

January 21, 2013

Inside this issue:

Cup Half Full	1
Lorraine R. Vonglis	1
2013-14 Theme Unveiled	2
Election Results	2
Club Calendar	2
Pirate Toy Fund Updates	3
Corn Fest 2013	4
Mardi Gras	4
2nd School to be Built	4
Avon Rotary Exchange	5

Next Meeting
January 22
Program
District Conference

Avon Rotary Club
 Meets Tuesdays at 6pm
 Peppermints Restaurant

Board of Directors
 Laurie Vonglis, President
 Marcia Cameron, Pres. Elect
 Tim Dickinson, Sr. Director
 Dan Jones, Director
 Jerry Dougherty, Sr. Rep
 Kirk Vanderbilt, Past Pres.
 Diana Williams, Secretary
 Kelly Cole, Treasurer

Cup Half Full by Laurie Vonglis

Hello my friends! Remember me? I know, I know, it's been four weeks since my last newsletter. When I started this one it was the weekend before New Year's, thus the header. Since that time I haven't had a chance to even think about a new years resolution until now (while relaxing watching football play offs). I've decided to work harder than ever on a cup half full attitude. Here's why...

A lot has happened in the last 8 weeks. For me it's been coping with the loss of both of my mothers. My mom, Darlene died in November after a heart attack. Then on January 3rd my mother in law, Lorraine left us after a stroke. Six weeks apart... what are the odds?? Here's where the cup half full comes in. I was so lucky to have them both in my life! They were both

such good examples of serving others. Each had a long list of extraordinary qualities which I'm thankful to have recognized and appreciated. While I miss them both terribly, I am grateful for an abundance of wonderful memories. Speaking of abundance, they were both collectors of 'stuff'. It's heartwarming to have little reminders of them throughout the house and to pass out to my kids. I'm thankful for that.

More than anything I recognize how wonderful family and friends are in our life especially during the difficult times. In fact sometimes it feels like my cup is over-flowing with great people who truly care. I'm especially thankful for this. Happy New Year!

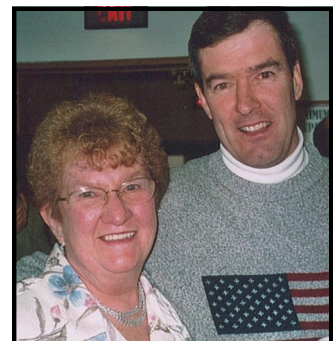
Lorraine R. Vonglis, 78 – Paul Harris Fellow

Presented in February 2010 by her son & daughter in law, Tom and Laurie Vonglis. This was a very proud day for her and her family.

On January 3, 2013 the Avon Community lost a magnificent woman. She was always kind, hard working, giving, loving, humble, energetic, vibrant and the list goes on. If you knew Lorraine you are fortunate and understand the loss. If you didn't, ask anyone and you will wish you had. The legacy she left is a perfect example of 'SERVICE ABOVE SELF'.

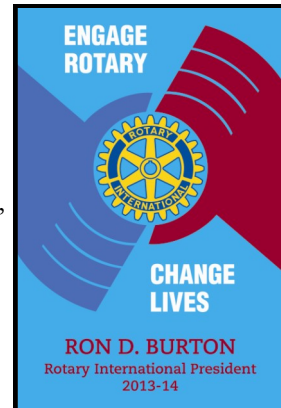
Lorraine passed away peacefully, surrounded by her loving family. Predeceased by her son, Michael. She is survived by her children, Deb (David) LaManna, Bill (Lorraine) Vonglis, Sue (Bob) Foos, Diane Parnell, Tom (Laurie) Vonglis, Theresa (Tim) Pope, Andrew (Tammy Carpenter) Vonglis, James (Kay) Vonglis, Peter (Jean) Vonglis; 30 grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren; sister, aunts, many nieces and nephews. She also leaves behind an enormous circle of friends.

She was the 1st Woman Firefighter in Avon, a former EMT, and member of the Avon Ambulance Squad. She was the Avon Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year in 1998. Lorraine will forever be remembered for her huge heart, endearing smile, year-round decorated Christmas Tree, the inability to say "NO", and her unquestionable love for her family. We hope every day in heaven is a Merry Christmas for her!



Lorraine with son Tom at his swearing in ceremony for Avon Mayor in April 2004

2013-14 Theme Unveiled By Daniela Garcia Rotary News -- 14 January 2013



RI President-elect Ron Burton will ask Rotarians to *Engage Rotary, Change Lives* in 2013-14.

