



Rotary Opens Opportunities



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**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

President's Message



As the weather turns from warm Summer days to cool Autumn evenings, I am reminded that change is inevitable. All we can do is adjust and transform to our surroundings. As children go back to school, they are

dealing with a new way of learning and interacting with each other. As we adjust to our new norm for Rotary Service, we are having to find ways to be able to interact with each other as well as continue to provide the services to our community.

There has been much talk on the news these past few months on the psychological toll that COVID has had on individuals, i.e.: loss of contact, loneliness, depression, loss of normalcy. As things continue to slowly reopen, we move towards what feels slightly more normal to us. Zoom meetings have been a great way to maintain social contact and work at continuing to serve our community. That being said, may I tell you all how happy it made me feel to walk into the Avon Inn and see so many Avon Rotarians, live and in person? For me, seeing so many of you all together, hearing the talking and laughing, all the fellowship, that was a huge leap towards feeling more normal for me. If you have not joined us yet and you would feel comfortable doing so, please join us at the Inn. Understandably, now may not yet be a good time to return to in person meeting for some and we

understand that. We have been working to come up with a way to continue the Zoom connection at most meetings so that everyone in the club can participate and maintain an active role with us.

As I reflect on this past month, I cannot help but focus on the horrific boating accident that occurred just offshore from where Jim and I were vacationing while in the Adirondacks a few weeks ago. I personally, have never witnessed or assisted at something like this so up-close before and struggle to figure out how to process it all. But what amazes me is how many people showed up from seemingly nowhere to help at the scene, providing emergency care to those critically wounded, support to those all around. I saw volunteer fire departments, ambulances, nurses, mercy flight, police and civilians all working together to aid those in need. It reminded me that there are a lot of good people out there willing to help strangers and do whatever needs to be done to help their fellow man. It also makes me thankful for everything that I have, and it makes me thankful for all of you.

Yours In Rotary Service,

Julie Carney, President 2020-2021



September Highlights



Margo Harper Update

I have visited Margo at her home, once or twice monthly the last few years, until the pandemic because she has been unable to attend meetings due to her infirmities. The past 6 months we have had occasional phone conversations. Well, recently Mark and Barb have expressed interest in visiting her with a mask and social distancing. We planned this, and Mark wanted to go out for a meal first and then see Margo. Well, when I phoned her to schedule she said "I'd like to go out for the meal also." So, the four of us took her special transport van and Mark chose Texas Roadhouse. They have a tent set up outside with appropriately spaced tables. We arrived Saturday pm - no one in the tent. It was sunny so we moved a table and 4 chairs out into the SUN. We had a great time and delicious meals. Margo's sight is now very poor. But her hearing is good and, as Mark says, "Her mind is sharp as a tack." Barb, Mark and I updated her on the Road Rally / Scavenger Hunt, chicken BBQ and corn. Then on to the virtual auction. Margo said to tell the club "Hello." and now she wants to have a monthly "out for a meal" get together. Next, she picked the Glen Iris! *Submitted by: Jim Tompsett*



Avon Rotary donated backpacks to Rochester City School #35

Thank you for the donations!

At our **September 1** meeting, Tom Vonglis presented Bruce Amey his Rotarian of the Year Award again, finally framed in customary fashion.



On **September 11**, fourteen Avon Rotarians participated in the District 7120 Golf Tournament at Lima Country Club. This annual fundraiser for the District was organized this year by Tom & Laurie Vonglis and Kirk Vanderbilt. Over \$4000 was raised for our District Governor's initiatives this year. Many thanks to all that participated! Avon Rotary Rocks!

(missing—Ernie Wiard, Bill Wall, Jim Ryan, Tom Mairs)



At our **September 22** meeting our former exchange student, (2008) **Bruna Joaquim Novaes** joined us via Zoom and shared her story on her life since her Exchange and how her experience here impacted her journey.

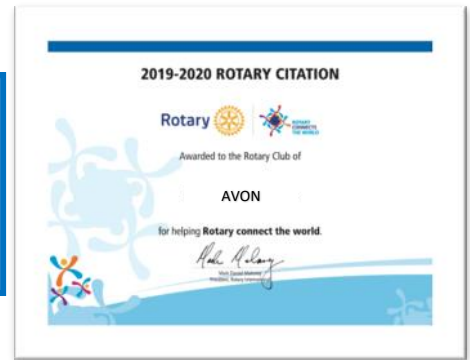
Surprise special guests, Don Alhart—Wham 13 and former host family, Judy & Gary Babbitt.

