

Avon Rotary News

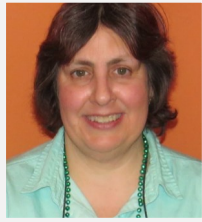
A view of Lake Champlain from the Rotary District 7120 Conference

May 6, 2014



Inside this issue:

President's Message	1
District Conference	2
District Awards for Avon	3
May Schedule	3
Rotary Youth Exchange	4
Playground Ground Breaking	5
Roadside Cleanup	6
Playground Dedication	6
District Change Over	7



President's Message

Hello everyone, welcome to Marcia's month. Well that's what my husband calls it anyway. Our anniversary is this month and so is my birthday and Mother's Day. So welcome to another month closer to my Queenship being over with. It was a very quick reign that has gone by very fast.

April was a very good month here at Avon Rotary. We have had several prospective members attending our meetings and I hope we will have several new members soon.

The roadside cleanup was very well attended this month. Thank you to Bill Wall for organizing this.

Several Rotarians attended the convention in Vermont and you will here more about both later in this newsletter.

We also had some very interesting programs at our meeting's this past month. Christine Ryan introduced us

to Rebecca Budinger the new director from the Avon Public Library who told us about the new and exciting happenings at the Library. Dom Genova also presented a program regarding auto dealer scams and tactics and presented us with a contribution of 500 dollars for our club for which we are very grateful. Also our very own Tim Dickinson presented a program regarding the company that he works for. Hopefully we will have other members doing the same.

May has some very promising programs also with Jim Yencer presenting on the boy scout troupe we sponsor, and Martina our exchange student telling us about her country of Switzerland. Quad cities is on May 19th, and finally Christine Ryan on the food pantry. I hope we all can provide a lot of food products to help with the Avon Food Pantry. I am looking forward to another great month with all of my family of rotary. Take care and see you soon.

President/Queen Marcia

Board of Directors

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



Avon Rotary Club meets Tuesdays at 6pm at Peppermints Restaurant

District 7120 Conference—Burlington Vermont



By Kirk Vanderbilt

Proud—that's how I'm feeling while riding back from beautiful Burlington VT. We are on our way home from the 2014 District Conference and I'm under extraordinary pressure from PP Laurie to share a reflection from the weekend. I believe we have several reasons to feel proud about being Avon Rotarians after attending this Conference.

1. We had a very impressive contingent of 8 members or nearly 20% of our active members in

attendance. We were well represented.

2. We won several awards that Laurie will describe in more detail later in this newsletter.
3. Avon Rotary was again awarded a District Simplified Grant for further work with our friends in Nicaragua. While we didn't receive the highest award (as we did last year), our grant writers Rob Lupisella and Brett Schrader can be proud of their success and as a club we can be proud that we were one of only 3 clubs to receive a grant for an international project.
4. Avon Rotary played a role in helping the Conference Committee raise \$6600 for the Rotary Foundation through their silent auction.
5. Our very own Julie Carney was there wearing her District hat as a Youth Exchange officer and was pivotal in insuring a fun, safe, and meaningful weekend for all the student participants.
6. 3 impressive specimens of athletic

ability participated in the Saturday afternoon bike-ride of 22 miles.

7. Avon Rotary hosted the best (perhaps only) Kentucky Derby Party at the Conference.

While some of these are a bit silly, my aim is to point out that Avon Rotary Rocks—simple. We have a well run, well organized, passionate and most importantly—FUN Club. For a small community, Avon Rotary continues to maintain a strong presence within the District and it does not go unnoticed. As Avon Rotarians, we can all be proud of our positive influence both locally and globally.



Martina in parade of flags



Helen & Kirk on a scenic bike ride



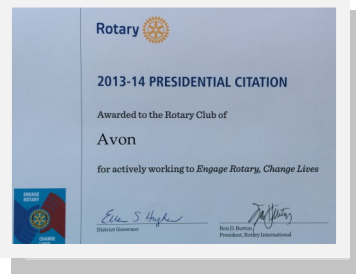
Youth chaperones relaxing over dinner



Hat ladies at derby time

District Awards for the Avon Rotary Club by Laurie Vonglis

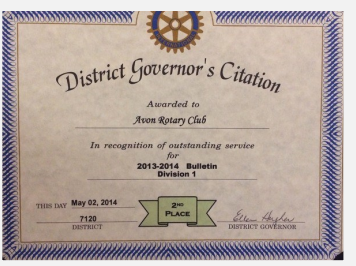
Avon Rotary was awarded a District Grant for \$1500! Our sincere gratitude for the dedicated work of Rob Lupisella and Brett Schrader for writing and submitting the necessary documentation. Avon is partnering with the Honeoye Falls Rotary Club on this project to provide water and sanitation to a school community in Nicaragua. This is one of the areas of focus Rotary International challenges every club to support. We look forward to learning more about this project and how our financial support along with Honeoye Falls and the District can impact the lives of others.



