



Welcome To The Rotary Club of Gig Harbor MIDDAY



Serving to Change Lives

Our first tree is a big success

From Co-Prez Jill,



Key Peninsula Lutheran Church held their community service Christmas tree auction this past December 3rd. MIDDAY Rotary was invited to enter a tree. The trees are auctioned, and all proceeds go back to the non-profits who submitted trees. The church says this beloved tradition is their way of giving back to the community. Our tree was entitled "Reading is Fun" and the decorations included a variety of children's books, games and toys. Enthusiasm was high and our MIDDAY tree went for \$475! Carol Virok and Jill Dabbs decorated the tree that was delivered to the church on November 19th for the viewing period before the auction. Carol brought her amazing vision and creativity to the project, and Jill was a grateful apprentice! Jill says "Carol is amazing!!" Thank you Jane Kohler for providing funds for the tree and decorations. After all was said and done, approximately \$220 will go to our charity fund. Not bad for our first attempt! Next year we will look for a donated tree, or make it to the Goodwill where we heard trees for available for a great price! Thank you to each of you for the many ways you demonstrate Service Above Self.

New officers elected

From Co-Prez Jill,

On December 6th, the Rotary Club of Gig Harbor MIDDAY unanimously elected the following new officer and chairs. From right:

- Dr Nathan Schlicher, 2023-24 President-Elect
- Tammis Green, Secretary
- Carol Virak and Rob Lewis, Club Service / Social Committee

Seen here with current Co-President Jill Dabbs.
The position of Treasurer is still open. If interested, please contact Steve Rainbolt for details.



Speakers

December 07, 2022

[Holiday Party - See email invite from Scott Bush](#)

December 13, 2022

[Henderson Bay Annual Luncheon](#)

December 20, 2022

[Kelly Schwab - Kitsap Mental Health, Washington 211 and the new 988 Club Annual Meeting](#)

December 27, 2022

[No Meeting - See you next year!](#)

January 03, 2023

[Ralph Flick](#)
Supreme Court

Club Leaders



[Dennis Wilford](#)
President



[Jill Dabbs](#)
President-Elect



[Carol Virak](#)
Secretary



[Stephen M. Rainbolt](#)
Treasurer



[Don Hutchins](#)
Bulletin Editor



[Cheri Johnson](#)
Membership Chair



[Nathan Ryan Schlicher](#)
Rotary Foundation Chair

[Scott Bush](#)
Club Service Chair

Three new Rotarians in just ONE meeting

From Editor Don,

On December 6th we had the great good fortune to induct THREE new Midday Rotarians. From right, they are:

- Dwayne Dabbs (husband of Co-Prez Jill). Dwayne is a Senior Director of CareSource, a Health Care provider. His particular interests are projects that relate to Social Determinants of Health, like our Little Free Pantry project. He is a Board Member of the Institute for Relational Health, and a member of Project Gravity and the National Healthcare for the Homeless. He enjoys coaching youth sports and camping with his family. (And he can juggle!)

- Jessica Schlicher (wife of our own Dr Nathan) is an MD in her own right, and participated with Nathan and one of their three sons in the recent Ironman Triathlon. She is an enthusiastic volunteer in a number of our fundraising projects and has decided to make that participation "official" by becoming a Rotarian. She's very interested in refugee support, school scholarships, Interact, food pantries, health initiatives, and community building. She also sits on the Advisory Board of our Tom Taylor Gig Harbor YMCA.

- Rob Lewis is a VP for Business Accounts at our local Columbia Bank and is a returning Rotarian, having belonged to the Puyallup Rotary several years ago. He lives with his wife Jenny and two sons in Port Orchard. His special interest is in Rotary's contributions to Community Service. He is a past member of the Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis, and the NW Trek Foundation Board. He enjoys music, gaming, concerts, comedy and golf, among other interests.

To Rob's right are Co-Prez Jill and Membership Chairs Julie and Cheri, conducting the induction.

As editor, I have to say that the energy that these three brought into the room was remarkable. Welcome to you all to Midday and to Rotary International. We very much look forward to your service and your friendship...



Our Interactors hit a Homerun!

