



President's Message

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Ready, Set, Go..

The New Rotary year has officially started! With the new year, comes a new theme: "Rotary connects the Word". With all our planned activities in 2019-2020, we will vigorously live the theme and the Rotary values.

As I am preparing for the start of the year, I feel very humbled by the tremendous legacy of the Club and all our members. Over the years, we have built a great and diverse organization built on fellowship and the irresistible urge to serve and connect to the World. It brings me tremendous pride to have the privilege to serve you in the coming year. Over the years, I have served in several volunteer organizations, but the Avon Rotary has a unique passion and dedication which sets us apart.

As the year is about to start, I certainly feel the apprehension and the nervousness of a long-distance runner setting on the start line. But I also feel the warmth of the team embarking on the journey and it brings me confidence and comfort. Our induction process into Club Leadership positions really helps candidates get ready for the key roles. In the last 3 years on the Board, I have had the opportunity to listen and learn from a wonderful set of leaders: Scott Holmes, Tom Vonglis and Heather Ayers. I cannot thank them enough for their mentorship and support.

In May, we conducted a survey of the membership and we received your feedback on meeting frequency and content. We will use the feedback to continue to provide programs and events you enjoy. We will continue with

in-meeting projects and presentations by local leaders. We will also ask members to share information about their careers or hobbies as it is an area you told us we need to emphasize more.

This past month, I had the privilege to present Maggie Dempsey with the 2019 Linda Kime Memorial Award. The award celebrates Linda's past service and our recipient this year lived all the values Linda exemplified through her years of service.

In June, we also set a provisional budget for the coming year and we anticipate being able to support many community projects and organizations as well as international projects and the Rotary Foundation. We will launch a new initiative enabled by a Rotary Foundation grant to support the literacy needs of the parents of Migrant Children in collaboration with the Avon School District, the Avon Free Library and the INTERACT Club.

This year, we will again host a Foreign Exchange Student. Julia comes to us from Sao Paulo, Brazil. She is a very energetic young lady who is very involved with the Interact Club in her country. She is very excited to spend a year with us and the Avon School.

Our giving and club activities will only be made possible with the successful organizations of our key fundraisers: The Corn festival, the Auction and the Blue Jean Ball. I thank you for your continued volunteering and participation. They make our Club a very special place!

We are now a GO!

President Dom

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

Board of Directors

Dom Lalis, President
Julie Carney, President Elect
Jake Ayers, Sr. Director
Steve Csapo, Director
David Kilgore, Member at Large
Heather Ayers, Past President
Shannon DiFranco, Secretary
Kelly Cole, Treasurer



Welcome to the new Rotary year!

2019—2020

May this new year bring you Love, Laughter and Happiness in service



**Avon Rotary President
Dom Lalise**



**District 7120 Governor
Dave Hannan & Pam**



**Rotary International President
Mark Maloney & Gay**



**Avon Rotary
Board of Directors:**
Dom Lalise,
David Kilgore,
Shannon DiFranco,
Heather Ayers,
Steve Csapo,
Jake Ayers,
Julie Carney,
missing-Kelly Cole

June Highlights

June 4—Quad Cities golf & dinner. Farview Golf Club hosted 10 golf teams, 7 of those from our own club. It was a beautiful day and much fun was had. A dinner meeting for over 60 people was held at the Avon Inn. Rob Lupisella & Laurie Vonglis provided a program on school builds in Nicaragua. Congratulations to the winning team—led by Rodney George. Next year Caledonia will host this event.

We also enjoyed a visit from Foundation Area Director, Bob Owens. He presented Kirk Vanderbilt with the grant check for the 18-19 Stone's Community Resource Closet project for over \$3500.



2019 Quad City Golfers



L-R: Jim Ryan, Rodney George, Char Masten, Tom Vonglis



June 11— Many thanks to Past President Marcia Cameron. She filled in for President Heather and conducted the meeting with a packed agenda! The club celebrated birthdays, anniversaries and did an in-meeting service project for Stone's closet. A club assembly was also held with several reports provided for the benefit of club members to hear about current status. Thanks to all who participated.

June 18— This years Blue Jean Ball was done in memory of Liz Green who was the champion for Avon Central's Stones Community Resource Closet. In record setting fashion, the event raised over \$15,000. At our June 18th meeting a check for the proceeds was presented to Principal, Rob Lupisella. These funds will help sustain the closet well into the future, ensuring local children are supported in many ways.

Many thanks to all the Rotarians that helped support this years fundraiser.

