12:15 p.m.

Club Leaders

**Priscilla S.
Kinnear**
President
President-Elect

**Jacqueline
Grenning-Mulcahy**
President-Nominee
Secretary

Dan Dellon
Treasurer

Margaret Young
Club Service Chair
Immediate Past
President

Janet Greiner
Club Foundation
Chair

Frederick Cooksey
Sergeant-at-Arms

Kenneth Weiss
Bulletin Editor

Events

June 17th
[Report from the
Rotary Peace
Conference in
Turkey](#)
Speaker: Hande
Apaydin

June 16th, 7:00
p.m., on Zoom
**Zone meeting on
accommodating
Rotarians with
disabilities**

Scholarships



Photo: Rotarian John Hanson presenting a check for a scholarship awardee

Years ago, Sam Eig, whose name we all know because of the Sam Eig Highway, gave the Gaithersburg Rotary Club funds to endow scholarships. If memory serves, he was not a Rotarian, but his treasurer was one.

Over time, with years of low interest rates, the endowment money ran out, but we have the good fortune that Rotarian John Hanson stepped in to fund the scholarships. In recent years, we have given one each to a graduating senior in Gaithersburg High School and another to a senior in Quince Orchard High School. The amounts are \$1,000 for the freshman year of college and another \$1,000 for the sophomore year.

Also, the Montgomery Village Rotary Foundation has provided scholarships each year to four graduating seniors of Watkins Mill High School, and those have been for \$500 or \$750 for each year of college. This foundation is scheduled to close during the current calendar year, but Watkins Mill will not be forgotten. The Gaithersburg club is adding one student per year to its portfolio.

The selection process for Gaithersburg includes recommendations from school guidance counselors, a review of the students' achievements, especially in community service, and a brief interview. Competition is strong because there are many outstanding young people.

This Year's Winners, etc.

Information on the district website

June 22th
Rotary International Convention begins in Calgary, Alberta, Canada
???????

June 24th
Rise To Shine Education Foundation
Speaker: Emily Bakhith

July 1st
Installation of Board for the 2025-26 Rotary YearDetails to follow

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 friendships?
- Will it be beneficial to all concerned?



Photo: Members of the club hear a brief presentation from a scholarship winner

The decisions are hard, but winners do emerge. This year, Nancy of the Gaithersburg Rotary introduced Jessica Vincent of Gaithersburg High, Kayla Zheng of Quince Orchard High, and Nimaya Vernando of Watkins Mill. Rotarian John Hanson presented checks to them and, somehow, knew exactly what to say to each one. Also, the club awarded Year 2 checks to Awa Silimana of Gaithersburg High and Alexis Fiallo of Quince Orchard High and, again, Rotarian John presented them.

Each student spoke for a few minutes about her college experience, and there seemed to be a common theme-- that it was hard at first and there was not much time for community service or other extracurricular activities. Hopefully, this will change as the years go on. Most have plans to work during the current summer.

The Rotarians asked several questions of the students, and the one that got the most interest was about the use of AI for work in college. There were good insights as to how to, and how not to, employ it.

About that time, **Past President Margaret** heard a buzz on her cell phone and was urged to look at it. It was a message saying the club had a \$120 gift card for her, for her wonderful stewardship of *Flags For Her Heroes*. She was clearly surprised and pleased.

We finished with happy dollars, most of them fivers, and most of them for the students. Rotarian Stu ended with a message to them that was something like, "You will live in a world that we (many of us) will never see."

Postscript: The Montgomery Village Rotary Foundation made its last awards of scholarships to Watkins Mill students Jennifer Palacios, Emily Ferrufini, and Safwah Ashiraf.

We are confident that all the students mentioned in this story will have outstanding careers, both in and beyond their college days.