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President's Message



Well its been another fun filled and active month for the Avon Rotary Club. Our spirit of making a difference continues to shine through. It's amazing how many people showed up to help with the roadside cleanup. When they say many hands make light work, this couldn't be more evident than on that Saturday morning. Thank you to all who participated to keep our "section" of road clean and tidy. This weekend had so much going on as we went from roadside cleanup to the Walk for Polio. Our 3.2 mile walk around the village was a nice demonstration to recognize the importance of all the effort Rotary has put into ending this terrible disease as well as raising awareness in our community. We had a nice crowd of people, raised \$137.00 and got some exercise all at once. Thank you again to our Foundation Committee for organizing this event. This was certainly a busy Rotary weekend as on Sunday morning we had a team of people at the Scout house to put a new metal roof on the front porch. With the District Simplified Grant and our club funds we were able to get the main roof replaced by a contractor. This was also completed in October. I'd like to thank Kirk for all his work on making arrangements to get this project completed.

Along with the polio walk was

World Polio day on Tuesday the 24th. Many of us were able to see the video event hosted at the Gates Foundation. This was very inspiring and should certainly instill in all of us the need to continue our fight until the very last polio case is gone from this earth.

On Halloween we had a great time with our "Trunk or Treat" service project led by Terry Lemen. We collected two large bins of groceries to benefit the Avon Food Pantry. Many thanks to Terry for heading this up. This was a great way to again get the Rotary name out into our community and raise awareness of what a great organization we are and all the good we do. I know we will look forward to this event again next year.

We were very fortunate this past month to enjoy programs from Gilda's club, Avon Inn, and Veerle. Sally Cramer provided us with a wonderful video from this past summers day camp that Avon Rotary was part of. Our partnership with Gilda's Club is one that should stay strong with opportunities to make a difference in the future.

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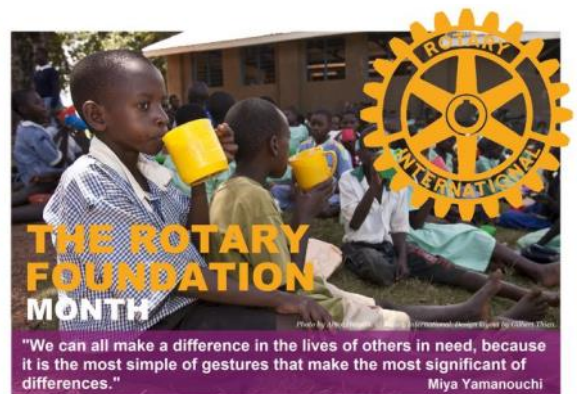


Avon Rotary Club meets Tuesdays at 6pm at Avon Commons Clubhouse

Board of Directors

Tom Vonglis, President
Heather Ayers, President Elect
Dom Lalisce, Senior Director
Terry Lemen, Director
Bill Wall, Member at Large
Scott Holmes, Past President
Laurie Vonglis, Secretary
Kelly Cole, Treasurer

NOVEMBER IS



President's Message—continued

We enjoyed the presentation from Jen and Jim Krause and all the progress made on the renovations to the Avon Inn. The investment they are making in our community is extremely significant. We were also fortunate that they allowed us to tour the facility after our meeting which allowed many of our members to see firsthand the work going on at the Avon Inn. One of the highlights for the Rotary year is to hear from our foreign exchange student. The exchange program is one of the significant things that Rotary does in support of our youth. Veerle gave us a wonderful program telling us about her life back home in the Netherlands and how much she is enjoying her stay here with us in the United States. We look forward to the remaining time with Veerle here in Avon and getting to know her even better.

Lastly I'd like to thank Julie and Dan Welch for their hospitality. On October 20th we had a great time at their newly remodeled barn. It's always a great time when we can get together to enjoy fun and fellowship. This event was certainly no different. There was an abundance of great food and refreshments for all of us to enjoy. We are looking forward to next June as we will be holding our Blue Jean Ball at this venue.

