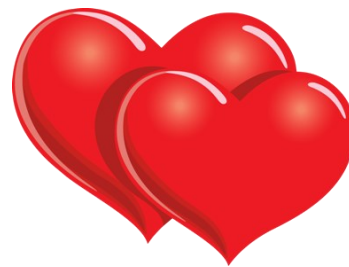


Avon Rotary News

February 2016



President's Perspective

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By: Dan Jones, President

In January Karen and I had the opportunity to take a cruise and while we were there we stopped in Belize to tour some underground caves. On the trip to the cave our driver pointed out a building that housed the Lions Club and Rotary Clubs of Belize City. Outside of the town, I noticed a Rotary sign alongside the road advertising the location and time of the club's meeting. Inside I felt a sense of pride to be part of an international organization.

The living conditions in Belize reminded me of the people in Nicaragua where we have helped build schools. Some of our Rotarians are planning another trip to Nicaragua this spring to continue the good work of providing adequate schools for the people in the mountains of Nicaragua. Those who go are the hands and feet of our gift to the world. We all can be proud of this great project.

Another great project coming up in the spring is the Blue Jean Ball. This opportunity to raise funds for Teresa House, Honor Flight and GVRC will also be a great time of fellowship with Rotarians and community members alike. One of the best realities of this new fund raising and fellowship event is that it is being primarily organized by Rotarians new to our club in the last 5 years. These Rotarians want to be engaged and are eager to serve. I am proud to be a member of a club where new ideas are welcomed and new people are allowed to use their talents. When everyone does their part we expand the impact of our gift and grow stronger as a club.



Be a gift to the world

www.avonrotary.org

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

TWENTY YEARS FROM NOW
YOU WILL BE MORE DISAPPOINTED BY THE THINGS
YOU DIDN'T DO THAN BY THE THINGS YOU DID DO. SO THROW OFF THE BOWLINES.
SAIL AWAY FROM THE SAFE HARBOUR & CATCH THE TRADE WINDS IN YOUR SAILS.

EXPLORE. DREAM.
DISCOVER. *- Mark Twain.*

Avon Rotary Club meets Tuesdays at 6pm at Peppermints Restaurant

Milt Matthews Governor Elect Hospitality Program



By: Kate Hill

One might wonder who would be brave enough to leave home, fly half way around the world, live with strangers, and hope to gain an amazing new cultural and Rotary experience. No, it is not a new reality television

show. It is the Rotary District 7120 Milt Matthews Governor Elect Hospitality program. I was fortunate to be able to participate in the program this January And honored to host Sharat and Ruchika Jain from District 3120, New Delhi, India.

As a Rotarian, this is an experience that I would highly recommend to all members of our club. The program organizers have described the program as follows:

"For the past 45 years Brighton Rotary Club and District 7120 have home hosted over 469 Governors Elect and their spouses from 43 countries worldwide. The idea for the program was conceived in 1969 by PDG Milt Matthews, and has been copied by many other Districts throughout the United States....The guests live with the hosts, see the local sites, join in on local activities and where possible attend club meetings.... The guests will leave for the International Assembly with a bevy of new friends that will last a lifetime."

I would describe the program as a unique opportunity to learn about the culture of another country, gain a better understanding of how a different Rotary club operates, and even learn more about your own culture and community by sharing it with others. I was blessed to gain life-long friends through this program in Sharat and Ruchika Jain.

When Mr. and Mrs. Jain arrived, I had no idea what to expect. Typically in this program hosts have an opportunity to communicate with the District Governor-Elect coming to stay with them. I found out a few days prior to the program that we would be hosting. I had so many unanswered questions....Would they be prepared for the Rochester weather? What activities would they like to do? What foods could our guests eat? How would they interact with

our children? Because they come from a much larger urban setting, what would they think of our community? From the moment they arrived at the airport to the moment they left us for their new host family, it was a wonderful adventure. We learned about their home, way of life, family, Rotary club, and so much more. We toured the Strong Museum of Play, Corning Museum of Glass (where we even made our own glass), toured an elementary school, and so much more.



Safety First at the Corning Museum of Glass
DGE Sharat & Ruchika Jain

My children had an experience that opened their minds to a world that goes beyond Avon, New York State, and the United States. They learned that there are children in India that do not have bathrooms to use at schools. They learned that there are things that they can do to help. They began thinking about being a part of a global community. And they



Milt Mathews Program Continued...

made two friends that they now love to communicate with through Facebook. (Thank goodness for modern communication!)

A special thank you to David Kilgore who spend the day with Mr. and Mrs. Jain on Monday while I was at work. He truly embodied the ideal of Rotary when he agreed – with very little notice – to spend the day with Mr. and Mrs. Jain and show them more of our community. And thank you to all of the Avon Rotarians who came to our home on that Sunday evening to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Jain to our community. It was a wonderful evening.

