



President's Message

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Onto a New Year!
2020 is here now!! It seems it was yesterday I had the privilege to start serving you as your Club President, but it has now been 6 months and they have gone by very quickly!

As 2019 ended, we had the opportunity of 2 great fellowship events with our Annual Christmas party and an additional celebration after Christmas with the visit of a great historical home on East Main Street. I unfortunately missed the event but heard raving reviews. Special thanks to Bill Wall and Jerry Dougherty for organizing the event. Thank you to the Masten's and Harter's for hosting each of these events in their beautiful homes.

At our first meeting of the month, we reviewed the recommended changes to the bylaws to allow for the vote at the end of January. The key proposed changes focused on the areas suggested by the members. 3 specific areas were addressed, and all the amendments were approved with a large majority of the members present on January 28th. Formal recognition of a nominating Committee for the Club to solicit candidates.

Addition of term limits for the Secretary, Treasurer and Member-at-Large: The positions cannot be held for more than 3 consecutive years.

Enabling additional member-at-Large directors elected by the Club at the Board discretion. Up to 2 additional Members at large can be added to the Board at the Board's discretion.

As a result of the work of the bylaws Committee, Bruce Amey kicked off an activity to start documenting the key positions and responsibilities of the Club to support fundraisers and all the administrative functions. It is a critical activity to ensure the robustness of our organization.

At the January 21st meeting, the AVON Rotary Club was presented with a Presidential Citation. It is an incredible achievement which was received for the performance of the Club during the year 2018-2019 under the leadership of President Heather Ayers. It is a significant achievement we should all feel proud of and a formal recognition of President Heather's leadership style and success. The presentation also gave the Club the opportunity to meet the Governors track for our District.

At the last meeting of the month, we had the opportunity to meet Rachel Allen who will be our sponsored exchange student going to Austria in the Summer. Rachel is originally from the Spencerport Club. I am very proud and excited to be able to sponsor Rachel's exchange. She is going to be a great Ambassador.

Our Rotary month ended with the Club presentation of Jen Moore. Originally from our area, Jen is the current CEO of the Razor Sharks. Jen's energy and enthusiasm were certainly very inspirational. There were also some very touching and emotional moments in her presentation. I invite you all to give the Razor Sharks an opportunity for a night out in the coming weeks to help Jen and her Community and competitive goals for the Team.

I wish you all a wonderful, active and successful 2020! The District conference will be held at Niagara Falls May 1-3, I hope many of you can join us there! We are expecting all the details very soon!

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

Board of Directors

Dom Lalisce, 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



January Highlights



Congratulations on your Marriage



Your Rotary family wishes you never-ending love and the most happy life together!

At our January 21st meeting, Immediate Past District Governor Mike Slovak presented our Immediate Past President Heather Ayers and our club with the Rotary International Presidential Citation for the 2018-12 Rotary year. Avon was only one of six clubs in District 7120 to achieve this goal. Clubs can earn a Rotary Citation for achieving goals that strengthen Rotary and their club. Goals include increasing club membership, developing sustainable service projects, giving to the Rotary Foundation, and building awareness of Rotary in your community.—Mike Ford



January 28:

At tonight's meeting Jen Moore the new CEO and owner of the Rochester Razor Sharks addressed the club. Jen's story of going from "fan girl" to owner of a professional basketball team was truly inspiring. Despite several personal and professional setbacks, she refused to become a victim of her circumstances, went out of her comfort zone, and wasn't afraid to ask for what she wanted. Now her hard work allows her to use her platform and the Razor Sharks as a tool to help fix the many social justice issues that face the city of Rochester and the surrounding areas. Be sure to check out the Razor Sharks this year. They are great entertainment at affordable prices and they are doing great work in our community as well.— Mike Ford

Rambling On Rotary—February




By: Bruce Amey

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, “Life’s most persistent and urgent question is, ‘What are you doing for others?’” Rotary’s motto “Service above Self” places in front of us the belief that we are here to serve others, we are here to serve the greater good before our own self gain.

The February issue of *The Rotarian* spoke about the impact of a new library being built by Rotarians in Rwanda. “One of the ways to support stability and growth is by having a place where people can come and get information and knowledge. And that captured people’s imaginations.” Do you think our club’s local support for **Linking Hands for Learning** and building schools in Nicaragua has helped create places where children and communities can come together to get information and knowledge? Do you think these schools become centers of a village or town too?

Rotary International has identified six “areas of focus”. They are: Economic and Community Development, Basic Education & Literacy, Peace and Conflict Resolution, Maternal & Child health, Water & Sanitation, Disease Prevention & Treatment. Certainly our support for building schools in Nicaragua addresses each of those areas of focus as providing opportunities for communities to come together to learn improves basic education and literacy. Improved education and literacy can improve maternal and child health while also addressing economic and community development issues. Knowledge can also assist communities in improving their water and sanitation needs along with



treating and preventing diseases. Rotarians around the world are assisting communities in each of these areas of focus, but so are we from our little community of Avon in Rotary District 7120. Dr. King said, “Those who are **not** looking for happiness are the most likely to find it, because those who are searching forget that the surest way to be happy is to seek happiness for others.” All of our service projects seek happiness for others by providing food, education and opportunities both in our community and in the world. Our gifts to the Rotary Foundation bring happiness to others as those funds improve lives around the world and return to our community through District grants.

