



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



Well, here we are, starting another Rotary year! This past year has been filled with many challenges; in the way that we are running our meetings, holding our fundraisers, and providing valuable service to others. I first want to say

that the needs that our Rotary serves certainly have not been cancelled amid this current crisis we are in and therefore our projects and our fundraising can't be canceled either, they must though be shifted to meet the current needs to ensure the health and safety of all. While I am not a fan of the phrase "this being the new 'normal' for us", it is where we find ourselves now and certainly for the coming months, I am very excited to lead us into the future despite the challenges that lay before us.

We are a very resourceful and energetic club that has never shied away from challenges. Like you, I am so disappointed that our Corn Fest had to be cancelled for the first time in 33 years, but I know that we will pull together and have a successful Road Rally/Scavenger Hunt. I would like to thank everyone who gave ideas on other fundraisers that we could hold while providing responsible social distancing. All these ideas helped lead us to this very different, but exciting event that we will be holding on August 8, 2020. It has also been very motivating to see so many of the newer members step up to the challenge of making this alternative fundraiser a success. Active participation of new members, that feeling of being valued and needed in the organization, can be a struggle for clubs to attain. I certainly do not see that as an obstacle for retention of newer members in our club.

I have been a Rotarian for 11 years and I have enjoyed how our club has grown. I joined Rotary after hosting 4 exchange students one weekend as part of the Avon Interact Weekend. After volunteering to help with the weekend's activities with Ed and Linda Kime, I knew that I wanted to be a Rotarian and be involved with the youth programs. The last 11 years have led me down a

path where I have gone from being a club counselor, to country officer, to District Chair of the Youth Exchange program, a position that I step down from this year. Along the way, I got involved in the Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) program and am currently the District Chair of that and now am the District Chair of the New Generations Service Exchange Program, a program for 19-30 year old's that I'm very excited about.

As your President, I look forward to working with all of you during our fundraisers, social events, community activities and Rotary meetings. I know that having meetings that are engaging and provide a sense of purpose are vital to the health of a club. Your time is important, and we want to be sure that besides the great social enjoyment we get from our fellowship at meetings, we want you to walk away with a feeling that your time is working towards the goals of Rotary and is being spent purposefully. To that end, I would like to see presentations come back to our meetings at least once a month. If anyone has ideas, please let me know. I would also like see the return of our in-meeting service projects once a month. Rhonda Hirschler will oversee organizing these, so please, if anyone has any ideas, contact her.

The official Change of Officers event will be Tuesday July 14th at 6:00pm at the Avon Inn. This will be a time to be together, while acknowledging social distancing. It will be a time to celebrate our club and our accomplishments as well as set goals and expectations for the future year.

Yours In Rotary Service,

Julie Carney, President 20-21



June Highlights



Sunday, June 7:

We had fun! We played golf! We saw Rotarian friends whom we hadn't seen in weeks! A small sense of normal was felt on this warm sunny afternoon and it felt amazing!



Tuesday, June 9:

While zoom meetings have become our new 'normal' for now, it seems we're getting more comfortable with the format and thankful to see familiar faces. At tonight's meeting Dom provided an incredible National Anthem by a 7 year old and it gave us goosebumps.

Meanwhile out in the wilderness, the Vanderbilts almost provided entertainment had they had better wi-fi. Kirk fell into a deep creek hole while exploring and Karen was unable capture it on video. Thankfully no one was hurt, to badly.

In other news, the Board met and approved a donation of \$2000 to the annual fund. Julie Carney is forming a new committee to develop a fundraiser to take the place of this year's Corn Festival. The concept includes a Road Rally-Scavenger hunt, takeout dinner, "Corn-otine" t-shirts, raffle baskets, 50/50 ticket sales and much more. As details develop, more information will be shared with the club.

Tuesday, June 30:

