Avon Rotary News October 1, 2013

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Avon Rotary Club Meets Tuesdays at 6pm Peppermints Restaurant 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

President's Message



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Hello everyone, I hope this finds you all doing well. Summer is now over so I hope to see you all at our regular meetings on Tuesday evenings. Vacations are now pretty much

over, if you got a vacation, and the nights are getting colder, so why not come to a meeting and enjoy a good program, fellowship and a good dinner. The highlight of this month was certainly our Rotary Honors program at the Middle School Auditorium and it was great that so many of you were able to attend. A big high Five to the Foundation Committee and the idea of Mark Evans. I am sure that this will become an annual event. Another first we are trying this year is a Rotary/Lions Golf outing and I hope that more of us will be able to do this next year with enough interest. We also heard about the great Interact program and all the projects that they have in place this year. It sounds like a great group of kids and I look forward to hearing more from them. So what is ahead for October? On October 1st we are going to hear from Rodney George as he wraps up the Corn Festival for us from this year. I bet we have some very good results. It was a wonderful day. On October 8th we will have our first Club Assembly for this Rotary year. So we will hear from each of our committees and see what is going on with them. Speaking of committee's I would like to get something going with our Senior Outreach Committee since summer is over. I would like to meet with who ever



would like to help with this after our October 22nd meeting. I need a lot of help from everyone as I would like to see us making an effort to visit our Rotarian friends who can no longer make it to our meetings and to visit our local nursing home at least 3-4 times in the remaining Rotary year. We could visit with our children or grandchildren or pets I am sure the residence would love it. I have also been approached by the people who run Martha's kitchen at the Zion church because they heard about my interest in our senior outreach program and have been asked to go there and see what they do and hopefully be able to help them. I think I have gotten out of my comfort zone in becoming the President this year so if I can do it I am certain you can and we can get ourselves involved in some different programs as we move forward in our club. We can't just come to meetings and go to social events and not do what our motto says Service above Self and not try some different things. Lets not get too comfortable in doing the same old thing and put ourselves out there. I know that I am guilty of that. I have been doing what I need to do since I joined Rotary in 2005 and not really jumping in till the last few years and I feel that I keep growing even at my age. I know our time is limited in how much we have going on, believe me I know, so I would appreciate your help in anyway you are able to give it. Speaking of which our Roadside cleanup is also happening on October 19th lets see how many helping hands we can get there to help. It only takes about an hour and then we have some fellowship with a breakfast afterwards.

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Avon Rotary Honors

By Mark Evans

On Tuesday evening, September 17th, the Avon Rotary Club's Foundation Committee presented a special public program called "THE AVON ROTA-RY HONORS" at the Middle School Auditorium. The concept was loosely modeled after "The Kennedy Center Honors" and tied in to President Marcy's goal to increase community awareness of the work of our club.

Mark D. Evans chaired the event and served as Master of Ceremonies. The program began with a welcome from our club President ("Her Majesty Queen Marcia the First of Avondale Shire"). Marcy introduced three committee chairs for a brief Projects Round-up. Tom Vonglis reported on the success of the 2013 Avon Rotary Corn Festival and summarized the 8 months of work involved in its planning and presentation. Pam Hayes reported on the very busy agenda of the Avon Interact Club and introduced our new Swedish exchange student Martina (insert last name here). Tim Dickinson plugged the upcoming November 9th Avon Rotary Auction and described a few of the 400+ interesting items that are expected to be offered. Marcy encouraged everyone to save the date and to contact any Avon Rotarian if they had an interest in visiting our meetings or becoming a member.

This was followed by the presentation of Avon Rotary's annual Building Awards by Steve Csapo.

Peppermint's Family Restaurant owner Chris Hetelekides was recognized with a plaque for a variety of building improvements including new signage, new booths and tables, a new ice cream shop in the northeast corner, and a handicapped-accessible and fully-



R-L: Don Alhart, Julie Mike, Chris Hetelekides, PDG Gavin Hurley, Dr. Richard Collins, Cindy Zhe, Eric Byrd, President Marcia Cameron

renovated banquet room, which hosts our weekly meetings.

Kids Club Child Care Center owner Julie Mike was honored with a plaque recognizing the building she erected to house her growing business.

Both business owners spoke about the history of their businesses and were applauded for their investment in our community.

2002-03 District 7120 Governor and active Rochester Rotarian Don Alhart, anchorman of TV 13 News was on hand explain the history and importance of Rotary's PAUL HARRIS FELLOW program. 2012-13 District 7120 Governor Gaven Hurley shared his memories of working with our Club during his term of office and placed Paul Harris Fellow medallions around the necks of our three community honorees. Don joined him in pinning lapel pins.

Paul Harris Fellow Dr. Gerald Benjamin introduced retired St. Agnes teacher Cindy Zhe for her decades of service and her continued leadership in community projects including the ongoing playground project.

