

Avon Rotary News

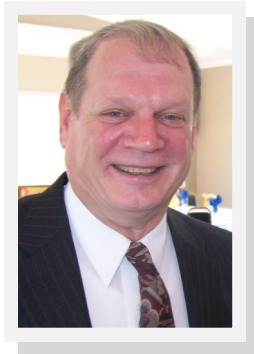
May 2015

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Board of Directors

Tim Dickinson, President
 Dan Jones, PE
 Scott Holmes, Sr. Director
 Tom Vonglis, Director
 Helen Zamboni, Member at Lg.
 Marcia Cameron Past Pres.
 David Kilgore, Secretary
 Kelly Cole, Treasurer



President's Message

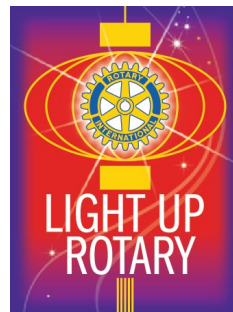
Spring has finally found Western New York. I guess we had been hiding too well. As we look into the month of May there are many exciting opportunities ahead for us. The District Conference 15 – 17 in Buffalo should be a great time of fellowship, learning, and sharing experiences among fellow Rotarians. I hope those who planned to go got their reservations in early. I understand the block of rooms was sold out before the end of the registration period. I am planning to have an enjoyable weekend in Buffalo with many fellow Rotarians. After we return we will remain busy. Just a reminder that we will have a regular meeting on the Tuesday after the Conference.

Coming up on May 26 we have our Quad Cities Golf/Dinner/Meeting event at Farview & The Avon Inn. This promises to be a hotly contested golfing event. With 6 teams from our own club and unknown numbers from the other metropolises of Geneseo, Mt Morris, and Caledonia we should certainly heat up the greens at Farview. After the long winter, they could certainly use the heat. Thanks to **Laurie**

Vonglis, our social event “organizer extraordinaire” for all your work on this and all the events you so expertly pulled together for us this year. Looking forward to a warm, sunny Tuesday 5/26, golf, a good dinner, and some great fellowship.

Also in May, your Board of Directors has voted to pay for a pavilion at GVRRC which they plan to build in May. This could be a great opportunity to put a crew together to practice our construction skills. More details on that to come in the near future.

On a related note, I just received word that Livingston County Habitat for Humanity will be starting their next house on Littleville Rd in Avon in the first week of May. This too is the start of yet another opportunity for service to the community where the light of Avon Rotary can shine.



I'll keep it short this month as the Rotary year approaches it's close for 2014-2015. The time certainly has flown and many good things have taken place. Please take time to enjoy our long awaited balmy weather. Don't over-do it on the yard work, and find a way to unexpectedly and quietly help someone who crosses your path in the days ahead. Be a Rotarian.

Thanks!
 Prez Tim

Avon Rotary Club meets Tuesdays at 6pm at Peppermints Restaurant

On Your Mark... Get Set....



By: Dan Jones

The Rotary year is coming to a close quickly and we are preparing to celebrate the great accomplishments of the past year with President Tim and the rest of the club. So many people have worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make this year a great success. As we prepare for

the coming year many of us took the time to attend the District Training event at Spencerport Middle School. Speakers shared best practices from various clubs and our District Governor Elect Bill Gormont shared the vision for Rotary 15-16. Our theme for the coming year is "Be a Gift to the World".

Each of us have been given different gifts. Some are exceptional at leading our fundraisers, some are great at administrating the business side of the club, others excel in connecting youth with Rotary. No matter whether your gift is in a visible area of leadership or a "behind-the-scenes" supporting role, your service above self makes

Rotary the great organization we know and love. When I was a child in Sunday School I learned a song about a little light. One particular verse warned; "Hide it under a basket," NO – I'm gonna let it shine." That nursery song reminds me of the importance of sharing my gifts with the world. As we enter into the new Rotary year I want to encourage you to let your gift become increasingly visible this year. Take the resources, talents and time you have to serve others, build a stronger community and make the world a better place. When we come together and share our gifts impossible challenges are overcome. Be part of the good things taking place through Rotary and become part of Avon Rotary's Gift to the World.