“Service Above Self.” That is what Mr. and Mrs. Jain did when they bravely came to our home and shared themselves with us. This was an opportunity where we received far more than we gave. I would highly recommend that others from our club step forward in the future to host. I promise it will be an opportunity that you won’t regret.



Ruchika & DGE Sharat Jain of District 3120, New Delhi, India exchange Rotary flags with Avon Rotary President Dan Jones.



Sunday December 10th

A lovely get-together hosted by Rotarian Kate Hill

Front to Back—Tom & Laurie Vonglis, Ruchika Jain, Kate Hill, Sharat Jain, Trish Koomen, Mark Evans, Barbara Herman, Mary & David Kilgore, Hans Koomen

Thank You Kate Hill For Your Service Above Self!

Hillside Children's Center Program



By: Josh Tonra

On January 5, 2016, guests from Hillside Children's Center presented to the club regarding the need for foster care parents in our area. Kristy Coffee, Home finder for Livingston and Wyoming County, spoke about the growing need for foster care

homes and asked our Rotary club to spread the word to others who might be interested. In addition to the traditional foster-to-adopt model, Kristy spoke about the needs for planned and emergency respite homes, whether its for a weekend, a day, or a few hours to help give foster children and their parents a welcome break in a safe and happy environment.

Kelley Tonra provided information on the interaction between Hillside's foster care needs and the Bridges to Health program, a statewide initiative to coordinate care and services for children in foster care with significant physical, mental and emotional disabilities. Both Kelley

and Kristy answered our questions regarding previous fostering experience, special training, and the steps needed to get involved as a foster parent through Hillside.

On our way home, Kelley told me that when this presentation is given to most groups, the expectation and reality is that many will politely listen but never want to get involved. We both agreed that the Avon Rotary Club is not most groups of people, and the presentation is hopefully just a starting point for finding new foster care families in the area.



**Kelley Tonra & Kristy Coffee,
Hillside Children's Center Guest Speakers**

Why Do I Love Rotary?



By: Helen Zamboni

I grew up in the villages of Sloatsburg and Suffern, in Rockland County, where my forebears had lived for generations, and I've always wanted to live in a village again. My husband, Steve Rosen, and I moved from Rochester to Avon on September 15, 1987. I've now lived here longer than anywhere else! We came

here because we found a house we loved, and – a big bonus for me -- it was in a village. However, we don't have children, so we didn't have the opportunity that parents do of getting to know people of a similar age through their kids. We both worked in Rochester, so didn't have workplace friends who lived here. We became close friends with our immediate neighbors, the Moran family and Tim and Marne Rogers, but really didn't know other people in town. Tim and Marne were both active in Rotary, and they finally persuaded me to join the club. It's made a huge difference in my life, as I now have friends and acquaintances here in Avon and the chance to engage in projects that support the community, the region and the world. That's why I love Rotary, and the Avon Rotary Club especially.



Polio Headlines:

There are eleven weeks to go until the globally synchronized switch from the trivalent to bivalent oral polio vaccine, an important milestone in achieving a polio-free world. The WHO Executive Board is meeting this week, reviewing the report on polio eradication. On 21 January, Syria passed two years without a reported case of polio despite the conflict which has affected the delivery of health services, including childhood vaccinations.

Afghanistan No new wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) cases were reported in the past week.

The most recent case had onset of paralysis in Kunar on 19 November. The total number of WPV1 cases for 2015 remains 19, compared to 28 reported in the country in 2014.

Pakistan: One new wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) case was reported in the past week,

with onset of paralysis on 22 December 2015 in Peshawar. The total number of WPV1 cases for 2015 is now 53, compared to 303 reported for 2014 by this time last year. A total of 306 cases occurred in Pakistan in 2014.



Total cases	Year-to-date 2016		Year-to-date 2015		Total in 2015	
	WPV	cVDPV	WPV	cVDPV	WPV	cVDPV
Globally	0	0	3	0	72	28
- in endemic countries	0	0	3	0	72	3
- in non-endemic countries	0	0	0	0	0	25



What's Our Rotary



Superpower? Fighting Polio!

16-17 RI Theme Announced



John Germ 2016-2017 RI President announced his presidential theme 'Rotary Serving Humanity'.

By: Ryan Hyland, Rotary News 1/18/16

Rotary's founder, Paul Harris, believed that serving humanity is "the most worthwhile thing a person can do," RI President-elect John F. Germ said, and that being a part of Rotary is a "great opportunity" to make that happen.

Germ unveiled the 2016-17 presidential theme, *Rotary Serving Humanity*, to incoming district governors on 18 January at the International Assembly in San Diego, California, USA.