As we look ahead to November and Foundation month I'm excited and hopeful that our club will take on the challenges that Kirk and the Foundation Committee will have for us in terms of giving. The Rotary Foundation is the arm of Rotary that makes a significant difference in the world. Please take the time to explore all that the Foundation does and how we as individuals can make a difference with our donations.

Thank you to all my fellow Rotarians for a great month of October.

October Meeting Highlights...

Oct. 3—Sally Cramer from Gilda's Club visited and thanked Avon Rotary for partnering the them, serving lunch for their 1st Camp Open Arms. We watched a video, highlighting the week, including the day we provided lunch. President Tom was presented a framed photo thank you for the club.



Oct. 10—Jen & Jim Krause provided a program, highlighting their business plans and renovations for the Avon Inn. Very exciting changes happening which we were able to witness following the meeting with a special tour of the historic building. It will be gorgeous when it's completed.

Also on the 10th, Avon Rotarian Bruce Amey was presented with a PHF+2 pin. Congratulations Bruce! Your generosity is a shining example for all.



Oct. 24—Past President Kirk Vanderbilt led the meeting which focused on World Polio Day. The club tuned in and shared discussion about the Foundation, PolioPlus and gains made. Bruce Amey led a demonstration for members and how to create a My Rotary account. Thanks to Katie Degraff who volunteered to assist and now has her own account. If anyone else would like assistance please contact one of your club leaders.



Walk For Polio—October 14



By: Heather Ayers

In honor of Polio Month, a group of Avon Rotarians organized a walk around Avon to bring awareness to the fact that Polio is still a disease we are fighting and make a statement that Avon Rotary is committed to being an active part of eradicating Polio.

The walk couldn't have been on a more perfect day as we walked our 3.2 mile course on the warm, sunlit sidewalks through Avon. Our group of 33 consisted of Rotarians and family members of all ages and abili-

ties. We cheered each other on as we made the 5k walk around town and were kept entertained by the 3 pups that also joined us that morning.

Knowing that every act and every dollar count to end this disease, we also collected donations for the Polio Plus Fund and were able to raise another \$137 to contribute.

I am continually impressed with and encouraged by this cub's passion, energy and dedication to whatever is in front of them. Thank you for continuing to inspire me!



Work Hard—Play Hard

On October 14th many Avon Rotarians gathered for the semi-annual roadside cleanup. In short order, we put on safety vests, gloves and grabbed a garbage bag and set out to clean up the roadsides. In less than an hour we accomplished our goal. Thanks to all who volunteered early that Saturday morning.



On October 20th Julie & Dan Welch hosted a barn party for the club. All enjoyed the first look at their newly remodeled barn named "Oak Knolls Manor". In typical fashion, the dish to pass buffet was plentiful and no one left hungry. It was a fun, relaxing evening which provided a glimpse of where the 2018 Blue Jean Ball will be, a donation from the Welch's. Thank you Julie & Dan for your gracious hospitality.



Foundation Giving = Investing in our Future



By: Kirk Vanderbilt, Foundation Chair

After the obligatory hair pulling associated with dealing with professional contractors, attending a seminar or 2, and a small pile of paperwork, our "Scout House" has a new roof!!! This has been a long-term plan of our club for several years and I'm glad to see it done. For our newer members, it may

help to know that we (Avon Rotary) own the Scout house and have for 68 years. While we have built our storage building on the property, the Boy Scout Troop 26 has had exclusive use of the "Scout House" for as long as anyone can remember. Many of our own members (myself included) attended our weekly Scout meetings in that building as kids, and it is a tremendous asset for both our club and our community. Our Board of Directors has been saving money for 8 or 9 years to be proactive and replace the roof before it became an "emergency" replacement, and I'm confident the new roof will last for many years to come.