Be a gift to the world



Avon Rotarians at District Training Assembly: L-R Kirk Vanderbilt, Laurie Vonglis, Tom Vonglis, Helen Zamboni, Dan Jones, Tim Dickinson, David Kilgore & Kate Hill

Avon Interact Hosts Exchange Students

By: Sierra Hinds

This past weekend, April 9th through the 12th, Avon Interact Club participated in an exchange weekend with students from all over the area. On Friday, Avon students with an exchange student all went to RIT to tour the college and show the exchange students the experience of college lectures, food, and other aspects of college life. Later that night, a dance was held for everyone at the Village Hall. Saturday we had a fun-filled day of



bowling and pizza, and then Casino Night, where people were able to (pretend) play games like Black Jack and Roulette, and compete for

prizes for best dressed. Sunday, we were sad to say goodbye to all of the exchange students with a brunch and t-shirt signing. Everyone enjoyed the weekend meeting lots of new friends and showing the students a good time!

Avon Rotary Helps Out Exchange Weekend

By: Heather Ayers

The weekend of April 10th was a very special weekend for many Rotarians as it marked our annual Exchange Weekend where we had the pleasure of welcoming the Exchange Students across our district into our town and even homes. The weekend was filled with fellowship and events to allow the kids to spend time with each other, their host families and Avon's Interact students.

Jake and I had the pleasure of hosting one of the exchange students in our home for the weekend, and found that it was a great opportunity to give back in a different way. The kids were so energetic and enthusiastic for the events of the weekend. It was great to see them interested in wanting to have fun but also learn about Avon and the Rotarians they were spending their time with. While



there were many planned events throughout the weekend, there was some down time where the host families had an opportunity to do different things with the kids – hiking Letchworth, showing them a piece of Americana with a bonfire fit with

s'mores and hot dogs cooked over the fire, home cooked gourmet meals, and more.

The weekend would not have been possible without the hard and dedicated work of **Ed Kime** and **Cathy Jo Murphy**. They did a wonderful job of planning an action packed weekend for the kids with events that gave them opportunity to both learn and socialize. With events from touring RIT's campus to the Casino Night at the Village Hall, Ed and Kathy helped Avon Rotary create a weekend I am sure the kids will not soon forget. I know that Jake and I won't.

Angels Among Us

By: Kirk Vanderbilt

The entire Avon Community was blessed this year to be asked to host the **Angels Among Us and Bugs of Spring** project. In its 5th year, this collaborative project has been a bright spot in our Livingston County communities and the Metal Trades Program at the Charles G May center of the Genesee Valley Educational Partnership. Under the direction of their instructor Olie Olson, the Metal Trades Students have produced dozens of beautiful sculptures and artwork which have been auctioned to the public and have raised over 100 thousand dollars for local charities and non-profits.

This year, **Avon Community Cares** is the lucky partner in the project, and with the assistance of the art students at both Avon Central and St Agnes, 41 gorgeous sculptures have been made available for **auction at the Historic Avon Inn on Saturday, June 6th.**

The project both enriches the students' educational experience and promotes the Metal Trades program, which is a hidden treasure to some in our region. This year's project was especially meaningful in that the owners of **Blum Brothers Customs**, 3 former students of the Metal Trades Program who have started a new and growing business here in Livingston County, became a major corporate sponsor and partner in the project. In the true **Rotary** spirit

of **Service Above Self**, the entire Avon Community came together to raise money for **Avon Community Cares** whose aim is to nurture, assist and care for Avon residents in a sudden financial crisis due to a catastrophic or emergency situation.

Avon Rotary is proud to be well-represented in this project, with several of our members in leadership roles on the committee responsible for making the collaboration a huge success. It's been a pleasure working with other community leaders to assist in this meaningful endeavor.

With the auction weeks away, invitations are being prepared for mailing and final touches on the sculptures are happening. There will be an open house on Saturday, May 9th at 1 pm to view these beauties one last time before the auction.

Tickets are \$5 and on sale at the **Avon Inn, Avon Floral World, Avon Village Office, and Village Restaurant.** Please join us and help support **Avon Community Cares.**



Hello From Steve Newvine

From an email April 8:

Once again, thank you for keeping me and other friends of Avon Rotary on your newsletter mailing list. I still enjoy opening up the newsletter, catching up with Rotary, and getting a glimpse or two of our former home village.

I enjoyed the piece on **Jerry D.** and wondered whether I missed something. Have they left Livingston County?

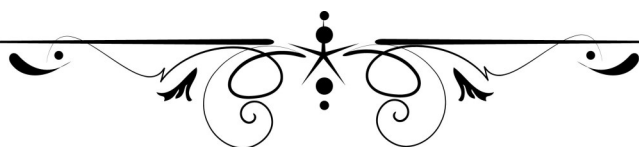
As for Vaune and me, we celebrated the arrival of our first grandson in January. In March, a trip to Denver to visit the little guy went off real well. It's amazing how life does change, or at least our priorities change, when grandchildren enter the picture. I celebrated my birthday in Colorado holding our grandson Kasper Carson most of the day.

