

Avon Rotary News

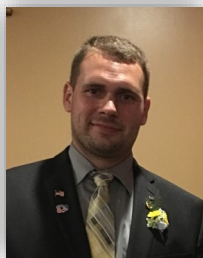
April 2017



President's Perspective

Inside this issue:

President's Perspective	1
Programs	2
Corn Festival Update	2
PETS 2017	3
The Most Important Book Of All	4
Rambling On Rotary	5
Foundation Brunch	6
Exchange Corner	7
Exchange Weekend	8
Celebrations & More	9
District Conference	10
Social Events	10



Dear Avon Rotarians,

March lived up to all of its expectations. We had a lot of great programs. Unfortunately we had to cancel our St. Patrick's Day dinner due to weather conditions. Mike Ford was gracious enough to make the same meal for the next meeting. That was some awesome corn beef and cabbage. We had a program about Quicklee's new truck stop and convenience center at exit 9 in East Avon. We also had a great program from Gilda's Club of Rochester. Gilda's club provides social support groups and events for people who are affected by cancer.

Here we are in April. We have the district training assembly coming up on April 8th. This is an important event for all Rotarians to attend. You get to socialize with Rotarians from other clubs throughout the district. You can also learn a lot. We also have the District conference coming up in May. There is still time to sign up. The conference is always a great time. It

sounds like there is a wealth of interesting sessions to attend this year. They also have several events planned to view the city of Erie. We also have some great programs coming up in April. As of right now we only have one Tuesday left in my President year without a program. I want to thank everyone for bringing in all these great programs. I also want to thank Helen for organizing all the programs.

I also had the privilege of helping chaperone the exchange student field trip to RIT during our exchange weekend. RIT had a very nice presentation for the students and each student got a goody bag to take home. The speakers were very engaging for the students and made it very interactive. After the presentations several college students from foreign countries had lunch with the students and gave them a tour of the campus. The exchange students seemed appreciative of the experience and seemed to enjoy visiting the campus.

President Scott

**Avon Rotary Club meets
Tuesdays at 6pm at Avon
Commons Clubhouse**

www.avonrotary.org

Board of Directors

Scott Holmes, President
Tom Vonglis, PE
Heather Ayers, Sr. Director
Dom Lalisce, Director
David Henehan, Member at Lg.
Kirk Vanderbilt, Past Pres.
Shannon DiFranco, Secretary
Kelly Cole, Treasurer



April Club Schedule



Tues. April 4	Reg Mtg—Program: Malawi Children's Village. Foundation Committee Mtg following
Mon. April 10	Board of Directors Mtg 7 pm @ Hurricane
Tues. April 11	Reg Mtg—Corn Festival Committee Mtg following
Tues. April 18	Reg Mtg—Program: 2017 Nicaragua Trip
Tues. April 25	Reg Mtg—Program: GCC Foundation, BJB Mtg fol-

March 7, 2017

Ken Purelli from Qucklee's gave the club an update for the new truck stop project on Lakeville Road (across from Bob Johnson's).



P R O G R A M S

March 21, 2017

Fernando our exchange student from Mexico gave a presentation about his country including the culture, food, money, history and geography. Good job Fernando!



Corn Festival Update



By: Helen Zamboni

The Corn Festival Steering Committee held its monthly meeting on March 21. Everything is moving along smoothly. After all, this is a well-oiled machine! The change to Clubrunner as the club's website put a bit of a

crimp in the Arts & Crafts vendor sign-up process, but Hans has been busy while on his winter sojourns to address this. Karl reported that we will have nine new vendors this year, too! Julie Welch has been busy with lining up vendors for the Food Court, and with some reallocation of spaces, we should have an even bigger selection of interesting and different foods this year. Thanks once again to the great participation from many new members on the Steering Committee. All club members should think about who can help with various jobs needing coverage on the day. We have lots of jobs that don't require standing, walking or lifting and these seem always to be the hardest to fill. Please ask your friends and family if they would be willing to help for a two hour shift at some point during the day and we can find a slot for them to fill. That information should be communicated to Rodney George or to Helen Zamboni.