2014 Presidential Citation

Presented to club President's who commit to fulfilling the criteria set for during their Rotary year, meeting goals including those focused on the year's theme. Congratulations President Marcia, Board of Directors and all those that work hard in our club to make things happen.

2014 Achievement Award for International Service—1st place division 1
 Documented and led by Rob Lupisella for the Nicaragua School Construction project. Congratulations to Rob and all those involved in the school build project this past February. Your months of preparation, travel, hard work and personal reflections have inspired us all. Thank you.

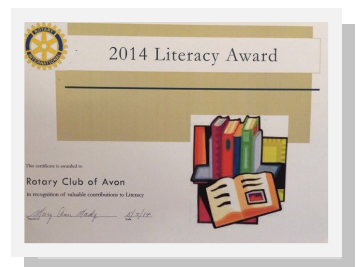


2014 Bulletin Award—2nd place division 1

Recognized for our monthly newsletter which meets the district criteria including club & district schedules, articles on membership, programs, RI news and general club activities. Rotary has made it a priority to increase public awareness of what it stands for, what we do, and how we impact our communities and beyond.

2014 Literacy Award

Recognized by the District for our club's commitment to literacy. Led by Dan Jones, Literacy Project Coordinator. Our club is actively working to help every member of the Avon community develop better communication skills in the areas of reading and technology. Great job Dan for continuously working hard in the area of Literacy on behalf of our club.



MAY CLUB SCHEDULE

Tues May 6	Regular Meeting—Program: Jim Yencer—Boy Scouts
Mon May 12	Board of Directors Meeting: 7pm @ Hurricane
Tues May 13	Regular Meeting—Corn Festival MTG following
Mon May 19	Quad Cities Golf & Dinner
Tues May 20	Regular Meeting—Program: Martina, Switzerland
Thurs May 22	Auction Steering Committee MTG
Tues May 27	Regular Meeting—Program: Chris Ryan, Avon Food Pantry

Rotary Youth Exchange



By Julie Carney

District Governor, Ellen Hughes, said it best. You “moose” come to Burlington to have a great time. The 48 students, from here and abroad, joined in fellowship with Rotarians from across District 7120 at the 2014 District Conference in Burlington Vermont, held May 2nd to May 5th. The student’s group comprised our District’s 22 current inbound students, our 20 2014-2015 outbounds and 6 Interact students who were all very busy throughout the activity filled weekend. While the conference didn’t officially start until 6:45pm on Friday after a reception for the Rotarians, The students were all required to be there by 3:00pm in order to rehearse for the parade of flags as part of the opening ceremony. The prestigious honor of carrying the flag of their home country/host country is a moment of great pride. For the Outbounds the receipt of their blazers was a defining moment, as now they are official. After the dinner, they were able to kick back and relax at their own dance party.

After a late night, the students awoke early on Saturday and split into two separate groups. The first group headed to Northern Lights Rock and Ice, a unique and exciting outdoor challenge and leadership facility unlike anything else in the North East. The students and their 9 chaperones participated in many activities including ice breaker and problem solving activities and then moved onto different elements that included low rope activities, a 25’ rock climbing wall and a 24’ “Leap of Faith” where the participants climbed atop a 24 foot pole and then jumped out for the target while having faith in the bestanders below, their fellow participants. The highlight was 42 feet in the air, the High Ropes Course that allowed the entire group to progress through these high challenges with their facilitators that proved a powerful shared learning experience to add amazing new perspectives of one’s self, communication and teamwork. On the high course, all the hard work was rewarded with a flight down dual 450’ zip wires! The second group, who

said “Hey, heights are not for me!” went into downtown Burlington and supported the Burlington Rotary Club with their annual fundraiser called Hoopapalooza which benefits children throughout VT through a “Puppets in Education” program. While the group had intended to participate in the event as a hula hooping team, the group, some of whom really couldn’t hula-hoop, decided when they saw that the competing teams were in costumes and performing choreographed routines, that it was best that they not perform. They based the decision on 4 factors:

It was the truth that they were not good.

It was not fair to all the spectators to have to make them watch the performance.

Their performance would do nothing to promote good will and could not better friendships.

Would most certainly NOT be beneficial to all concerned.