While our club had saved more than enough money to pay for the roof replacement on our own, we decided that a project like this might be a great opportunity to apply for a District Simplified Grant (DSG) from our Rotary District to help defray the cost. We were happy to receive the good news that our project was awarded a grant at the

District Conference last May in Erie. The award amount of \$4000

was announced earlier this Rotary year. This was our 4th DSG that we have received in the last 8 years or so, bringing our grant funding well over \$10,000 for projects right in our own community, or in 1 case, a project in our adopted community of El Sauce, Nicaragua.

The reason I bring all of this to your attention is not to toot our own horn, but to make you aware of the fact that these grants are all made possible by our Rotary Foundation (RF). When we (our club and as individuals) donate money to the Annual Fund of the RF, half of that money is made available (after 3 years of investment) back to the Districts to fund small community projects of the member clubs. Many clubs use these grants to fund small scholarships (up to \$1000) or grants like ours (up to \$4000). The other 50% of that money of course goes towards other projects of Rotary Foundation including Global Grants (\$30,000 minimum), Peace Scholars, and other global initiatives within their 6 areas of focus.

So as we enter "Foundation Month", please be aware when we ask you to consider making donations to the Rotary Foundation, that your donations are not only an investment in developing communities around the world, but also an investment in our own communities here at home.



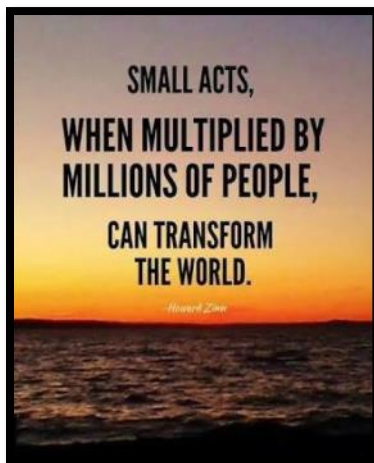
Early October the Scout house roof was replaced. On October 15th, a few of our Avon Rotarians volunteered on a warm Sunday morning and replaced the porch roof. A project well done! Thanks Kirk for leading this much needed project and all the volunteers who helped.

Check that off the "To-Do" list. 



Trunk or Treat—October 31st

THANK YOU to everyone who participated in our Halloween service project. I believe it is safe to say that our first Rotary "Trunk or Treat" was a great success. We had many of our Rotarians lend a helping hand and we gathered quite a few donations for the Avon Food Pantry. This was great exposure for the Avon Rotary Club and the comments from the community were very positive. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. *Terry Lemen*



Our 50th Auction



In 1967, the Avon Rotary Club held their first auction in an effort to raise funds for the good of the local community, and area. Some of our “vintage members” who were just kids, believe that auction was held behind Clark Chevrolet on West Main St. After that, it was moved to the circle park for one or two years, and then up to the Avon Primary School. Tom Coyne served as the auctioneer for many years, and was always a source of not only professionalism, but of entertainment as well! Our current auctioneer is Ralph Garnish, who comes from Bergen to help out with the event, and is very adept in keeping the auction moving at a well timed pace.

The auction has changed over the years, not only with the location and auctioneers, but with the type of items that are collected. Early on, it was not uncommon to find items that were of a ‘lesser value’ that were no longer wanted, than it is today. We still get some of this merchandise, but rather than try to auction them off, we added a table for ‘Garage Sale’ items, and created ‘Box lots’ so that items that were worth less than \$10 could be sold without slowing down the auction.

More often than not, people and businesses donate items that are brand new that they purchase specifically for the auction. Realizing that businesses constantly get asked for donations, Rotarians especially have come up with creative ideas to provide for sale, such as dinners for small groups, access to vacation homes, and boat cruises. Food lots are a big part of the event, with Rotarians baking all sorts of desserts and treats. The Interact kids also provide not only food lots, but also serve food and drinks to the audience. The Boy Scouts provide another valuable service by keeping items for sale moving to the stage in an uninterrupted flow. They also move the items out to the winning bidders.

The clerking of the auction has also morphed into a much more sophisticated system. Early on, bids were recorded, and then transferred to index cards for each bidder. When someone wanted to check out, the items had to be added up and the attendee was given an amount that they owed. It then went to an Excel based system using filters to quickly present the bidder with an invoice and list of items that was totaled up. Today, we have a professional system that connects the bid recorders to the clerks and the registration table for faster collection of names, addresses, and bids.

