



President's Message



Another Great August in our Club History!!!

Our Rotary Summer has continued on a high note in August. We had great opportunities to demonstrate our commitment to the Community and camaraderie in multiple traditional and new club events.

We started the month with a great service project preparing 50 Birthday bags for the Food Pantry. The bags contain all the ingredients for a great celebration including cake fixings, candles, balloons and party favors. The club again demonstrated tremendous energy to set up and build the bags. Steve Vanderbilt, our Food Pantry contact, confirmed that they were a surprise and a great hit with the team! That was just a first appetizer to the Feast of August!

Our piece de resistance for August was the Corn Festival! I just love the Corn Festival. The entire week is my favorite Rotary week of the year with all the preparation and the actual event. The entire club delivered once again on amazing volunteering. I was trying to estimate the number of hours donated for the event and I gave up when the number approached 1000 hours. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!! This team never ceases to amaze me. Special thanks to Rodney for leading us again this year and hosting us for a fabulous picnic afterwards. The final numbers have not come in yet from all areas of the festival, but we expect to at least meet the numbers from last year's fundraising. The Corn Festival is the largest source of funding for the Club, so we cannot wait to find out if we will be able to deliver on the same projects as last year. We also had a visit from Governor Dave Hannan who served a serving shift at the Corn Booth. Thank you, Dave!

Our Exchange student, Julia, joined us at the

middle of this month! We are very excited to show her our appreciation for selecting our District for her year abroad. Special thanks to Laurie and Tom Vonglis for hosting Julia for her first trimester.

While we had a "week off" from meetings on 8/13, several members demonstrated their commitment to the community by donating blood. Special thanks to Karl Sawicki for organizing the Red Cross events, I know they make a huge difference to support local needs.

Our 'Fromage' for the month was the GVRC Camp visit. It was incredible. The camp leadership, the camp staff and all the campers gave us another life lesson. I left the Camp with a renewed sense of commitment to enable the success of the camp next year through our support. Special thanks to Ernie for his dedication to the camp and organizing our visit. Some of us even had the opportunity to demonstrate their "dancing" skills. Much fun was had, and I have it on good authority that videos of the event are circulating!

The dessert for the month of August was our Membership Night and the Governor visit on 8/27, our last meeting of the month. We had 4 prospective members joining us. Special thanks to Terry for organizing the event. We need new members to keep building on our presence in the Community! Governor Dave inspired us with his message reinforcing the "Rotary Connects the World" theme. Dave also complemented us on our Migrant Literacy Program which will kick off on September 10th with the first classes at the Avon Free Library.

September is the Rotary Literacy month and we will have multiple events centered around Literacy throughout the month. Thank you for your amazing support to the Club and the Community!

President Dom

Inside this issue:

President's Message	1
August Highlights	2
August Highlights Cont.	3
Corn Festival Gallery	4
Meet Julia	5
RYLA	5
Interact	5
Rambling on Rotary	6
Making a Difference	7
September Celebrations	8
September Schedule	8
Food Pantry	9
Polio Update	9
Save the Date	10

**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

August Highlights



August 6:

After our meeting several club members put over 50 "Party in a bags" together. The bags contain cake, frosting, candles, sprinkles and several party favors.

The following day all 50+ bags were delivered to the Avon Food Pantry. Many thanks to Steve Stephenson for meeting me, helping unload and stocking the pantry shelves. These goods will help area families provide a celebration when needed.

Thank you, Laurie Vonglis

August 13:

Thank you to all the Rotarians who donated their time and blood to make for another successful drive. We had 15 Rotarians and 10 walk-ins participate. I didn't get a final count on units collected, but I'm sure it was a very worthwhile amount.



For planning purposes, our next blood drive is scheduled for **December 3rd**. I'll keep you posted on any news you may be interested in as we get closer to that date.

Thank you all again,
Karl Sawicki



THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

I cant say it enough. Thank you for all the hard work and long hours each of you gave over the past 8 months preparing for and executing another, 33rd, successful Corn Fest.

What a GREAT team (club) we have. Not only the "veterans" of Corn fest but also all our newer and newest members stepped in and worked their butts off making sure we were successful.

I tried to get around to each of you Saturday and yesterday to thank you personally but I know I missed some.

I would like to ask each of you to please jot down what went well and where you feel we need improvement while it is still fresh in our memories. I will try and get us together after one of our September meetings to go over and discuss them as well as update our Prep and signup sheet so we are prepared to start all over again in January.

Please pass on our THANKS and gratitude to all your Rotary workers , family members, friends, etc. that signed up to help us. We couldn't have done it without their help and support.

Thank you, Rodney George

August 20:

Avon Rotarians made the annual trek to visit the Genesee Valley Rotary Camp on this date. Rotarian Mike Ford said it best, "I love the Avon Rotary visit to GVRC every year. After the hard work of the Corn Fest it's great to hit the reset button and see what all that work goes toward..."

The evening was warm and the spirit was celebratory as we watched the campers enjoy music and dancing. Some of us even joined in on the 'conga' line.

