



Avon Rotary News

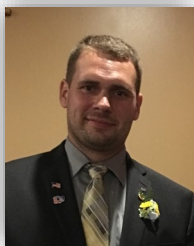
May 2017



President's Perspective

Inside this issue:

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| President's Perspective | 1 |
| April Programs | 2 |
| Avon Rotarians Return to Nicaragua | 2 |
| District Training Assembly | 3 |
| Rambling on Rotary | 4 |
| Rotary's Polio Efforts Praised | 5 |
| Exchange Corner | 6 |
| 90th Anniversary | 7 |
| Interact Update | 7 |
| May Celebrations | 8 |
| Quad Cities, Food Pantry Info. | 8 |
| Social Calendar & Blue Jean Ball | 9 |



Dear Fellow Rotarians,

It is hard to believe this is my second to last newsletter article as President. This year has gone by quickly. Past Presidents told me that the year goes fast. You don't fully understand until you experience it. April was a wonderful month. We had many excellent programs. The Malawi Children's Village was a great program put on by Bob and Cindy Hunt. Also our own Rotarians of Tom, Rob and Marcie gave an amazing presentation on Linking Hand for Learning.

Malawi's Children's Village was a program about how Bob and Cindy set up a Youth Leadership Training program. It was great to hear all the activities they go through. It is similar to our RYLA training that we send the incoming Interact President to every year. Bob and Cindy have met some really great people. They have also expanded into Scholarships to send some of the graduates to a secondary school.

Our Rotarians mentioned above gave an awesome presentation on Linking Hands for Learning. This showcased all the work that

Avon Rotary has a direct impact on. We not only give funds but have Rotarians that go down and help build the schools. They showcased all the buildings they have worked on and also the amazing people who live in Nicaragua. The also had an excellent video that Rob produced that was a collection of the schools he had helped build over that last 6 years. This group of Rotarians has gone around to clubs in our District to share this great project. We work in conjunction with Honeoye-Falls Mendon Rotary Club. These Schools we help build are an amazing asset in the future of the children in Nicaragua. It is projects like this one that personally makes me proud to be an Avon Rotarian.

In the Month of May we have more excellent programs. We have the School Budget for the next school year on May 9th. That will be presented by Rotarian Aaron Johnson who is Avon's Superintendent. This is a program we have every year and is a great service to our Club. The following Tuesday we have our Clubs **90th Anniversary Celebration**. This will be a great celebratory event. I look forward to seeing everyone throughout the month of May.

Yours in Rotary, 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

May Club Schedule

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Tues. May 2 | Reg Mtg Program: Aaron Johnson, ACS Budget |
| Mon. May 8 | Board of Directors Meeting 7:00 @ Hurricane |
| Tues. May 9 | 90th Anniversary Celebration , BJB mtg |
| Sat. May 13 | Blue Jean Ball 5-11 @ Avon Century Barn |
| Tues. May 16 | Club Assembly, Corn Fest Mtg |
| May 19-21 | District Conference, Erie PA |
| Tues. May 23 | Reg Mtg Program: Hans about WWOOFing |
| Tues. May 30 | Quad Cities 1-8 @ Livingston Country Club |

April 4, 2017 Bob & Cindy Hunt visited and shared their story of the Malawis Children's Village.

<http://malawichildreenvillage.org/>



P R O G R A M S

April 25, 2017 Tammy Arneth, Director of Development from GCC and Janice Barrett, member of GCC Foundation visited and gave a program on the growth of the college and new buildings underway. There are many opportunities to support scholarships if anyone is interested.



Avon Rotarians Return to Nicaragua



April 18, 2017

By: Rob Lupisella

With the support of our Avon Rotary Club, the non-profit organization Linking Hands for Learning returned to Nicaragua to construct another school. A total of seventeen volunteers traveled to Nicaragua this past February 2017 to begin the construction effort. The group and its numerous volunteers raised just over \$14,000 to build a one-room schoolhouse in the remote mountain community of Taquezal. Our club donated \$1,000 to the effort. All the money donated to Linking Hands for Learning was used to hire masons, purchase building materials, school equipment, and supplies for the children. The benefitting community of Taquezal is located fifteen miles outside of El Sauce, Nicaragua. When completed, the new school will serve twenty elementary grade students. Previously, the children attended school in a dilapidated structure which was made of adobe. The teacher at the school said, "The adobe walls are a concern as they are not strong enough to resist a strong tremor or an earthquake." This project, like the previous projects, was a collaborative effort with the Nicaraguan Ministry of Education (MINED.) They will pay the salary of the

teacher and for the construction and installation of the roof. MINED representative Johana Gámez thanked the volunteers, which included Rotarians Tom Vonglis, Marcie Williams, and Rob Lupisella for their continued support. The community members of Taquezal worked side-by-side with the volunteers during the construction, including the children who will be studying at the school. At a recent meeting the traveling Rotarians, along with prospective member Tina Fortune, shared information about the recent trip and highlighted a number of Nicaraguans they have been able to get to know. The personal connections made during years of traveling there, have helped to build a strong bond with the community of El Sauce and the surrounding area.