Paul Harris Fellow Dr. Robert Hayes introduced his lifelong partner Dr. Richard Collins for his lifelong service to Avon as a family physician and his leadership in the medical community.

Debra Byrd-Caudel introduced her son, Eric Byrd, who thrived in Avon Central School sports, went on to become an International Special Olympian, and who inspires all who know him with his determination in surviving a horrific automobile accident.

The 95 community members on hand gave all of our honorees a rousing and spirited standing ovation.

Special thanks go to Carney's Catering for excellent refreshments, to the Genesee Valley Penny Saver for our advertising and printing, and to Avon Central School for hosting the event. The Foundation Committee would like to present the event again next year if approved by the board.

Rotary/Lions Sunday Fun

By Laurie Vonglis

Last Sunday several Rotarians and a few Lions got together for a friendly game of golf. As the final team came in, we gathered round the 18th green and cheered President Marcia's team on. The 'gallery' enjoyed a bit of fellowship on what was a gorgeous fall day. We followed this outing up with a fantastic dinner at the Avondale featuring a hearty steak dinner and all the trimmings. 1st & 2nd place teams were Rotarians. Longest drive went to Bill Wall and closest to the pin was Rodney George.

Fun event for all thanks to President Marcia & Lions President Jim Carney.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (continued)

Past District Governor Gavin Hurley will be talking to us on October 15th about Polio Eradication and we all know what a good speaker Davin I mean Gavin is, he has a great sense of Humor.

Finally on October 29th we will have a Halloween party at Peppermints anyone who would like to dress up I highly encourage it and those who don't that is fine also you can just make fun of the rest of us. Hopefully Kirk will dress in his award winning outfit from the Disco Ball. Chris has been working on a frightningly good buffet for us to partake in. I hope to see you all at our next meeting, I miss you when you are not there. Our meetings are only as good as everyone who attends and gets involved. Take care my Rotary People.

President/Queen Marcia



Auction: 9am SHARP!

Dancing the Night Away



Avon Rotary Supports Lima/Mt. Morris 'Dirty Disco'

By Pam Hayes

On Saturday, Sept. 14, 2013 members from the Avon Rotary Club (Marcia Cameron and date Cliff Cameron, Doug and Pam Hayes, Terry Lemen, Tom and Laurie Vonglis, Kirk and date Karen Vanderbilt) attended the Mt. Morris / Lima Rotary Clubs' Dirty Disco Fundraiser. The night started with a happy hour graciously hosted by the Vonglis'. We then traveled to Mt. Morris to the Genesee River Restaurant where the event was held. It was a fun packed evening that was well orchestrated by the two clubs. Tables were adorned with record albums for placemats and a multi colored flashing lighted vase with a small disco mirror ball on top of it. At each placemat was the program for the night. Every half hour they had some form of an event or ac-

tivity going such as dance instruction leading to a dance contest... yes, Tom really knows how to boogie on down. They had the largest twister floor game that I have ever seen with Laurie, Karen, Terry and Doug stepping in to play. Laurie and Karen made to the final four out of at least 50 participants! Food stations where set up with delicious appetizers such as

stuffed mushrooms, deep fried ravioli, antipasto kabobs, veggies, cheese and crackers. Later at night pizza was brought out... no reason to go hungry when working up an appetite dancing! It was so enjoyable to see all the attendees dressed with their memories from the Disco era. It was a tough competition for best costume but our Avon Rotarian Kirk Vanderbilt lead the pack and won for the event collecting \$200 in winnings. Being the fine Rotarian that Kirk is he donated \$100 back to the fundraiser. Laurie and Pam acquired some home decorating items from the silent auction (yes, Doug or Tom cannot stop us from home decorating and shopping even at a Disco Dance)!

We danced until the end and an awesome time was had by all. I want to give

organized, well thought out event for their first time. I certainly hope they do

big kudos to the Mt. Morris and Lima Rotarians for putting on such a well



Rotarians, Terry Lemen, Pam & Doug Hayes



it next year...as I know we will all be signing up again!

Past President Kirk Vanderbilt

Twister Players: Doug Hayes, Karen Vanderbilt & Laurie Vonglis





Membership

By Kirk Vanderbilt

PDG Norma handed out M&M's at the District Membership Seminar – why? You ask – to remind us that <u>M</u>embership <u>M</u>atters. Rotary Zone 29 Trainer Dale Lepovetsky had a message last Saturday that said simply: people should want to join Rotary! We are the largest, most efficient service organization on the planet!

But we're preaching to the choiryes??????

PP Laurie and I both attended the district Membership seminar last Saturday and this is where we landed I guess: we should strive to make people realize how great Rotary is, and thereby, they will want to join – right???

WRONG!!