L-R: Heather Ayers, Marcie Williams, Rob Lupisella, Jake Ayers



Change of Officers Celebration



Rookie of the Year
Mike Ford



Rotarian of the Year
Jake Ayers



Out-Going President
Heather Ayers

Congratulations!
Many thanks for your leadership,
service and example.



Deep appreciation to
Bruce & Diane Amey for their significant
contribution to the Foundation in
trust for Bruce's Mother & Father



Paul Harris Fellows presented to Julie Welch & Dom Lalisie
for their outstanding service for our club and community

Interact Club News

By: Shannon DiFranco

Maggie Dempsey our now, past President of Interact, was awarded the Linda Kime Memorial Scholarship in June at the Avon Central Senior awards night. Maggie attended the June 18 Rotary meeting where she was presented her \$1000 scholarship. Maggie was an excellent leader among her peers and did a great job as president.

All our seniors will be greatly missed and I hope that they have taught the underclassmen to step up and be leaders. I feel strong in the fact that these seniors have learned to "pay it forward" and be future Rotarians. While at graduation this past weekend I was pleasantly surprised how many times our interact program was recognized by the staff, school and community. Abby Decillis our new president just attended RYLA at RIT, more to come on her weekend.



Sofie's Update—May

It's so thought provoking how time flies! We're now in June, and I have less than two months left. It's very sad, but I'm living every moment to the fullest.

May has truly been an eventful month! I've experienced so much exciting stuff, and I'm so grateful. I had the opportunity to experience of going to district conference! An unforgettable event that included lots of exciting activities. I was surrounded by my favorite people, and it was just amazing!

Besides, it has been an eventful month for track and field. We had lots of meets, and I truly enjoyed being a part of such an amazing team. We had lots of competition, but we ended the season with very impressive results. Avon hosted sectionals, and all the AA and CC schools attended. It was fascinating to watch all these amazing runners. Unfortunately, we didn't win, but we got in second with very good results. It was an unforgettable experience.

Prom was truly a dream come true! It was an authentic American high school experience. I had such a good time, and I wish that I could experience it again.

I'm very ambivalent and sentimental about this whole experience coming to an end, but I'm just enjoy very moment, and taking advantage of every single opportunity!

Thank you!

- Sofie



Rambling On Rotary—July



By: Bruce Amey

In my April 2019 Ramblings, I referenced the April issue of the Rotarian and the many articles relating to climate change. When I received the July 2019 issue of the Rotarian, I was pleased to see the articles on incoming RI President Mark Maloney; it provided the opportunity to get to know him much better.

However, I was dismayed to read the many comments in the “inbox” chastising Rotary for commenting on and wanting to take action on the issue of climate change. Writers state that climate change is a “deeply political” issue. Because Rotary presented a position on the topic of climate change and stated that Rotary needs to become active regarding the issue, one writer stated his desire to “end immediately my subscription to what has become a political rag”, referring to the Rotarian. Another writer commented that “climate change is nothing more than a narrative to create a world government that derives citizens of their personal freedoms.” Another was “dismayed that Rotarians would succumb to the lure of alarmists.” “Should we examine the motives of those that profit from pushing the climate change agenda or should we devote our daily lives to helping those around us?”

As I said I was dismayed to read these comments. It is a fact our earth’s climate is changing and that humans are contributing negatively to it. Humans have been polluting the earth’s waters since the beginning of time with our sewage and other waste materials. Since the industrial revolution, humans have been polluting the air we breathe and our environment. And science has proven that humans use of carbon fuels are negatively impacting our atmosphere and have resulted in weather pattern changes. This is fact, it is not politics. How to address these facts have become political, but the earth’s climate is changing, and humans are part of the reason.

Yes, our earth went through an ice age and then our globe warmed ... and humans had nothing to do with that change. Some might suggest that the climate changes we are seeing, and forecasting are just the earth going through another cycle ... and maybe it is. But it is irresponsible to contribute to that change by polluting our water and air ... which does not benefit the health and welfare of any human.

What if Rotarians considered polio (or any disease) as nature’s way of culling out the weak within the human race? Who were we to intervene and change the natural

course of events? Darwin’s Theory of Evolution stated that is the course of nature. Stuff happens, so what? Yet Rotary has been striving to eradicate this “culler” since 1979 ... 40 years!! Was that decision to go after polio a political decision? Was it a decision to line the pockets of pharmaceutical firms that might profit from making and distributing the vaccine? I don’t believe so. Possibly we should be asking who profits by not addressing climate change rather than the other way around.