District Training Assembly



By: Mike Ford

On April 8 I had the opportunity to attend my first District Training Seminar at Newark High School in Newark, NY. Being a new member, I entered into this experience with both excitement and apprehension since this was my first experience with Rotary at the district level. The meeting began with all the attendees gathering in the auditorium for short speeches by Newark and Rotary leadership, an amazing and truly inspiring speech by 2nd place Oratorical Contest winner Athalie Fiegler (link to her video can be

found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VgluhWZTvp0&feature=youtu.be>), and a video and Q/A session with Don Alhart and Ellen Hughes about the Rotary Foundation.

After this Rotarians left to go to the first of two break out sessions. The first session I chose was for new members to Rotary. In this session most attendees were in their first three years of Rotary. One member from Bath was only a member for three days. In this session I got to learn how area clubs welcome their new members and get questions answered by people going through the same experience as a new member like myself.

The second session I attended was about ways to attract younger members into Rotary. This session was led by the president of RocCity Rotary, a club in the city of Rochester made up entirely of young professionals ranging from their early 20s to late 30s, and with the motto "Not Your Grandpa's Rotary." This session dealt with ways that clubs can attract young members and the misconceptions that Rotary is an "old boys club." They presented ways that clubs can bring in youth who want to serve their community, but have trouble finding time with the stresses of building new careers and families, so Rotary can remain strong in the future.

All in all this was a great overall experience. I had many questions answered, and got to meet Rotarians from all around our district. I can't wait to volunteer at next year's District Training Seminar which will be held right here in Avon in April 2018.



April 19, 1868

On this day in 1868, Rotary International founder Paul Harris was born. Learn more about our founder and what Rotary meant to him:
<http://endpol.io/2pBSRe2>



"Perhaps dreaming is not so bad if one dreams good dreams and makes them come true."

— Paul Harris,
My Road to Rotary

Rotary 

Rambling On Rotary—May 2017



By: Bruce Amey

At the end of March, I attended the National School Boards Association convention in Denver, CO. This was a first for me to attend the NSBA as an exhibitor rather than as a participant. As such, almost all of my time was spent on the exhibition floor and I was

not able to attend various learning sessions. However, I was able to attend the opening session where the keynote speaker was Captain Scott Kelly.

Captain Kelly has spent more time in space than any other American over 4 space missions; 520 days total. He is the twin brother of NASA Astronaut Mark Kelly (husband of former Arizona Congresswoman Gabrielle (Gabby) Giffords). His last mission he spent almost a full year (340 days) in the International Space Station with a scientific mission to better understand how the human body adapts to lengthy periods in space. Most ISS missions are only five to six months in length. Kelly also did a “twin study” with his brother to see if there are any genetic changes from spending long periods of time in space.

Many of Captain Kelly’s comments hit home with me and caused me to think of Rotary. In the April issue of *The Grapevine*, DG Rogers spoke to “Rotary Supporting Humanity” and “District Supported Global Grants”. He spoke to diverse projects District 7120 is supporting around the world. Captain Kelly commented, “Diversity brings so much to a team”. Whereas our Avon Rotary is not very ethnically diverse, we are quite diverse in our perspectives, politics, and opinions. However, when it comes to getting things done, as Captain Kelly said, “Teamwork makes the dream work.”

That is what Rotary is all about. Teamwork for the good of our community, our country and our world. “To see what we can accomplish, we need to choose to reach beyond what we think we can achieve. We need to take risks and be willing to fail.” Rotarians know the value of doing the hard things. We all know the feeling of accomplishment when we succeed at a difficult task. When Rotary embarked on its mission to eradicate polio, did anyone think it would be

easy? Because we have come so far we need to remember we aren’t done yet, though. Rotary supports water projects around the world; are these easy projects? While orbiting earth on his year-long mission, Captain Kelly commented seeing China cities for the first time, that is, on his previous missions the lights of the cities were not visible. What changed? China had changed its policies on carbon emissions, which resulted in significantly less smog. Captain Kelly went on to say, “It’s the only earth we have – we have to take care of it. Seeing the earth from space you realize we are all a part of one team and we need to act like it.” Will this be an easy task? We know it won’t, but it is a goal Rotarians can help resolve and have started to do so.

