



President's Message

Inside this issue:

President's Message	1
May Highlights	2
Corn Festival News	2
Polio Update	2
Rambling on Rotary	3
June Schedule	4
June Celebrations	4
Food Pantry Needs	5
& More	5



A quiet but productive May! With the continued restrictions on social events, we have not been able to meet in person this month, but we did meet every week using the Zoom technology. I was pleasantly surprised with the level of participation in the remote meetings! Not only did we have many club members "show up" but we also had active participation in the meeting by most. Kudos to all of you for trying out the technology and making the effort to attend. Being able to "see" our Rotarian fellows is very warming to our Team, I know it makes me feel like we are still able to care for each other.

I know that many of you miss the social interaction of our meetings, but the restrictions are necessary to preserve our health and accelerate our successful fight against the COVID-19 virus. Statistical data shows that the policies we have adopted throughout the State and the Nation have helped limit the spread of this deadly disease.

We had 1 significant cancellation decision this month. With a heavy heart, we had to make the decision to cancel the Corn Festival. It was a very difficult decision to make because it significantly impacts the financials of our organization. It will also impact our Avon Community. The Festival has its followers and vendors rely on it for their exposure to the Community. We did solicit your feedback before the Committee made the decision and a large majority of you recommended the cancellation. We will refund all money received to the vendors who had placed ads or reserved space. August 2020 will not be the same without the Corn Festival, but it was the right decision to make.

The Board of Directors also made the decision to continue to postpone any significant outlay for the Club, so we are not able to support some of the great projects we support every year. We will review the financial outlooks at our next meetings in early June. It was a difficult decision, but we

had to respond to the decrease in funds raised by our activities. We did maintain some key traditions such as the Linda Kime Scholarship which will be awarded to a deserving Avon High School student.

As I am leaving the Leadership of the Club at the end of June, I want to sincerely thank all the club members for their support and guidance. It has been a challenge at times to lead our club through some difficult decisions. I feel mostly proud that we were able to launch a successful new Program for the Avon Migrant Community in collaboration with the Avon School District and the Avon Free Library. We also continued the implementation of our Strategic Plan and we made some necessary changes to our By-laws. The Club is strongly positioned for future growth and continued support to our Communities.

In May, the Board of Directors had to select 2 new Board Members to fill vacant seats. Tom Vonglis and Marcy Cameron stepped up to fill the vacant positions. The Club will have a very strong and experienced Board of Directors under the leadership of Julie Carney. Please join me in wishing a very successful year to an incredible team!

The event is still in planning phase, but I am hearing that there will be an Official Change of Officers event in July which will be an in-person event. I hope most of you can join us for that event, we will announce the details as the planning gets finalized.

As I close my last President monthly message to you, I ask you to keep our friend Kelly and his family in your thoughts and prayers. We are looking forward to his full recovery!



**Avon Rotary Club meets
Tuesdays 6 pm at Avon Inn**

Board of Directors
 Dom Lalisse, President
 Julie Carney, President Elect
 Steve Csapo, Director
 David Kilgore, Member at Large
 Heather Ayers, Past President
 Shannon DiFranco, Secretary
 Kelly Cole, Treasurer



May Highlights

Tuesday, May 5:

Many thanks to Julie Carney for arranging a guest speaker tonight. Her Rotary colleague, Pauline Perreault did a presentation on Life Behind the Iron Curtain. She was a fabulous speaker and I am sure everyone enjoyed her program.



Tuesday, May 26:

We had the pleasure of meeting Avon Central School's new Superintendent, Ryan Pacatte. Ryan shared a bit about himself and presented the school budget. Watch the mail for your ballot to vote!

On Tuesday, May 26 the Corn Festival Committee met and **sadly** made the final determination to cancel the 2020 event. The following message will go out to vendors, sponsors, patrons and the general public within the next week or so.

"With all the uncertainties associated with the Covid-19 virus and with Avon Rotary's commitment to the health and wellbeing of all our Festival patrons, the club has decided to cancel our event this year.

If you have previously paid for your registration, or made a contribution in some way, a full refund will be mailed to you soon.

The Corn Festival is the largest fundraiser our club has annually. With its cancellation, we do hope you will join us next year. Collectively we will all strive to make the Avon Rotary Club Corn Festival 2021 our grandest ever!"

Save the Date –

Saturday August 14, 2021



There's still time to make your Rotary Foundation contribution!

2020 Wild Polio Case Counts as of May 26, 2020

Country	2018	2019	2020	Date of last case
Afghanistan	21	28	12	March 22, 2020
Pakistan	8	135	49	May 4, 2020
Total	29	163	61	



Rambling On Rotary—June



By: Bruce Amey

Seeing the Aloha of Rotary. President Mark Maloney said this in his last President's Message as RI President in the June issue of the Rotarian. President Maloney went on to say, "... "aloha" means mutual regard and affection. It extends warmth and caring with no expectation of anything in return. The spirit of aloha applies wherever in the world we may live."

Diane and I were supposed to be flying to Honolulu for the Rotary International Convention in a few days; convention reservations had been made on June 3, 2019 when I said to her, "How would you like to go to Hawaii for your 65th birthday, and while we are there we can attend the RI Convention?" Diane was excited, as was I. But as you all know, COVID-19 changed the world. But, the virus doesn't need to change us as Rotarians.

