



## President's Message



A great giving October!

We are firmly in the Fall season. A perfect time for Rotarians to warm ourselves up with social activities and warm our hearts with Fundraising and community support activities.

September was Literacy Month and we started October with a presentation from the AVON Free Library. Rebecca shared with us the fantastic work the Library does for all parts of our Community. The Library partners with the school district and other organizations to create impactful programs. We are proud to partner with Rebecca and her team for our Migrant Literacy Program which has been a great example of achieving strength by combining the forces of multiple local teams and Community organizations.

October 24<sup>th</sup> was Polio Day and our Club celebrated the Day by making a \$2500 donation to the Polio Foundation on behalf of the Club. Thank you to all of you for making the donation possible through your hard work in all the fundraisers! We are getting very close to finally eradicating this terrible disease. To celebrate the day, several of you posted historical pictures of iron lungs on your Facebook pictures, these images put in perspective how real this threat was for prior generations in America. Soon, we will declare victory on a Global scale over this terrible disease.

In October, we also had the opportunity to hear from Josh Tonra on the Criminal Justice Reform. While the Reform has brought many debates and opinions, it was great to hear about the impacts of the Reform from an actual informed actor in the Criminal Justice system. Josh's presentation was very informative and helped us better understand how the Reform will change the inner workings of the system from investigations up to incarcerations.

This month, we also heard about the significant needs for Foster care and parents in our Community. Hearing from the Foster Care teams really puts in perspective how fortunate we are to grow up in loving families where essential needs are provided. The presentation emphasizes the need for organizations like our Club to step up and support the less fortunate around us. Fostering is not for everyone but we should advocate around us for friends and family to think about helping the Community through Foster Care and adoption.

In October, we also held 2 Coat drives to collect coats for Stone's Closet under the leadership of Rotarian Jake Ayers. Jake also honored our Club by being selected as one of the Rochester's 40 under 40. Congratulations to Jake and Heather who demonstrate that their service "problem" extends beyond the Rotary.

Some critical Committees have also continued their work to make our club more transparent and responsive to the Member's needs. Our By-laws committee is working on some changes to our club organization you will hear about and vote on in the next coming months! We thank Helen Zamboni for her strong dedication to the team. The Nominating Committee has started receiving names for Leadership positions in the Club. We invite every member to think about stepping up to join the Club Leadership through the Board of Directors or a Committee. Finally, the Strategic Planning Committee is continuing its work under the leadership of Bruce Amey to continue to develop the Club strategy and image.

October ended with Fireworks for our Club with the Halloween Party hosted by Dan and Julie Welch. Amazing costumes, great fun and camaraderie which are such great ingredients of our Club.

November is Foundation Month and we will have many great events under the leadership of Kirk Vanderbilt, our Foundation Chair.

### Inside this issue:

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| President's Message | 1 |
| October Highlights  | 2 |
| Literacy Update     | 3 |
| Foundation Month    | 4 |
| Polio Update        | 4 |
| November Rambling   | 5 |
| Update from Julia   | 6 |
| Interact News       | 6 |
| Member Celebrations | 7 |
| November Schedule   | 7 |
| Blood Drive Date    | 7 |
| Auction             | 8 |
| Salvations Army     | 8 |
| Food Pantry         | 8 |
| Save the Dates      | 9 |

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

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



# October Highlights

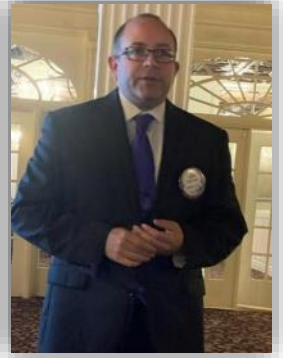
## October 1:

We welcomed Avon Free Library's Director, Rebecca Budinger-Mulhearn, at a recent Rotary meeting. Rebecca shared information about the library's activities, finances, benefits to our community, etc. Rotarians are encouraged to make use of this asset right in our village.—Greg Antkowiak



## October 8:

Livingston County Assistant District Attorney Josh Tonra gave a presentation on the sweeping reforms to NY State's criminal justice system. His presentation focused on changes coming to NY's bail and discovery systems and to a lesser extent changes in NY's marijuana and raise the age laws. These new laws create several new challenges for our courts and law enforcement communities.—Mike Ford



