



Be a gift to the world

Avon Rotary News

September 2015



President's Perspective

Inside this issue:

President's Perspective	1
Corn Festival Recap	2
Special Visitors	3
After Festival Picnic	3
And That's A Wrap	4
Presidential Emails	4
Why Do I Love Rotary	5
A Fond Memory	5
60 Years in Avon Rotary	6
Save The Dates	6
A Visit From G Bill	7
Immersed In GVRC	7
Linda Kime Memorial Scholarship	8
90th Annual Eastern Cities Dinner	8
Our Exchange Student	9
September Schedule/Celebrations	9
Rotary Honors	10
15-16 Social Calendar	11

Board of Directors

Dan Jones, President
 Scott Holmes, PE
 Tom Vonglis, Sr. Director
 Heather Ayers, Director
 Karl Sawicki, Member at Lg.
 Tim Dickinson, Past Pres.
 Kate Hill, Secretary
 Kelly Cole, Treasurer



"Exceeding Excellence"

We live in an era of rising expectations. Increases in technology have decreased our patience and narrowed the margins of error we will tolerate. When I was younger waiting was a natural part of life. You waited for the mail, for the stove to heat up in order to cook dinner and the person on the other end of the party line to get off the phone in order to make a telephone call. As the amount of time required for just about everything decreases so has our tolerance of anything less than perfection.

Perfect has become the new standard for everything. From entertainment to your stock portfolio we want perfection. Anything less than perfect is ridiculed and rejected, replaced by the next iteration or brand. Unfortunately our perfectionism transfers over into what we expect out of people too. We demand perfect perfection from our athletes, musicians and even family.

As Rotarians our goal is not perfection but excellence, friendship, truth and goodwill. The Corn Festival was not perfect but it was excellent. In fact we exceeded expectations in several areas. We increased the amount of money raised, engaged more people from the community and decreased the amount of

hours required to set up and tear down. But what made the Corn Festival exceed expectations was the fact that we cared more about the people than perfection. We gave personal attention to the vendors, entertainers, volunteers and patrons. When we keep the Rotary Ideals in clear view we exceed excellence and surpass perfection. We become a true gift to the world when our service is personal instead of perfect.

The Avon Rotary Club is such a great group of people who consistently serve others with excellence and personal attention. Thank you to **Tom Vonglis** and **Rodney George** for leading us through an awesome Corn Festival Weekend. Also a big thanks to **Ernie Wiard** who orchestrated a fantastic celebration picnic where we experienced first-hand the personal and excellent service provided to the campers at GVRC. **Ernie and Dave Henehan** serve on the Board of Directors at GVRC where they represent Avon Rotary. Thank you for your many years of service!

September includes a Clam Bake at **Dougherty's** house, our annual Avon Rotary Honors and the return of programs at our meetings. I have been blessed by the number and quality of the celebrations shared in our meetings this summer. We are well on our way toward the goal of 1000 gifts to the world. Keep up the good work.

President Dan

www.avonrotary.org

Avon Rotary Club meets Tuesdays at 6pm at Peppermints Restaurant

Corn Festival Recap

By: Tom Vonglis

This year's Corn Festival was a great success with fantastic weather, great food and plenty of fun for all. It is due to the hard work and dedication of our Corn Festival committee that works for many months that makes this event so good. I want to take this time to thank each and every one of you for your help. At the same time the participation of all our members and many friends of Rotary allows us to staff all the positions that are required.

As of this date we don't have final numbers but it looks like we will net over \$20,000. All our hard work will certainly pay off in helping others in need.



AVON ROTARY ROCKS!!!

Special Visitors Love What We Do!



DG Bill spent some time helping out in our corn booth. His enthusiasm and energy were in typical fashion while he kept the customers happy, serving corn, potatoes and corn fritters. Thanks to Bill for modeling servant leadership! What a treat for Avon Rotary!



Chairman Tom Vonglis was greeted with hugs from PDG Gaven & Kathleen Hurley. They enjoyed strolling the arts & crafts and were quite impressed with what Avon Rotary puts together to make such a great festival.

After Festival Picnic Another Success!

By: Laurie Vonglis

After months of planning and working tirelessly the week prior to the festival, Avon Rotarians joined together the day after the corn festival to celebrate another year in the books. Our 29th! So much work and some fun.