Auction chairmen (and women) have changed over the years as well, with some Rotarians taking on the task for many years. Changing leadership injects new ideas and practices, and keeps the event fresh.

The auction this year is the club’s 50th, and with gratitude to my predecessors and their teams who have honed this to a successful event, I’m confident that this milestone auction will be a great auction once again. This is one aspect of the Avon Rotary Auction that has NOT changed!

Auction King Kelly



AVON ROTARY AUCTION

Saturday, November 11th
Avon Primary School
Preview: 8am
Auction: 9am **SHARP!**

Rambling On Rotary—November 2017



By: Bruce Amey

It's November already ... I am amazed how fast this calendar year is going by. But here it is. Football season is well underway; Christmas decorations and gift ideas have been out since Labor Day; and it will be Christmas and New Year's in no time. At this time of year, I become reflective on

all for which I am thankful. I came across a reflection by Thomas Rosica, who is a Canadian Roman Catholic Priest who was born in Rochester, NY in 1959 and received his undergraduate degree from St. John Fisher College in Rochester. He wrote, "Thankfulness is much more than saying "Thank you" because we have to. Thankfulness is a way to experience the world, a way to perceive, a way to be surprised." "A way to experience the world" caused me to think of Rotary and Rotarians ... of Avon Rotary. Thankfulness and gratitude for experiences and opportunities we are given.

Mr. Rosica went on to write, "Remembrance is the most precious feature of the virtue of gratitude. One of the most important qualities is the ability to say "thank you" to others and to take no one and nothing for granted. Those who possess the virtue of gratitude are truly rich. They not only know they have been blessed, but they continuously remember that all good things come from God.

"To acknowledge others, to say thank you, is a mark of greatness. If our colleagues and volunteers are dispirited and unmotivated, might it have something to do with the fact that we have never expressed our gratitude to them for who they are and what they do? The courage to thank – that is, the courage to see the gifts and experiences of this world all together as a gift – changes not only the person who gains this insight. It also changes the environment, the world, and those who surround that person.

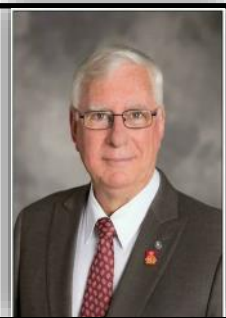
"Gratitude is creative. People bound together by gratitude are always discovering and awakening abundant sources of strength. The more thankful a person is, the richer he or she is within. Thankful people store up in their grateful memory all the good experiences of the past, just as the French proverb states: "Gratitude is the heart's memory."

Every meeting our members offer celebrations and gratitude for the Service Above Self actions of other members. Avon Rotary demonstrates leadership and greatness every time we are together. We are "always discovering abundant sources of strength" together and for that I am thankful. I encourage each of us to "store up all the good experiences of the past" for we have much to be thankful for. Be sure to continue to say "thank you" often. And, as usual, I have rambled on long enough.



"To put it simply, a dollar given to The Rotary Foundation has a great deal more muscle than a dollar given to most charities. If you want to spend a dollar on Doing Good in the World, you can't do better than to spend it with the Foundation. That is not just me speaking out of pride; it is verifiably true and is reflected in our rankings by independent organizations."

Ian Riseley, RI President's Message—November 2017



Update as of November 1, 2017			Wild Polio Case Counts	
Country	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>Date of last case</u>
Pakistan	54	20	5	20 Aug 17
Afghanistan	20	13	8	1 Oct 17
Nigeria	0	4	0	20 Aug 16
Total	74	37	13	



Take Note

Please add the following to your membership directory:

New Member:
Kathy Shrestha
1458 Middle Rd.
Rush, NY 14543
585-334-0366 hm
916-501-2781 cell
kathykathmandu@yahoo.com



Contact the Sunshine Liaison Agent
to report any members
or extended family that may
need a card or some cheer.
Barbara Herman—226-6735 or
barbara1901@twc.com



Mission of Rotary

The mission of Rotary International is to provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill and peace through its fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders.