The group did have a great time at Hoopapalooza, meeting and talking to the members of the Burlington Rotary Club about Youth Exchange. They then took in some of the sights and attractions Burlington has to offer, including Ben & Jerry’s. Now that was good for all concerned.

Once back at the hotel, the students all went and rehearsed for the evenings “Youth Exchange Talent Show” which was held after the Governor’s Banquet. The students entertained the Rotarians with song and dance, a few instrumental songs, a comedy routine and some skits, including a multi-cultural version of Snow White the likes that no one had ever seen. The evening ended with all the students singing an original song, “We Want Blazers”. They all then changed and gathered and played games that were actually tests and challenges that would help prepare them to be the best ambassadors possible.

Sunday, the student’s attended the morning session and then had to say goodbye. They left Burlington with memories that will last a lifetime.

Playground Ground Breaking

Avon Community Playground

The Avon Community Playground Project has achieved its fundraising goal of \$80,000. In fact, nearly \$90,000 has been raised. This is due in no small part to the significant Avon Rotary Club's contribution. With the funding secure the following weather dependent timeline has been established. Immediately after Memorial Day the playground site will be prepared by John Barrett and his crew. Bears Equipment of Lima is scheduled to install the equipment the week of June 2nd after which mulch will be spread and a border installed by volunteers. There will be certain amenities to be installed such as a donor board, benches set and signage installed before a June 21st ribbon cutting. Please save June 21st at 11 AM on your calendars so you can join the community in celebrating it's new playground. Details on the ribbon cutting will be forthcoming.



Avon Rotary Representatives Marcia Cameron & Laurie Vonglis in attendance for the ground breaking of the playground on April 30th 2014.

For the last 3 years each President/Board of Directors committed \$2500 per year to help build this playground. Along with a District matching grant of \$3750 we are proud of our strong level of support totaling \$11,250.

Marcia Cameron, 2013-14 President

Laurie Vonglis, 2012-13 President

Missing—Kirk Vanderbilt, 2011-12 President

It takes a cooperative community effort to accomplish a project like this! Thanks to Barilla for the extremely generous donation of \$20,000, an investment in the children of this community.

L-R: John Marks, Playground Committee Chairman; Tom Freeman, Mayor; Jean-Pierre Comte, President of Barilla; Carmine Simone, Avon Plant Manager; Bill Zhe, Parks Commission; Marcia Cameron, Avon Rotary President



Roadside Clean up

By Marcia Cameron

On Saturday April 19th 12 of us met at the scout house to clean our section of Rte 39. It was well attended and we had the job done in less than an hour. Karen Jones came across a dead woodchuck and proceeded to pick it up and toss it into the garbage bag. Now I know why Dan doesn't mess with Karen. After putting the dead animal in the bag I think Karen may have regretted it after saying how heavy it was to carry. I came across a dead raccoon but there was no way i was picking it up. Afterwards we had a nice breakfast at the Village Diner. The participants were Steve Vanderbilt, David Kilgore, Rodney George, Helen Zamboni, her husband Steve Rosen, Bill Wall, Jim Ryan, Ed Kime, Dan Jones, his wife Karen and granddaughter Abby, and myself. Thank you all for your help.



Barilla Sponsors The Avon Community Playground Dedication



We help people live better by bringing wellbeing and the joy of eating into their everyday lives.

SAVE THE DATE

June 21st | 11-1pm

Avon Driving Park 350 Spring Street, Avon, NY

We're proud to be a sponsor of the new Avon Community Playground, a place where children can enjoy a safe, healthy, active lifestyle. Please join us in our ribbon-cutting celebration.

*Food and refreshments will be served.
Benvenuti!*



THE CHOICE OF ITALY®



You are invited
to the
**DISTRICT 7120
CHANGE-OVER
CELEBRATION!**



**To honor District Governor Ellen Hughes
and
District Governor-Elect Scott MacDonell**

MONDAY, JUNE 30, 2014

5:30 pm Fellowship with cash bar

6:30 pm Buffet Dinner & Program



BRISTOL HARBOUR

YOUR FIVE SEASONS RESORT

5410 Seneca Point Road
Canandaigua, NY 14424

RESERVE TODAY!

Cost \$45 per Attendee

Number in Party _____ Club Name _____

Names of Attendees _____

Special Dietary Restrictions: _____

Please make checks payable to "*Clifton Springs Rotary Club*"

Mail reservations and payment **NO LATER THAN JUNE 20, 2014** to:

Community Bank
Att: Changeover Registration
26 East Main St.
Clifton Springs, NY 14432