Gilda's Club

March 28, 2017



Mary Reed from Gilda's Club visited Avon Rotary and shared how the organization helps in the Rochester area community.

"Gilda's Club Rochester has been serving the Greater Rochester community since 1959, first as Cancer Action, Inc., and then in 2000 as Gilda's Club. Today we receive over 17,800 visits yearly with over 1,200 FREE programs offered to men, women, teens and children who are affected by cancer. Our programs offer much-needed social and emotional support to those living with cancer along with their families and friends. Named for legendary Saturday Night Live comedienne, Gilda Radner, whose spirit lives on as members both give and receive love and laughter through our unique programs and events."

There are plenty of volunteer opportunities that Avon Rotary may get involved with for future service projects.

PETS 2017 Syracuse NY



**ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE**

Districts 7120, 7150, 7170, 7190

March 17, 18

PETS: President Elect Training Seminar

This was such a great experience to be with all the other incoming presidents. I had the

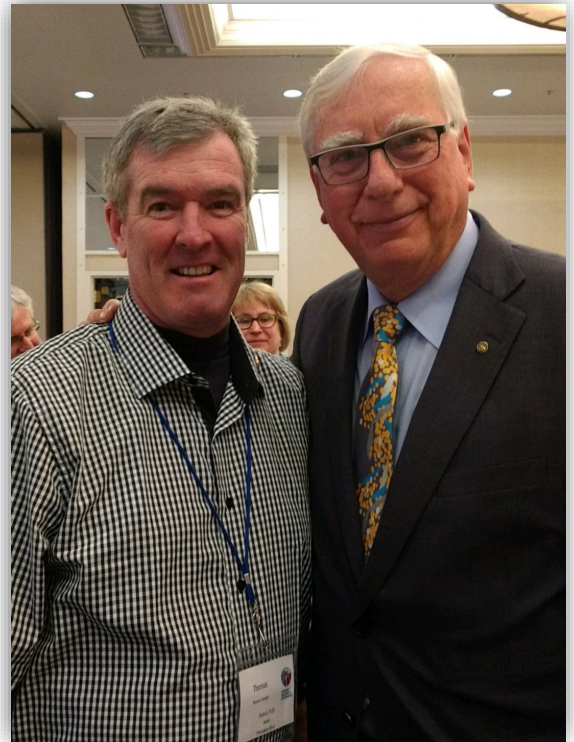
opportunity to share and discuss what is going on in other local clubs as well as clubs from the other districts. It's nice to know that I am not alone in this upcoming year as a club president. PETS certainly helps you understand so much more about Rotary and what to expect in the upcoming year as the president of the Avon Rotary Club.

PETS is comprised of many different breakout sessions. One of the sessions involved logging into the Rotary.org website and working on goal setting for our club. It is great to see how giving our club is and what we have already donated this year to date. I have set goals that I know we can achieve in 2017/2018. It is so important that we continue to give to the foundation. We will be working on grants in the coming months to help support projects.

I had the chance to listen to our incoming RI president Ian Riseley. He is a very inspirational speaker and talked about goals for 2017-2018. His theme is one that I firmly believe in, "Making a Difference". This is certainly something I am hopeful we as a club will embrace and carry out. There are so many things we can do both locally and around the world to truly "Make a Difference".

Tom Vonglis,

President Elect, Avon Rotary



PE Tom Vonglis & RI PE Ian Riseley

"There is no greater reward
than working from your heart,
and making a difference
in the world."

~ Carlos Santana

2017-2018 Board of Directors

President	Tom Vonglis
President Elect	Heather Ayers
Sr. Director	Dom Lalisce
Director	Terry Lemen
Member at Large	Bill Wall
Secretary	Laurie Vonglis
Treasurer	Kelly Cole

Change of Officers—Tuesday, June 27

Lima Country Club

The Most Important Book Of All



By: Dom Lalisie

We put in practice our yearly "Serving Humanity" theme in March with our Dictionary giving events to all 3rd graders in Avon.