RI President Mark Maloney’s theme is *Rotary Connects the World*. Rotary projects change lives and connect the world. Do you think our club’s international efforts in helping build schools in Nicaragua changes lives? Are the schools providing sustainable change in their communities? President Maloney said, “We (Rotary) began, and remain, committed to fellowship, integrity, diversity, service, and leadership.” I am thankful for Rob and Jeanine Lupisella’s leadership in beginning this endeavor to improve the lives of children and communities in Nicaragua and I am thankful for the leadership our club has demonstrated in the region by supporting these projects. You can make your own personal tax-deductible donation to this project by writing a check payable to: Livingston County Cares and mailing it to: Linking Hands for Learning, 18 Portofino Circle, Henrietta NY 14467

Dr. King said, “Everybody can be great ... because anybody can serve. You don’t have to have a college degree to serve. You don’t have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.” Rotarians demonstrate greatness every day. Avon Rotarians demonstrate “hearts full of grace” and “souls generated by love” in all our acts of service for others, our acts of Service Above Self. I am very proud of what we do; I am very proud to be an Avon Rotarian. And, as usual, I have rambled on long enough.

Rotary is not just a club that you join. It is an invitation to endless opportunities. Therefore, the Theme for Rotary Year 2020-2021 is...

-President-Elect, Holger Knaack




“Everything we do opens another opportunity for someone, somewhere”

HOLGER KNAACK



2019 Wild Polio Case Counts as of January 31, 2020

<u>Country</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>Date of last case</u>
Afghanistan	21	28	0	Dec 7, 2019
Pakistan	8	135	4	Jan 7, 2020
Total	29	163	4	



Rotary and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation are renewing their partnership to EndPolio! This will mean an additional \$150 million for polio eradication every year for three years and the Gates Foundation will match donations 2-1.

FEBRUARY IS

PEACE AND CONFLICT PREVENTION/RESOLUTION MONTH

“Imagine all the people living life in peace...”
John Lennon

Rotary   www.rotary.org

Rotary changes us and those we serve.

“I believe we can change the world one life at a time.”

-Paul Harris

A Word From Our Exchange Student



My name Julia Pinheiro Leandro, I'm 18 years old and I'm the exchange student from Brazil. This month was very lazy and calm. I had plenty of time to spend with my second host family and my friends. I saw the exchange students at the Exchange Brunch and I had a lot of fun doing karaoke and dancing. I'm not doing a winter sport this season because in the afternoon I study to get in a Brazilian college. So I'm doing the weight room every week day! My exchange continues to be amazing, and I'm learning so much about myself! I would like to thank Rotary for all the support and my host families. Thank you so much! -Julia



Avon Rotary Interact and Avon Elementary students show that "Service Above Self" can be achieved at any age.—Mike Ford

Thank you to the Avon Elementary School students for supporting the efforts of the Avon high School Rotary Interact club. Over this past month, the students donated non-perishable food items to the Avon Food Pantry. The children who brought in the food participated in a CANgineering event. They created one giant sculpture together, out of the food items collected, under the direction of STEAM teacher Mr. Luke Weaver.—comment from Avon Central School District



Henry VanRy, Ella Vanderbilt & Abby Dicillis





Club Schedule

Mon. Feb 3	Board of Directors Mtg. 7 pm @ Hurricane
Tues. Feb 4	Regular Mtg. / Strategic Planning Mtg. following
Tues. Feb 11	Sweethearts Dinner Mtg. & Dessert Auction / Corn Festival Mtg. following
Tues. Feb 18	Regular Mtg. / Blue Jean Ball Mtg. following
Tues. Feb 25	Regular Mtg. / Foundation Committee Mtg. following

February Celebrations

Birthday

- ⇒ *Hans Koomen*
- ⇒ *Steve Stephenson (H)*
- ⇒ *Karen Vanderbilt*

Wedding Anniversary

- ⇒ *Julie Carney*
- ⇒ *Mark Evans*



Rotary Anniversary

- ⇒ *Bill Shaw (H) 1971*
- ⇒ *Jim Tompsett (H) 1979*
- ⇒ *Joe Callahan (H) 1987*
- ⇒ *Barb Herman 1999*
- ⇒ *Margo Harper (H) 1999*
- ⇒ *Karl Sawicki 2007*
- ⇒ *Paul Phillips 2019*
- ⇒ *David LeFeber 2019*

Happy Valentine's Day



Save the Date



Avon Rotary's next drive is: **Tuesday, April 7**

2019-2020 Avon Rotary Calendar of Special Events



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 30, 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

Avon Food Pantry

*Collections are the 3rd Tuesday
of the Month*

Pantry critical needs in February are:

- ⇒ Canned Fruit
- ⇒ Ketchup
- ⇒ Mayonnaise

Thank you, Jennifer



*Is a fellow Rotarian ill or in
need?*

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