

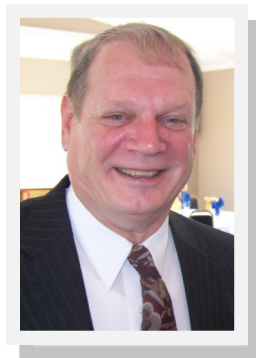


Avon Rotary News

January 2015

Inside this issue:

President's Message	1
Welcome Two New Members	2
This Year.... 2015	3
Foundation Committee Report	3
Pirate Toy Fund Update	4
Interact Update	4
Rotary Christmas Party	5
Club Celebrations & Schedule	5
RLI Reflections	6
Holiday Road Trip	7
A Rotarian or Just Plain Nuts	7
Social Calendar	8



President's Message

As we start 2015 I now realize I am beginning the last six months of my term as your President. So far it has been very enjoyable and I believe we have done some significant things along the way. Our major fundraisers were successful. We have 7 new members, all active in many different ways. We have honored community members with Paul Harris Fellows, continuing to bring the message and principles of Rotary into the spotlight whenever possible. Our Interact youth are engaged and enthusiastic as are their leaders. We have had many opportunities for great fellowship in various social events. On January 15 we will host another Rotary Social at the Avon Inn to allow the community to gather with our local Rotarians and learn more about Rotary and the principles we stand for. Please plan to attend and invite a friend or two who you think might be interested in joining our club.

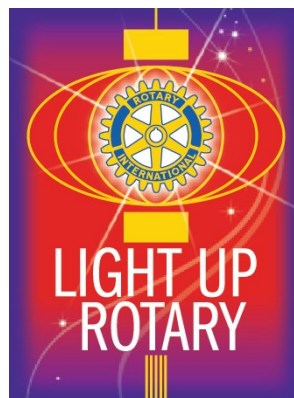
Let's keep the momentum going as we move into 2015. We will soon hear more details about the District Conference to be held in Buffalo in mid-May. I would encourage everyone to consider attending. It's a great opportunity for fellowship and a relaxing, enjoyable time. We will continue with more social events coming up in February as well as Valentine's Day approaches. Thanks to everyone who has participated in our social events,

fund raisers, and regular meetings. It is all too true that the more you invest in Rotary with your time and talent, the more you will get from Rotary. Social networking, service opportunities, recruiting, telling your Rotary story are all avenues and opportunities for personal growth.

I hope you all had an opportunity to share time with family over the holidays and relax a bit from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. I know I had the opportunity to spend a few days with my entire family and it was certainly enjoyable. Happy New Year to all.

Pres Tim

(still the silent version with laryngitis)



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

Avon Rotary Club meets Tuesdays at 6pm at Peppermints Restaurant

Avon Rotary Welcomes 2 New Members

By: Dom Lalissee

I was born and raised in Cambrai (France) halfway between Paris and Brussels. My Dad was an Electrician Union worker with the French Electricity Public Utility (EDF) and my Mom was an office manager for a Small textile manufacturing Firm. Both of them were hard working and pushed my brother and I to get to College educations they did not have the opportunity to pursue. I am a divorced father of 4 boys aged 16 to 25.

I graduated from ISEN located in Lille (France) with a Masters in Electrical Engineering in 1986 and served the French Navy for one year as a Sonar Research Scientist. I then joined Xerox in France before Xerox gave me the opportunity to move to Rochester, NY. In 1997, I had the opportunity to attend Simon School and I received a MBA and the Hugh Whitney Award in 1999. After a 21 years amazing career, I left Xerox in 2008 to pursue a new career in Financial Services as a Business Consultant with CoreLogic where I am responsible for the deployment of productivity and quality projects.

As I moved to Avon in May 2014, I reached out to my schoolmate Helen Zamboni to explore opportunities to be a more active member of the wonderful Avon Community. Throughout my life I have sought out volunteer opportunities wherever I could with a particular emphasis on organizations supporting educational goals such as Junior Achievement. I am looking forward to continue to serve the Community through all the activities of the Rotary.



Dominic Lalissee,
Inducted December 9, 2014



Jim Varner,
Inducted December 9, 2014

By: Jim Varner

I live on East River Road in Rush, about 6 miles north of Avon. I have been married to my wife, Cindy for 33 grand and glorious years!! We have 2 daughters; Carolyn & Rachel. Carolyn is married, and lives in Franklinville, NY, and Rachel is a senior @ Roberts Wesleyan College, majoring in nursing. My wife works @ Rochester General Hospital in the lab. I have been the manager of Avon Lumber Co. for about 25 years. I enjoy hunting and fishing, and pretty much anything outdoors, as well as music.

