

President's Message



It seems surreal that we are already in October and the first quarter of our Rotary year has passed – it feels like we were just in the heat of summer! As I reflect on the change of seasons and what's to come for Avon Rotary, I can't be more excited and have a bit of "pep in my step". We are in the final stages of our "fundraising season" as we prepare for the Avon Rotary Auction. A big thank you to Kelly Cole for his leadership on this important event for our club and to all of the committee members who are working behind the scenes to ensure a great day. A successful Auction means we can keep making an impact in our communities and having months like we have so far this year.

This past month in particular, we were able to help those that have been devastated by the recent natural disasters of Hurricane Florence and the typhoon that hit the Philippines. Our thoughts and prayers go out to those affected and are grateful that our donations are part of a large effort to get each person back on their feet.

As we turn our sights to our local community, September was no exception to the great year we are having so far. We heard from Luke Weaver who leads the STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) program at Avon Central. His hands-on program and passion for the tools he is arming our students with was an inspirational

way to see the donation we made to their program during Tom's year in action. We also heard from last year's outbound Exchange Student, Sarah Carney, about her year in Belgium. She truly was a great ambassador for both our club and town. The apple doesn't fall far from the tree though as Sarah's Mom, Julie Carney, was gracious enough to host a Rotarian and his wife from England for Rotary's Friendship Exchange. It was wonderful to hear about their club and have the ability to share ideas of how we can help each other continue to serve the mission of Rotary.

We also took some time out for fun and fellowship with our Fall picnic hosted at Terry Lemen's house. She did an excellent job organizing a great evening for Rotarians and their families to enjoy each other and embrace their competitive spirit with our first Corn Hole tournament. Congratulations again to Bill Wall and Katie DeGraff for the win donating your winnings to Avon Community Cares!

The month ahead gives plenty more to look forward to – roadside cleanup, trunk or treat and a great lineup of programs. Let's keep up the great work and continue being the inspiration by being people of action.

Yours In Rotary Service,
Heather

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Board of Directors

- Heather Ayers, President
- Dom Lalisce, President Elect
- Terry Lemen, Senior Director
- Julie Carney, Director
- Karl Sawicki, Member at Large
- Tom Vonglis, Past President
- Laurie Vonglis, Secretary
- Kelly Cole, Treasurer

September Highlights



On September 7th...

The Avon golf team of Tom, Laurie, Kirk and Bill participated in the annual district golf tournament at Lima Country Club. It was a beautiful day! We had fun, played well and helped raise funds for District Governor Mike Slovak's initiative on *Opioid Overdose Epidemic and Human Trafficking*.

Shooting seven below par was respectable and earned us 1st place in the mixed division and the spiffy trophies pictured below left. Dinner and fellowship with



lots of familiar faces in the District is always a treat. Spending the day with some of the finest guys I know... priceless.

Many thanks to Gary & Norma Reilly and Scott Healy for doing another suburb job, organizing the tournament and raffle.



On September 11th...

Luke Weaver joined us to present on the STEAM program at Avon Central. We learned more about the program and its impact on Avon's students.

Julie & Jim Carney brought special guests from England, John and Julia Mathers. Julie and Jim hosted the couple through the Rotary Friendship Exchange. President Heather was presented the Mathers club flag.



September Highlights Continued

September 18th Fall Picnic

Rotarians, friends and family gathered at the Lemen homestead for a picnic on a beautiful fall evening. Many thanks to Terry & Tim Lemen for hosting as well as Doug Hayes for helping put the party together. It was a relaxing evening, enjoying the company and dish to pass spread. A highlight for some was the 'corn hole' tournament. We had seven teams compete with entry fees going to the winners choice of charities.

Congratulations to Katie DeGraff & Bill Wall for winning the 1st annual and designating the funds to Avon Community Cares.

Our exchange student, Sofie, also joined us and thanked the club for our warm hospitality as she celebrated her one month anniversary in Avon.



On September 25th...

We had the pleasure of hearing Sarah Carney tell us her story of her time in Belgium as an Exchange Student. As we often hear, the year went fast. She showed us her favorite pictures highlighting each month and the fun activities she participated in. She made many friends, loved her three different exchange families as well as the beautiful cities she visited.

It was an exceptional year, one she is grateful for and one that has changed her life forever.