November Meeting Set-Up Schedule

Nov. 7— Tom & Laurie Vonglis
Nov. 21— Dom Lalisce
Nov. 28— Terry Lemen & Doug Hayes



Show Your Pride!

Inbound Exchange—October Happenings



Dear Members of Rotary Club Avon,

This month, the volleyball season ended. We had a team-bonding, which was fun. The volleyball girls love stroopwafels (Dutch cookies). Also we had senior night, which was an amazing evening! The gym was all decorated in the school colours, we got

senior gifts and posters from our little sisters. So sweet and cute! We lost unfortunately, but it was such a happy evening. I am glad I got the experience to be on the varsity volleyball team.

A few weeks ago I went with Charles (exchange student) and Evelyn to the football game in Caledonia against Avon. Avon lost but it was fun though. I know Evelyn from the exchange weekend in Caledonia. I went with her to Rebecca's (a friend of mine) play! The play was so good and she did such a great job. And we met my French teacher there. I loved it! In school I did my presentation about my country in Sociology class. It was a fun presentation, me and my groupmates wore Dutch braids and orange t-shirts. The class loved the Dutch food and the teacher was also very enthusiastic.

With Cathy I went to a play at Nazareth college which was great! It was very happy with a lot of music and singing. After the play, Kirk picked me up with the motor vehicle for a ride. That was so cool, and I was all in the dress code because I was wearing my leather jacket. ;) Julie invited me after that for a football Sunday at her place. It was a very nice evening with such great people. Jim cooked a whole menu and oh it was so jummy! We did a game where we had to act out all different things so that was really funny. And Julie has the most therapeutic cat ever. So gentle and cute and sweet!

This month was all in the Halloween spirit, so of course I experienced my first real American Halloween! First of all, me as a scared chicken, went to the barn of ter-

ror. I went with Natalie, my exchange student friend from Czech Republic. Actually I did not want to go, but I wanted to see her so yes, I went. I literally ran through it and I screamed so hard. But I survived, luckily. We also had a little party with the exchange students in Geneseo, where I carved a pumpkin for the first time. We were all dressed up, me as little red riding hood, so that was fun.

And as the cherry on top: I went trick or treating! First we went to Toko's house with a lot of the volleyball girls and had dinner there. Then we went to the village. The weather was so bad, but it was so fun!! Later I ran in to the cross country team where I saw Rebecca, so then I went also walking with her. And we had so much candy.

The musical *The Little Mermaid*, where I went with Laurie was amazing! It was at the auditorium in Rochester, it was very pretty and big. I love Disney, I knew all the songs and it was just a dream. The actors were so good, beautiful decor and it is a great fairy tale.

Until next month, Veerle Beckers



Outbound Exchange



By: Sarah Carney

It's crazy to think that it's already been two months since I've arrived in Belgium! I'm starting to understand more Dutch, slowly but surely. If people ask me questions in Dutch I understand what they're saying about 90% of the time and when I answer

it's usually in English with some Dutch words thrown in there. I get frustrated when I don't understand or if I don't know how to respond so I have to keep reminding myself that it's only been 2 months and that I will eventually get the hang of this language. I have visited so many beautiful cities here in Belgium, a few of the trips have been with my Rotary District. We have been to Brussels, Leuven, and Antwerp. These day trips are so nice because I get to visit and explore these beautiful places while hanging out with all my exchange friends! With my host family I have been to Lier, Thorn, Coe, Ostende, and other cities that I cant

remember the names of. My host family and I spent the day by the sea with my host dad's side of the family. It was a cold and windy day, but it was so much fun spending time with everyone. It's crazy to think that it only takes about 2 hours to drive to the sea from where I live in Belgium! I love how close everything is here, I can go places and only have to travel for no more than 2 hours. School is going well even though I only understand a few words the teachers say. Luckily, they understand that I don't know the language yet and that my grades don't count. They make me do the classwork like the other students, but they don't make me do the homework which is nice, so I haven't done a single thing of homework since I've been here! I am loving my life here in Belgium and I can't thank you all for sponsoring me for this experience! Stay updated on the rest of my exchange with my blog!

alifeinbelgium.blogspot.be



**Avon
Rotary**



We are not a charity.

