



Rotary Opens Opportunities



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President's Message



I want to start out by saying that I am so incredibly proud to be a part of Rotary. This month really showed me "why I joined Rotary". When I got involved back in 2009 it was because of all the ways I could be doing things and being active with the Interact/Youth Exchange. I am happy to see this coming back around with the addition of the Rotaract Club at RIT. Some of the new members of Rotaract will be volunteering at the Livingston County Health Department vaccination clinics, along with their RIT Advisor, Peggy Tirrell (Avon resident). It will be great to re-connect with some of our Avon Interact alumni as well as former exchange students.

One of the Club goals that I set for this Rotary year was to be more visible. As I am entering the latter part of my presidency, I am happy to see all we have done. This past month

was no different. Well, in a way it was, because we had so many of our Rotarians out and about in the community this month. We were able to have over 40 District Clubs work on the Great Lakes Water Shed Clean Up. Kevin Van Allen did an excellent job finding places within our local community for us to clean up. The Caledonia Club joined us, which is one of the things that I like best about Rotary, working together for a greater good. We collected over 30 bags of trash and had fun with fellowship as we worked. I also want to thank the other group of Rotarians that worked on putting together the new bleachers for the Little League field. This will be a nice addition to our community and keep us "visible" for years to come!

Again, I am so very proud of this club and everything that each individual contributes.

Yours In Rotary Service,

Julie Carney, President 2020-2021

Avon Rotary Club meets

Tuesdays at 6:30 pm

Board of Directors

Julie Carney, President
Tom Vonglis, President Elect
Steve Csapo, Senior Director
Mike Ford, Director
Bruce Amey, Member at Large
Marcia Cameron, Past President
Leann Hill, Secretary
Katie DeGraff, Treasurer





Club Schedule

Mon. May 3	Corn Festival Committee Meeting Hybrid 6:30 @ Hurricane
Tues. May 4	Regular Rotary Meeting 6:30 Zoom only—Program: School Budget
Mon. May 10	Board of Directors Meeting 6:30 @ Hurricane
Tues. May 11	Regular Rotary Meeting 6:30 Hybrid @ Avon Inn—Program: Josh Tonra, legal trends related to Marijuana legalization
Tues. May 18	Regular Rotary Meeting 6:30 Hybrid @ Avon Inn—TBD
Tues. May 25	Regular Rotary Meeting 6:30 Hybrid @ Avon Inn—Program: Serdar Kelhmet from Turkey, presenting The Power of One

If you have the power to make someone happy, do it.



The world needs more of that.



May Celebrations

Birthday

- ⇒ Jean Antkowiak
- ⇒ Marcia Cameron
- ⇒ Leann Hill
- ⇒ Cathy Jo Murphy
- ⇒ Rob Lupisella
- ⇒ Jeff Passarell
- ⇒ Paul Phillips

Wedding Anniversary

- ⇒ Marcia Cameron
- ⇒ Kelly Cole
- ⇒ Steve Csapo
- ⇒ Charles Feller
- ⇒ Tom Honan
- ⇒ Jeff Passarell

Rotary Anniversary

- ⇒ Bob Hayes 2005 (H)
- ⇒ Ed Kime 2010
- ⇒ C.A. Krenzer 2013 (H)
- ⇒ David Kilgore 2013
- ⇒ Greg Deragon 2015



April Highlights



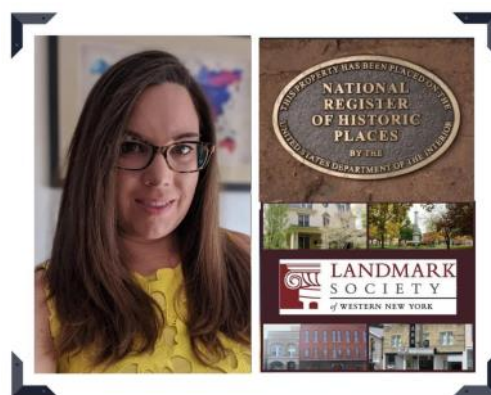
Saturday, April 3, 2021:

We are lucky, as Avon residents, to live in such a beautiful community and we have the responsibility to keep it as clean as possible. On this morning, Avon Rotarians joined together to clean our section of NY Rt 39 as part of the state's Adopt a Highway program. Thank you to those who turned out to make our little section of Avon much cleaner. *Submitted: Mike Ford*



At our April 6 meeting, we were joined by Megan Klem from The Landmark Society of Western NY. She gave us updates on the Village of Avon's nomination to be added as a district to the National Register of Historic Places. Several industrial, residential, educational, and religious buildings throughout the village qualify for this designation and you will see Megan and her assistants checking out our village the next couple months. Addition to the registry will allow better tourism, advertising opportunities, and state and federal tax credits for building owners that make repairs that maintain the historical integrity of the building.

Submitted by: Mike Ford

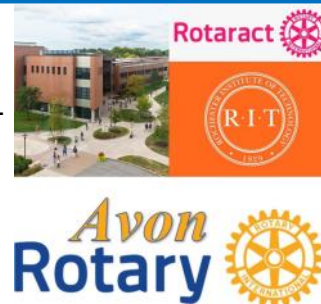


Saturday, April 10, 2021:

This morning, several Avon Rotarians attended the first Rotary District 7120 Virtual Training Assembly. The Training Assembly provided opportunities for Rotarians to learn new and exciting things happening in Rotary, skills to help or clubs evolve and spread Rotary's message, and training for members moving into leadership roles. Thank you to Rochester Latino, Rochester Northwest, Rochester Southwest and Roc City Rotary for the hard work they put in to host this event. *Submitted by: Mike Ford*

At our April 13 meeting, Avon Rotary got some exciting news tonight. We are officially the sponsor club for the Rochester Institute of Technology Rotaract Club. Rotaract clubs bring together college aged students to exchange ideas with leaders in the community, develop leadership and professional skills, and have fun through service. In communities worldwide, Rotary and Rotaract members work side by side to take action through service. We can't wait to see this club grow and develop future Rotary members. Congrats RIT Rotaractors!

Submitted by: Mike Ford



April Highlights *continued*

Saturday, April 17, 2021: Take me out to the ball game! Several Avon Rotary members gathered at the Avon Downs to do some spring cleaning and some painting in preparation for the youth baseball and softball seasons that starts May 1st. Many of these kids haven't played ball in over a year, so we have to make their facilities look good right? Thank you to the volunteers that helped out yesterday and good luck to all our little sluggers as they take the field this spring!

Submitted by: Mike Ford



At our April 20 meeting: One benefit that has come out of the Covid pandemic is our club's transition to hybrid meetings. The ability to meet in person or stay home (or on vacation) and still attend a meeting has opened many opportunities for our club. It also has led to people from all over the world making presentations to our club. We've had presenters from California, Canada, Brazil, and last night we were joined by Ricardo Ruiz. Ricardo is a Rotarian from Club Rotario de Torreón in Mexico and told us about his personal experiences competing in El Cruce. El Cruce is a 10K open water marathon swim, the world's largest, that takes place every year in Cancun, Mexico. Thanks for stopping by Ricardo! *Submitted by: Mike Ford*



At our April 27 meeting, we were joined by speaker Mark Resch. Mark is a full time Division I Women's Basketball official. Mark's inspiring talk titled "Chasing A Dream" highlighted his personal ethics and how they can be used not only in our personal relationships, but in our occupations as well...much like Rotarians using the 4 Way Test. Thanks for stopping by Mark!

Submitted by: Mike Ford



April Highlights *continued*

Saturday, April 24, 2021: On this morning, Rotarians in the Great Lake States and Canadian Provinces took part in the Great Lakes Watershed Cleanup. This initiative involved Rotarians from hundreds of clubs cleaning lakeshores, rivers, streams, and canals that feed in and out of the Great Lakes and is one of the largest volunteer coordinated cleanups to ever take place in North America.