From Youth Service Chair Dan Brown,

The weekend of Dec 3rd, Gig Harbor High had their annual TideFest. Our Interact Club sold two different cookie mixes in a jar (Chocolate Chip and M&Ms) and raised a little over \$1,000. This money will be split between two worthwhile organizations, the Etta Projects and the Tacoma Rescue Mission. Our students, as well as Kevin Entze, should be commended for their time and effort in doing this service project.



AIDNW sends a heartfelt "thank you"

From DEI Chair, Dan Brown,



Lonna Calas
iPast President
Community Service Chair



Tammis Greene
Club Service Chair



Luellen Lucid
International Service Chair



Daniel Brown
Interact Club Sponsor
Youth Services Chair



Gunhild Hetty Meissner
Assistant Governor



**IMAGINE
ROTARY**

November 28, 2022

Mr. Dan Brown
Gig Harbor MIDDAY Rotary
8405 24th Avenue NW
Gig Harbor, WA. 98335

RE: Gig Harbor MIDDAY Rotary Club – AIDNW Warm Coat Drive

Dear Dan:

Please receive a huge thanks to you and to Gig Harbor MIDDAY Rotary Club for participating in the **October 22-31 Warm Coat Drive** planned by **Advocates for Immigrants in Detention Northwest (AIDNW)**, a Tacoma-based nonprofit. Because of your Rotary club's enthusiastic efforts to motivate and collect winter coats in the Gig Harbor+ area, **48 asylum seekers** (to date) have or will be receiving warm coats from your club as they are released from the Northwest ICE Processing Center in Tacoma. Not only were they of good quality, but some were new, still in the packages. And the cash donation was also appreciated!

These coats are just in time, too, because by November 2 the temperatures had dropped into the forties and the AIDNW volunteers who greet the released immigrants at the RV Welcome Center were down to zero coats there. Thanks to you and Gig Harbor MIDDAY Rotary, our **"Help Northwest Immigrants Feel the Warmth This Winter"** coat campaign was quite a success!

In January, the number of asylum-seekers who arrive at our US borders as "would be" refugees will likely increase. This is because Title 42, applied during Covid will be halted. So, those immigrants who could not wait for the US Refugee/ USCIS system to process them due to current complicated paperwork and huge refugee backlogs, will arrive under their right to seek asylum. In January, they will not be sent back to squalid Mexican border camps to await their immigration hearings, but will be released to family or sponsors in the US from ICE processing facilities, such as the one in Tacoma. During this coat drive, AIDNW collected a total of 336 coats, including from some Starbucks store sponsorships and several churches. So, we hope that will last through the expected increased numbers during the coldest months.

Again, thanks so much for supporting asylum seeking immigrants in our PNW area! The enthusiasm and care for others less fortunate shown by Gig Harbor MIDDAY Rotary is awesome and much appreciated!

Sincerely,



Patti Kilpatrick
AIDNW Board Member,
Chair Community Outreach

Advocates for Immigrants in Detention NW is a 501(c)(3) tax deductible, non-profit organization (27-1031009) that serves immigrants detained in the Pacific Northwest through assistance, advocacy, and increased awareness.

1915 S. Sheridan Avenue | Tacoma, Washington 98405 | info@aidnw.org | www.aidnw.org

MIDDAY received a lovely thank you from the AIDNW folks for all the winter coats we donated for their asylum seekers support mission. We were very glad to be of assistance!

Don't miss the Harbor's Lighted Christmas Parade

From MIDDAY Rotarian Robyn Denson,



The Gig Harbor Lighted Car Parade will be bigger and better than ever this year! Benefiting a number of local charities (like Food Backpacks for Kids, Fish and Eastside Baby Corner), the Parade will also feature a "Santa's Village" Holiday Market! Come to Uptown on 12/17 from 4-7:30 to stroll through a wide variety of local craft, artisan, food/beverage vendors. Enjoy holiday music, view over 100 decorated cars/trucks and of course get your photo taken with Santa! The event is free. If you'd like to "be" in the parade or be a vendor, visit www.gigharborkiwaniis.org for more information. Otherwise we'll see you there for this wonderful community holiday event!