A huge thank you goes to **Rodney & Donna George** for hosting the celebration picnic once again. 51 of us relaxed and enjoyed the fellowship we are becoming famous for! Sharing our corn festival stories and what to improve upon next year is one of the highlights of the day. Of course there was quite a bit of pool fun and so much delicious food as well. This occasion is truly a highlight of our year.

Rt: Bob House having fun with his favorite veggie???



Below: Corn Fest stars...

Kelly Cole, Chris Masten, Tom Vonglis, President Dan Jones, Jim Ryan



And That's A Wrap!



All hands on deck for the early Sunday morning after Corn Festival clean up. In one hours time, the village is cleaned up and all items put away until next year. Team work at it's finest. L-R: Doug & Pam Hayes, Jake & Heather Ayers, Jeff Passarell, Chris Masten, Dan Jones, Tom Vonglis, Greg Deragon, Rodney George, Helen Zamboni, Kelly Cole, Bruce Amey, Ernie Wiard, Jim Ryan, Marcia Cameron, Steve Csapo, Bill Wall, Shannon DiFranco, Bob House, Ed Kime, Tim Dickinson, Mark Evans, Kirk Vanderbilt, Colin Bruckel, Josh Tonra.

Presidential Emails Released

By: Anonymous

Former President Laurie Vonglis recently voluntarily released thousands of emails from her presidency to the Rotary public in what can only be viewed as a pre-emptive action aimed at discrediting the anticipated legal action brought against her by the Super Pac CATZ (Cole, Ayers, Tonra and Zamboni). Allegedly Vonglis encoded secret messages into the emails she sent to Avon Rotarians that when read backwards created a hypnotic state in the reader. Vonglis would send emails out on Tuesday before the weekly meeting giving her total control over the Rotarians in attendance. She then used her control to raise an unprecedented amount of money used for secret projects.

The scandal would likely have gone unnoticed if Vonglis had not offered to sell the software to the current President of Rotary Dan Jones. After several attempts to fine various members of CATZ Jones was heard lamenting that "Those Rotarians are tighter than Mark Evans' buttons." Vonglis and Jones were caught on camera discussing the matter at the Corn Fest picnic by Rodney George who had set up secret video recording devices in an attempt to keep Bob House from stealing all his liquor.

Experts expect it will take 18 months for CATZ to process all of Vonglis' emails. In the meantime they caution Rotarians against reading emails from President Dan directly prior to a Rotary meeting. In an exclusive interview Cole warned Rotarians to remain vigilant and support Jan Cole for Justice of the Peace.





Why Do I Love Rotary?



By: Bruce Amey

As I grew up, my parents provided a very strong faith foundation that helped me recognize and appreciate the needs of others and to give more to others than desiring to get for me. Whenever Ted says the grace at our meetings, after being thankful for the food and the fellowship, he concludes with, "and make us ever mindful of the needs of others." It is humbling to me when I hear those words that I think of how often I am not mindful of the needs of others. Jesus said that after the commandment to "Love God",

the greatest law was to "Love your neighbor". Rotary is to serve others, and to truly do that with a full heart requires love.

Being a part of Rotary and being involved in my church are the two most significant communities for me to be a part of. Making a commitment to be a member of Rotary reminds me each week that I have a responsibility to serve others before serving myself, much the same way that attending my church and living my faith do. I love the Avon Rotary because of the selfless acts of kindness and generosity I see all the time. I have never felt that any member contributes anything of their time or themselves for any reason other than to serve others ... and that commitment is what I want my life to model.

For me, being a member of Rotary is the Avon Rotary. I love the camaraderie and fellowship we share every week and while doing any project. I have said to many that in Avon Rotary we work hard together so we can better serve our community, our country and our world ... but we also truly enjoy being with each other; we can play well together. I love what Rotary stands for and what we do together to support those goals and ideals. In the book of Galatians, the apostle Paul wrote, "Let us not become weary in doing good ..." For me, this is the mantra of Rotary, as well. Doing good and serving others the best we can is what we should be about. That is what I see in Rotary and that is why I love Rotary.