Avon Rotary did our part by teaming up with Cal-Mum Rotary Club to clean access points along the Genesee River, one of the main rivers to feed into Lake Ontario. Together we hauled out 31 bags of trash, a tire, an old drainage pipe, among other stuff. Kudos to Avon and Caledonia-Mumford Rotarians for their efforts to make our community a cleaner place. *Submitted by: Mike Ford*



While other Avon Rotarians volunteered to clean up the Genesee River access point, another hard working team assembled the new bleachers for the Avon Driving Park ball fields. This year's District Simplified Grant project is nearly completed. Thank you volunteers!



Rambling On Rotary—May



By: Bruce Amey

COVID cannot keep Rotarians down.

Whereas we have been in quarantine and locked in our homes for the past year, our club has continued meeting and serving others throughout. President Julie has arranged for a myriad of meeting programs from all over the world ... literally. Having virtual guests and programs has opened new opportunities for learning and sharing.

Our club sponsored our first annual Road Rally where participants could be socially distanced in their own vehicles. Work is already underway for a 2021 version of the Road Rally but this year we hope to be able to gather together after the vehicles have vanquished the valleys and hills ... more to come on that. Tentative date is September 18.

During the pandemic we had our first ever virtual auction. It was quite successful thanks to the efforts of co-chairs Tom Honan and Janis McMindes. The reviews make this the way to continue moving ahead with our auction.

Unfortunately, I have found the COVID experience has resulted in losing contact with some Rotary friends. We need to do better in keeping in touch with our members. I saw Geneseo Rotarian Tim Hayes the other day and I asked him to say "hi" to his dad for me. Why haven't I reached out to Doc to say "hi"? Why hasn't Doc zoomed into our meetings ... or Ted...or Ernie...or Cathy Jo...or Greg....or Jerry...or Chris F...or CA...or... I miss our colleagues. It has been great to see Sir Charles zoom into many meetings along with Helen and Bob M and Jim T and Bob F and Shawn, and others and, as we resumed our hybrid meetings, that has been a real joy having 20-25 club members able to COVID-safely attend. But as I said, COVID or no COVID, I need to do a better job connecting with members who have not been able to attend meetings, we all do. We need to lift each other up.

These past few weeks I have been lifted by our club members' Service Above Self; we have exemplified the Rotary motto. Thanks to Karl Sawicki's leadership and the Vanderbilt family's stewardship, our club sponsored another successful blood drive on March 31st. That service was followed a few days later on April 3rd when we conducted our Spring Roadside Clean-Up with the Tom and Laurie, Kirk and Karen, Ed, Janis and a rambler in tow. A week later on April 10th several club members attended and presented in the first ever virtual District 7120 Training Assembly; what we experienced will enhance our future service opportunities. The week after that, on April 17th, approximately 10

club members helped ready the Downs for Little League opening day fast approaching on May 1. We repaired and painted a storage shed and painted the upper story of the concession stand. And then the weekend after that, on April 24th, thanks to the leadership of Kevin VanAllen, we had approximately 15 club members participate in the Rotary Great Lakes Watershed Clean-Up while 5 other members helped complete President Julie's District Grant project of installing new bleachers at the Downs Little League field in time for opening day. It has been an inspiring, uplifting Service Above Self past few weeks ... and there is more service to come.

May is RI's Youth Service Month. It has been a difficult COVID year for our Interact Club members as well. What might we do to support them, especially now? AND, as President Julie recently announced, the Avon Rotary club is officially the sponsor club for the Rochester Institute of Technology Rotaract Club. Rotaract clubs bring together college aged students to exchange ideas with leaders in the community, develop leadership and professional skills, and have fun through service. In communities worldwide, Rotary and Rotaract members work side by side to take action through service. We can't wait to see this club grow and develop future Rotary members.

Youth Service Month seems to be an opportune time to reach out to support our new Rotaract Club.