I joined Rotary because I knew it was a fine, honorable organization. My father was very active in Rotary for years, back in Watkins Glen, NY, where I grew up. I could easily see after attending a few meetings that Avon was a very friendly, inviting group. I look forward to working with Rotary to help serve our community.

“Be Truthful, Gentle, and Fearless” Gandhi

This Year ...



LOVE WHAT YOU SEE IN THE MIRROR
 MAKE TIME FOR CREATIVITY
 NEVER SAY NO TO ADVENTURE
 EAT MORE GREEN FOOD
 SEND SNAIL MAIL
 SEND HANDWRITTEN THANK YOUS
 BUY LESS, CHOOSE WELL
 GIVE OUT TOO MANY COMPLIMENTS
 TRAVEL
 BE KIND TO STRANGERS
 VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME AND SKILLS
 TAKE A COOKING CLASS
 GIVE THE PRESENT OF PRESENCE
 LEARN FROM OTHERS
 EMBRACE SIMPLICITY

There are a number of definitions of the term family but the one that I find most applicable to Rotary indicates that a family is a group of people who “share goals and values and have commitments to one another”.

DG Scott MacDonell
 December Grapevine

Foundation Committee Report

By: Jim Tompsett

FOUNDATION MONTH – NOVEMBER

Well, Avon Rotary Club showed its “True Colors” – charitable, benevolent and generous.

Our individual and club donations to The Rotary Foundation (TRF) are to be recognized and celebrated. This year we have 100% member participation including Honorary Members, thanks to generous Rotarians that covered a few “stragglers.”

We have: #1 - \$1000 donation

#34 - \$100 donators – Sustaining Members

#2 - \$25 donators

#27 - \$5 donators

Total: \$4585.00

We have: #8 - Sustaining Member Society persons (pledge to donate \$100 annually)

#1 – Paul Harris Society person (pledge to donate \$1000 annually)

Our Club lifetime total to The Rotary Foundation exceeds \$120,000.00 Thank you, Avon Rotary !

Pirate Toy Fund Update

By: Pam Hayes

On Friday, December 19, 2014 Avon Interact Club members went to the Avon Primary School Assembly to collect the toys for the Pirate Toy Fund program that they kicked off for the month December in coordination with the Avon Primary School character trait of the month Courage. Interact members Emily Hayes, Caroline Christiano and Sierra Hinds graciously accepted over 150 toys on behalf of the Pirate Toy Fund. Primary School Principal, Rob Lupisella asked Emily, Caroline and Sierra to assist in presenting the December Golden Plate and Sneaker Awards and the Student of the Month Awards. This was a special treat for the girls as they remember fondly being at Avon Primary School and being part of these very special monthly celebrations. This is the third year that Rob Lupisella has worked with Interact Club member representatives in the PTF fund drive. Each year has had it's own special twist on the drive. The leader, for the second year on this effort was Emily Hayes. The four other members all having a key role in helping were Caroline Christiano, Nick Hayes, Sierra Hinds and Henry Lemen. With the 100 toys already presented at the beginning of the month during the televised PTF, this will make the largest contribution to date for our yearly collections of over 250 toys! Special thanks to all who participated in this wonderful holiday service project to children of various needs in the local area....Happy Holidays!!!!



L-R: Emily Hayes, Caroline Christiano, Sierra Hinds

Avon Interact Club Update

By: Sierra Hinds

In the month of November, as planned, the Avon Interact Club worked at the annual Rotary Auction. Many of our students volunteered in the concessions stand, moving the auctioned items, and making baked goods to be auctioned off. The auction was a great success! Also, some of the students began the Pirate Toy Fund drive here in Avon to collect toys for local kids who are in hospitals. Emily Hayes, Sierra Hinds, Henry Lemen, Caroline Christiano, and Nick Hayes have led this fundraiser and brought the attention to the kids in the primary school to collect toys.

In the month of December, the club has worked hard to make this Christmas season a great one for everybody. The toys for the Pirate Toy Fund were collected, and the students collected over 150 gifts. These leaders were also interviewed on Channel 10 news for their efforts. Also this month, the Interact Club packed gift bags for the kids who attended breakfast with Santa. Erica Steele, Wolfgang Lobo, Sam Bond, and Matt Smith all volunteered at the breakfast as well. On December 13th, you may have seen some students ringing the bell at tops. Many of the students volunteered to ring the salvation army bell for the local families in need.

Also, the club is proud to announce that they have elected Junior Beth Younger to be the president next year.