This opportunity was a wonderful reminder of the importance of the Rotary Youth Exchange program and positive impact it has on so many individuals.



September Highlights continued

At our **September 29** meeting, President Julie announced that the Avon Rotary Club received the Presidential Citation for the 2019-2020 Rotary Year. Congratulations Past President Dom Lalisce and all Club Members on your hard work and dedication to serving our community and beyond, meeting goals and making a difference in the world around us.



Foundation Update

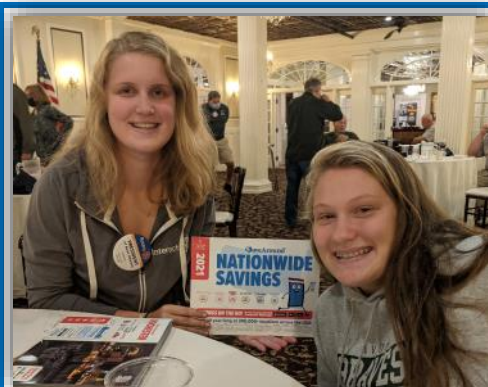
At our **September 1** meeting, Foundation Chairman, Kirk Vanderbilt presented a Paul Harris Fellow plus pin to Hans Koomen +7 (via Zoom), and Jim Tompsett +3 .

Congratulations to both gentlemen on this recognition for your continued generosity to the Rotary Foundation.



Interact News

My name is Emma Kostraba, I am a senior at Avon Central School. I am looking forward to pursuing a degree in Hospitality Management in college next fall. The influence I have had from the Rotary Interact Club has been a part of why I chose this career path. I first became a member of the Interact Club my freshman year, but you could say I have been involved longer than that. I knew I wanted to join this club when I was younger from seeing the service my older sister and brother gave when they were members. The biggest influence Interact Club had on me was from Exchange Weekend. After my siblings hosted exchange students when they were members I continued to host every year from then on. In total, I have hosted 7 exchange students. The reason I host exchange students during those weekends is because I truly love to hear all the stories they have and learn about their lives back home. I am so blessed to have met these wonderful people through this event. Through my experience with this club, I know now that I want to study abroad, work in different areas around the world, and be someone who hears stories from all walks of life. I want to thank the Avon Rotary for having this club to give us the opportunity to immerse ourselves in the amazing world around us.



Coupon Books For Sale!

The cancellation of this year's corn Festival not only disrupted the fundraising efforts of our club, but hurt the fundraising abilities of our Avon High School Interact Club as well. To help fill their fundraising gap, this year they are selling Save Around Rochester Coupon books for \$25 each. They will be selling them throughout the month of October and they make great Christmas presents. To order one message @avonnyinteract or Shannon DiFranco and help support these amazing service minded youths.

Mike Ford via Instagram

Pictured: Ella Vanderbilt, Ally DiFranco

Rambling On Rotary—October



By: Bruce Amey

As I write this month's article, it has been just a few days since the passing of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Putting all political positions aside, it hard not to recognize the impact she made on our country during her lifetime. When she was appointed as a professor at Rutgers Law School in 1963, she was paid less than her male colleagues because "she had a husband with a well-paying job."

Even before she was a Justice, Bader Ginsburg fought against gender discrimination, "at times picking male plaintiffs to demonstrate that gender discrimination was harmful to both men and women." She doggedly pushed the nation's courts in cases that led to ensuring that both genders have equal access to jobs, bank accounts, mortgages, and credit cards. I find it hard to recall a time when a woman could not access her own mortgage or credit card or a loan application but I am sure if my mom or grandmothers were still alive, they would recall.

Rotary was founded in 1905 but it was not until 1989 that the Constitution and Bylaws of Rotary were changed to allow women to join Rotary. Rotary was founded in 1905 but it was not until 2005 that Carolyn Jones, Past District Governor from Alaska became the first woman trustee of the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International. Our Avon Club was founded in 1927 but it was not until 2005 when we had a female Club president in Marne Rogers; we have had five female Club presidents since Marne. Rotary was founded in 1905 and finally, in the Rotary year 2022-23, Jennifer Jones of the Rotary Club of Windsor-Roseland, Ontario, Canada, will become the first female President of Rotary International. It is hard for me to believe and rather disheartening that our club, our country and our world have taken so long to recognize the value, the strengths, the opportunities inherent in all persons regardless of gender, race or place of origin. I have always believed that our diversity was our strength and that we need to build on that diversity to grow stronger. However, rather than live in the past, I must celebrate where we have recognized our shortcomings and look to the future and the "doors of opportunity" before us that Rotary provides.