As part of our Literacy activities, the Avon Rotary Club donates a dictionary to all 3rd Graders in Avon. The dictionaries are given to the students of St Agnes Catholic School and Avon Primary School. The dictionaries were given to students in March at 2 separate events. For the Avon Primary event, I was joined by Rob Lupisella (School Principal) and Marcie Williams (3rd grade teacher) who are both Avon Rotary active members.

At both events, we engaged the students on their knowledge of Rotary and our main activities. Most students are familiar with the Corn Festival and the Auction but few knew that events such as the Corn Festival enable us to serve our community and the World with the funds we raise.

The event gave us also an opportunity to explain our winning fight to eradicate polio disease in the World.

Very few life moments are as rewarding as the opportunity to empower a child with a new tool to be a better reader and communicator. Rotary members and school administrators present had the privilege of one of those cherished moments on March 27th. On behalf of all the students we could help, I want to relay a Big Thank you to all the volunteers in the fundraising events which make such great moments possible.

The pictures attached show how grateful and excited all the students were.

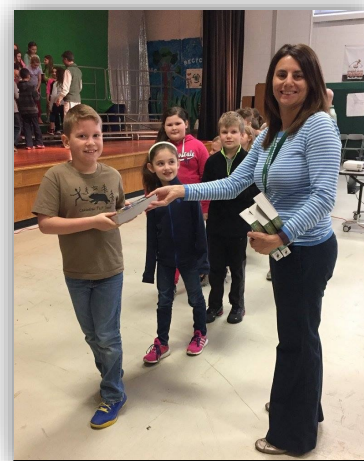
Top photo front row: Principal & Rotarian—Rob Lupisella, 3rd grade teacher & Rotarian—Marcie Williams, Rotarian—Dom Lalisie and the Avon Primary School 3rd Grade



Dom Lalisie



St. Agnes 3rd Graders with new dictionaries



Marcie Williams

Rambling On Rotary



By: Bruce Amey

It has been a busy March for me. I got in my winter-fill of clearing driveways over a 2-day period, had a quick trip to sunny Florida for a funeral, had a business trip to Denver, and continued to enjoy taking care of my grandson Johnathan. As Rotarians, we are ap-

proaching our Blue Jean Ball May 13, the Rotary District Conference in Erie, PA May 19-21, and the Rotary International Convention in Atlanta, GA June 10-14. Planning for our Corn Fest is well underway; we will have a roadside cleanup coming up shortly and President-elect Tom is very busy preparing for his term of office. So much going on; so much for us to do as Rotarians to serve others. All these activities and services are parts of our story.

What is your story? In the April 2017 issue of *The Rotarian*, there was an article "Do Tell: How to bring out the power of your personal story". Each month, as I write this missive for our newsletter, I try to focus on something that is on my mind as it relates to our club and Rotary around our community, country, and world. Every day, through our actions and activities, we are writing the story for our club. But our story is really a collection of all of our individual stories. We all have a story. Our stories make us who we are. Our individual stories compile into an anthology that define our club and help guide us. I thought it appropriate to share some pieces of my story.

As many of you know I have a twin brother; no, he is nothing like me. I am one of 6 children. I was born in northern NJ, where both my parents grew up. When I was in kindergarten, my dad was transferred to Rochester as CFO for the American Can Co. in Fairport; we lived in Penfield. In high school, my brothers were very active in sports; I was active in the Drama Club (does that surprise anyone??). Growing up, we were very active in our church fellowship and choir. Following high school graduation, I attended SUNY Oswego and began teaching HS Math in 1974 in Liverpool, NY. I received my Masters in Education and my CAS in Educational Administration from SUNY Oswego, as well. After teaching 12 years, I was a HS Assistant Principal for a year and then a HS Principal for 15 years in Oswego County. I left that position to serve as Director of the Regional Information Center at the OCM BOCES providing technology services to 50 school districts in CNY. Then in 2004 I was offered the opportunity to serve as school superintendent here

in Avon.

