

# Rotary



## Club of Gaithersburg

February 22nd, 2025

### Club Meeting

Gaithersburg  
Meets on First and third Tuesday  
- La Villa Restaurant and on  
zoom, Fourth Tuesday - zoom  
only, Second Tuesday - no  
meeting.  
18701 N Frederick Ave  
Gaithersburg, MD 20879  
Time: Tuesday at 12:15 PM

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### Club Leaders

**Priscilla S. Kinnear**  
President and  
President-Elect

**Jacqueline Grenning-  
Mulcahy**  
Secretary

**Dan Dellon**  
Treasurer

**Frederick W. Cooksey**  
Sergeant-at-Arms

**Margaret Young**  
Club Service Chair and  
Immediate Past President

**Janet Greiner**  
Club Foundation Chair

**Frederick W. Cooksey**  
Sergeant-at-Arms

**Ken Weiss**  
Bulletin Editor

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### Events

February 25th, Zoom only.  
**A career in aviation - zoom  
only**  
**Speaker:** Nabuyo Reinsch  
He is the Senior Vice President  
of Safety and Regulatory Affairs  
for the Regional Airline  
Association (RAA)

February 27th, 5:00 p.m.  
**Red Line happy hour** at The  
Square in Washington D.C.  
Info. on the district website.

March 4th, in person and on  
Zoom  
**Red Cross CPR AED Training  
for Underserved  
Communities**  
**Speaker:** Michael Maxey  
Michael has long been a Senior  
Advisor for **USAID** with broad  
experience in Latin America and

### A Changing 50-50



Our 5050 raffle pot is up to \$70, and there are 19 cards left. That includes 2 jokers, either of which will make one a winner. At 5050 headquarters, we have decided that, until there is a winner, the person whose ticket is drawn will have **2 chances** to pick a winning card. **What a deal!** Ticket sales should be brisk in our next in-person meeting.

5050 raffles are common in major events such as baseball games and Rotary meetings and have been used in our club for many years. When we met every week, one winner took home more than \$400. This is a reminder that, when someone wins the pot, he/she provides a deck of cards for the next round.

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### Our speaker on Feb. 18th

Our member, **Sonia Sotoglo** said she was born in Togo, in West Africa, and surely none of us had been there, but one of us **had** been. She came to the U.S. in 2005, studied marketing, studied theology at Mount St. Mary's University, and now works as a Rapid Rehousing Case Manager for Interfaith Works.

Sonia has a sister and three brothers, one of whom had mental problems and became homeless. Then, he was addicted to narcotics in a homeless shelter. That led her to create a foundation, CORE, to help homeless people in upper Montgomery County. She said they numbered about 1,000.

**Photo:** Sonia Sotoglo speaking



CORE provides **food** packages, once a week, with items that do not require cooking because most homeless people have no way to cook (although one 7-11 owner has agreed to let CORE clients use its microwave oven). Also, the foundation provides care packages with hygiene items, and school essentials for students. In addition, it has worked out an arrangement with Black Rock Center for the Arts to let its clients take showers there. Black Rock serves the community in many ways.

Since neither CORE nor its clients have offices, Sonia meets them at any location they agree on. **To raise funds**, she will hold an event that features artists and organize a charity walk. She is incorporating the organization and hopes to obtain grants and corporate scholarships. She is working on a documentary film to help spread the word, and she welcomes **financial support and volunteers**.

Asked how to help homeless people when one sees them on the street, Sonia suggested not giving them money. Instead, give them small bags of useful items. Also, treat them like humans. Talk with them. Sonia can be reached at [info@thecorefoundationmc.org](mailto:info@thecorefoundationmc.org) or by phone at 202-318-9494.

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### The Rest of Our Meeting

Last Tuesday, we met **Franklina Buck**, a guest of Denise. She was born in Sierra Leone, worked in the World Bank for 35 years, and now might find time to join our club. Welcome, Franchies. Don Allen was there too, for a second time. It was he who donated a homemade birdhouse for our Monarch butterfly and pollinator garden. Jim had made a similar birdhouse and

the Caribbean.

March 18th, in-person and on Zoom

**Air quality and software to monitor it**

**Speaker:** Linda Hembeck  
Linda is a software developer and a staff member of the Science and Technology Corporation.



will make others for us.

**Photo:** Part of the group in our meeting

Jackie announced the **birthdays** of Dan D., Divine, and Tamika. She also announced **Rotary anniversaries** for Etna, Divine, Nancy, and Richie. The longest serving was Richie, now up to eight years.

Dan K. said our **Peace Pole** had just arrived to the Activity Center in Bohrer Park, and Margaret briefed us on the first **Flags For Our Heroes** (FFOH) meeting of the year. She had identified a student from the Universities at Shady Grove who could help us with marketing. She said also that we should all find and follow the club on Facebook and Linked-In. Janet reported that she had attended a meeting of the new GGCC Veterans Group. Although not many people were present, she made contact with two or three who might want to participate in FFOH.

Rick raked happy dollars including \$20 from Kumba and \$32 from Jackie. The latter was back from a multi-city trip to the fascinating land of Brazil. More came from Sara, Jim, Franquita, Stu, Sonia, and other generous members.

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**The Rotary 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?
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