



Gaithersburg Newsletter

www.GaithersburgRotary.org April 6th, 2014

Meeting at 12:15 p.m. on Tuesdays in the Hilton Hotel, 620 Perry Parkway in Gaithersburg

Club Leaders

Thomas J. Breece

iPast President, President

Diana Swanson PhD

President-Elect

David M Sickle

Secretary,

Linda Hanson

Treasurer

Winfree Irvine

Sergeant-at-Arms

Events

4/8: Luncheon, 12:15 p.m. in the Hilton Hotel. Club Assembly

4/15: Luncheon, 12:15 p.m.
Speaker: Randy Shannon of Web Strategies, Inc.

4/22: Luncheon, 12:15 p.m..
Speaker to be announced.

4/29: Probably an evening cocktail instead of a luncheon. Details to be announced.

And, May 19-11, THE DISTRICT CONFERENCE. [LET'S GET REGISTERED!](#)

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 friendships?
- Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

Musical Instruments!



President Tom delivers ten instruments to students in Quince Orchard H.S.

Welcome to the Rotary Club of Gaithersburg

Rotary is an organization of business and professional leaders united worldwide who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world.

The Gaithersburg Rotary Club welcomes successful people who are service-oriented and can attend at least half of its weekly meetings.

Our Meeting April 1st

Never boring, our luncheons. On April 1st we had a visiting Rotarian, our **Area Governor, Geoffrey Fenner**. Other guests were **Rod Mayer** of Business Visions, who has been accepted for membership; **Sharinna Sarmiento** of Comcast, who has been recommended, **Cheryl Stafford** of Stafford Studio (music, drama and public speaking), and **Corwin Duncan** of Cornerstone Montgomery (job placement and other assistance to persons with mental health issues).

G.Fenner praised our club for the progress it is making and urged us all to register for at least part of the forthcoming **District Conference**. At least three of us are signed up now.

Winfree and Linda described our **club scholarship winner** at GHS and our nominee for a district scholarship at QOHS. They were chosen as the best of the best. We will have the pleasure of meeting one at our luncheon on April 8th.

There was heavy applause for Chairperson Michael and everyone else who helped make our **Comedy Night** successful. Linda said our net gain was about \$1,500.

President Tom announced our gift of **musical instruments** to students at QOHS (photo at left), our fund-raiser May 8th at Potomac Pizza in the Kentlands, and Diana's participation in a senior spelling bee on April 5th.

Happy Dollars were early because our Sergeant-at-Arms had to be a "scooter" (leave early). There were many. Then, a member told how she and her cohorts long ago played an April Fools prank by leaving phone messages to call, for example, Mr. Lion, with the phone number of the zoo.



As our scheduled **guest speaker** failed to arrive, our Area Governor saved the day. Geoffrey ran to his car and returned with a laptop and an excellent presentation on a project to help young people from the Greek and Turkish parts of the island of Cypress to know and understand each other. In the most recent activity, 30 pairs of teen-agers, one from each part of the island, were invited to the U.S. for a month of discussions, leadership training, etc. Geoffrey spoke of the benefits of hosting these young people and invited us to do so when another group is available. They are ostracized when they go home, he said, because they have been with people from the other side, but they receive support to deal with this. Geoffrey, thank you for attending and speaking to us.

District Training Assembly

On April 5th, Georges and Ken attended an excellent training meeting with about 140 other Rotarians. They could attend only 3 of the 11 sessions. What a pity we weren't represented in all of them! In the session on **Community Service**, they learned the advantages of partnering with large organizations such as churches.

In the one on **Public Relations**, they learned of new PR activities by the District and many new materials that are available from Rotary International. In a session on **Strategic Planning**, they learned of a planning process that really works in Rotary Clubs.

The program ended with a luncheon speaker, Erica Fischer-Kaslander, who was the youngest president ever (in her 20s) of the Patterson, NJ Rotary Club and who did this in its centennial year. Her focus was on **attracting young people to Rotary** by having family-oriented activities. People of all ages are welcome in her club's meetings and other events and, as a case in point, she introduced us to her three year old son, who was with her. He is a Rotarian in the making.