COVID has not kept Rotarians down, in fact, in my opinion we have found new ways to be lifted up. It is an inspiring time to be a Rotarian and to be a member of our Avon Rotary Club. Let's continue to lift every club member up. Let's continue to serve our community and our world. Let's continue to Open Opportunities while we prepare to continue to Serve To Change Lives. And, as usual, I have rambled on long enough...





Emma Kostraba and Ella Vanderbilt received the 2021 Livingston County Youth Bureau Teen Recognition Award. A socially distant ceremony will be held on Wednesday, May 26th at 7:30 at the drive-in with a special boxed dinner. The teens will all be recognized for their contributions to their community. Attached are the submissions for leadership and community involvement. Congratulations seniors!!!

Submitted by: Shannon DiFranco



Emma Kostraba embodies leadership. She leads by example with community service projects. She may not be loud spoken but is always willing help in any project for her school and with the Interact club. Emma is a National Honors Society member, social chair for Student Government, elected class

officer, Co-treasurer and co-secretary of the Avon Yearbook Club, Peace Circle Moderator, counselor for Avon Summer Recreation, Interact Club Member, Operation Christmas Child, and the Rock Project. Under Interact she has serviced in local food pantry projects, letters to veterans and elderly, Salvation army bell ringing, Auctions and Corn festivals. Honestly, there is too much detail to list all her deeds under these categories. Along with keeping up her grades and playing two sports she always finds time to be her best. She is willing to jump into any leadership role that is needed and if she cannot commit fully to a project, she will do her best to contribute in any way. She is a truly compassionate human being who is an incredible role model to her peers.



Ella Vanderbilt has participated in a myriad of community involvement projects over her high school years. Currently she is President of the Avon Rotary Interact Club. Through Interact she has led such projects of awareness with the salvation army bell ringing, food drive for the local food pantry, hygiene health care kits for the local food pantry. Ella has

also help Avon Rotary with many projects such as the Road Rally, the blood drive, The Rotary Auction, the Avon corn festival, Exchange Weekend and hosting exchange students. Besides filling up her hours with giving back to the community, at school she participates in peer mentoring and is a peace circle facilitator. Ella has also been involved with 4H and working with Linking Hands for Learning which builds schools in Nicaragua. Ella spends much time playing volleyball, being a part of the national honors society and member of student council. Ella's willingness to jump on board and do what she can, will be missed.

“BE THE CHANGE YOU WISH TO SEE IN THE WORLD.”

—GANDHI

May is Rotary Youth Service Month. Youth Service Month acknowledges the positive change implemented by youth and young adults involved in leadership development activities, community and international service, and exchange programs that enrich and foster world peace and cultural understanding.

These programs include:


- 1.) Interact-a service club for high school students
- 2.) Rotaract-a service club for college students
- 3.) Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)-Camps for youth that enhance personal development, leadership skills and good citizenship
- 4.) Rotary Youth Exchange-an international youth exchange program that give youth an opportunity to experience new cultures and expand their cultural awareness.





**END
POLIO
NOW**

2021 Wild Polio Case Counts as of April 30, 2021

Country	2019	2020	2021	Date of last case
Afghanistan	29	56	1	Feb, 2021
Pakistan	147	84	1	Feb, 2021
Total	176	140	2	



Is a fellow Rotarian ill or in need?

Please contact the club
Sunshine Liaison Agent—
Barbara Herman
226-6735



CHARITY NAVIGATOR

RECOGNIZES

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

AS A 4-STAR RATED CHARITY



Avon Food Pantry

Pantry critical needs in May are:

**Cereal, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Apple Sauce,
Pasta & Pasta Sauce**

Please drop off at the food pantry or bring to a meeting.
Questions—ask Rhonda. Thank you!



Rotary's Seven Areas of Focus

- Peace & Conflict Resolution
- Disease Prevention & Treatment
- Water & Sanitation
- Maternal & Child Health
- Basic Education & Literacy
- Economic & Community Development
- Supporting the Environment

Rotary 



The
Rotary
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