



# The Wellesley Rotascope

Rotary Club Number 6594, Chartered March 26, 1946

Volume XIX -20    www.WellesleyRotary.org    November 5, 2019

**Next Meeting—November 19, 2019**

**Michael Thorbjornsen**  
**Wellesley College Club—6-8PM**

**Tuesday, November 19, 2019—Golfing in the US Open** by Michael Thorbjornsen—6-8PM, Wellesley College Club

**Monday, November 25, 2019—N/W Football Banquet**, - Wellesley College Club - 6-8:30 PM (Wellesley hosting!)

**Tuesday, December 3, 2019—Food Insecurity** Community Awareness with President of MBCC—**Wakelin Room (Wellesley Library.)** 6-8PM

**Sunday, December 15, 2019—Holiday Party** at the Spoto's

**Tuesday, December 17, 2019—Business & Service meeting**—Wellesley College Club—6-8:30 PM

**Tuesday, January 7, 2020—TBA**

**Tuesday, January 21, 2020—Business & Service meeting**—Wellesley College Club—6-8:30 PM



**Rotary/World of Wellesley joint meeting of Tuesday, November 5, 2019**

l to r: **David Summergrad** of the Needham Diversity Initiative; **Michelle Chalmers**, President of the World of Wellesley; **Claude Kaitare**, guest speaker, and **PP John Adams** representing Wellesley Rotary. (photo courtesy of AG Sue Peghiny)



## **The Rotary Club of Wellesley**

### **Mission Statement:**

***To serve others with a focus on strengthening communities in the areas of health, education and sustainable living***

## **Wellesley Rotary Club**

meets at the

**Wellesley College Club,**  
**727 Washington Street,**

**from 6:00 to 8:00 on the first and third Tuesdays**

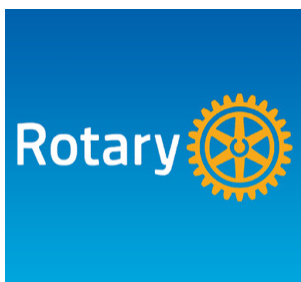
**(unless announced otherwise).**

A sandwich buffet (at a fixed price of \$30) is offered (\$32 if charged). Parking available. **Signups required so please look for the President's e-mail.**

### **PLEASE NOTE...**

The Rotary *Speaker* meeting is usually held on the **first Tuesday** of the month and a *Service & Fellowship* meeting on the **third Tuesday**. See **Upcoming Programs & Events** (left) or check the Club website for more information.

Wellesley Rotary had a good representation of members at the November 5th meeting. Guest speaker, **Claude Kaitare**, originally from Rwanda, graduated from high school in Portland, Maine, did undergrad work at Clark University and grad work at Salem State University. He presented a series of slides as he talked about the horrendous Rwandan genocide of the 1990's and its impact on him and his family. First, a little geography lesson, where is Rwanda? On a map he displayed his country as in east Africa formerly part of the Belgian Congo, south of Uganda and north of Burundi. He gave us a little history of the country from 1853 to 2016, how the Europeans became involved ("scientific racism" per Berlin Conference (1894), and how Africa was divided up as shown in a 1914 map. Called the "Land of a Thousand Hills", Rwanda was home to the Kaitare family for generations. On April 6, 1994, President .....continued



The Rotary Club of Wellesley, Inc., P.O. Box 81206  
Wellesley Hills, MA 02481

**MEETINGS: 1st & 3rd Tuesday Evenings at 6:00 P.M.**  
**Wellesley College Club, 727 Washington St.**  
**Wellesley, MA 02482— 781-283-2700**

[www.WellesleyRotary.org](http://www.WellesleyRotary.org)

*continued...* Habyarimana was assassinated, killed in a plane crash. This event set off a power struggle between the revengeful Tutsi, who had no share in power, and the Hutu people, resulting in over a million deaths! The Hutu militia (*Interahamwe* or “those who attack together”) created roadblocks and virtually shut down the country including schools, businesses, etc. The scale and brutality of the massacre caused shock worldwide. A UN peacekeeping team sounded the alarm. Claude remembers the peace keepers. His family moved north during the crisis although many family members were lost. Major General Paul Kagame, head of the Rwandan Patriotic Front, later became President of Rwanda and brought stability to the country. In the post-genocide period a “Gacaca Court system” was organized to bring justice (revenge? forgiveness?) to the suffering people. Genocide memorials proliferated all over the country. The one at Myamata shows the world what happened and include open crypts of shelved skulls. Another at Kigali lists the many names of the Kaitare family members who lost their lives. The country is slowly healing but the memory will never be lost...*Never Again!* Claude and his family were reunited in 2005 and he showed many touching photos of family members alive and dead. Outpouring from all corners of the world tries “to restore the rhythm of life.” Claude gave us a very compassionate insight into a national tragedy that exceeds the limits of our humanity. Our deep appreciation for this moment. Many interesting Q&A’s followed.▲▲▲▲▲

### ***From District Foundation Chair, PDG Steve Sager..***

- The Annual **District 7910 Rotary Foundation Dinner** is being held on **November 14, 2019** at the Sheraton Framingham, the keynote speaker will be **Ann Lee Hussey**, a polio survivor with a compelling story. The program also features some of the District Foundation projects recently completed. Tickets are \$40 per person. Registration is online at [rotary7910.org](http://rotary7910.org)
- **Guatemala Service Project** District 7910 is participating in a \$325,000 Rotary Global Grant to bring water, sanitation and hygiene to schools in Guatemala. We are organizing a group of District Rotarians to travel from **March 21-29, 2020** to Guatemala to help build and repair school bathrooms—no technical skills are needed. Estimated cost is \$1,500 per person. Deposit (\$200) is due by December 15th. Space is limited so please reserve early. Contact PDG Steve Sager for more information.

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### **BIRTHDAYS**

*John Adams—11/2*  
*Andrea Kaiser—11/4*  
*Michael Price—11/7*  
*Nora Pou—11/11*  
*Vin Spoto—11/23*  
*Paul Simard—11/28*

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

*Andrea & Don Kaiser—11/4*  
*Brian & Gina Sullivan—11/5*  
*Ellen & Michael Kreopolides—11/26*  
*Ginny Greiman & Steve Bergstrom—11/30*