Our club will need to be thinking of different ways to serve our community. We have already needed to cancel one of our major fund-raisers (the Blue Jean Ball) because of the virus and it is likely to cause the cancellation of our biggest fundraiser, the Avon Corn Festival. The Corn Festival has always been the biggest annual festival gathering for our village and town. So how will we position our club in our community to continue to afford to provide our promise and our service? Will we be engaging in some virtual fundraisers? What other ways can we bring our community together and celebrate the uniqueness that is Avon?

The Rotary Club of Schaumburg-Hoffman Estates, Illinois (say that 3 times fast) had planned a 50th Club Birthday gathering and had to change it to a virtual event to maintain a safe and healthy activity. They conducted a silent, on-line auction with a livestream program and raised nearly \$120,000. As a club, they needed to adapt and did so. Our club is adaptable; what can we do differently?

Our club and individual giving to the Rotary Foundation are essential. Whereas the goal of the eradication of polio is still to be accomplished but very much within reach, COVID-19 has created a new emergency. By the end of May, more than 346 THOUSAND persons will have died from the virus worldwide and more than 100 THOUSAND of our fellow citizens will have died. Rotary has been instrumental in making the polio vaccine available around the world to every country on earth; what will our role be in helping to stem COVID-19? In 1952, polio resulted in just over 3,000 deaths in the United States for the YEAR. COVID-19



has caused more than 100,000 deaths in the United States in 3 MONTHS.

As Rotarians, our areas of focus include education and literacy, economic and community development, peace and conflict resolution, maternal and child health, water and sanitation, and disease prevention and treatment. All of these areas are essential for a healthy, safe, peaceful world. We need to support the Rotary Foundation as a club and as every individual within the club. Never has the world needed Rotary more than today. Whereas in our local community we may not see or feel the need for RI's areas of focus in our daily lives, COVID-19 has planted the seed and the need for us to act even more as it is affecting every area of focus.

As we enter June, our Rotary year and our club are in a state of transition. Julie Carney will be our new club president; Tom Vonglis has stepped back into a leadership role as our PE; Mike Ford will be entering the presidential-preparation tract as the club's new Junior Director; and Marcia Cameron will be returning in the role of Past-President to serve out Dom's last year on the Board. Of course, Steve Csapo will be moving from Junior Director to Senior Director. I point this out because I want to remind each of us that we need to continue to see the Aloha in Rotary. Not only is Aloha "mutual regard and affection", but as the most common Hawaiian word, it also means "goodbye" and "hello". While we are saying "goodbye" to one Rotary year, we are saying "hello" to another. Our club will need to welcome new members with new ideas to inspire our club to climb new and higher mountains of service. Our club will need each of us to care for each other while we serve our community and our world.

RI President-elect Holger Knaack's theme is "Rotary Opens Opportunities"; we have an obligation to continue to do this while continuing to "Connect the World", "Be the Inspiration", and "Serve Humanity" (RI themes since 2017). We can do this. We are all about serving others, serving the world. And, as usual, I have rambled on long enough. Aloha!



Club Schedule

Tuesday, June 2	Regular Meeting—ZOOM
Sunday, June 7	Golf Outing 3:00 @ Farview (for those that sign up)
Monday, June 8	Board of Directors Meeting—ZOOM
Tuesday, June 9	Regular Meeting—ZOOM
Tuesday, June 16	Regular Meeting—ZOOM
Tuesday, June 23	Regular Meeting—ZOOM
Tuesday, June 30	Regular Meeting—ZOOM DOM'S LAST OFFICIAL MEETING AS PRESIDENT



June Celebrations

Birthday

- ⇒ Bruce Amey
- ⇒ Kelly Cole
- ⇒ David Henehan
- ⇒ Rhonda Hirschler
- ⇒ Dominique Lalisce
- ⇒ David LeFeber
- ⇒ Jim Ryan
- ⇒ Jim Tompsett
- ⇒ Marcie Williams

Wedding Anniversary

- ⇒ Greg Deragon
- ⇒ Bob Hayes
- ⇒ Janis McMIndes
- ⇒ Karl Sawicki
- ⇒ Steve Stephenson
- ⇒ Jim Tompsett

Rotary Anniversary

- ⇒ Dick Stanton 1959 (H)
- ⇒ Laurie Vonglis 2004
- ⇒ Steve Csapo 2010
- ⇒ Doug Hayes 2012
- ⇒ Rob Lupisella 2012
- ⇒ Shannon DiFranco 2014
- ⇒ Colin Bruckel 2014

*Please keep in your thoughts and prayers....
Kelly Cole as he continues to battle for wellness*



Is a fellow Rotarian ill or in need?

Please let the club President know and
Sunshine Liaison Agent—Barbara Herman



Avon Food Pantry

Drop off at Food Pantry or Contact Rhonda

Pantry critical needs in June are:

Crackers & Jello

Thank you, Jennifer Palmer



2019-2020 Avon Rotary Calendar of Special Events

Change of Officers Banquet—5:30

DATE TO BE DETERMINED!