On September 25th... Wayne Warriner was presented with a Paul Harris +1 pin. Many thanks to Wayne for his generosity and support of the Foundation over the years. Wayne is a good example for others. His contributions have helped others near and far whether it be fighting Polio, supplying water or educating children in remote villages.



Our Foundation

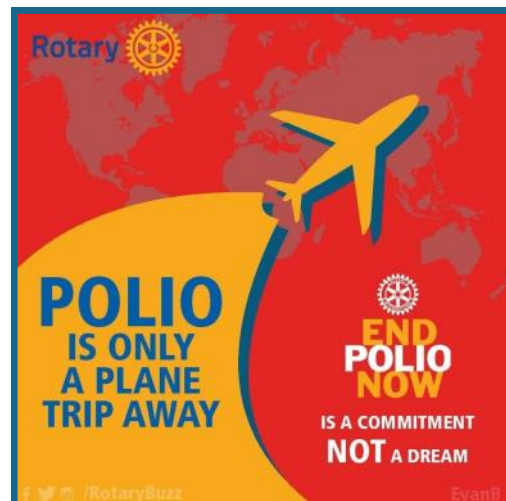


It would be difficult to overstate the significant role the Rotary Foundation plays in our mission in Rotary. Of course our Clubs and our membership are the heart and soul of the mission, but the Foundation is the blood which allows so many amazing things to happen. Whether it is eradicating Polio, funding Peace Scholars, providing safe water to a community in Nicaragua, or helping to fund our new initiative at Avon Central to provide school supplies, the Rotary Foundation is truly doing good in the world. As we approach November, which is "Foundation Month" on the Rotary calendar, I would like to first say thank you to everyone who has supported the Foundation with their charitable donations in the past. As a Rotary Club, we can be proud of both our individual and collective efforts. Year after year our Club continues to be one of the most charitable clubs in the District on a "per capita" basis. Of course it isn't a contest, but like in many areas, Avon Rotary Rocks when it comes to our generosity. So on behalf of the entire Foundation Committee, I would simply ask that we continue to make our support of the Foundation a priority. Individually, I challenge everyone to match or increase your giving from last year. In the coming weeks, you will receive a letter from the committee soliciting contributions to the Rotary Foundation. In addition, it will also let you know how many "credits" you have accumulated to date. Accumulated credits of 1000 or more means you

can name a Paul Harris Fellow, whether it be yourself, a community member, or a family member. We have several club members with enough now, or very close to reaching that number.

With some new members in the club and a few on the horizon, I will try to answer as many basic questions about the Foundation as I can in the next few weeks, but one noteworthy fact about the Foundation everyone should know is that they are good stewards of your (tax deductible) charitable contributions. The Foundation continues to rank among the most highly respected and rated charities in the world, scoring a perfect 100 on CharityNavigator.org 2 out of the last 4 years.

Yours In Rotary Service, Kirk Vanderbilt



October Club Schedule


Tues. Oct. 2	Reg. Mtg.—Program: The Spirit of Nicaragua, Laurie Vonglis & Fireside Chat
Mon. Oct. 8	Board of Directors Mtg.—7pm at Hurricane
Tues. Oct 9	Reg. Mtg.—Program: Cross County Trip, Helen Zamboni
Sat. Oct. 13	Roadside Cleanup 8am
Tues. Oct 16	Reg. Mtg.—Member Inductions, Special Guest: PDG Don Milton
Tues. Oct. 23	Reg. Mtg.—World Polio Day—Polio news update
Sun. Oct. 28	Eastern Cities Dinner 4:30—8:30 pm
Tues. Oct. 30	Halloween Party 6 pm—Dress up for a fun meeting
Wed. Oct. 31	Halloween Service Project @ Pine View Heights 5:00pm





October Member Celebrations

<p><u>Birthdays</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Aaron Johnson ⇒ Terry Lemen ⇒ Janis McMIndes ⇒ Carmine Simone ⇒ Josh Tonra ⇒ Steve Vanderbilt ⇒ Laurie Vonglis ⇒ Helen Zamboni 	<p><u>Wedding Anniversary</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Ted Coyne ⇒ Rodney George ⇒ Rob Lupisella ⇒ Jim Varner <p><u>Rotary Anniversary</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Kelly Cole 2002 ⇒ Hans Koomen 2002 ⇒ Tom Vonglis 2002
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*Avon Food Pantry
Collections are the 3rd
Tuesday Of The Month*