A Fond Rotary Memory



By: Tom Vonglis

Special memories of Rotary, wow there are so many good ones and they continue to grow. Avon Rotary knows how to make memories. There is however one night that will stand out for me for the rest of my life. The date was February 9th, 2010 and the club had assembled at the Avon Community Center for a night of acknowledgements including Paul Harris Fellows and Building awards. We also were there to enjoy a night of fine pastries and baked goods to be auctioned off by our Interact club.

So we invite my entire family to this event under the premise that I will be receiving an award. Along with that we did not lie to them as my brother Peter was receiving a building award (well deserved). So in comes all my family including mom and we have a great dinner and enjoy each other's company. When it comes time for Paul Harris Fellows to be presented Laurie stepped up to the podium and gave a beautiful speech that had most of the family in tears. Especially Mom as you can guess. She never knew this was coming and it just totally took her by surprise. The expression on her face is one that I will never forget. She always said to me that the Paul Harris Fellow was the best award she ever received (and she was a chamber citizen of the year). I know she treasured her Paul Harris and the meaning behind it.

After the presentations were done the memories continued as my family proceeded to spend tons of money on the baked goods auction. Truly a fantastic night for all of us.

As I sit and write this peace I can't help but shed a few tears of my own. God bless you Mom. You made that the most memorable night of all my years in Rotary.

60 Years An Avon Rotarian

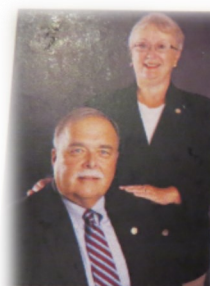


At a recent club meeting, fellow Rotarian Ted Coyne celebrated 60 years as an Avon Rotarian! Ted joined Rotary in 1955 and has continued to provide consistent service to the present. Ted's achievement has spread beyond the Avon area to other districts. Ted received a special tile with last year's theme of "Light Up Rotary" from immediate past District Governor, Peter Simonsen from Massachusetts! "Thank you for lighting up

Rotary for 60 years" Peter wrote.

Those sitting next to Ted at Rotary should be prepared to celebrate their "brush with greatness".

Congratulations Ted! You have been a light for Rotary for 60 years. We are inspired by your accomplishment and thankful for your many years of service towards the betterment of Avon Rotary and beyond.



Peter & Diane



Peter E. Simonsen
Governor 2014-2015
District 7930

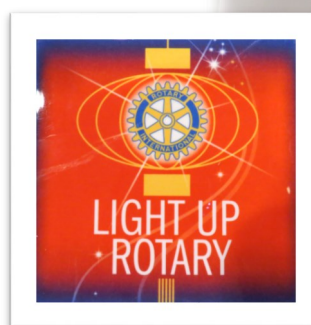
24 Dartmouth Street
Beverly, MA 01915 USA

H. 978-927-2193 C. 978-621-7304
B. 978-865-3508 PES7930@comcast.net

Rotary Club of Hamilton/Wenham

Thank You for lighting
up Rotary for 60 years

Pete Simonsen
FPDG



"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can." -John Wesley

SAVE THE DATES!



Avon Rotary Clam Bake & Chicken BBQ

Saturday, September 19th at 4:00 PM

Kim & Jerry Dougherty's

3539 Pebble Beach Rd. Lakeville

Guests are welcome!

\$15 per person/\$3 per dozen clams

RSVP to Laurie by Sept. 8



Avon Rotary Blue Jean Ball

Kickin' It Up For Hands That Help

Saturday, May 14th 2016

Proceeds To Benefit

GVRC ~ Honor Flight ~ Teresa House

A Visit From DG Bill

On August 4th Avon Rotary had the honor of hosting District Governor Bill & Helen Gormont. With a full house and tuned singing voices all were inspired and enjoyed a very pleasant evening. DG Bill provided an excellent and uplifting message challenging all of us to be a gift to the world. We all have talents, individually and as a club, and we as Rotarians can make a difference each day.

President Dan presented a check for \$1000 for the Rotary Foundation to help continue the fight against Polio. A grateful Bill & Helen praised the work Avon Rotary does and our outstanding fellowship.

We look forward to hosting Bill and Helen again in the future.



Immersed In The GVRC Experience



By: David Kilgore

It was a real camp meeting, and everyone there got baptized – except those with umbrellas.

The rain held off all day while Rotarians were enjoying themselves at the Genesee Valley Rotary Camp, but at the end the heavens turned loose and we all got soaked.