He unveiled the RI theme during the opening plenary session of the 2013 International Assembly in San Diego, California, USA, the annual training event for incoming district governors.

“If we really want to take Rotary service forward, then we must make sure that every single Rotarian has the same feeling about Rotary that each one of us here has today,” Burton said. “We need to make sure that every Rotarian has a meaningful role to play, that they’re all making a contribution, and that their contribution is valued.”

Burton said the July launch of [The Rotary Foundation’s new grant model](#), Future Vision, makes it an exciting time to be a Rotarian. He said the new grant model, which has been used by about 100 pilot districts since 2010, represents a new era for the Foundation, and will help Rotarians get excited about Rotary’s ability to change lives.

“It takes everything that is wonderful about Rotary and raises it to a new level — by encouraging bigger, more sustainable projects while providing increased flexibility for local projects, both of which address the needs of the community being served,” he said.

Burton asked the incoming district governors to take the lead in helping their clubs through the transition, with the assistance of their district Rotary Foundation chairs, who also attended the assembly this year. The training sessions are focusing heavily on equipping these leaders to go back to their districts as experts on the new grant model.

Before the assembly, Burton asked each of the incoming governors to make a donation in their name to The Rotary Foundation in order to demonstrate leadership by example. At the assembly, he announced that all 537 governors-elect had complied; along with donations from all RI Board members and Foundation Trustees, the contributions totaled US\$675,412.

“Now, I have to believe that some of this is money that The Rotary Foundation probably would not have received had I not asked. And I think that this is an important lesson” he said. “If you want somebody else to do something, you can just sit around and wait for them to get the idea, or you can ask.”

Burton applied that lesson also to membership development, which he insisted is the responsibility of every Rotarian. He told the audience that although he had been an active member of the Key Club, a youth program of Kiwanis International, he went on to join Rotary simply because the Rotary Club of Norman, Oklahoma, invited him to.

“You have to ask,” he said. But Burton emphasized that the job doesn’t end when a new member joins: **“It’s not done until that new member is engaged in Rotary, inspired by Rotary, and uses the power of Rotary service to change lives.”**

In December we held our election of officers for 2013-14. The roster of members is as follows:

Election Results

- Marcia Cameron, President
- Tim Dickinson, Pres. Elect
- Dan Jones, Sr. Director
- Scott Holmes, Director
- Bob House, Sr. Rep
- Laurie Vonglis, Past Pres.
- Kathy Jo Murphy, Secretary
- Kelly Cole, Treasurer

Congratulations to all!

CLUB SCHEDULE

Jan. 22	Reg. Meeting—Jim Murphy on District Conf.
Jan. 29	Club Assembly 7 pm
Feb. 5	Reg. Meeting—Bivona Child Advocacy
Feb. 11	Board of Directors Meeting 7 pm
Feb. 12	Mardi Gras Party 5 pm

Pirate Toy Fund by Pam Hayes



These are all of the student's who made the presentations to Avon Primary School for the Pirate Toy Fund Drive in December. Due to the generosity of school families, the Interact Club collected 130 toys for the Pirate Toy Fund!

Pictured: Emily Hayes, Briar Murphy, Nick Hayes, Ashley Stappenbeck, Matt Briggs, Shannon Hayes (missing: Anna Christiano and Katie Crane).



**AVON
ROTARY & INTERACT CLUBS**
send representation
to support the annual toy sort on
January 12, 2013






Avon Toy Sort Team:
Doug Hayes, Pam Hayes,
Henry Lemen, Emily Hayes,
Terry Lemen, Marius Gappa,
and Nick Hayes

There were approx. 100 volunteers that helped to sort over 18,000 toys (a new record) and did this in record time. In the picture above is Marius Gappa (our Germany exchange student) and Avon Interact Student, Emily Hayes.



Left...

December 11, Chris Rider from Teresa House in Geneseo seeks volunteers to provide comfort care. Can you help?

Right...

Doug & Pam Hayes—new members 6/12
Terry Lemen—new member 12/12
Julie Carney—sponsor
All enjoying some after meeting fellowship!





J & A Farm Market will once again be donating all the corn we need for the 2013 Avon Rotary Corn Festival!

Sincere thanks to Rich Finocchario for his generosity!