I got married in 1975 and had my son David. Diane and I met while involved in a community theater group and were married in 1983; we have two children Benjamin and Madison. In July 2015, our grandchildren were born: Johnathan (from Madison) and Giavonna (from David) 3 weeks apart from each other.

I never thought about it much, but my parents instilled in me the responsibility to serve others in our church fellowship groups and in Boy Scouts. As a teacher, I was continually looking to serve my students and school to provide the best opportunities within the available resources. I did not live in the school district in which I was HS Principal and that had its drain on my family and my students. I missed a lot of my own kids' activities because I lived 35 minutes from my school and I did not attend all my students' activities for the same reason. So when looking to become a superintendent, it was important to me to find a district in which to raise my family. As a family, we visited each district that I considered applying to asking, "Was it a good fit for our family?", which was the primary consideration.

I immediately recognized the caring community that is Avon and was glad to be here. I was the only sibling to ever be geographically close to my parents when I lived in the CNY area, but Avon got me that much closer. To have been here to assist as they both died was a real blessing for me. To be able to take my dad on the Rochester Honor Flight to DC was incredibly memorable.

My job immersed me in the community not only attending school events but engaging with the other municipal governments and social organizations. Through the Methodist church my interactions were broadened, as well. I also came to recognize that Rotary was a group of individuals with a purpose that I wanted to be a part of. When I joined the club in 2006, it was a special day for me.

Our stories are quite diverse but each one adds a hue to our club that creates a mosaic that I think is pretty outstanding. The first objective of Rotary is the "development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service." I believe our acquaintances and our stories do lead to opportunities for service. Use these service opportunities to share your stories and to make new ones. And, as usual, I have rambled on long enough.

FOUNDATION BRUNCH CELEBRATES A CENTURY OF GOOD WORKS



By Mark D. Evans
Foundation Area Director

130 Rotarians and friends gathered Sunday, March 26 at the Ravenwood Golf Club in Victor to celebrate and recognize the efforts of individuals and clubs in Rotary District 7120 on behalf of the Rotary Foundation.

Founded 100 years ago, in Kansas City, Missouri, with a club gift of \$26.50, the Rotary Foundation is today a multimillion dollar arm of Rotary International. One of its most important project is the eradication of polio from the face of the earth. That laudable goal is expected to be achieve in the near future.

Laurie Vonglis, district Polio chair, and member Heather Ayers staffed a table-top exhibit on Rotary's polio endeavors, both locally and worldwide.

District Governor Tom Rogers presented the Avon Club with a certificate recognizing its support of over \$1,500 for the Foundation last year, one of only 11 clubs in District 7120 to achieve that milestone.

The group enjoyed an inspirational talk by Michelle Gasparian on her Foundation work at Rotary headquarters.

All members are urged to make a one-time donation of \$26.50 in the spirit of the 1917 initial contribution to the foundation and to become \$100 annual Sustaining Members. Many Avon Rotarians have made this commitment.



Update as of March 29, 2017

Wild Polio Case Counts

<u>Country</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>Date of last case</u>
Pakistan	54	20	2	12 Feb 17
Afghanistan	20	13	3	20 Feb 17
Nigeria	0	4	0	20 Aug 16
Total	74	37	5	



Exchange Corner



By: Terry Lemen

It's day 233 of Henry's time in Finland, only 3 1/2 months to go. He has booked his return flight and will be heading back to the states in mid-July. In plenty of time to sign up to volunteer at the Corn Fest!! The month of March was quite exciting for Henry. One of his very good friends from Avon paid him a visit for a week. Both he and Henry had coordinating "Spring Breaks", however it wasn't very Spring like. There was still a couple of feet of snow in Henry's town and they got to go ice fishing. This past weekend Henry had the opportunity to take a Rotary sponsored trip to St. Petersburg Russia. He said it was absolutely beautiful and amazing. He was able to tour the Winter Palace, the Church of Spilled Blood, the government building, among other sites. Coming up in April his father and I are going to have the chance to go to Finland for a week long visit. Needless to say all three of us are very excited. Although Henry appears the same in all of his pictures, I'm sure we are going to see some changes in him. I will share our experience in the next newsletter. The pictures which accompany this article were taken in St. Petersburg. The exterior shot is the Church of the Spilled Blood and the interior shot is of the Winter Palace.



