



# Gaithersburg Newsletter

<http://www.Rotary7620.org>  
July 17th, 2013

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

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Gaithersburg](#)

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## Club Leaders

**Fredric Abramson**

President

**Diana Swanson**

President-Elect

**David M Sickle**

Secretary

**Linda Hanson**

Treasurer

**Winfree Irvine**

Sergeant-at-Arms

**Thomas Breece**

Immediate Past President

## Events

Luncheon July 30th, 12:15 p.m.,  
Hilton Hotel

Community Service Networking  
July 31st, 4:30 p.m., Hilton Hotel

Luncheon August 6th. Craig  
Rice of the Montgomery County  
Council will speak on "tough  
current issues."

Luncheon August 13th, 12:15  
p.m., Hilton Hotel

## ADVERTISEMENT

**Free puppies.** Mother is a  
Kennel Club registered German  
Shepherd. Father is a super dog,  
able to leap tall fences in a single  
bound.

## 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.

Rotary club membership represents a cross-section of the community's business and professional men and women. The world's Rotary clubs meet weekly and are nonpolitical, nonreligious, and open to all cultures, races, and creeds [More info.....](#)

Rotary membership provides the opportunity to: Become connected to your community. Work with others in addressing community needs. Interact with other professionals in your community; assist with RI's international humanitarian service efforts. Establish contacts with an international network of professionals. Develop leadership skills. Involve family in promoting service efforts [More info.....](#)

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## Community Service Networking

The third in our series of Community Service Networking meetings will take place July 31st, at 4:30 p.m., in the bar of "our" Hilton Hotel. This is a unique opportunity to meeting interesting people and hear brief presentations by and about carefully selected not-for-profit organizations. The hors d'ourves will be free, and drinks from the bar will be at Happy Hour prices. Go to it! Enjoy it!

## Visitors from Africa

On July 23rd, we were pleased to have, as a visitor, **Mr. Milton Week**, President of the Rotary Club of Monrovia, Liberia. This is an active club that has participated in the Future Vision program and in medical missions to other African countries.

We were visited also by Mr. **Desire Banse**, from the country of Burkina-Faso. He is a software engineer at NIST. Mr. Banse's father studied in France and returned to Burkina-faso, where he has worked for international organizations to improve agriculture and advance rural development.

The senior Mr. Banse has been diagnosed with [Multiple Myeloma](#), also know as Kxaler's Disease, and Desire Banse is looking for [any sources of information or assistance](#) that might help in his father's fight against this illness. Desire's email address is [desire/banse@nist.gov](mailto:desire/banse@nist.gov).

## Our Meeting July 23rd

Our room was filled to capacity on July 23rd, partly because of seven visitors:

- Milton Week, President of the Rotary Club of Monrovia, Liberia
- Disire Banse, Software Engineer at NIST
- Jennie Lang, real estate professional (invited by Jack)
- Luís Gómez, accountant (invited by Ken)
- Barbara Stapel, the Hilton Hotel (invited by Ken)
- Jheni Libongo, the ARC of Montgomery (invited by Adrian and Ken)
- Dan Dellon, DeLeon and Stang CPAs and Advisors (invited by Ken)

President Fredric opened the meeting with the 1892-1923 version of the Pledge of Allegiance and with a moment for reflection. Ed raised an objection, saying he did not think our opening procedures should be changed without a vote of the club members.

Fredric and David named several events from That Day in History. Ford sold its first car, the European Coal Community (forerunner of the EU) was created, etc.

Cristina showed us materials that would help our Interact clubs in two high schools to function better. There was some discussion of buying a banner for each one.

Fredric gave a brief presentation on Rotary, saying that it was originally for fostering business relationships and for service. Over the years, traditions have developed that may not fit in our changing world. Since there are now many service organizations, we have to pay more attention to

branding.

This led to a discussion of our dictionary project and other activities in which we could invest time and money. Fredric said we should evaluate all our projects. Diana said it was important to develop a plan and a budget for the year, ASAP. Most members who spoke favored repeating the dictionary project, at least this year.

David became the guinea pig for our first mini-classification speech. He summarized his background admirably, explained why he entered his current profession and told us why it is useful to society. He also mentioned his (well documented) expertise at selling in yard sales and on EBay.

Ed recited a very nice poem that he had written, and we celebrated Jheni's birthday.

The Happy Dollars flew thick and fast. Cristina's number was drawn for the 50-50 and, with more than \$600 in the pot and only four cards left, she didn't draw the right one. Just three now, folks. Only three.