October 24 is World Polio Day and we still have work to do. We learned last month that Africa has been declared polio-free but there is still work to do in Afghanistan and Pakistan. What more can we do as a club and as indi-

viduals to help end this disease. Rotary International has been working this endeavor since 1979. We have said in the past, "We are this close", but we are not there yet. November is usually considered Rotary Foundation Month but in October we cannot forget World Polio Day and how our contributions to the Foundation can help make that difference.

October is also Rotary Economic and Community Development Month. We all know that COVID has wreaked havoc on our community; both for many individuals and many small businesses. In addition to considering our global mission to end polio, what can we do to support our community and its economic development?

Rotary was founded as a group of professionals to serve others. Ruth Bader Ginsburg said, "If you want to be a true professional, you will do something outside yourself. Something to repair tears in your community. Something to make life a little better for people less fortunate than you. That's what I think a meaningful life is – living not for oneself, but for one's community." I see Rotarians living for others and our community every day working to repair the tears in our communities through our service to and for others. It heartens me to see where we have been and what we have grown to become. RBG also said, "Fight for the things that you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you." What a message to guide each of us every day, to lead others to join us. I am grateful to have seen a life such as RBG's. I am inspired by our club as Rotary Opens Opportunities for each of us and all around us. And, as usual, I have rambled on long enough.

OCTOBER IS
ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MONTH
"To the world you may be one person; but to one person you may be the world."
Dr. Seuss
Rotary  
www.rotary.org

Avon Rotary



Proudly Presents our 53rd Annual

ROTARY *On-Line* AUCTION

November 1st-12th, 2020

Past Auction Items

Baked goods
Flat Screen TV
Electronics
Weekend Getaways
Theater Tickets
Home & Garden Services
Gift Cards
Custom Artwork
Signed Memorabilia



BIDDING OPENS

November 1 at 8 AM

BIDDING CLOSES

November 12 at 7 PM

Item Pick-Up Day

**November 14 from 10am-12pm
at the Elementary School**

Visit our On-line Auction site to sign up and register!

<http://www.charityauction.bid/avonrotary2020>

or download the Auctria App in your App store,
enter *Avonrotary2020* to add the Event.



October Club Schedule

Mon. Oct. 5	Board of Directors Mtg. 6:00 @ Hurricane, Foundation Mtg. 7:30 @ Hurricane
Tues. Oct 6	Rotary Mtg. 6:00 @ Avon Inn Program: Bovona Child Advocacy Center
Tues. Oct. 13	Rotary Mtg. 6:00 @ Avon Inn Program: Shelter Box
Tues. Oct. 20	Rotary Mtg. 6:00 @ Avon Inn Program: Uganda Project
Sat. Oct. 24	World Polio Day
Tues. Oct. 27	Rotary Mtg. 6:00 @ Avon Inn In meeting service project!

October Celebrations



Birthday

- ⇒ *Chris Ferra*
- ⇒ *Terry Lemen*
- ⇒ *Janis McMIndes*
- ⇒ *Carmine Simone*
- ⇒ *Josh Tonra*
- ⇒ *Laurie Vonglis*
- ⇒ *Helen Zamboni*

Rotary Anniversary

- ⇒ *Kelly Cole 2002*
- ⇒ *Tom Honan 2018*
- ⇒ *Hans Koomen 2002*
- ⇒ *TJ Vonglis 2018*
- ⇒ *Tom Vonglis 2002*

Wedding Anniversary

- ⇒ *Ted Coyne*
- ⇒ *Rodney George*
- ⇒ *Rob Lupisella*
- ⇒ *Jim Varner*

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





Make a Difference!

JOIN OUR BOARD

Together we can do amazing things

CALL TOM VONGLIS FOR BOARD NOMINATIONS

2020 Wild Polio Case Counts as of September 30, 2020

<u>Country</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>Date of last case</u>
Afghanistan	21	28	37	July 20, 2020
Pakistan	8	135	65	July 24, 2020
Total	29	163	102	



Watch for more details!



WORLD POLIO DAY

OCTOBER 24

PURPLE PINKIE

PROJECT



***Is a fellow
Rotarian ill or in
need?***

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



Avon Food Pantry

Pantry critical needs in October are:
Canned Carrots, Peas & Canned Fruit
Bring to a Rotary meeting to donate!