In fairness, Laurie and I had to leave the seminar early, so I'm sure that we missed some important material. We were just getting to the good parts when we had to leave, which included a group discussion with all the attendees as to what their clubs were doing specifically to recruit and retain members. In the end, I'm sure the discussion ended with some basic strategies, which I touched on in last week's meeting.

- Make your club and your meetings **fun** and **meaningful**, warm and friendly with great programs.
- **ASK** invite your friends, coworkers, and business associates that you think might be interested in becoming part of something bigger.
- Promote the great things your club does, locally as well as worldwide. – TOOT OUR OWN HORN
- Retain current members by educating, and involving them in all aspects of Rotary, and <u>recog-</u> nizing their efforts.
- In the end, while I am technically the chairperson, Membership is EVE-RYONE's job. With some help, I will be planning a membership event after the holidays. But in the mean-time, everybody should take a moment to think about membership, and how they can help do their part to make Avon Rotary as best as it can be. Don't forget that with the Auction coming, it is a great opportunity to ask potential new members to give you a hand during the weekend, or at least attend as bidders.
- I'll close with a great quote that Dale, the aforementioned trainer included in his materials at the seminar.
- "Live your life so that your children can tell their children that you not only stood for something wonderful – you acted on it." Author—Dan Zadra

Visitors From The North

By Barbara Herman

Close encounter? Brief encounter?

At any rate, a wonderful encounter, when Avon Rotarians met two Rotarians from the Woodstock, Ontario, Rotary club.

Grace and Doug Vincent were enroute from meetings in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, to their home in Canada, when they found our Tuesday night meeting by checking their GPS. They dropped in for a dinner visit with us, then shared some of their suggestions on membership (the topic of the night provided by Past Prez Kirk).

Later they joined some members at the Vonglis's post-meeting happy hour, and we discovered some of their many activities on behalf of Rotary: at the meeting in New Jersey, Doug gave presentations on the United Nations to incoming DGEs from many clubs; Doug is the United Nations Representative for Zone 24 and past District Governor;.

Grace, also a past club president, is a dentist and maxillo-facial surgeon. When they travel to populations in poor countries, she performs surgeries for babies and children with cleftpalate birth defects.

In January, they will be returning to India and Pakistan as part of a polio immunization team; they have done this previously. Grace told an emotional story of women kneeling in front of her and kissing her feet in gratitude for surgeries repairing their children. In November, they will be in Israel on behalf of the Rotary - United Nations joint efforts.

It was delightful to be able to host them for an overnight visit, and for them to share the Rotary story with our breakfast guests on Wednesday morning.



Zombies On The Loose

Interact Club Raises Funds For Special Olympics

By Terry Lemen

Saturday, September 28th, was a beautiful fall day like any other except at Darien Lake where Zombies were on the loose and attacking unsuspecting runners!!!

The Avon Interact Club participated in the 1st annual RUN-DEAD 5k race to benefit the Special Olympics. Interact club Co-Chair, Pam Hayes and fellow Rotarian Terry Lemen chaperoned 11 of our Interact Club members who enjoyed a fun filled day while raising **\$650.00** for this very worthy cause. Interacters Jack McKeown and Jimmy Jadlos ran the 5k race while Grace Gilmore,



Megan Allen, Erica Steele, Beth Younger, Jill McAvoy, Caroline Christiano, Caroline Hecht, Nick Hayes, and Henry Lemen played the part of Zombies. The goal of the runners was to reach the finish line holding on to their flags (which represented remaining human) while the zombies attacked and removed as many flags a possible. Beth Younger won the prize for the

most flags captured. She showed no mercy and was able to capture 37 flags!!! If there is ever a Zombie Apocalypse I definitely want her on my team. Interacters Charlie Lemen, AJ Loughry and Alex Anderson joined us later in the day after their sporting event. After the race the Interacters enjoyed "Fright Night" at Darien Lake Amusement Park. They rode rides, went through haunted houses, and Grace Gilmore even participated in the magic show. Thanks to Pam and Doug Hayes we also enjoyed a tailgate picnic. There were hamburgers, hot dogs and a lot of camaraderie. I am very proud of our Interact Club and the enthusiasm they put into all activities. Next up for the Interact Club is the October roadside cleanup.





OCTOBER CLUB SCHEDULE

Tues. Oct 1	Reg Mtg—Corn Festival Wrap Up
Tues. Oct 8	Club Assembly, then Auction Mtg
Mon. Oct 14	7 pm Board of Directors Mtg
Tues. Oct 15	Reg Mtg—PDG Hurley/Polio Eradication
Wed. Oct 16	District Foundation Mtg
Sat. Oct 19	District Grant Management Seminar
Sat. Oct 19	8 am Roadside Cleanup
Tues. Oct 22	Reg Mtg—Pirate Toy Fund
Tues. Oct 29	Halloween Party @ Peppermints