Many thanks to our club representatives who work hard behind the scenes. Ernie Wiard and David Henehan have been doing a great job for many, many years on the Camp Board of Directors!

Laurie Vonglis



August Highlights Continued



**THANK YOU,
ROTARY!**

for another amazing year of GVRC



August 25:

Two things we pride ourselves on in Avon Rotary, work hard AND play hard. Today, 11 Rotarians and family members did a nice paddle down the Genesee River. Fun in the sun, a few beers, and lots of laughs.

Kirk Vanderbilt

August 27:

We had a great meeting filled with inspiration. The club was introduced to this year's exchange student, Julia from Brazil. Our District Governor Dave Hannan and his wife Pam joined us and provided a very informative, focused, moving program. We also enjoyed the company of several prospective members.

Laurie Vonglis



Corn Festival Highlights



Photo credits to all the Rotarians that took and sent me pictures for our club gallery :)

Introducing our 2019-20 Exchange Student—Julia



I'm Julia Pinheiro Leandro, I'm 17 years old, I live in Brazil and now I'm on the Rotary Exchange Program for the years 2019-2020. On 18/08 I arrived in Rochester and met some Rotarians and my lovely host mother. In that short time I learn a lot of different things that I used to do in Brazil. The most different thing until now is the school. Everything is different, the practices, the classes, the school structure and even the people I've met there. All this is a very huge challenge for me, and I'm very happy to have the opportunity to face it and do the best I can. I hope this year I will make a difference in my Rotary and Interact club, learn everything about the American culture, bring my culture that is very rich too and make very good friends here. I'm very excited about this year, and I would like to thank the Avon Rotary Club for the opportunity and the volunteers who set out to take care of me this year.



Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

Abby Decillis, 2019-20 Interact Club President attended RYLA, held at RIT. It was a five day long camp that hosted students from all around the area. Throughout this week, we were given many opportunities to learn and grow as leaders in entertaining ways. Our camp director Dr. Ted Baumhauer gave us many problems and scenarios that we had to work through as a team to try and successfully complete. Many guest speakers and leaders came to speak to us on leadership, and give us their views on what it means to be a leader. At the beginning of camp, we got to choose from three committees to be a part of - canteen, t-shirt, and yearbook.



Interact Fundraiser



- ⇒ Interact is kicking off the new school year with our sale of coupon books.
- ⇒ If anyone is interested please contact Shannon or Ed
- ⇒ Each book is \$25.00 and \$15.00 goes back into the Interact Club!
- ⇒ They have added a few more restaurants this year.
- ⇒ This is our largest fundraiser.

Rambling On Rotary—September



By: Bruce Amey

RI President Mark Maloney said, “Every chance we have to pass on the gift of Rotary to young people is one we must take if we are going to grow Rotary and ensure that the next generation is fully engaged in our mission.” In my opinion, Rotary IS a gift to be shared.

As we concluded our Corn Fest 2019, I realized how we would never be able to “pull it off” without engaging our young people (and some not so young). To invite others to help us serve our community is a gift. The young people who assisted at the school with parking, with serving in the corn booth, with emptying garbage throughout the day, at some of the entertainment venues, etc. ... each of these opportunities for service alongside of our club Rotarians is the start of instilling “service above self”.

Some brought their children and other family members to the Corn Fest picnic and to our summer picnic at the Downs. In late August several families, including some teens, enjoyed a kayak adventure with club members. When we went to the GVRC, I was talking with one of its directors Brian Bartalo who has been going to GVRC since he was a child; he met his wife there and has continued to serve the children at the camp each year for more than 30 years. And, his children are camp counselors there, as well. His father got him engaged early and Brian has passed the joy of serving others on to his children.

The Avon Rotary club is a family. We work hard together but also have fun while we are together.

I like to think it isn't work as much as it is fun. However, our Rotary time can pull us away from time with our families. “We must foster a culture where Rotary does not compete with family, but complements it.” (RI President Maloney)

We are now in the throes of preparing for our 2nd biggest fund raiser of our Rotary year ... the Rotary Auction. Tom Honan and Jan McMIndes need every Rotarian to help by securing auction items and then assisting on November 9. I look forward to seeing our Interactors selling refreshments throughout our auction day, being engaged in our activities. Let's continue to encourage our young people to be engaged in service activities within our community so they too will desire to be Rotarians and work towards its goals.

The September issue of *the Rotarian* had a lot of information about the RI Convention in Hawaii next June; it would be great to have many of our members attend the RI Convention. A convention mascot is Hawaii's green sea turtle. Why? They are “a symbol of good luck, wisdom, and longevity [that] are messengers, protectors, and guides.” Each of us needs to exhibit those characteristics within our families and our community and invite others into our club to do likewise. Like the green sea turtle, we need to stick our necks out if we are going to move forward and not be complacent within our shell. Rotary is a great family and, for me, my most memorable times are with my family. And, as usual, I have rambled on long enough.



