



Gaithersburg Newsletter

www.GaithersburgRotary.org July 11th, 2014

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

Club Leaders

Diana Swanson

President

Jeremiah Eliason

Secretary

Dan Dellon

Treasurer

Winfree Irvine

Sargeant-at-Arms

Tom Breece

Immediate Past President

Events

7/15, luncheon in the Hilton Hotel. **Classification speech** by Rodney Mayer. Learn about our high-potential new member.

7/22, luncheon in the Hilton. Visit by students participating in the **Cyprus** Peace Fellowship Program. **Don't miss this one.**

7/29, no lunch meeting. **Happy hour in the Marriott in Rio**, 5:30 p.m. Guests are welcome.

Excellent meetings of nearby Rotary clubs, nearly every day of the week.

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?

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.

Editorial - Who Needs Club Assemblies

Most Rotary clubs have club assemblies (business meetings) once a quarter, and we got along that way for about 45 years. Then, a few members thought we were small enough to be more democratic, and we started assembling once a month. Well, maybe the time for that has past. Our club is growing. Its board of directors represents the members and is meeting regularly. Club assemblies in general are not enjoyable, and they are not good for guests to attend. In addition, they reduce the number of luncheons at which we can have guest speakers or classification talks. Given all that, **we suggest going back to having club assemblies once a quarter.** All comments are welcome, of course.

Our Luncheon Last Tuesday

By all accounts, this was a rendezvous to remember. Two guests were there to light up Rotary. They were **Amanda Dugan** of REMAX in Rockville and **Coleman Smith** of Down to Earth virtual assistant professionals.

After a conversation with the Hilton, our treasurer revealed numbers that showed we were in a good financial condition. Ed reported on our foundation, and here is some late-breaking news: the IRS says that our "Letter of Determination" was mailed on July 7th. It states that **our foundation is now officially a 501(c)(3)** organization, with all the privileges thereof.

There were other reports and discussions, too many to summarize here.

Then came Happy Dollars and the 50-50 drawing. **Lucky Linda** had the right ticket and drew the right card and was rewarded with the tidy sum of **\$385.**

With that, we adjourned for the week. Since July and August are major vacation months, we hope that members who are in town on meeting days will make special efforts to attend.

CVC and the MCPS Backpack Program

The CVC breakfast on Thursday at Smokey Glen had more than 140 participants, including four from our club. There was a lot of networking and a lot of talk about doing good in the county. The coffee wouldn't win an award, but everything else would.

Each person who attended was invited to give \$10 or more to the Montgomery County Public Schools **GIVE BACK**packs program. Fully 35% of the county's 151,289 students receive Free & Reduced-price Meals, so the need is great. Organizations like Rotary can give backbacks and/or encourage others to do so. Just \$10 takes care of a student and \$300 a classroom of kids. For information go to <http://mcpsgivebackpacks.org/>. **This is an easy and productive way to serve the community.**

The Cyprus Friendship Program

What a wonderful program! What a great example of Rotary's work to bring about peace in the world! The Cyprus Friendship picnic in Urbana on Wednesday was very nice (although just two members of our club attended). The students and their American hosts are well worth talking with. Don't miss our luncheon on July 22nd, at which we will learn about this program and meet some of its participants.