Watch for the list of needs from Steve Vanderbilt

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

Rotary Friendship Exchange



By: Julie Carney

The Rotary Friendship Exchange arrived again in District 7120 on September 10th and stayed until September 23rd. For those not familiar with the Friendship Exchange, Rotarians from one district travel somewhere in the world and visit another district. The host district will find Rotarians who will

host the visitors in their homes, take them sightseeing and just ensure an enjoyable visit. This was our first experience with the Friendship Exchange and is definitely the 1st of many!

Our visitors for this exchange were all from England. Due to work schedules, we paired with a couple from Penfield Rotary who could entertain our visitors during the day and we entertained and housed them in the evening. John and Julia Mathers arrived at our house on Monday afternoon and we enjoyed getting to know them over cocktails and dinner. John is a retired brew master and Julia, a retired school principal. Each morning, they were picked up and went touring around the area seeing such sights as Niagara on the Lake, Finger Lakes wine trail, Ganondagan State Historic Site, Sonnenberg Gardens, Sodus Point Lighthouse and more and that was just in their first five days. In

the evenings during the 4 nights they were with us, we went to an Avon Rotary meeting, the High Falls and the Genesee Brewhouse, a visit to 3 Heads brewing and a comedy show at the Fringe Festival where our son was the headlining act, oh, and a stop at Duffy's!

After 4 nights with us, they moved onto their next host family and will finish the trip with a 3rd host family. What a fantastic way to travel; staying in the comfort of a home, with people who are interested in learning about your culture and you about theirs and you get a personal tour guide taking you to visit sights and landmarks of the area.

Over the past few years, District 7120 has either hosted or traveled to Australia, Finland, and Nova Scotia just to name a few. If you are interested in participating in a Friendship Exchange, you can get more information on the district website at rotary7120.org. I know that we will host again and I look forward to traveling on a Friendship Exchange someday too.



Rotary Friendship Exchange



Rambling On Rotary—October



By: Bruce Amey

RI President Barry Rassin's theme for this Rotary year is "Be The Inspiration". What or who has inspired you in your life. My inspiration usually comes from other people.

My first inspiration was my parents. Growing up, I rarely viewed my five siblings as inspirational but now that we are all "older", each of them inspires me at different times. My children. I became a teacher because I was inspired by a high school math teacher I had. I became a school administrator due to my principal inspiring me. As an educator, I was regularly inspired by other teachers and many of my students. I am also inspired by persons of faith, readings in my Bible, and I have been inspired by many different historical figures.

What are the common characteristics of the persons who have inspired me? They have been encouraging, honest, creative, courageous, demonstrated moral integrity, and have caused me to reflect on my behaviors and beliefs. Being aware of the characteristics of others who inspire me inspires me to emulate those characteristics. I think we all want to be an inspiration for others. For me, what is so powerful in President Rassin's theme is to Be THE Inspiration, not just AN inspiration.

The Rotary Four-way test inspires me. I try to apply it every day in my interactions with others; I try to see if we as Rotarians apply it in our gatherings and activities. "Is it the TRUTH?" is easy for me to apply. "Is it FAIR to all concerned?" can be difficult at times because "fair" does not mean "equal". Every situation gets what it needs (i.e., fairness) but it may be different for someone else in a similar situation (i.e., not equal). For me the most difficult test is #3: "Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?" I know there are times that I say things that do not build goodwill or better friendships and for that, I am sorry. Test #4 is similar to #3 because I have difficulty believing that every-

thing I do "will be BENEFICIAL to all concerned." The word ALL in test #4 is where I have difficulty, can everything I say or do be beneficial to ALL? The four-way test is inspiring at least to try to achieve.