When some state that Rotarians addressing climate change does not comply with the Four-Way Test, I must disagree. Possible test #2, “Is it FAIR to all concerned” might not work as carbon-producing, pollution-producing businesses might not think it is fair that they need to change their practices. But climate change is the TRUTH (test#1) ... it is happening. “Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?” (test#3) ... maybe not for some for the same reason as test #2 but, when the world has clean water to drink and clean air to breathe, we have seen how Rotarians have built goodwill and better friendships around the world. Acting on climate change issues and acting to change our behaviors that negatively impact our environment can reverse some of the severe climate issues we have seen.

I used to smoke cigarettes. Science proved that smoking was harmful to us, although I’m certain some tobacco farmers still dispute the facts. When I quit smoking (a 2-pack-a-dayer) on July 17, 1977, my body started to heal itself. When we stop doing things that harm ourselves and our environment, it will be “BENEFICIAL to all concerned.” (test #4).

As I stated in my April Rambling article, “If we don’t get climate change right, it doesn’t matter what we [Rotarians] do in our six areas of focus.” Nothing will matter for our children or their children. Because Rotarians chose to take a stand to find a cure for polio and immunize the world, more than 2.5 billion children have been spared that devastating disease. As incoming RI President Maloney stated, “Rotary allows us to connect ... across our differences.” Let us come together to act on climate change. As Rotarians, we must act to address climate change “to help those around us” and around the world. It has nothing to do with politics; it is a fact ... just like polio was and still is. As we strive in this way, it will be the truth, it will be fair, it will build friendships and goodwill, and it will be beneficial to ALL. And this time, I really have rambled on long enough.





July Member Celebrations

Birthdays

- ⇒ Joe Callahan (H)
- ⇒ Karl Sawicki
- ⇒ Charlene Masten

Wedding Anniversary

- ⇒ Greg & Jean Antkowiak
- ⇒ Cathy Jo Murphy
- ⇒ Jim Ryan
- ⇒ Ernie Wiard
- ⇒ Marcie Williams

Rotary Anniversary

- ⇒ Ted Coyne 1955
- ⇒ Steve Stevenson (H) 1963
- ⇒ Jerry Dougherty 1966
- ⇒ Jim Gaffney (H) 1971
- ⇒ Julie Carney 2009



July Club Schedule



Tues. July 2	No Meeting—Happy 4th of July
Tues. July 9	Gilda's Club Camp Carnival Lunch Service Project 10—1 @ Penfield High
Mon. July 15	Board of Directors Meeting 7 pm @ Hurricane
Tues. July 16	Regular Meeting 6 pm
Tues. July 23	Family Picnic @ Avon Driving Park 6 pm
Tues. July 30	Regular Meeting 6 pm

Avon Food Pantry

Collections are the 3rd Tuesday Of The Month

Pantry needs for this month and throughout the summer:

- canned fruits, canned vegetables,
- apple sauce, apple juice, other types of 100% juices,
- cereal, snack bars,
- peanut butter, jam,
- spaghetti sauce
- tuna



Thank you,

Jennifer Palmer, Avon Food Pantry Director



Is a fellow Rotarian ill or in need?

**Please let the club President know
and he will enlist the help of our
Sunshine Liaison Agent—Barbara Herman**



2019 Wild Polio Case Counts as of June 26, 2019

<u>Country</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>Date of last case</u>
Afghanistan	14	21	10	May 19, 2019
Nigeria	0	0	0	Aug 20, 2016
Pakistan	8	8	27	June 5, 2019
Total	22	29	37	

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!



Save The Date

2019-2020 Avon Rotary Calendar of Special Events

Tuesday, July 23, 2019	Family Picnic @ Downs—6:00
Sunday, August 11, 2019	Corn Festival Picnic @ George's—2:00
Tuesday, August 20, 2019	Visit GVRC & Picnic—6:00
Tuesday, August 27, 2019	DG Visit & Membership Night—6:00
Tuesday, October 29, 2019	Halloween Party—6:00
Tuesday, November 26, 2019	Rotary/Lions Thanksgiving Dinner Mtg—6:00
Saturday, December 14, 2019:	Christmas Party—6:00
Tuesday, February 11, 2020:	Sweethearts Dinner—6:00
Tuesday, March 17, 2020:	St. Patrick's Dinner—6:00
Friday, May 1– May 3, 2020	District Conference—Niagara Falls, NY
Tuesday, June 2, 2020	Quad Cities Golf—Caledonia
Saturday, June 9, 2020	Blue Jean Ball—6:00
Tuesday, June 30, 2020	Change of Officers Banquet—5:30