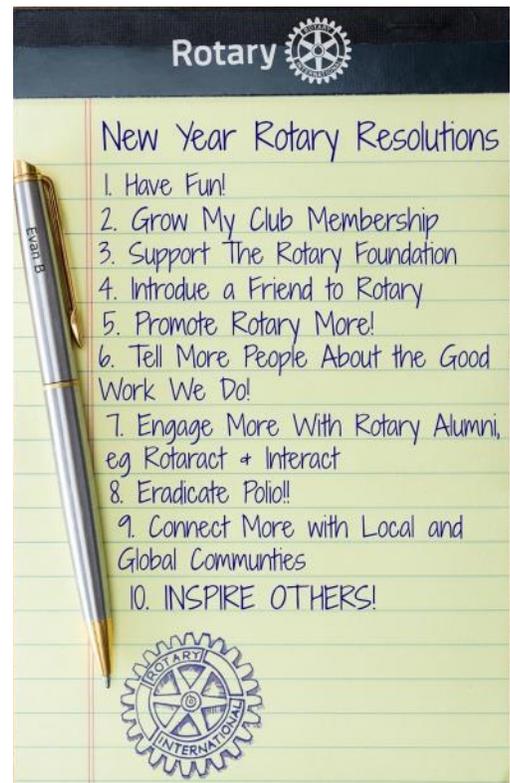
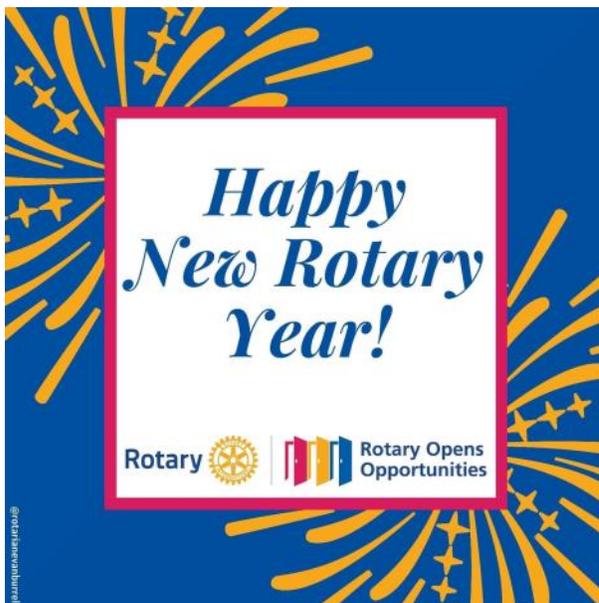
- ◆ Tonight's meeting marked Dom's final one as President. He took us down memory lane via slideshow including photo highlights from this past year. The club accomplished many things and we have a lot to be proud of.
- ◆ We had special guests join us including DG David Hannan, DGE Linda Kohl and DGEN Ralph Brandt. Dave shared that during the District change over, one of the many highlights was presenting a Paul Harris Fellow plus one to Julie Carney and a Paul Harris Fellow to Jim Carney for their work in Youth Exchange, New Generations Committee and RYLA. The Avon Interact Club was awarded 1st place for the Food Pantry project they did last year. Our club was awarded an End Polio Now Certificate of Achievement for the 18-19 Rotary year.
- ◆ Linda Kohl mentioned that there is a link on the Penfield website to view the District changeover event if you missed joining it on zoom. Save the date—July 21, Linda will be doing her official visit during that zoom meeting, intended to be a special Area 8 meeting with other clubs.
- ◆ Kirk announced that Avon Rotary's Foundation drive raised almost \$18,000, with an average \$203 per capita.

WELCOME TO A NEW ROTARY YEAR!



July 1 marks the beginning of the new Rotary year. The members of the Avon Rotary Club thank the outgoing President, Dominique Lalisie for his leadership this past Rotary year, July 2019—June 2020. In his tenure as President and past four years as a member of our Board of Directors; he successfully led the Literacy Committee, oversaw our Migrant Literacy Program, ensured the By-laws were updated and in this weird and challenging year, successfully oversaw our club's transition from in person meetings to meetings over Zoom, and for so much more. Thank you and congratulations Dom for your club leadership and service to the community this past year!

- Mike Ford



WELCOME AVON ROTARY 2020-2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Mike Ford, Director
Bruce Amey, Member at Large
Marcia Cameron, Past President
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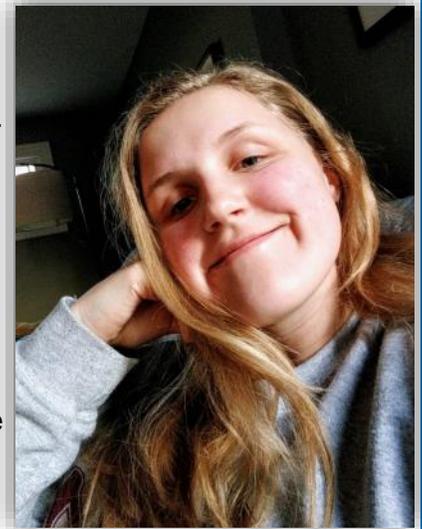


Interact



This upcoming year for the Rotary Interact Club I will have the position of President and I can't even begin to describe how excited I am. I had been dreaming about being a part of Interact before I was even allowed to join. So, when I joined the club during my freshman year I made it a goal for myself to become President. I take a lot of pride in the club and I'm very passionate in everything we do whether it's fundraising or community service. I have many new ideas for this year including how the club operates in the monthly meetings. We are moving back to the library so we can be more organized and I will start running the meetings. The club is also hoping to give back to the community more this year. I'm very excited for all the new ideas the Interact club hopes to achieve this year.