We get the story direct from our Mayor

From Co-Prez Jill,

Our principle speaker recently was Gig Harbor Mayor Tracie Markley - who gave us a comprehensive briefing of the "state of the city". In a nutshell - our little city is doing very well, plans are afoot for loads of improvements, and if you're looking for all the details, subscribe to Mayor Markley's weekly newsletter/email "the Gig-A-Byte" and/or get all the latest news at the city's website: <https://www.cityofgigharbor.net>



Midday provides winter clothing to immigrants

From Co-Prez Jill,



We were pleased to have Patti Kilpatrick, board member of Advocates for Immigrants in Detention Northwest (AIDNW) picking up Rotary donated Winter coats and jackets and saying thanks at a recent meeting. We were very happy to donate to this worthy local charity.

Midday Little Free Pantries get boosted by partners

From Past Prez Lonna,



Midday Rotary's Little Free Pantry project (now 5 LFPs and soon to be 6) has recently received a huge boost, with sustaining donations from our own Rotarian Jane Kohler and Land Use and Property Law, and new food support agreements coming from Fish Food Bank and Backpacks4Kids. This has made a huge difference in what we are able to do as a club to help end food insecurity.

If any members are interested in helping Steward or be back-up Stewards for our Little Food Pantries please contact **Jill Dabbs**.

And if anyone might be interested in a **Volunteer position** that FISH Food Bank has available for a Financial Aid representative please click on the link

below. This is an opportunity to make a real difference in many lives. We are SO grateful to all of these great folks for supporting this program, which is proving a big benefit to our local community.



[FA job duties.docx](#)





Join us at our Weekly meetings...

Midday Rotary Meets at: We meet the first 3 Tuesdays of the month in-person at Morso Bistro, 9014 Peacock Hill, Gig Harbor, WA 98335. 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

More new members!

From Membership Chair Cheri,



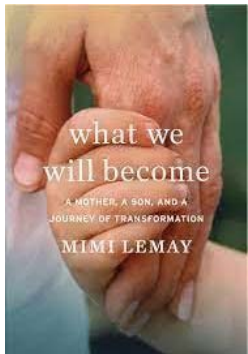
I'm happy to say that we have two more new Midday Rotarians to introduce this month: Jennifer Littlefield comes to us as a Rotarian who has already served in two previous clubs: Sulpher Springs TX and Santa Monica CA. She is a Real Estate Administrator who has taken a position with Keller Williams West Sound in Gig Harbor. She is very interested in all kinds of Community Service and has previously served as a campaign coordinator for the Leukemia Lymphoma Society. In her spare time she enjoys hiking, kayaking, paddleboarding and exploring our beautiful Pacific Northwest.

Maggie Arnold is a new Rotarian, trained as a Nurse and with skills in Communicating and Networking who wants to join others who are interested in the development of Gig Harbor, with an emphasis on Health and Well Being. She lives in Gig Harbor with her husband, and has 5 adult children. She previously worked with the Pierce County Health Department as a Team Lead for Mass Vaccinations. Her outside interests include paddling with the GH Dragons, pickleball, hiking, welding and art.

Midday Rotary wishes you both a very warm welcome!



Join our DEI Book Club



From our DEI Co-Chair, Dan Brown,

Our DEI Book Club has read and discussed some fascinating books. This Month's selection will be the topic at our next meeting, which will be on Thursday, December 2 at 1:30 pm by Zoom.

The book is "**What We Will Become**", by Mimi Lemay: A mother's memoir of her transgender child's odyssey, and her journey outside the boundaries of the faith and culture that shaped her.

If you're interested, please [email Dan](#) for an invitation to the Zoom meeting.

Join us!

Tuesday, August 24, 2021

Are you interested in Community Service, or International Service, Youth Service or many other ways of serving your town and your world? Rotary is a great way to get involved, and make friends along the way. Come to any of our weekly meetings at noon Tuesdays on Zoom, by just clicking this link. Meetings open about 1/2 hour before noon for social time. Please feel free to zoom in!
 Just [Click Here!](#)

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 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 Dan

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?