

Rotary



Club of Gaithersburg

July 29th, 2024

Club Meeting

Meets at 12:15 p.m. on First and third Tuesdays, on Zoom, and in La Villa Restaurant, [18701 North Frederick Avenue in Gaithersburg, Maryland](#)

Fourth Tuesday - zoom only

Second Tuesday - no meeting

Club Leaders

Priscilla S. Kinnear
President

Jacqueline Grenning-Mulcahy
Secretary

Dan Dellon
Treasurer

Margaret Young
Club Service Chair and Immediate Past President

Janet Greiner
Club Foundation Chair

Frederick W. Cooksey
Sergeant-at-Arms

Kenneth Weiss
Assistant Governor, Area 6

Events

July 30th
Happy hour, 5:00 p.m.The Bench Bar of the Marriott Hotel in Rio

Speaker: Happy hour
Join club members for appetizers (courtesy of the club), drinks (you pay!) and get to know your fellow Rotarians.
PLEASE INVITE GUESTS TO THIS FUN EVENT.

August 6th, in person and on Zoom
Transforming Agriculture in Africa

Speaker: Cedric Nwafor
Subject: Transforming Agriculture in Africa with a focus On Uganda

August 20th, in person and on Zoom

Classification Talk
Speaker: Tamika Bennett Watt

We have much to learn about this new member.

August 27th, on Zoom only
A career in Aviation

Speaker: Nobuyo Reinch

See Chairperson Margaret about our service projects for Gaithersburg Help and Camp Fantastic.

The Rotary Four-way Test

Our Meeting Last Tuesday

Sunday, July 28, 2024

On Tuesday, our **Zoom** screen was filled with members, our speaker, and guests. The speaker was Patrice Wellsley-Cole, from her base in London. She is a Past President of the Hempstead Rotary Club and a cousin of our member, Denise. Also present were Catherine Okrafo-Smart and Jenny Morley, from Rotary clubs in Great Britain, and Frank Hume Dawson from a club in Oklahoma City.

Our secretary, Jacque, read the names of a half dozen club members whose birthdays are in July. Congratulations to all. Then, she announced that our member, Dan K., had completed **42 years** in Rotary. Good going, Dan!

Past President, Margret, announced that nine of us would participate in our service project at Camp Fantastic on August 4th. All must have **negative COVID tests**, dated within 24 hours of our trip. Also, we will distribute food for Gaithersburg Help on August 15th. Ken briefed the group on our District Conference, October 4th through 6th, and Margaret and Priscilla added that the list of speakers was outstanding.

Following our guest speaker (see below), we went to **happy dollars**, which were mainly for the speaker and our guests. Jacque foretold of her vacation to upstate New York, and Stu said he would be traveling south while she was heading north. Margaret offered \$5 for the pleasure of hearing **British voices** in our meeting. Janet reported on a trip to Norway, during which she learned that that country invests money from petroleum sales in an endowment fund for the country's future, and that much of Norway's power is hydroelectric. Then, Diana gave \$5 because, finally, a woman could become President of the United States of America.

Graduate Women International



Our speaker, Patrice Wellesley-Cole, could have spoken about many subjects. Her experience is vast, including practicing law for 13 years and serving as a judge for 15. Her jurisdiction as a judge covered immigration, asylum and deportation; human rights, bail, and European Union cases.

She spoke first of our visitors, her Rotary club, and some of its projects, including mobile dentistry. Also, she outlined her club's areas of interest, including mental health and public toilets, and reminded us that Rotary's first project was to install public toilets in the city of Chicago.

Ms. Wellesley-Cole spoke of practicing law in Sierra Leone and London and then her life as a tribunal judge in London. She mentioned some of her immigration and deportation cases and how hard it was, many times, to determine whether the defendant had a just fear of persecution if returned to his or her home country. The story told by a person from Bhutan was obviously false, so a decision was simple. With people from some countries, such as Cuba and North Korea, she had to be extremely careful because sending them home might be a death sentence.

Next, our speaker turned to the subject of **Graduate Women International**, or GWI, an organization to which she devotes a great deal of time. Now more than 100 years old, GWI advocates for women's rights, equality, and empowerment through access to quality secondary and tertiary education, and high-level training. It has 9,000 members in 50 countries and is represented at United Nations centers in Geneva, New York, Paris and Vienna. Five of its members are Nobel Laureates.

There were meaningful questions, one of which dealt with the organization's fund-raising activities. The reply was to go to <https://graduatewomen.org>. From there, one can obtain information, join GWI, and give a donation.

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?

(And, make it FUN)



Our Rotary District

How is our district organized this year? First, we have District Governor Nomie. Then, there are a Governor-elect, a Governor Nominee, and the past DG. They are followed by an aide to the RI president's representative, a vice governor, and two lieutenant governors.

Going on, we have 32 chairpersons of committees or persons in charge of specific functions, such as the District Treasurer and the newsletter editor. One of these, from our club, is Janet. the District Environmental Chair. Then, there are 13 assistant governors, each assigned to look after a group of clubs. Ken works with those in mid-Montgomery County.

Additionally, we have a Peace Projects Chair, an RI Convention Promotion Chair, and a Rotary Youth Leadership Awards Chair. That is the structure. If you need the name and contact information for any of the positions mentioned above, look in the DACDB or contact your (usually) friendly area governor.

Look on the district website for information about membership meetings August 5th and 24th, baseball with Frederick clubs August 9th, and the Frederick Octoberfest September 27th and 28th.
