



## Welcome To The Rotary Club of Gig Harbor MIDDAY



### We've got two new members!

From Past Prez Lonna and Membership Chair Cheri,  
During the Feb 13th meeting, our Club welcomed two former Rotarians back  
into the fold as members of MIDDAY Rotary.



Dave Irion is a former Walla Walla Rotarian and Montana Grizzly Grad, now retired to Gig Harbor with his wife Ellen, and is looking forward to getting back to Rotary Service above Self as a member of our GH MIDDAY Club.



Chuck Burke is a Photographer, recently moved to Olalla with his wife Lisa from their long-time home on Maui, where he was an active Rotarian with the Rotary Club of Kehei Sunrise. He is particularly interested in International and Club service aspects of Rotary.

Both of these gentlemen are warmly welcomed,  
and will make exceptional MIDDAY Rotarians!



### Speakers

**February 20, 2024**

Hugo - Mid-year update  
Our exchange student, Hugo, from Germany  
and CS "Classification"

**March 05, 2024**

Dr. Sherwin and Faria Shinn  
For Worldwide Smiles

**March 12, 2024**

Katy Cornell  
Walk in the Light - Burkina Faso -  
<https://www.facebook.com/witli/>

### Club Leaders



**Jill Dabbs**  
President



**Nathan Schlicher**  
President-Elect



**Tammis F. Greene**  
Secretary



**Lonna Calas**  
Community Service Chair  
Past President



**Stephen M. Rainbolt**  
Treasurer



**Cheri Johnson**  
Membership Chair



**Ted Thomas**  
Rotary Foundation Chair



**Scott Bush**  
Club Service Support



**Gunda Meissner**  
Public Image Chair



**Jessica Schlicher**  
Club Service Chair

### GH High School Interact Club brings us up to speed

From Youth Service Chairs Dan and Guy,



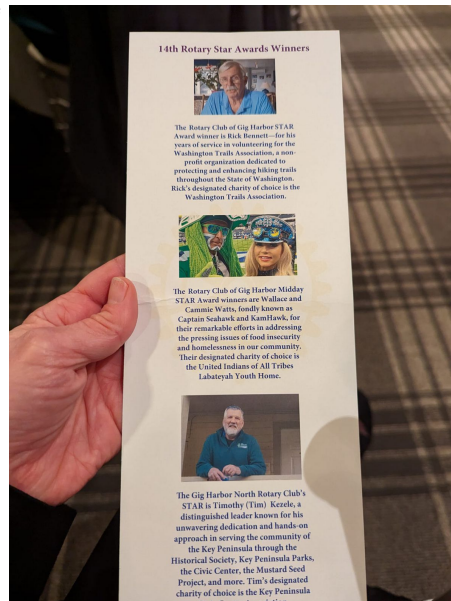
The GHHS Interact officers run a dynamic 70+ member club on campus - the largest student club at school!

They came by the Club in early February to bring us up to speed on all their programs. We are SO proud of everything these special kids accomplish! Many thanks to Rotarian advisors Dan Brown and Guy Magnus.



## Star Awards was THE event to attend, as usual

From Pierce Co Council Member Robyn Denson, Congratulations to the 3 Rotary Star award winners! Each an incredible example of generosity, humility and service to others!  
Timothy J. Kezele by [Rotary Club of Gig Harbor North](#)  
Rick Bennett by [The Rotary Club of Gig Harbor \(a.m.\)](#)  
Wallace and Cammie Watts by [Rotary Club of Gig Harbor MIDDAY](#)  
The real winner is our community to have such incredible leaders!



[Carol Virak](#)  
Club Special Event Chair



[Don Hutchins](#)  
Bulletin Editor



[Luellen Lucid](#)  
International Service Chair



[Daniel Brown](#)  
RYLA Club Chair



[John Louis Acken](#)  
Youth Protection Officer



[Dennis Wilford](#)  
iPast President



## We're back in the Exchange Student business!

From Exchange Chair Mary Gorman,



And so the adventure begins!  
MIDDAY's outbound exchange student, Liam Bass is off to his new home for the next year in Wiesbaden, Germany (near Frankfurt).  
German is a tough language to master, so after settling with his first host family Liam will head off to a two-week immersion language school. His high school experience starts in late September, so his hope is to explore local Germany after he "masters" the language during the interim weeks.  
Liam was an active member of GHHS's Interact Club, so we are confident that he will find like-minded students in his new community and continue his community focused heart. Gig Harbor MIDDAY wishes him good fortune and many exciting adventures in Germany in the upcoming year. His outbound counselor, John Acken, will report his status to the club on a regular basis.  
In "exchange" for Liam, Hugo Geschke will arrive at Sea-Tac from Rostock, Germany on August 25th. The MIDDAY club looks forward to knowing Hugo and sharing our home with him.

## Join us at our Weekly meetings...

**MIDDAY Rotary Meets at:** We meet the first 3 Tuesdays of the month in-person at The Gig Harbor Yacht Club, 8209 Stinson Ave, Gig Harbor, WA 98332. Our Board meets the 4th week by Zoom. Meetings begin about 1/2 hour before noon, for socializing beforehand.  
**Time:** Tuesdays at 12:00 PM

## Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at MIDDAY Rotary



The three Gig Harbor Clubs jointly formed a DEI Committee last year, to examine these issues as they apply to our World in General and Rotary in Particular.  
Our MIDDAY presentation on June 1st was from our two "lead" members of that Committee: Dan Wilson and

## Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

A Joint Gig Harbor Rotary Program for  
Awareness, Education, and Action

Dan Brown.

Dan Wilson started off with the question: Is Racial justice, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, a Rotary issue? And yes, all three GH clubs and the KP Satellite club used the 4-way test as basis and, without question all members of the DEI group agreed, yes.

This DEI program featured a video from King 5 TV, Facing Race. It is the story of Shayla Zartman from Gig Harbor, she is the granddaughter of Charlie Zartman, a member of Gig Harbor North Rotary Club. Shayla graduated from Peninsula High. Shayla is the cousin of George Floyd. She watched how police killed her

cousin.. After Floyd's death she joined the fight against systemic racism and also realized she fought a battle within herself: "I wasn't black enough to be black, not white enough to be white". She told her story of being raised in a multi-racial family, and the awakening she had with Mr. Floyd's death.

Hers is just one story that represent millions of multi-racial Americans struggling to find where they fit, powerless that they can do nothing about the color of their skins.

If you have any doubts about this issue, I recommend you watch their excellent presentation, on our Midday Rotary YouTube channel, right [HERE](#).

## Check us out on Social Media

*from Editor Don*

I mentioned earlier that our Rotarian Adison was setting us up with Twitter, Instagram and Linked-in accounts. That's in addition to our presence on FaceBook and YouTube which had been up and running earlier. We're now online in all those venues, so whatever your online preference, just search Gig Harbor Midday Rotary to connect with us and share out latest news...

THANK YOU, Adison, for your help!

## YOUTH PROTECTION AWARENESS TRAINING

GH Midday Rotarians please note: Only a few Midday Rotarians have completed this worthwhile course, and our goal remains to have EVERY Midday Rotarian so qualified. If you are among the substantial number who have NOT - would you please go to our website and click the link to YOUTH PROTECTION AWARENESS TRAINING?

The course takes just a little time, and is very important to Rotary's Youth Protection program. Will you please do it?