Ella Vanderbilt, 20-21 Avon Interact President



Linda Kime Memorial Scholarship



Dear Rotary,

Thank you so much for this opportunity and this scholarship. I am so thankful and will use it to help me in college next year. I am so grateful that I became a part of Interact Club my freshman year, and that it got me involved with Rotary, and gave me so many experiences. I have learned so much from my time with the Rotary Club, and I will cherish every moment. Thank you so much for everything.

Abby Decillis

Linda Kime Memorial Scholarship

Presented by: Shannon DiFranco to Abby Decillis



Introducing Our New 2020 Fundraiser



In lieu of our traditional Corn Festival, Avon Rotary is planning to offer the area a new adventure: a combination fun road rally and fundraiser.

It's something we never have done and there is very little like it nearby. We think people, tired of the pandemic lockdown, will jump at the opportunity to try something new and different, especially if it's outdoors and safe for all.

The rally committee, headed by Julie Carney, is actually planning a dual event, combining a rally with a chicken BBQ. All

plans are tentative but here is what we have so far: The rally itself will start and end at the Avon Middle School with teams consisting of at least two people, a driver and a navigator. Entry fee is \$35 per person, \$10 for kids under 16. Each team will get a clue sheet directing them around roughly the northern half of Livingston County. Each team will make two stops in all the larger towns where they must visit one commercial site and one scenic or recreational site. There they must either buy or pick up an item and take a photo proving they stopped at the site. Along the way they can accumulate extra points by accomplishing prescribed feats, such as photographing a squirrel or picking a dandelion.

Although mileage and times will be recorded, this is not a race. Safety is critical and posted speed limits must be observed. Prizes will be awarded based on points, times and mileage plus a few other fun things such as oldest car or best costumes. Also included will be basket raffles at the Avon Inn, a 50/50 drawing and swag bags with presold T-shirts, snacks, etc.,

Scavenger Hunt!

The Lions are helping with the chicken BBQ, which will be open to all, but only 400 presold tickets will be available. Lions will cook the food at the park and transport it to the school grounds. Rotarians will cook the sides. Interact will help.

As you can see, an event like this requires considerable planning and resources. Normally a rally is months in the planning and puts squads of people to work. We are trying to have this ready by Aug. 8, the corn fest date, and your rally committee comprises fewer than a dozen people, none of whom has done this before, so we are trying to keep it simple. This is at least as complex as the corn fest and we will need your help. You might be contacted shortly to pitch in so please try to find a way to contribute. Or step up and volunteer. As of now the subgroups are as follows: Publicity/Social Media, T-Shirts, Chicken BBQ, Road Rally/Scavenger Hunt, Raffle Baskets, Swag Bag/Eventbrite, Avon Inn.

This can be a fun learning experience for all; let's make it a big success, raise a lot of money and do it even better next year. - Julie Carney

Visit the website to register for the rally, order t-shirts,
buy chicken BBQ tickets—1-stop shopping!!

<https://corn2020.itemorder.com/>

Save the date ... Volunteer to help... Spread the word!

Rambling On Rotary—July



By: Bruce Amey

“Now is the time to put everything on the table, test new approaches, and prepare Rotary for the future. We need to change, and change dramatically, if we are to face the challenges of this new age. It is up to us to remake Rotary for these new times – to wholeheartedly embrace the ideas,

energy, and commitment of young people eager to find an outlet for idealism.” These are the words of our new Rotary International President Holger Knaack. For me, I was inspired reading his message.

It has been a disappointing few months due to the COVID virus. We have been able to see each other in our zoom meetings which has been better than nothing but I miss our club. I was able to complete a loft bed project for my granddaughter and, upon delivering it to her in Detroit in June, it was a joy to see the excitement on her face ... but I miss seeing my family. I have missed our camaraderie when doing our service projects. We were all set for our Honors Program recognizing some community members as Paul Harris Fellows along with Building Awards ... and this was canceled. The cancellation of the District Conference in Niagara Falls and the International Convention in Honolulu were very disappointing; I look forward to these opportunities to interact with other Rotarians. Canceling our Blue Jean Ball and our club’s Corn Festival made me sad. These are great events that help raise funds that allow us to better serve in our community and the world.

