

Rotary



Club of Gaithersburg

January 11th, 225

Club Meeting

We meet on First and third Tuesdays on Zoom and in La Villa Restaurant, at 18701 North Frederick Avenue in Gaithersburg, MD. Fourth Tuesday - zoom only, Second Tuesday - no meeting.

Meeting time: 12:15 until 1:15 p.m.

Club Leaders

Priscilla S. Kinnear
President

Jacqueline Grenning-Mulcahy
Secretary

Dan Dellon
Treasurer

Margaret Young
Club Service Chair
Immediate Past President

Janet Greiner
Club Foundation Chair

Frederick Cooksey
Sergeant-at-Arms

Ken Weiss
Bulletin Editor

Events

January 21st, in La Villa and on Zoom

Technology in Classrooms
Speaker: Alyna Raynovich PhD
Learn about the latest technologies being used--and the controversies.

January 20th, 10:00 to 12:00
Park cleanup & trail mapping.
Malcolm King Park, 1200 West Side Drive in Gaithersburg

January 23rd, 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.
in Botanero, 800 Pleasant Drive in Rockville
Register on the district website.

January 28th, on Zoom only
House Sharing for Seniors
Speaker: Michele Higgs ,
Housing Initiative
Subject: House sharing for seniors who don't want to live alone.

About RYLA



RYLA stands for Rotary Youth Leadership Awards. It takes different forms in other districts and other countries but, in our district, it is a weekend camp for boys and girls of high school age. The participants learn about communication, problem-solving, leadership, and planning activities. Perhaps more important, they form new friendships and just have fun.

Our district holds a RYLA event once a year at YMCA Camp Letts in Edgewater, MD, which has hosted groups of young people since 1906. The dates this year are **February 15-17**. Rotarians organize and staff the camp and select participants who are often, but not always, Interact members. Also, they pay a bit over \$400 for each young person they sponsor.

AG Hande has asked our club to sponsor one or more young people to RYLA this year, and she said that, if we do not have people to send, other clubs in the district have students available. These clubs will help explain RYLA to the students and their parents, obtain approval from the parents, and possibly arrange transportation to and from the camp. **Our Board of Directors** will soon consider this request.

In the past, we have sponsored young people for RYLA, and they have given glowing reports.

The Rotary Wheel and Events

Snow forced us onto Zoom and cost us our main speaker, but we triumphed by holding an excellent meeting. Stu began with information about the Rotary emblem and all that it means. It was designed by the Rotary Club of Chicago (where else) in 1906 and began as a wagon wheel. Its history is fascinating. You can see it at <https://www.rotary.org/en/history-how-rotary-emblem-evolved>.



In brief, it was changed several times until 1924, when it became a gear wheel with a keyway. Will Forker, of the Rotary Club of Los Angeles, perceived Rotary as a "living force" and held that inserting a keyway into the hub made the new wheel a "real worker." Since then, it has not been changed except that, a few years ago, the Public Image specialists at RI changed eliminated the color, blue, which left it **gold on a white background**.

Then, Jackie, in a wide-ranging secretary's report, urged us to participate in a park clean-up on January 20th (contact her for details), the Red Line Happy hour at Botanero on January 23rd, an area meeting with District Governor Nomie on February 7th, and a **Red Line Happy Hour** that we will sponsor in April. Also, she gave us a rundown on those big events, **birthdays**. They were of Rob on 1/8, Stephen on 1/10, Jim and Denise on 1/15, and Sara on 1/17. Rob dutifully donated \$137 to the club for 56 years of marriage and X years of age. He made us do the math: $(X = 137 - 56)$. At least a few of us figured it out.

Margaret, Awa, and Happy Bucks

Past President Margaret, now in charge of too much, said that our work with Gaithersburg Help was continuing. Then, she reported that another elementary school had asked us to donate **children's books**. That led to a discussion as to the feasibility of making book donations an ongoing project. There were questions about who would be in charge, how many schools we would work with, and how we would

February 4th, in La Villa and on Zoom
Club Assembly, 1 1/2 hours

The Rotary 4-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?



implement the project. All this was left to be decided.

Then, Nancy introduced **Awa Sulimani**, one of our scholarship recipients, who has finished her first semester at University of Maryland in College Park. Awa said, essentially, that she had difficulty adapting at first but has crossed that hurdle. In her second semester, she plans to join in social service and related activities, perhaps in **dental services** for low-income people in the U.S. and/or other countries. She has applied for a summer research program in public health.

After other reports, Jim reminded us that it was time to start finding sponsors for the **Flags the For Our Heroes** activity. Someone suggested that we donate a book to an elementary school for each flag that is sponsored, and the idea was well received.

Then, **happy dollars** flowed from Ken, Sara, Rick, Priscilla, and others. They were for a lively meeting, the brief talk by Awa, and more. President Priscilla closed by deciding that our meeting on February 4th would be a Club Assembly and would last for 90 minutes instead of the usual 60, because we ran out of time in the latest Assembly.