I am a fan of the Civil War and understanding all the difficult choices our country endured in that conflict between and among neighbors and within families inspires me. Lincoln's Gettysburg Address is remarkable. He did not speak of the progress of the war nor gloat about the Union victory at Gettysburg (if you consider more than 23,000 Union soldier casualties over the 3 days a victory). The focus of Lincoln's address was spoken "with humility about sacrifice, healing, remembering, and what it means to fight for a more inclusive democracy. His Address was a welcome juxtaposition to the angry divisiveness of the war." In 1938 at the 75th remembrance of the war, the Eternal Light Peace Memorial was dedicated by President Franklin Roosevelt. The memorial has an inscription: "Peace Eternal in a Nation United." The memorial's eternal flame was lit by two 91-year-old civil war veterans, one Union soldier and one Confederate soldier. This eternal flame was the inspiration for the eternal flame at the grave of President Kennedy.

Seeing much of the divisiveness in our country today, at times I am discouraged where I do not see the principles of the four-way test being applied. "Today, we must continue to reflect on the enduring relevancy of Lincoln's stirring, closing words of the Gettysburg Address: "...that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion – that we highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain – that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom – and that the government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth." For me, that is the inspiration.

And I have definitely rambled on long enough.



2018 Wild Polio Case Counts As of September 25

<u>Country</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>Date of last case</u>
Afghanistan	13	14	14	11 Aug 18
Nigeria	4	0	0	20 Aug 16
Pakistan	20	8	4	1 Aug 18
Total	37	22	18	




How close will we get to zero this year?


Funding is as important as ever so consider making a donation to the PolioPlus fund and the Gates Foundation will match 2:1.

The children of the world thank you!

ready. set.
go! 



**AVON
ROTARY
AUCTION**



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2018

Avon Elementary School

Preview: 8 a.m. Auction: 9 a.m. sharp!

Let's make this auction another great success!

TRUNK OR TREAT

DATE: Wednesday, October 31, 2018

TIME: 5:00—8:00

WHERE: Wesleyan Church Parking Lot

ROTARIANS: Decorate your trunk, wear your costume and hand out candy to the kids

LEADERS:

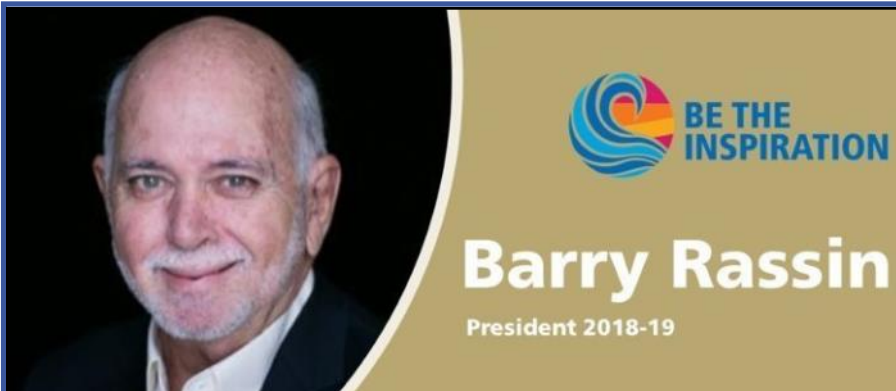




Save The Date

2018-2019 Rotary Calendar of Special Events

Sunday, October 28, 2018	Eastern Cities Dinner 4:30—8:30
Tuesday, November 20, 2018	Rotary/Lion's Thanksgiving Dinner Meeting 6:00
Saturday, December 8, 2018	Christmas Party 6:00
Tuesday, February 12, 2019	Sweethearts Dinner 6:00
Tuesday, March 12, 2019	St. Patrick's Dinner 6:00
Wednesday, May 1, 2019	Lions/Rotary Picnic Meeting 6:00
Friday, May 3– May 5, 2019	District Conference, Mt. Pocono, PA
Saturday, June 1, 2019	Blue Jean Ball, Oak Knolls Manor 6 pm
Tuesday, June 4, 2019	Quad Cities Golf—Avon
Tuesday, June 25, 2019	Change of Officers, Avon Inn



Eastern Cities Dinner

Sunday, October 28, 2018 4:30 PM—8:30 PM

Rochester Riverside Convention Center

Guest Speaker, Rotary International President, Barry Rassin and his wife Esther will be the guests of our Hosts, the Rochester Rotary Club. Join us to hear Barry's message on our theme—"Be the Inspiration".

23 Avon Rotarians will be attending

Semi-formal attire is most appropriate (men-suit & tie, women-dress)

Cost for club members: \$30 See Laurie for payment