Given all that, I was inspired to read President Knaack’s message. “Now is the time to put EVERYTHING on the table.” Our club members came together with our new President Julie to plan a NEW event that could become a great event with our Avon Rotary Road Rally. “We need to change, and change dramatically...” Current events have created new opportunities. As we move forward, we need to put EVERYthing on the table, to openly discuss and share, to allow us to continue Service Above Self.

President Julie does not expect that the Road Rally will generate the club revenues that the Corn Fest has in the past; so what other ideas are there to generate funds that will allow our club to continue to support the activities (and maybe more) we have in the past? Years before my moving to Avon, I understand our club used to perform a variety show (of sorts) as a fund-raiser. Another club in our district sells “flamingos” to bring attention to an “honoree” to raise funds. I saw one club globally was making face masks to sell for a nominal profit to support their club’s activities; I

think we are going to be encouraged to wear face masks for some time to come and, who knows, maybe that act alone will help reduce all kinds of illnesses. Additionally, we need to support our club’s Interact in its fund-raising endeavors, too. “It is up to us ... to wholeheartedly embrace the ideas, energy, and commitment of young people eager to find an outlet for idealism.” EVERYthing is on the table!!

As we are entering a new Rotary year, it is time to renew ourselves and our mission. “The Rotary Club of Avon is an organization where service-minded individuals UNITE to provide resources and TAKE ACTION for those in need and SUPPORT LASTING CHANGE in our world, in our community, and in each other.” These past few months of being separated from each other has reinforced for me the need to unite and take action that supports lasting change. What more can we do in our community? Are there club members we need to do a better job supporting in their need? Are there service projects that our village and town would benefit from our efforts? And we must continue supporting our global project Linking Hands For Learning with the school build in Nicaragua. What can we do to support global water projects, as well? There are so many opportunities for us to serve but we need to act.

RI President Knaack stated, “Rotary is not just a club...; it is an invitation to endless opportunities. Every great challenge is an opportunity for renewal and growth. The world needs Rotary now more than ever. It is up to us to make sure that Rotary Opens Opportunities for generations to come.” We are a part of “endless opportunities” and I could not agree more that “the world needs Rotary NOW more than ever.” We are almost at the point of eradicating polio, what will be the role of Rotary in getting vaccines for COVID-19 to the world? We ... Avon Rotary is more important now than we have ever been in our community. Along with President Julie, I look forward to embracing the endless opportunities before us. And, as usual, I have rambled on long enough.



To Avon Rotary,

I read in the monthly newsletter, (thank you Laurie for keeping me on the distribution), that the Corn Fest is cancelled. COVID claimed a lot of great community activities this year. The festival is one of the best. Please accept our monetary gift, unrestricted for use as the club deems necessary.

My updates include retiring this spring (the day all the golf courses closed), helping Vaune as she cares for her Mom who lives with us, and looking ahead to our 40th anniversary in July.

Our best wishes to Avon Rotary and all our friends in Western New York.

Steve, Past President 2000-2001



July *Club Schedule*

Tues. July 7	Zoom Meeting 6:30
Mon. July 13	Board of Directors Meeting
Tues. July 14	CHANGE OF OFFICERS CELEBRATION—Avon Inn (tentative)
Tues. July 21	Zoom Meeting 6:30—Area 8 Meeting with District Governor Linda Kohl
Tues. July 28	Zoom Meeting 6:30

July Celebrations

Rotary Anniversary

- ⇒ *Ted Coyne 1955*
- ⇒ *Steve Stephenson 1963 (H)*
- ⇒ *Jerry Dougherty 1966*
- ⇒ *Jim Gaffney 1971 (H)*
- ⇒ *Julie Carney 2009*

Wedding Anniversary

- ⇒ *Greg & Jean Antkowiak*
- ⇒ *Cathy Jo Murphy*
- ⇒ *Jim Ryan*
- ⇒ *Ernie Wiard*
- ⇒ *Marcie Williams*

Birthday

- ⇒ *Joe Callahan*
- ⇒ *Charlene Masten*
- ⇒ *Karl Sawicki*

*Please keep in your thoughts and prayers....
Kelly Cole as he continues to battle for wellness*



Is a fellow Rotarian ill or in need?

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

Avon Food Pantry

Drop off at Food Pantry or Contact Rhonda

Pantry critical needs in July are:

Nothing specific but donations always welcome.

Thank you, Jennifer Palmer



**May we think of freedom, not as the
right to do as we please, but as the
opportunity to do what is right.**

Peter Marshall

2020 Wild Polio Case Counts as of June 24, 2020

<u>Country</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>Date of last case</u>
Afghanistan	21	28	19	May 25, 2020
Pakistan	8	135	53	May 26, 2020
Total	29	163	72	