Avon Interact Students Celebrate Christmas

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Rotary Christmas Party

By: Jake Ayers

On December 6th, Bill and Jill Wall hosted a large group of Rotarians and their spouses for the annual Rotary Christmas party. The night was filled with laughs, good food and, in true Rotary fashion, great fellowship. A few Rotarians took part in the ugly sweater contest with Doug Hayes having the top selection of the evening - a sweatshirt circa 1992 from Disney World with plenty of white space for all to write wonderful holiday messages. After dinner, a Chinese gift swap was held where many thoughtful holiday gifts were exchanged. Lastly, in what I am told is an annual Avon Rotary Christmas Party tradition, an intense game of Threes broke out. Two of our members came complete with containers full of quarters in anticipation of big winnings. Many Rotarians went home with extra heavy pockets filled with what I am told were dollars of extra cash for those holiday purchases!

After the Christmas party, a small group of Rotarians enjoyed “bonus” fellowship out listening to Tim Lemen’s Band, Freeride, and finished the night with a dance competition in the man cave. All in all it was a great evening with wonderful people. December 6th happened to be my birthday and I couldn’t think of a better group of people to spend it with. I think I speak for everyone when I again say thanks to Bill and Jill Wall for hosting a wonderful party and making us all feel so welcome in their home!



January Member Celebrations

Birthdays

- ⇒ Jerry Dougherty
- ⇒ Charles Feller
- ⇒ Barbara Herman
- ⇒ Bob House
- ⇒ Diana Williams
- ⇒ Julie Carney
- ⇒ Barb McCormick
- ⇒ Doug Hayes
- ⇒ Jim Gaffney

Anniversaries

- ⇒ Helen Zamboni

Rotary Anniversary

- ⇒ Kirk Vanderbilt 2003
- ⇒ Bob French 2009
- ⇒ Jim Ryan 2010
- ⇒ Chris Masten 2011

January Club Schedule

Tues. Jan. 6	Reg. Mtg—Program: District Conference Info. & Alex Molinich—Aldon Chemicals
Mon. Jan 12	Board of Directors Mtg. 7:00
Tues. Jan. 13	Reg. Mtg—Corn Festival Committee Mtg.
Thurs. Jan. 15	Membership Open House @ Avon Inn 5:30
Tues. Jan 20	Reg. Mtg.—Program: Lap Robes for Veterans
Tues. Jan. 27	Reg. Mtg.—BEA

RLI Reflections

By: Scott Holmes

On November 1st I attended district 7120's Rotary Leadership Institute for part 2 of a 3 part course. It is held every year at the beautiful Canandaigua Inn on the Lake. The day starts around 8 am with a great breakfast buffet and fellowship with Rotarians from District 7120 and neighboring districts. After breakfast they start the opening program for the day. Our district leaders introduce themselves and all the teaching staff. The current district governor will say a few words. Then everyone breaks into their classes for the day.

The Rotary Leadership Institute consists of 3 parts and a graduate course. Each course takes the full day to complete. Each course is designed to teach you more about Rotary and also build leadership skills that can be not only used in Rotary but everyday life. I have really enjoyed my last 2 years at the Rotary Leadership Institute. I have been able to meet a lot of different people throughout our district and also make a few new friends. There

are a few fellow classmates that I see at the district assembly and also the Leadership institute every year. The classes are very interactive so I have been able to learn about other clubs in the districts and what they are struggling with. This sets the stage to make it a great learning experience. You can share information on what your club strengths and weaknesses are. By doing this you are able to exchange ideas or suggestions. Everyone has a different background and can share insight on how their club is thriving in a certain area. The day usually consists of 7 classes. This may seem like a lot but the day flies right by because you are so busy in conversation and group projects. I have enjoyed every single class and have great time continuing my education in Rotary.

I strongly recommend the Rotary Leadership Institute for any Rotarian. Especially if you want to learn more about Rotary International and all it does. It is great information for any Rotarian and I highly recommend it for anyone that would like to hold a leadership position in Rotary.



2014 District 7120 graduates from Rotary Leadership Institute

Photo from District 7120 Website

Make 2015 Your Year To Start In the Rotary Leadership Institute

Holiday Road Trip—Our Rotary Family



By: Laurie Vonglis

Saturday, December 13th a group of 31 Avon Rotarians and friends spent the day together and took a holiday road trip. This adventure was the result of the collaborative efforts of myself and Pam Hayes. We worked with Covered Wagons who did a great job with the arrangements.