We raise funds for the charities we support.

Avon Interact — November

Throughout the year the Rotary Interact group will do a lot of different community service projects. We donate to Toys for Tots, we give out gift bags at the Breakfast for Santa, we ring the bell for the Salvation Army and a new project, collect food items for the back pack program at our elementary school. We are continuously getting together and will be baking goods for the auction. We also sold coupon books to help support our projects and exchange weekend. As a whole the Interact group is heavily involved within the community and the school with our service.

Interact Secretary, Camden Arlauckas



Sign Up Today!

92nd Eastern Cities Fellowship Dinner

Wednesday, December 6th

Joseph A. Floreano Riverside Convention Center



Keynote Speaker:
Mark Daniel Maloney
President-Nominee



**Reminder... Food Pantry
Collections 3rd Tuesday
Of The Month... 11/21**

**pancake mix
syrup
side dish packages
jam/jelly
pasta sauce**



November Member Celebrations

Birthdays

- ⇒ Heather Ayers
- ⇒ Steve Csapo
- ⇒ Katie DeGraff
- ⇒ Greg Johnson
- ⇒ Kirk Vanderbilt
- ⇒ Jim Varner
- ⇒ Tom Vonglis

Wedding Anniversary

- ⇒ Bruce Amey
- ⇒ Jeff Herberger
- ⇒ Kirk Vanderbilt



Rotary Anniversary

- ⇒ Bruce Amey 2006
- ⇒ Charles Feller 2000
- ⇒ Dave Henehan 1980
- ⇒ Jeff Herberger 2016
- ⇒ Janis McMIndes 2016
- ⇒ Bob Mellen 2016
- ⇒ Shawn Rice 2016
- ⇒ Wayne Warriner 1986

Who Have We Provided Financial Support Too Lately?



- ⇒ \$200 to Best Buddies
- ⇒ \$1000 to Avon Food Pantry
- ⇒ \$1000 Avon Rotary-Lions Ambulance
- ⇒ \$3000 American Red Cross, Puerto Rico hurricane



November Club Schedule

Tues. Nov. 7	Reg. Mtg. 6 pm
Sat. Nov. 11	Auction 9 am @ Avon Elementary School
Tues. Nov. 14	NO MEETING
Wed. Nov. 15	Rotary-Lions Joint Mtg. 6:00 pm @ VFW, Program: Library
Mon. Nov. 20	Board of Directors Mtg. 7 pm @ Hurricane
Tues. Nov. 21	Reg. Mtg 6 pm, Program: Focus On The Children
Tues. Nov. 28	Thanksgiving Mtg. 6 pm



Save The Date

2017-2018 Rotary Calendar of Special Events

Saturday, November 11, 2017:	Auction—9:00 AM
Tuesday, November 28, 2017:	Thanksgiving Dinner—6:00
Wednesday, December 6, 2017:	Eastern Cities Dinner—5:00
Saturday, December 16, 2017:	Christmas Party—6:00
Tuesday, January 2, 2018:	Happy New Year Party—6:00
Tuesday, February 13, 2018:	Sweethearts Dinner—6:00
Tuesday, March 13, 2018:	St. Patrick's Dinner—6:00
Friday, May 4– May 6, 2018	District Conference—Saratoga, NY
Tuesday, May 29, 2018	Quad Cities Golf—Mt. Morris
Saturday, June 2, 2018	Blue Jean Ball
Tuesday, June 19, 2018	Change of Officers
Sun.-Wed., June 24-27, 2018	International Convention, Toronto, Canada