## October 15:

At tonight's meeting Donna Corbin gave a presentation on foster care in our area. In the US over 437,000 children live in foster care. The Glove House works with children and families in the southern tier and Finger Lakes regions of NYS. This private organization provides training and support to foster parents. Children range from birth through

age 21 including pregnant teens. To learn more about becoming a foster parent or how you can help support this organization call 877-687-1265 or visit [www.glovehouse.org](http://www.glovehouse.org). - Laurie Vonglis



## October 22:

At this meeting we had a visit from Roc City rotary which caters to young community service minded professionals that have been traditionally looked over or don't quite fit into a typical Rotary setting. Clubs like theirs are strengthening the foundation of Rotary while giving potential members we may have lost for up to a period of 25 years a path to help our clubs to continue to grow and do good in the world.—Mike Ford



## October 26:

Good times at our Halloween party! Many thanks to our hosts, Dan & Julie Welch, for opening up their beautiful Oak Knolls Manor for all to enjoy. Good job organizing this social event Terry Lemen. The costumes were great with the winner by popular vote; Bruce & Diane Amey— Groucho & Harpo Marx. One of the evenings highlights was the bean bag tournament with the winners; Kirk and Laurie.



# Avon Rotary's Literacy Committee

Submitted by Greg Antkowiak

The following is a description our initiatives to support literacy so far this Rotary year...

We are supporting the implementation of classes to teach English to adults in our community. We assist with transportation, supervising the children of the adult students, and we continue to financially support the library so that space and materials necessary for such programs are secured.

Greg and Jean Antkowiak attended our district's annual literacy seminar. These seminars provide Rotarians time to share ideas about supporting literacy. Look for ideas we can do in Avon in the future.

We have secured 8 milk-crate sized containers of books to replenish the community bookshelves throughout Avon.

We welcomed Avon Free Library's Director, Rebecca Budinger-Mulhearn, at a recent Rotary meeting. Rebecca shared information about the library's activities, finances, benefits to our community, etc. Rotaries are encouraged to make use of this asset right in our village.



In October several volunteers replenished local bookshelves with books for all ages. One of those volunteers was our exchange student from Brazil—Julia Leandro



## A NOTE FROM KATHY SCHRESTHA....

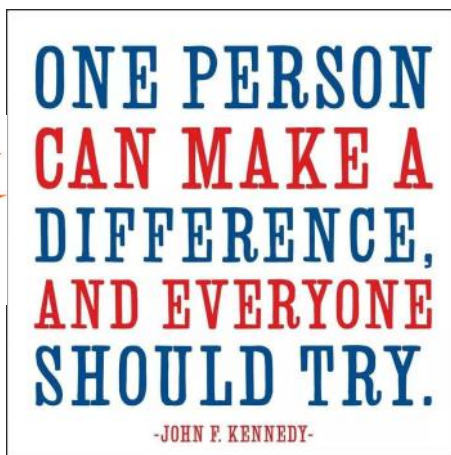
Dear Laurie,

As always, it is a pleasure to read the Newsletter from The Avon Rotary. It is a great connection for me now that I am in the big city.

My daughter Cecile is now on Maternity Leave so we wait for the baby due this Friday on October 4th.

Much love and many thoughts of loving kindness coming your way.

Kathy



# The Rotary Foundation



Doing Good In The World



Welcome to November, Rotary Foundation Month. This is a fine time to remind ourselves of the important works of the Rotary Foundation, and also to give ourselves a proverbial "pat on the back". Our Club continues to be a very generous club, and we have had net increases in 3 important areas. We have had a net increase in both Sustaining Members (\$100 per year) and total giving to the Polio Plus fund. The other net increase is the reason we have been able to achieve these goals - and that is the number of members who have made the decision to set up Rotary Direct accounts. Rotary Direct makes sustaining contributions easy (monthly, quarterly, or annually), so if you have questions about how to do that, please don't hesitate to ask me.

So stay tuned at our meetings this month to learn about some Foundation programs, and hear about some of the fruits of our generosity. Also, if you're so inclined to make a donation by check or cash, I will be set up at the beginning and end of the next few meetings to accept them. Remember that if you choose to write a check, it should be made out to "The Rotary Foundation"

Thanks in advance!!

Kirk Vanderbilt, Foundation Chair

***Do you know*** how to start or edit your online donations on [Rotary.org](http://Rotary.org)? Once your profile is created in the Member Center go to your profile and look for Donor Self-Service. Start or edit your giving there. It's easy!



