

Rotary



Club of Gaithersburg

May 19th, 2019

Club Meeting

Meets at Holiday Inn
2 Montgomery Village Avenue
Gaithersburg, MD 20879
Time: Tuesday at 12:15 PM

GaithersburgRotaryClub@gmail.com

Club Leaders

Scott Rebein
President

Emmyrich Vicente
President-Elect

Dan Dellon
Treasurer

Frank Senk Jr.
Immediate Past President

Kumba Breyaw
Secretary

Winfree Irvine Jr.
Sergeant-at-Arms

Jim Gilchrist
Assistant Governor

Events

May 21st, luncheon in the Holiday Inn

Speaker: Dr. Majid, Itegrace Institute

Subject: Transforming Neurocognitive Living Through Person Centered Research, Education and Partnerships

May 22-27, at Bohrer Park
Flags for Our Heroes - Opening Ceremony 5/25 at 11:00 a.m.
- Flag Retirement ceremony 5/26 at 3:00 p.m.

May 28th, luncheon

Speaker: Councilmember Sidney Katz

Subject: What's up in the County and the County Council?

June 4th, luncheon

Speaker: Bill Strickland

Subject: How his Rotary Club does very well with a car raffle

June 11th

Speaker: Martin Bak

Subject: Microprobes for Life Science

Flags For Our Heroes is NOW!

By Kenneth D. Weiss on Friday, May 10, 2019



They have served us; now we should honor them! We will do that with **Flags For Our Heroes** at Bohrer Park on Memorial Day weekend. Inauguration on Saturday, May 25th at 11:00 a.m.

Rotarians and others will "plant" **750 large American flags** on May 23rd. They will fly until the afternoon of Memorial Day, illuminated by the sun and by lights at night. **Do not miss** this beautiful display!

It costs just \$50 to sponsor a flag for your hero, who can be anyone. **A medallion** with your hero's name will be on the flag for the world to see. After the event, it will be yours to keep. Some people display collections of one or more from each of the last few years.

Corporate sponsorships are available also, from \$500 up, but **this is urgent**. We need the names for placement on a large, highly visible banner. **ACT NOW!** Be a part of this!

Money for Good Works

Rotary clubs and their foundations need money to fund service projects and give grants. Normally, a club will have one big fundraising event per year. The kinds of events vary greatly.

The Rockville Rotary will have its **Twilight Runfest** on July 20th this year. Money will come from vendors, sponsors, and a few thousand runners. It is fun to watch them run and to party with them at the finish.

The Montgomery Village and Gaithersburg clubs used to have a golf tournament but now put on **Flags For Our Heroes**, a giant display of American flags at Bohrer Park on Memorial Day weekend. This is beautiful! Go see it! The flags will be up from May 17th to 20th, day and night. There will be a **formal opening** at 11:00 on the 18th and a flag retirement ceremony in the afternoon of the 19th..

Also, this year, the Gaithersburg club is raffling a beautiful **1969 Chevrolet convertible**, blue with a white interior. Ticket sales will go into high gear right after Memorial Day. Anyone would look great in a car like that, including you!



Jordan, a Vital Country in a Tough Neighborhood

Surrounded by Syria, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Israel and Palestine, Jordan is in a **really tough neighborhood**. Also, it borders on the Dead Sea and the Jordan River. Our member, Ken, gave basic statistics including the native and refugee populations, religion (92% Sunni Muslim), adult literacy (a whopping 98%), and per capita income of just \$10,000 per person per year. He said many college graduates could not find good jobs and either emigrated or were underemployed.

Ken said Jordan had come through the "Arab Spring" with minimal problems but was fearful of **radicalization** in the refugee camps and **infiltration** across the borders. Security, he said, was tight, but many security personnel are non-uniformed. That keeps them inconspicuous to both tourists and potential terrorists.

The economy, said Ken, was based mostly on exporting



Note: Don't be frightened by the title. This talk will be down-to-earth and impressive.

The 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?



phosphates, tourism, and cross-border trade (smuggling) across the large desert areas. He mentioned the system of family, extended family, clans and tribes with an anecdote about settling family disputes and an example of tribal influence on politics. The guide on Ken's tour lived in a household of 33 people and belonged to a tribe of 33,000.

Then, we saw photos at **tourist destinations**: the Dead Sea, the Montreal Crusader Castle, Wadi Rum (of Lawrence of Arabia fame), Mount Nebo, Madaba (City of Mosaics), and the **Rose City of Petra**. It is wonderful and has been named a wonder of the world. Ken's trip ended in the capital, Amman, where he visited Roman ruins and explored a marketplace. His story about how to cross a street in Amman was **more than** interesting.

On the last night of the trip, Ken and his wife, Bea, visited the **Rotary Club of Amman Jordash**, one of several in the country. He was surprised at the cost of the meeting - the equivalent of \$18 per person, with no meal. There were a flag exchange and all best wishes, from one club to another, before members competed to take Ken and Bea back to their hotel.

Meeting News & Notes

The room was nearly full as we welcomed Rotary spouse **Bea Weiss**, visiting Rotarians **Mark Schissler** (Michigan) and **Kelly McQuillen** (South Frederick) and guests **Casey Friedberg** and **Brent Gulick**. You all know you are welcome to visit us again.



After Bob report on CART, for **Alzheimer's** research, Sara brought up **Flags For Our Heroes**. We will set up that impressive display in just a few days. She reported about 70 flags sponsored. Note: We understand there are now more than 90. Then, Dan D. presented a check for **\$2,500 for a sponsorship** from his company, **Deleon and Stang**. Wonderful, Dan. That brought sustained applause. Mark Schissler was impressed enough to sponsor flags for **three relatives** and write a check on the spot.

Sara said also that the **Hanson scholarship** winners from 2018 and 2019 would visit our club on May 28th. The 2018 winner needs a **job** or a paid **internship** for the summer. Mark said his club also had established a sponsorship for a past president.

About that time, **Bea adorned Ken** with an Arabic headdress, Jordanian style, and he spoke and answered questions. Then, we flew into **Happy Dollars** including \$5 each from **Mark and Dan**. Your Editor forgot which Dan, so, thanks to them both. Most were for Ken, the guests, and grandchildren including Bob's brand new one. The 50-50, as usual, **almost** made one member a happy camper.