Take care, give my best to our neighbors and friends, and good luck with all the activities that define Avon Rotary. Here's to a great corn festival later this summer.

*As a follow up to this email from Steve, I reassured him that **Mr. Dougherty** is still a daily visitor to Avon, still resides in Livingston County but much to our dismay, was on an extended stay in sunny Florida. He was missed by all his pals here during that long cold winter.*

Steve, a former Avon Rotarian, club president in 2000, moved to California several years ago.

Laurie Vonglis



Avon Rotary

Change of Officers Celebration

Please join Avon Rotary Club as we celebrate the 2014-15 Rotary year, welcome in the 2015-16 Board of Directors and honor fellow Rotarians for their outstanding service in our club.

It's always a very memorable evening!

Seated Dinner Options:

- #1: Chicken (\$25.)
- #2: Portobella Mushroom (\$25.)
- #3: Salmon (\$26.50)



Tuesday, June 30, 2015

Big Tree Inn, Geneseo

5:30 Social Hour

7:00 Seated Dinner

Musical Entertainment, Awards & Honors

\$25-26.50 Per Person ~ Guests Welcome

RSVP by June 10 ~ lvonglis@hurritech.com

A Fond Memory or 2

By: Jim Tompsett

#1 As Rotarians we are inspired to find ways to help others. Remember the Four Way Test asks "Will it be beneficial to all concerned?" Well, where do we go to get inspired? Regular meetings, District Assembly, District Conference, Rotary International Convention, or our friends, relatives, clerical person and others. Keep your mind open!

Well, one of my special Rotary Memorable Moments occurred at our own Rotary Honors Program. Don Alhart told of a student he met that he felt had the most clear definition of love. "Love is creating happiness for someone else."

Now go find your inspiration.



#2 Last February, while in El Sauce, Nicaragua helping build a local school in the Ocotol Mountains for the Enlace Project I experienced a special Rotary Memorable Moment. There were twenty in our group representing schools here, Interact, Avon Rotary and parents. I took my nephew Christian and granddaughter Olivia and in the evenings we would walk around the village. Most local people would say "Adios" when passing on the street, short for "Hasta luego" (see you later). Most know English and some speak it. We were recognized as those from the US helping build the school. Well, as we passed a group of men sitting beside the street, one arose and came to the street behind us, placed his hand on my shoulder and said "Thank you, we need you." That was so meaningful to me. Reaffirming the commitment we had made to help.

SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, June 6, 2015

Avon Community Cares Auction @ Avon Inn
6:00 Viewing, 7:00 Auction

Monday, June 29th, 2015

District Change Over Dinner @ Ventosa Winery in Geneva
Cocktail hour @ 5:30 PM dinner @ 6:30 PM

Tuesday, June 30th, 2015

Avon Rotary Change Over Dinner @ Big Tree Inn in Geneseo
Cocktail hour @ 5:30 PM dinner @ 7:00 PM





Why Do I Love Rotary?

By: Jerry Dougherty

I have been an Avon Rotarian since 1967. During that time I have been privileged to join my fellow Rotarians to raise funds for Rotary projects at the local, district and international levels. I have enjoyed meeting and becoming good friends with so many Rotarians in our Avon club as well as on the district level. Hosting several exchange students throughout the years has provided new opportunities and friendships for our family, as well as invitations to visit other beautiful countries as guests of the students' families. Fellowship and fun with a purpose is what Rotary is all about.



May Club Schedule

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Tues. May 5 | 6:00 Regular Mtg, Program TBD |
| Mon. May 11 | 7:00 Board of Directors Mtg |
| Tues. May 12 | 6:00 Regular Mtg, Corn Fest Mtg following |
| May 15-17 | District Conference in Buffalo |
| Tues. May 19 | 6:00 Regular Mtg, Program TBD |
| Tues. May 26 | Special Mtg, 2015 Quad Cities |

May Member Celebrations

Rotary Anniversary

- ⇒ Bob Hayes 2005
- ⇒ Greg Johnson 2009
- ⇒ Ed Kime 2010
- ⇒ C.A. Krenzer 2013
- ⇒ David Kilgore 2013

Birthdays

- ⇒ Marcia Cameron
- ⇒ Tim Dickinson
- ⇒ Dan Jones
- ⇒ Rob Lupisella
- ⇒ Cathy Jo Murphy
- ⇒ Sue O'Hearn

Wedding Anniversary

- ⇒ Marcia Cameron
- ⇒ Kelly Cole
- ⇒ Steve Csapo
- ⇒ Charles Feller
- ⇒ Doug & Pam Hayes
- ⇒ Greg Johnson