## 2019 Wild Polio Case Counts as of Oct. 30, 2019

| <u>Country</u> | <u>2017</u> | <u>2018</u> | <u>2019</u> | <u>Date of last case</u> |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| Afghanistan    | 14          | 21          | 19          | Sept 18, 2019            |
| Pakistan       | 8           | 8           | 77          | Oct 13, 2019             |
| <b>Total</b>   | 22          | 29          | <b>96</b>   |                          |

Two out of three wild Poliovirus strains eradicated! Global eradication of wild poliovirus type 3 declared on World Polio Day—October 24, 2019



## Rambling On Rotary—November



By: Bruce Amey

November has two very special holidays: Veteran's Day and Thanksgiving. For me, I am thankful for what both holidays represent. To all our veterans who stepped forward to defend our democracy, our country, and the values on which our country was founded ...

Thank you. Not all veterans are Rotarians but they all put their service for our country above and before service to themselves.

And then comes Thanksgiving. It is my favorite holiday because for me it has always been about family without the circumstance of exchanging gifts. Growing up my family of 8 always looked forward to just being together and being thankful for all that we had been blessed as a family to have, especially each other. Every year since 1987, Diane and I have hosted her family for Thanksgiving. Some years we had as many as 26 in our home for Thanksgiving dinner. And then, we even started some traditions that carried through to Saturday, many of which we continue to observe. For family I am thankful.

It has been said, "The more you are thankful, the more you attract things to be thankful for." As I have participated in many of our Rotary service projects, I have been thankful for the experience. And then more service projects seem to blossom; that is, we attract more things to be thankful for. Our food bank donations benefit our community. Our Gilda's Club activities generate smiles and blessings for the children each year ... and the feelings of thankfulness fill me. Every time we participate in our service projects we are attracting more reasons for which to be thankful.

Theologian, humanitarian, philosopher, and physician Albert Schweitzer said, "In everyone's life, at some time, our inner fire goes out. It is then burst into flame by an encounter with another human being. We should all be thankful for those people who rekindle the inner spirit." That was my experience when I joined Avon Rotary. I'm not sure the in-

ner fire was totally out, but I know joining Rotary fueled my inner flame. And as I watched what we were doing locally, I was fueled. But when I learned what the Rotary Foundation could do and was doing, the fire became an inferno.

November is Rotary Foundation month. The Rotary Foundation transforms our gifts into service projects that change lives both close to home and around the world. Since it was founded more than 100 years ago, the Foundation has spent more than \$4 billion on life-changing, sustainable projects. With your help, we can make lives better in our community and around the world. The mission of The Rotary Foundation is to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty. I think it would be great if each Avon Rotarian became a sustaining member of the Rotary Foundation.

A sustaining member of the Foundation means you commit to donating \$100 each year. By enrolling through your My Rotary account to a monthly gift to the Foundation of \$8.35, that would make every Rotarian a sustaining member of the Foundation. But even if you cannot commit to be a sustaining member, I believe we all need to make some level of investment in the work of the Foundation. Being thankful for the work that Rotary does, for the work we do together as Rotarians has ignited my inner fire to do more. I know doing good things together attracts more things for which I am thankful. As we approach our national holiday of Thanksgiving, the world has much to be thankful for because of Rotary and because of each of us committing to be Rotarians. Service Above Self are not just words of a motto but a way of life. It is worth remembering every day that we are changed for the better when we serve others. And for that I am thankful. And as usual, I have rambled on long enough.



## A Word From Our Exchange Student



Fall highlights include Homecoming Queen, Volleyball Senior Night and Julia's birthday—turning 18 with friends.



My name is Julia Pinheiro Leandro from Brazil, I'm 18 years old and I'm going to share a little of my experience in Avon NY this past couple months here.

I have a lot to do everyday: volleyball practices, all kind of high school games, homework, team bonding, sleepovers... It's being amazing. I have the most wonderful host family, we always have good time talking, playing games and watching movies (or The Office). The experience is really different! Sports are my favorite thing about high school. The way the teams are a family and bring us all together is amazing. I love going to the games to see my friends and cheer for them. I'm having the best exchange ever and I would like to thank Rotary, my host families and everyone that is making this the best experience for me.



## Interact Leaders Love Interact Because...

**Ella Vanderbilt, Secretary:** I love Interact because I'm able to meet new people and participate in experiences I would never be able to anywhere else. I have been doing Interact for 3 years now and I couldn't be happier. I love fundraising and helping the community, which Interact does a lot of. I recommend Interact to anyone who is trying to be more involved.