As Rotarians, we are world leaders. Rotarians lead because Rotarians focus on “getting it done” as a team and we put aside our personal egos. “To be good leaders, you need to be good followers”; we need to support the work of others when that work serves the goals of Rotary. At our April 18 meeting, we had a great presentation by our Linking Hands For Learning team and the work that has been accomplished in Nicaragua. This project, very close to our club, demonstrates leadership. Rob and his wife Jeanine believed the adage, “If we dream it, we can achieve it.” The dream is not yet realized, neither is the dream of eradicating polio in the world, neither is the goal of clean water throughout the world ... but as leaders we need to continue pursuing the dreams until we achieve them fully.

Captain Kelly has seen what can be accomplished by persons working together as teams. He has seen it on and above our earth. In closing he stated he has learned that “The sky is not the limit”. As Rotarians, we must continue to reach beyond the sky to build a better community, country and world. I am proud to say that I know we can! And, as usual, I have rambled on long enough.





Rotary's Polio Efforts Praised by Bill and Melinda Gates

EPN Newsletter April 2017

Every year, Bill and Melinda Gates publish an annual letter to broaden awareness and interest in key global health and development programs. This year's Annual Letter mentioned polio among their foundation's ongoing efforts to fight disease and inequality, specifically, the incredible progress that's been made towards polio eradication. Melinda Gates offers these kind words to reaffirm the important role Rotary has had leading the way to a polio-free world:

"We're awed by the teams of vaccinators who take risks to reach each child. And we're inspired by the infinite persistence of Rotary International. They were leading this fight long before we joined it, and they've just kept moving forward."

She goes on to say, "They know going from 350,000 cases to 37 is amazing, but success is zero." Even though a handful of polio cases have been reported this year, there is a chance these are the last cases of polio in history. This June, Bill Gates will speak at the Rotary International Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, USA to discuss how we can — and will — end polio together.



Bill Gates will be the keynote speaker at Rotary International's 108th international convention this summer in Atlanta.

| Update as of April 30, 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 | NO CHANGE! |

Exchange Corner



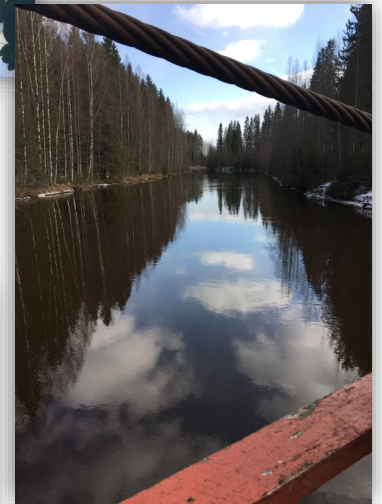
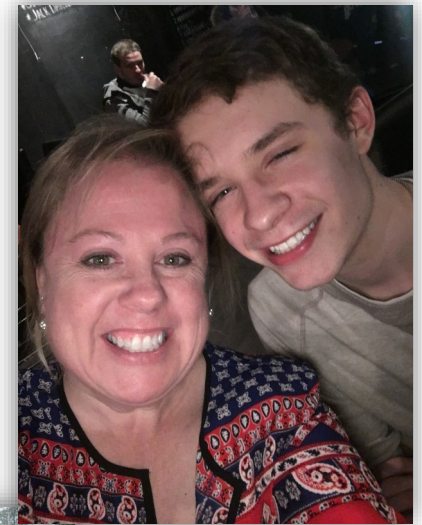
By: Terry Lemen

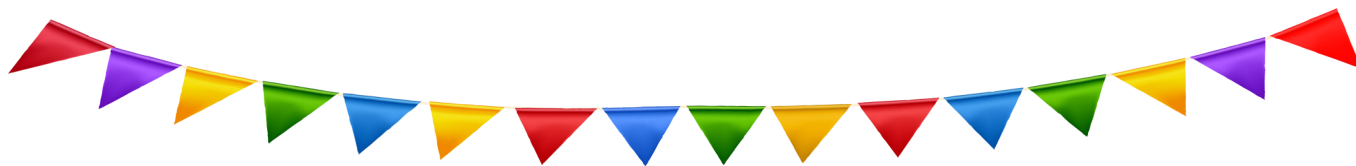
As many of you know, my husband Tim and I had the very fortunate opportunity to visit our son Henry in Finland over Spring Break. After 8 months of being apart, it was so exciting to be able to give Henry a great, big hug!! He really hasn't changed physically (aside from some much needed weight gain) but he still seemed very different. He gave off an air of maturity that I hadn't quite noticed before.