Corn Fest 2013 – August 10th by Tom Vonglis

It's that time of year where we begin our preparations for the annual corn festival. For all of you that attended last weeks meeting you got to hear me explain some of the ideas and possible changes we will work on this year. Our goal is to try and do all the things we do with fewer people. As most of you know the hardest part of putting on this festival is getting enough volunteers to fill all the spots we have on our list. Last year only 6 Rotarians DID NOT participate. While I think that is very good our goal is still to have 100% participation from our club. I'm happy to report we had two people volunteer to join our steering committee which will be a great help for all of us. We continue to welcome others that would like to join our committee and help in one fashion or another. It makes things much easier with more people to help with all the tasks we have to do. I am looking forward to another successful year and want to thank Rodney George for agreeing to be the assistant chair-person this year. I'm also very grateful to Helen Zamboni for all the hard work she puts into the fundraiser as secretary. We have a great committee of people that are dedicated to doing all the right things and getting the work done. If anyone has suggestions on how we can improve our festival please feel free to let me know.

Thanks,

Tom Vonglis, Corn Fest Chairman

Second School to be Built in Nicaragua

On February 17 Rob Lupisella and Family will again be traveling to Nicaragua to begin building a second school. This time the village of LaFlor will be getting a new school. Rob, Jeanne and their children will be staying for two weeks in the remote mountain area. As we've learned from Rob, the work is laborious using very basic tools resulting in a brick structure which is a significant improvement for the area children.

I am pleased to announce that the Avon Rotary Club has pledged to donate \$1000 to help build this new school. We wish the Lupisella family much success, fulfillment and safe travels in this next chapter of their adventure.



For the fun of it....**SAVE THE DATE**

Tuesday, February 12, 2013 5-10 pm

Avon Rotary Mardi Gras Party

Avon Community Center

New Orleans Buffet \$15 per person

Guests encouraged to attend

Come in costume or party colors

2013 District 7120 Conference

May 3-5

Lake Placid, New York

Have you made your reservations yet?

Avon Rotary Exchange Student, Erika by Julie Carney



The Rotary Exchange Program is constantly exemplifying the themes of Rotary from year to year. It is a way to: “Build Communities and Bridge Continents”, “The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands”, “Reach Within to Embrace Humanity”, “Peace Through Service”, “Engage Rotary Change Lives”.

It has been about a month now since Erika left Avon to return home to South Africa. I must say, I find it hard calling another place her home, since she will forever be a part of our family and our community. Erika arrived in January 2012 with a lot of excitement on what her exchange year would bring. She was always up for new adventures and experiences. From day one at our home, Erika felt like a relative that we just hadn’t seen in a while. She fit right in and her personality and smile were never lacking. She quickly went from a long lost relative to a daughter.

Since she arrived in January and it was half way through the school year, she was placed with the Senior class. Even though she was only 16, she joined right in with all of the school activities. She joined Interact, Drama Club and played Softball. She also was able to participate in Senior Bash, Senior Trip and Graduation.

Although she was only here for a couple of weeks, her first mission was to do the Polar Plunge at Lake Ontario. Her enthusiasm for this was so strong, she convinced other Interact Students as well as our other exchange student, Markus to jump in and have some fun. She was so excited to be voted the farthest traveler to the event and even won a prize!

As far as the Drama Club, Erika had a small role in the production of Fiddler on the Roof, and then went on to have a larger role in Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat, and for her final Avon production she was Mrs. Cratchet in the fall production of Scrooge! She was even lucky enough to be a part of the cast that performed on the stage at the Auditorium Theater for the Stars of Tomorrow!

Softball was another story. Erika tried her best to learn the sport and all of the rules. At every game, home or away, we would sit and cheer her on and let her know that she was the best at keeping that bench warm! Then, to our surprise, one day in Wayland, she was put up to bat. And, low and behold she hit that ball and went running to first! She got out, but her smile and laughter for her accomplishment was priceless.

One day Erika informed us she was going to do beginners ballet at the Dance Emporium. She began taking classes and her dream of being a ballerina was becoming a reality. To everyone’s surprise, including Erika’s, she was very good. What she didn’t pick up right away she worked until she figured it out. Although Erika left too soon to be in the dance recital she didn’t mind because she just had fun experiencing something new. During her time in Avon, she was able to experience many different trips with her families. She went to Baltimore, Philadelphia, Washington DC, Outer Banks, Cape Cod, Boston, NYC and spent a lot of time at Conesus Lake.

Erika started school again in September as a Senior once again and time seemed to be going by very quickly and we started to realize that our daughter was going to be leaving us. The friendships that she made were getting stronger and the time to say goodbye was getting closer. Her moms and dads, sisters and brothers, aunts and uncles, grandparents and cousins will forever be changed by this amazing young woman who entered our lives as a stranger and left as family!



“In this new year may you always be blessed with contentment, peace and abundance”