**Henry VanRy, Treasurer:** I joined the Interact club because it provides great opportunities to help the community and less fortunate people around the world. There are also several fun events to participate in, from exchange weekend, to the corn fest, and the dessert auction. Hosting a student for the exchange weekend was a lot of fun and I met a lot of really cool people.

**Abby Decillis, President:** I have been part of the Interact club since freshman year. After seeing a flyer about it, I became very interested and decided to join. I have gotten so many great opportunities from Interact and was voted president for my senior year. I help run meetings, help with auctions, and even got to attend a district conference at Kalahari and attended RYLA. These experiences have helped me to become a better person and are moments I will always cherish.



The Interact Club decided on putting together 100 care kits again this year. With lots of hands this project went quick. The kids can see how easy it is to help their community. The kits included a tooth brush, chap stick, sample sizes of shampoo, conditioner, soap, deodorant and tooth paste.

# November Celebrations



## Wedding Anniversary

- ⇒ **Bruce Amey**
- ⇒ **Colin Bruckel**
- ⇒ **Jeff Herberger**
- ⇒ **David LeFeber**
- ⇒ **Kirk & Karen Vanderbilt**

## Birthday

- ⇒ **Heather Ayers**
- ⇒ **Steve Csapo**
- ⇒ **Katie DeGraff**
- ⇒ **Nick Lovullo**
- ⇒ **Kathy Shrestha**
- ⇒ **Kirk Vanderbilt**
- ⇒ **Jim Varner**
- ⇒ **Tom Vonglis**

## Rotary Anniversary

- ⇒ **David Henehan 1980**
- ⇒ **Wayne Warriner 1986 (H)**
- ⇒ **Charles Feller 2000**
- ⇒ **Bruce Amey 2006**
- ⇒ **Shawn Rice 2016**
- ⇒ **Janis McMIndes 2016**
- ⇒ **Jeff Herberger 2016**
- ⇒ **Bob Mellen 2016**
- ⇒ **Kathy Shrestha 2017**
- ⇒ **Chris Ferra 2018**
- ⇒ **Rhonda Hirschler 2018**



## Club Schedule


|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| <b>Tues. Nov. 5</b>  | Regular Meeting—Foundation Minute  |
| <b>Sat. Nov. 9</b>   | Auction 8 am   |
| <b>Mon. Nov. 11</b>  | Board of Director's meeting—7 pm at Hurricane                            |
| <b>Tues. Nov. 12</b> | Regular Meeting—Interact in charge, Foundation Minute                    |
| <b>Tues. Nov. 19</b> | Regular Meeting—Migrant Literacy Project, ByLaws Committee Mtg following |
| <b>Tues. Nov. 26</b> | Rotary/Lions Thanksgiving Dinner Mtg                                     |




**SAVE THE DATE**

**SAVE A LIFE**

Our next blood drive is  
 December 3rd from 2 pm to 6 pm  
 At the Avon Inn



# AVON ROTARY AUCTION



Get your items in!  
Bake some goodies!  
Sign up to help the day of!

*Contact Tom Honan or  
Janis McMIndes for more  
information*

## Avon Food Pantry

*Collections are the 3rd Tuesday  
of the Month*

Pantry needs in November are:

- Jello
- Mustard, Ketsup
- Soup
- Pasta

Thank you,  
Jennifer



## Salvation Army

**Avon Rotary** is scheduled to  
ring the bell the week of  
**December 9—13.**



Look for a sign up  
sheet at upcoming  
meetings or contact

**Mike Ford**  
**447-1511**



*Is a fellow Rotarian ill or in need?*

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







# Save The Date



## 2019-2020 Avon Rotary Calendar of Special Events

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Tuesday, November 26, 2019          | Rotary/Lions Thanksgiving Dinner Mtg—6:00 |
| Saturday, <b>December 20</b> , 2019 | Christmas Party—6:00 @ The Masten Home    |
| 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 @ Oak Knolls Manor    |
| Tuesday, June 2, 2020               | Quad Cities Golf—Caledonia                |
| Tuesday, June 30, 2020              | Change of Officers Banquet—5:30           |

**DATE CHANGE!**



Coming Soon... The Giving Tree project for  
**Focus on the Children**  
 to benefit the children in the  
 Avon Community.

# Happy



# Thanksgiving