"I Believe everyone recognizes the opportunity to serve Rotary for what it truly is: not a small opportunity, but a great one; an opportunity of a lifetime to change the world for the better, forever through Rotary's service to humanity," said Germ.

Rotary members around the globe are serving humanity by providing clean water to underdeveloped communities, promoting peace in conflict areas, and strengthening communities through basic education and literacy. But none more important than our work to eradicate polio worldwide, he said.

After a historic year in which transmission of the wild poliovirus was stopped in Nigeria and all of Africa, Germ said we are closer than ever to ending polio.

"We are at a crossroads in Rotary," he added. "We are looking ahead at a year that may one day be known as the greatest year in Rotary's history: the year that sees the world's last case of polio."

Last year's milestones leave just two countries, Afghanistan and Pakistan, where the virus still circulates. Polio would be only the second human disease ever to be eradicated.

When that moment arrives, it's "tremendously important: that Rotary is ready for it, said Germ. "We need to be sure that we are recognized for that success, and leverage that success into more partnerships, greater growth, and even more ambitious service in the decades to come."

Germ, a member of the Rotary Club of Chattanooga, Tennessee, USA, encouraged attendees to return to their clubs and communities and spread the word about Rotary's role in the fight for a polio-free world.

"People who want to do good will see that Rotary is a place where they can change the world. Every Rotary club needs to be ready to give them that opportunity," Germ said.

Enhancing Rotary's image isn't the only way to boost membership. "We need clubs that are flexible, so our service will be more attractive to younger members, recent retirees, and working people."

He added: "We need more willing hands, more caring hearts, and more bright minds to move our work forward."

Avon Rotary Social Events 2015—2016

Tuesday, February 9, 2016:

Mardi Gras @ Peppermints

Tuesday, March 15, 2016:

St. Patrick's Day Party @ Peppermints

Fri. April 29—Sun May 1, 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

Mardi Gras

Prepare for some fun on February 9th



February Club Schedule

Tues. Feb 2	Reg Mtg, BJB Presentation BJB Mtg following
Mon. Feb 8	Board of Directors Mtg 7pm
Tues. Feb 9	Reg. Mtg, Mardi Gras Party
Tues. Feb 16	Reg. Mtg. Corn Fest Mtg following
Tues. Feb 23	Reg. Mtg. Dick Updaw re WWII soldier statue

February Member Celebrations

Rotary Anniversary

- ⇒ Joe Callahan 1987
- ⇒ Hal Cole III 1986
- ⇒ Margo Harper 1999
- ⇒ Barbara Herman 1999
- ⇒ Karl Sawicki 2007
- ⇒ Bill Shaw 1971

Wedding Anniversary

- ⇒ Julie Carney
- ⇒ Mark Evans

Birthdays

- ⇒ Hans Koomen
- ⇒ Steve Stephenson





AVON ROTARY BLUE JEAN BALL

Kickin' It Up For Hands That Help

Saturday, May 14th, 2016 @ 5:00 PM

Avon Century Barn ~ 1177 W. Henrietta Rd., Avon

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT

GENESEE VALLEY ROTARY CAMP

HONOR FLIGHT ROCHESTER

TERESA HOUSE

Live Music By Flint Creek

BBQ By Partyman Catering
County Casino Games & Prizes
50/50 Raffle & Auction

Tickets \$35 Per Person

Available at: Avon Bank of Castile
Hurricane Technologies
Rotarian Terry Lemen—414-4250

Purchase Tickets Online: <http://www.avonrotary.org/bluejeanball.php>



Avonrotarybluejeanball or www.avonrotarybluejeanball.com

Serving The Community Since 1927





Rotary District 7120 Conference
April 29 - May 1, 2016
Hershey Lodge ~ Hershey, PA

Fun is name of the game at this year's District Conference in Hershey, PA. There's so much to explore and do for the entire family that there's no way you can do it all on Saturday afternoon. So pack your clothes, load the family into the car and bring them all along to mix the District Conference with a vacation. "Come on Down to Chocolate Town" 2 days before and stay 2 days after to enjoy the sights and sounds of central PA, all at the discounted conference rate. What a deal!

And guess what ... Hershey park opens for the season on our conference weekend with thirteen thrilling roller coasters and more than fifty other rides and attractions to include an Ariel Tramway, Monorail, and even the Dry Gulch Railroad (DG Bill LOVES railroads!) Hey, who doesn't like a world class theme park designed for the entire family ages 4 to 104!

All that and more awaits you in Hershey, PA at the 2016 District Conference. Hershey Lodge rooms are being booked daily and Conference Registrations are flying off the shelf.

Don't delay ... Register Today at www.7120DistrictConference.com

Sign Up - Don't Miss The Fun In Hershey!