Our day began at 9 am where we enjoyed breakfast onboard the bus from Dunkin Donuts as we headed to Skaneateles. The on board 'serving staff' provided not only coffee, sandwiches and smiles, but some specialty morning beverages as well. Of course!

It was a lovely time in "Skaneateles" with a gentle snow fall and Dickens characters strolling the street singing their Christmas carols. 1st stop was a photo opp, pictured left. Once checked off the to-do list, we dispersed

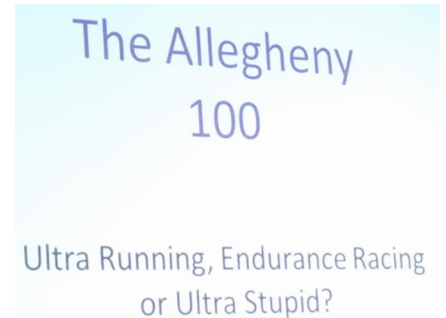
and hit the 'stimulate economy' trail. We had a fabulous lunch in the private porch dining room at the Sherwood Inn. Personally, I could have spent the whole day in Skaneateles. Such a charming village! Onward we went though—East bound to Syracuse with a rest stop at 1911, Beak –n– Stiff, oops I mean Skiff. A bit of a snafu their though. They were not expecting us but the lone bartender agreed to take on the bunch of us—making the trek up the long, snow-filled driveway. After sampling hard cider, wine, gin and vodka we moved on to Destiny USA. You may or may not know this, but I have a reputation for enjoying the occasional shopping trip. Based on my 'expertise' this 'mall' requires much more than 3 hours. More like a weekend. We shopped and shopped and walked the enormous mall with map in hand. There were too many entertainment activities to mention and certainly not enough time to do much of anything besides grab a bite to eat and watch the multitude of fun from zip lines, rope courses, go-carts, bowling and comedy clubs. Besides, we had the days finale to behold, touring the Onondaga Lights On The Lake show. Lots of lights, lots of sponsors and obviously a VERY popular idea in December, as it took us over 2 hours to tackle this. All in all, it was a great day due to the fellowship of characters on board the Rotary bus. It certainly kicked off our holiday season.

As a footnote, this outing was so well liked, future outings will be planned. (Says Pam & Laurie :)

A Rotarian, Fruitarian or just plain nuts!?

By: Jake Ayers

During the Rotary meeting the week of New Year's Day, Kirk Vanderbilt shared one of his New Year's resolutions with the club –to complete the Allegheny 100 Challenge. To help educate the group on this event, Kirk prepared a wonderful program detailing not only the Allegheny 100 but also other extreme running events around the country and the world. These races involve traveling extreme distances in a short period of time. For example, the Allegheny 100 challenge requires participants to run/hike 100 miles in 50 hours. Kirk is planning to complete this race in June, and now that he has announced his plans he knows there is no turning back. He will begin training for the 100 mile race in the coming months and has been doing extensive research for training and diet tips. I think I speak for all of us when I say good luck Kirk and we can't wait to hear all about the race when you complete it!



Avon Rotary Social Events

2014-2015

-  Tuesday, July 15, 2014: Summer Picnic @ Pam & Doug Hayes's
-  Sunday, August 10, 2014: Corn Festival Picnic @ Rodney George's
-  Tuesday, August 19, 2014: Visit to GVRC & Picnic
-  Sunday, September 14, 2014: Rotary/Lions Golf @ noon—dinner @ Duffy's
-  Tuesday, September 16, 2014: Avon Rotary Honors @ Avon Middle School
-  Monday, October 27, 2014: Eastern Cities Dinner @ Roch Conv Ctr
-  Tuesday, October 28, 2014: Halloween Party @ Pam & Doug Hayes's
-  Saturday, November 15, 2014: Auction Dinner @ Fratelli's
-  Tuesday, November 25, 2014: Special Thanksgiving Meeting @ Peppermints
-  Saturday, December 6, 2014: Christmas Party @ Bill Wall's
-  Saturday, December 13, 2014: Christmas Adventure—Bus Trip
- Thursday, January 15, 2015: Rotary Social @ Avon Inn
- Tuesday, February 10, 2015: Sweethearts Dinner @ Peppermints
- Tuesday, March 17, 2015: St. Patrick's Day Party @ Peppermints
- April TBD, 2015: Rotary/Lions Steak Dinner @ VFW
- Fri-Sun May 15-17, 2015: District Conference @ Buffalo, NY
- Tuesday, June 2, 2015: Quad Cities Golf & Dinner
- Tuesday, June 30, 2015: Change of Officers Dinner