Twenty-nine Rotarians and family members gathered at GVRC on August 18 to have dinner and visit the camp. It was our biggest attendance at the camp in recent memory. We got to see one of the lean-to shelters being built at each campsite – our club is providing the funds for one of them. We also got to sit in with the campers (or rather stand in the back) for the evening entertainment – a hilarious skit by a few of the counselors. And **Ernie Wiard** provided a delicious chicken dinner with fresh corn-on-the cob. (Thanks, Ernie!)

The GVRC, supported by the Rotary Clubs of Avon, Belmont, Caledonia-Mumford, Dansville, Friendship, Geneseo, Lima, Mt. Morris, Nunda, Perry, Wayland, and Wellsville, is a camp for handicapped youth from this area. This is real, honest-to-goodness, in-the-woods tent camping - quite an experience for most of the campers.

The **Director, Brian Bartalo, and Assistant Director, Mark Van Durme**, spoke briefly to us after dinner and thanked Rotary for making it all possible. (You will see them again on **September 15** at the Rotary Honors program when they will receive a Paul Harris award.)

And that's when the thunder rolled and the heavens were opened, and everybody got wet. There was nothing to do but walk back to the parking lot through the downpour. In spite of being soaked to the skin, it was a great evening!



Linda Kime Memorial Scholarship

Avon Central School Senior, Jack McKeown was awarded the Linda Kime Memorial Scholarship this past June. Jack and his dad Mike joined our meeting Tuesday, August 25th. Jack has been involved with Interact and also traveled to Nicaragua this past April to help build a school with "Linking Hands for Learning". He aspires to become a teacher and teach in a foreign country. We can all be assured that Jack will be an excellent ambassador where ever he goes.

Right: Jack McKeown accepts a scholarship award for \$1000. Presented by Cathy Jo Murphy, Avon Rotary Youth Advisor



90th Annual Eastern Cities Fellowship Dinner



From: District 7120 Website

This year we are excited to embrace the theme— "Closer Than Ever..." as we welcome Rotary Foundation Trustee and Chair of Rotary International's PolioPlus Committee— Michael McGovern as our Keynote Speaker.

This past Rotary International Vice-President is an exciting speaker with a timely update. We are also using the occasion to help you recognize your club and Rotarians who have been instrumental in raising funds for PolioPlus.

Dinner will be held Sunday, October 18th. Registration/reception from 4:30—5:30 pm.
Dinner/program to begin at 5:30 pm. Register Now!



What is the Eastern Cities Fellowship Dinner?

The Eastern Cities Fellowship Dinner is a Rotary tradition , annually attracting Rotarians from across the Northeastern United States and Canada. Proudly hosted each year by the Rochester Rotary Club, hundreds of Rotarians gather in Rochester, New York to share in what is a cornerstone of the Rotary tradition...fellowship.

In addition to the many clubs represented, current and past district governors and Rotary International officers attend the dinner each year to welcome the sitting RI President.

The Rochester Rotary Club started the Eastern Cities Fellowship Dinner in 1921, and over the years it has evolved from a local event in the Greater Rochester Community to an international fellowship event.

This multi-district, international event showcases Rotary at its finest, and presents the perfect opportunity for new and seasoned members alike to share in the fellowship of Rotarians, The Eastern Cities Fellowship Dinner is also a great opportunity to introduce prospective members to a glimpse of Rotary in action.

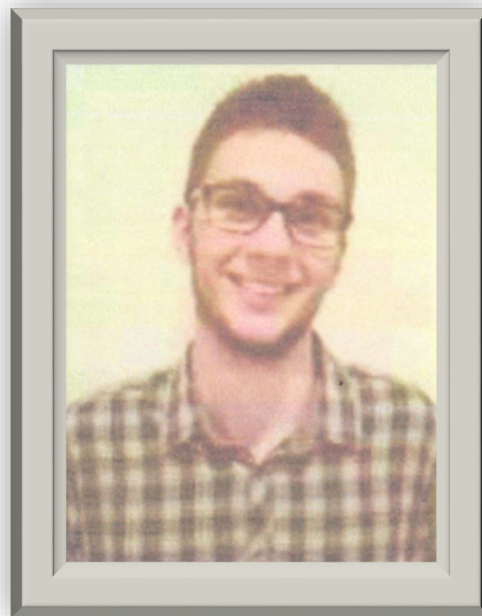
Our Exchange Student Has Arrived

By: Cathy Jo Murphy

Thursday, September 27:

Nicola Bariletto arrived last evening. He came in at 11:44 pm. He had his physical this morning and is registered for classes. He will be participating on the cross country team and begins practice tomorrow. Nico is living with Chris and Laura Bond and their family. They have two sons in high school; Jack in 9th and Sam in 11th. Sam is also one of our Interact members and participated in the Rotary short term exchange to France this summer.

You will learn more about Nico at an upcoming meeting.



September Club Schedule

Tues. Sept. 1	Regular Mtg
Tues. Sept. 8	Regular Mtg—Auction Kick-Off, Blue Jean Ball Mtg
Mon. Sept. 14	Board of Directors—7 pm @ Hurricane
Tues. Sept. 15	Special Mtg—Avon Rotary Honors
Sat. Sept. 19	Clam Bake & Chicken BBQ 4:00 pm—Dougherty's
Tues. Sept. 22	No Meeting
Tues. Sept. 29	Regular Mtg—John Truini, Bridges for Brain Injury,

THERE ARE
SOME PEOPLE
IN LIFE THAT
MAKE YOU
LAUGH A LITTLE
LOUDER, SMILE
A LITTLE BIGGER
AND LIVE JUST
A LITTLE
BIT BETTER.

September Member Celebrations

Rotary Anniversary

- ⇒ Kate Hill
- ⇒ Josh Tonra

Birthdays

- ⇒ Shannon DiFranco
- ⇒ Kevin Tompsett
- ⇒ Bill Wall

Wedding Anniversary

- ⇒ Shannon DiFranco
- ⇒ Jerry Dougherty
- ⇒ Jim Gaffney
- ⇒ Scott Holmes
- ⇒ Hans Koomen
- ⇒ Kevin Tompsett

The Avon Rotary Honors



Brian Bartalo
GVRC Camp Director



Mark VanDurme
GVRC Camp Co-Director



John Marks
Retired Business Owner

*As Paul Harris Fellows
Exemplifying the Ideals and Professionalism
of Rotary International*

Tuesday, September 15th

Avon Middle School Auditorium • Clinton St., Avon

6:00pm Social Hour with light refreshments by Sweet Arts Bakery • 7:00pm Program



Gray Metal ~ Established 1906 - Pictured:
Carole Gray (President & CEO) Martin Gray (Vice
President). Not present: Richard Gray (Vice President)



Fratelli's ~ Founded in 1996 - From left to
right: Davide Currenti, Roberto Currenti, and Antonio
Currenti, owners.

*Honored for their building renovations
and their investment in Avon's future.*

Everyone is welcome to join Channel 13 Anchorman Don
Alhart, and members of the Avon Rotary Club as we recognize,
honor and celebrate these citizens and businesses who are
making a difference in our community.



Avon Rotary Social Events 2015—2016

Tuesday, September 15, 2015:	Avon Rotary Honors
Saturday, September 19, 2015:	Clam Bake/Chicken BBQ @ Dougherty's
Sunday, October 18, 2015:	Eastern Cities Dinner @ Roch Conv Ctr
Tuesday, October 27, 2015:	Halloween Party TBD
Saturday, November 14, 2015:	Auction Dinner @ Fratelli's
Wed. November 18, 2015:	Thanksgiving Meeting w/ Lions @ Avon Inn
Saturday, December 5, 2015:	Christmas Party @ Wall's
Thursday, January 14, 2016:	Rotary Social @ Avon Inn
Saturday, TBD:	Short Track for Pancakes
Tuesday, February 9, 2016:	Mardi Gras @ Peppermints
Tuesday, March 15, 2016:	St. Patrick's Day Party @ Peppermints
Saturday, April 23, 2016:	NYC Spring Break—TBD
Fri. April 29—Sun May1, 2016:	District Conference @ Hershey Lodge PA
Saturday, May 14, 2016:	Blue Jean Ball
May or June, 2016:	Quad Cities Golf & Dinner
Tuesday, June 28, 2016:	Change of Officers Dinner