The trip to Haapajarvi was uneventful albeit it extremely long. One simply can't get there from here. After two flights, a nine hour layover in Munich and a 5 hour train ride, we finally arrived at our destination. Henry was overjoyed to see us and his host parents were wonderful hosts. We stayed with them our whole time there. They fed us constantly and even provided us with a car to use for sightseeing.

Finland is a beautiful country. Their main industry is lumber so we saw piles and piles of logs everywhere we went. We took a two hour car ride to Oulu, which is a small city 2 hours north of where Henry lives. There is a university there and a small shopping complex. We spent most of our time eating and drinking. We had dinner with all three of Henry's host parents. The food was delicious and we were able to try some very traditional meals. The reindeer was delicious. We also ate rice porridge, salmon, and a root vegetable casserole which really didn't translate into English.

Probably the most Finnish thing we experienced was the sauna. It was GREAT!! Once you get comfortable with the idea of being naked, it's enjoyable. Especially the part where you get to drink a beer while in there. Every home we went to had at least one sauna, many had two. Tim also went with Henry's host father, host brother and Henry. We might have to build one of our own!!





Join us on Tuesday May 9th at the Avon Commons to celebrate 90 years of Avon Rotary with a chicken barbecue, salt potatoes, tossed salad, chips and Rotary bar.



Help celebrate our anniversary with stories and fellowship.

Avon Interact

We are winding down this school year with our last meeting in May until September. The Interact Club decided to make the 'Kenya Student Support 500' their yearly international donation. The support consists of paying for one student's tuition of \$500 for 4 years. This begins next year. We are also donating to 'Mended Little Hearts' for our local charity this year and the 'Red Cross' with the money designated for the Colombian mudslides. The students have signed up to work at the Corn Festival Kid Zone.

We say goodbye to our seniors and glad they were part of this club and wish them well. Sam Bond, Sarah Carney, Mac Culhane, Amy Faville, Hunter Kostraba, Wolfgang Lobo, Madison Luft, Dylan Scherer, Matt Smith, and Georgia VanRy. Next year's officers are: President Jessica Rozanski, Secretary Camden Arlauckas and Treasurer Maria Crane.

We wish all the exchange students the best of luck and hope we made life long friendships. We look forward to next year, meeting new people, learning about service above self and being leaders.

Thank you all for a great year and working hard.

Connect with interact on: Facebook, Twitter and Instagram at avonnyinteract.



Sincerely, Cathy, Ed and Shannon

May Member Celebrations

Birthdays

- ⇒ Marcia Cameron
- ⇒ Tim Dickinson
- ⇒ Rob Lupisella
- ⇒ Cathy Jo Murphy
- ⇒ Sue O'Hearn
- ⇒ Jeff Passarell



Rotary Anniversary

- ⇒ Colin Bruckel 2014
- ⇒ Steve Csapo 2010
- ⇒ Shannon DiFranco 2014
- ⇒ Doug Hayes 2012
- ⇒ Rob Lupisella 2012
- ⇒ Laurie Vonglis 2004
- ⇒ Paul Warren 2012

Wedding Anniversary

- ⇒ Marcia Cameron
- ⇒ Kelly Cole
- ⇒ Steve Csapo
- ⇒ Charles Feller
- ⇒ Doug Hayes
- ⇒ Greg Johnson
- ⇒ Jeff Passarell



Be the reason
someone smiles
today.



**Reminder... Food Pantry
Collections 3rd Tuesday
Of The Month... 5/16**

This months list of needs:

- Pasta sauce**
- 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





Avon Rotary Blue Jean Ball

Kickin' It Up For Hands That Help

Live Music By Flint Creek
 BBQ By Partyman Catering
 Country Casino Games & Prizes
 50/50 Raffle & Auction
 Tickets \$35 Per Person

Saturday, May 13th, 2017 @ 5:00 PM

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

Purchase Tickets Today: contact Terry Lemen @ 414-4250

Proceeds to benefit Avon Ambulance & Avon Rotary Charities
 Join us as we honor Ted Coyne and his many years of service!

2016-2017 Avon Rotary Calendar of Events

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| 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 |

