

Rotary



Club of Olympia

Next Club Meeting Date: Sept. 11, 2023

By Dan Lehuta

If you would like to join the meeting via ZOOM, click on this link: [Meeting by Zoom](#)

Join us at our next meeting on Monday, Sept. 11th, at Rivers Edge Restaurant at the Tumwater Valley Golf Course. Our program will be Jennifer McCoy from Bloodworks NW.

NOTE - Next Monday, Sept. 4th is the Labor Day National Holiday, so there will be NO meeting on that date.

Meeting of 8-28-2023 Interact

By Robert Heck on Thursday, August 31, 2023

Rotary Club of Olympia

The Wheel

Date: 8/28/2023

Today's Program: Olympia High School Interact Club

Meeting Called to order: Colleen Gillespie @ 12:25 pm

Pledge of Allegiance led by: Colleen Gillespie

Four Way Test led by: Dennis Cooper

Visiting Rotarians:

No visiting Rotarians today

Guest of Rotarians:

Several guests joined us today, including members of the OHS Interact club (and some recent HS and club alumni) as well as Daniel, an exchange student from Denmark - Jim Balz introduced the group.

Announcements:

Colleen Gillespie - Thank You - Dennis Cooper, Olivia Hickerson and Gretchen Sturtevant for all your work each week getting the meeting room set-up and ready.

Cashiers - The club needs more volunteers to serve as cashiers during each week's meeting. If you are interested and able.

NO Meeting - Monday, September 4 in observance of Labor Day.

Auction: Steve Bean led the club auction of **Gig Harbor Candy Company - SeaSalt Caramel, Cabernet Wine, Harlequin Productions - Ticket Voucher, and Husky Football Tickets** (donated by Steve).

Happy Bucks hosted by Lynn Heinold

Cindy Hough- donated a children's book about farming/food to support the club's annual book drive.

Program: Olympia High School Interact Club

Jim Balz introduced the Interact Club with a brief overview of the projects the club organizes/coordinates each year. The Interact Club of Olympia HS was founded in 2006 by **Martin Meyer**. The first Interact club was started at Melbourne HS in Florida in 1962.

Jim shared about the following programs: Veterans Day Celebration, International Dinner, Rotary Point - Westside Olympia Park Clean-Up, Halloween Trick-or-Treat, and Rotary Youth Leadership Award (Interact club members routinely participate in this district wide event)

Shriya Prasanna and Veronica Moldovanu, the current co-presidents gave a presentation about the last several years. Meetings are held weekly (virtual during COVID) in the mornings. In addition to the projects/events that Jim shared, the club also organized additional events such as the Virtual 5K Race. Funds raised during the Virtual 5K were donated to a local and an international non-profit

organization. The club also hosts an exchange student potluck and they organized a movie night. Annually, for the last three years, the club has coordinated a book drive to support the South Sound Reading Foundation. 3,372 books have been donated.

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards is an intensive 4-day leadership experience organized by District 5020 and 5030 for young people (Interact members and others connected to Rotary) to develop their skills as a leader while having fun and making connections. RYLA Northwest, as our local experience is known, operates out of YMCA Camp Coleman in Longbranch, WA.

For the last several years the club co-presidents have been Shriya Prasanna and Veronica Moldovanu. The vice president has been Leah Major. Beginning this school year Rayhan Sharius and Willow Chen are the co-presidents. The club is currently in the process of electing a Treasurer and a Secretary.

Bret Anderson will be taking over for Jim as the Olympia Rotary Club liaison to the Interact Club of Olympia HS.

The meeting was recorded. If you would like to see the recording, please contact President Debra.

Mr. Snappy: The first club member won a \$25 gift certificate to Western Meats, donated by Bret Anderson and the second club member won a \$25 gift certificate to Ember Coffee donated by Martin Meyer.

Meeting Adjourned 1:28 pm by Colleen Gillespie.