Henry Lemen
at
St. Petersburg,
Russia



Exchange Weekend 2017



By: Shannon DiFranco

We started exchange weekend Thursday night with meeting our students. Some got to experience Tom Wahls. Our field trip, Friday, to RIT was a well organized informational day. We met with the Dean, Director of Services and had an interesting discussion with the Business of Ethics Instructor. And of course college living...the cafeteria. We enjoyed a nice lunch; as you can see president Scott did too. We had 19 Exchange Students, 19 Avon Students and 4 Chaperones. The exchange students were able to attend the Avon glow dance to end their day.

Saturday we had fun bowling and had many laughs as it was April Fools Day. 🐟 Casino night was a blast and

the students really enjoyed gambling, prizes and pictures. We had some big winners and an Exchange Student won a huge jar of pickles. Sunday closed the weekend with a hearty breakfast. A tradition for students signing t-shirts is also enjoyed and a nice memento to take back home. I hosted Mariana from Brazil and Laura from Switzerland. It's always a great experience for my entire family. Understanding how their society and everyday living compares and contrasts from ours is a neat experience.

Thank you ,thank you to the Rotarian's who helped pull this weekend off and hope you enjoyed meeting and interacting with the exchange students. Thanks to the chef, Avon School, the host families and casino staff. Great job Cathy Jo and Ed for organizing this weekend!



April Member Celebrations

Birthdays

- ⇒ Bruce Burritt
- ⇒ Mark Evans
- ⇒ Mike Ford
- ⇒ Bob Hayes
- ⇒ Scott Holmes
- ⇒ CA Krenzer



Rotary Anniversary

- ⇒ Bruce Burritt 1995
- ⇒ Aaron Johnson 2016
- ⇒ Sue O'Hearn 2007
- ⇒ Jason Shetler 2016
- ⇒ James Tompsett 1979
- ⇒ Bill Wall 2000

Wedding Anniversary

- ⇒ Bruce Burritt
- ⇒ Mike Ford

Missing Our...



**Reminder... Food Pantry
Collections 3rd Tuesday
Of The Month... 4/18**

This months list of needs:

pasta sauce
mayonnaise
canned fruit

**Quad Cities coming soon.... Form your foursomes &
Save the date, Tuesday, May 30, 2017**

Livingston Country Club



Golf 1:00, Happy Hour 5:00 More info to follow

2017 Rotary District 7120 Conference - Erie, PA



Join the fun and be part of the District celebration

<http://www.districtconference.org>

WHEN: Friday May 19, 2017 1:00 p.m. to Sunday May 21, 2017 1:00 pm

WHERE: Ambassador Center 7794 Peach St. Erie, Pa. 16509

REGISTER online to attend the conference—\$175 through 3/31

HOTEL: \$149/night

For reservations at the Courtyard by Marriott, call 814-860-8300

For reservations at the Hilton Garden Inn, call 814-866-1390

ACTIVITIES: Auction, Golf, Breakout Sessions, Casino Night, Picnic, Lunch Cruise, Bike Tour

2016-2017 Avon Rotary Calendar of Events

Saturday, April 29, 2017:	Silver Lake Drive-in
Saturday, May 13, 2017	Blue Jean Ball
May 19-21, 2017:	District Conference—Erie PA
Tuesday, May 30, 2017	Quad Cities Golf—Geneseo
June 10-14, 2017	International Conference, Atlanta
Tuesday, June 27, 2017	Change of Officers Dinner—Lima Country Club

 Find us on
Facebook ...