Making a Difference Throughout the World



Fellow Rotarians,
I want to thank the entire club for your continued support of literacy in the impoverished country of Nicaragua. Since the first construction, Avon Rotary has been there, supporting this effort every step of the way over the past eight years. The attached pictures are before and after images of

the old and new schools in San Miguelito. Our club was a significant contributor to this 2019 project, and all of the nine projects since 2011. Linking Hands for Learning just last year started a college scholarship program, which is enabling students from these mountain communities to now attend universities in nearby cities. Because of their incredible generosity, Avon Rotarians have already begun stepping forward and have asked to sponsor students. Attending university is a dream come true for people living in these mountain communities. Avon Rotary is making an incredible difference in the lives of people throughout the world!

Rob and Jeanine Lupisella





Rodney & Donna George for hosting the Corn Festival celebration picnic, once again. You are the host and hostess with the most-ess for sure!



September Member Celebrations



Wedding Anniversary

- ⇒ Jerry Dougherty
- ⇒ Hans Koomen
- ⇒ Shannon DiFranco
- ⇒ Scott Holmes
- ⇒ Jim Gaffney
- ⇒ Katie DeGraff

Birthday

- ⇒ Bill Wall
- ⇒ Shannon DiFranco

Rotary Anniversary

- ⇒ Josh Tonra 2014
- ⇒ Marcie Williams 2016
- ⇒ Leann Hill 2017



Club Schedule

Tues. Sept 3	Regular Meeting—Program: Julia & her home country, Brazil
Fri. Sept 6	District 7120 Golf Tournament
Tues. Sept 10	Regular Meeting—Migrant Parent Literacy Project
Mon. Sept 16	Board of Directors Meeting 7 pm @ Hurricane
Tues. Sept 17	Club Assembly & ByLaws Committee Meeting
Mon. Sept 23	Eastern Cities Dinner Riverside Convention Center 5 pm
Tues. Sept 24	Regular Meeting Program: Kolton Montague



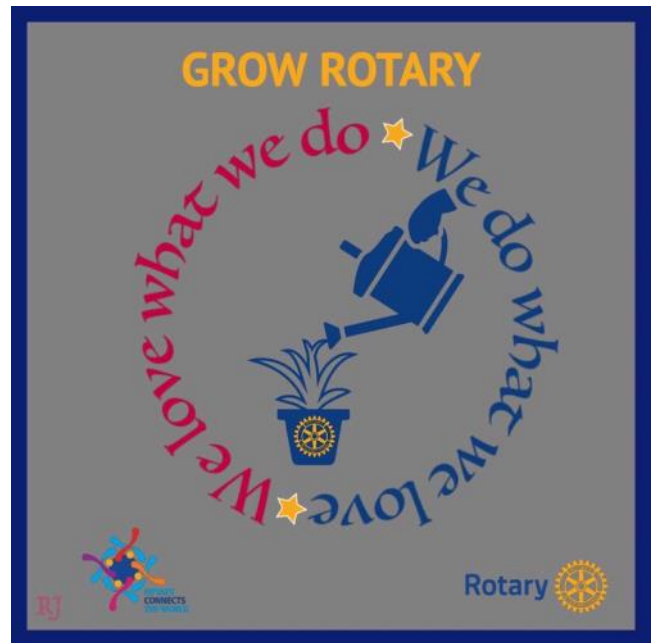
Avon Food Pantry

Collections are the 3rd Tuesday
Of The Month

Pantry needs for this month:

- 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
Sunshine Liaison Agent—Barbara Herman



2019 Wild Polio Case Counts as of August 28, 2019

<u>Country</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>Date of last case</u>
Afghanistan	14	21	13	July 16, 2019
Nigeria	0	0	0	Aug 20, 2016
Pakistan	8	8	58	Aug 15, 2019
Total	22	29	71	



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!

NIGERIA marked three years since the last case of wild poliovirus (WPV) was detected within its borders. Because Nigeria is the last polio-endemic country in Africa, this milestone opens the door for the potential WPV-free certification of the entire WHO AFRO region after the Africa Regional Certification Commission (ARCC) evaluation as early as mid-2020. While this is an important programmatic milestone, the region has not yet been certified polio-free and it will be critical for the polio program to maintain momentum.

Save The Date

2019-2020 Avon Rotary Calendar of Special Events

Friday, September 6, 2019	District Golf Tournament 12:00
Monday, September 23, 2019	Eastern Cities Dinner 5:00
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
Saturday, May 16, 2020	Blue Jean Ball—6:00
Tuesday, June 2, 2020	Quad Cities Golf—Caledonia
Tuesday, June 30, 2020	Change of Officers Banquet—5:30

the 4 way test
of the things we think, say, and do:


- is it the **truth?**
- is it **fair** to all concerned?
- will it build **goodwill** & better friendships?
- will it be **beneficial** to all concerned?

SEPTEMBER IS



BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY MONTH

"The more you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."
Dr. Seuss, "I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!"

Rotary   www.rotary.org