



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

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President's Message



This past month has been one of ups and downs for the Avon Rotary Club. We started out our month with the induction of two new members. We welcome both Dan and Mike to our club and look forward to having them as active participants in the many activities and fundraisers that we do. We had a great program from Sarah from the Wilmot Center who told us about the many services they provide. I encourage everyone to look into these opportunities if you are so inclined. October was a time that I was able to get away with friends for golfing in the Outer Banks. I'm grateful that Kirk was willing to step in and run the meeting for me. It was at this meeting that we were able to present a Paul Harris to Louie Lee and honor him for all the service he has done in our community. This continues as part of our Honors Program and we will look forward to another presentation in November. Our congratulation to Louie for this special honor and we thank him for all he does.

Of course the sad news for our month was the loss of two very dedicated friends and Rotarians. Mark Evans and Margo Harper were both great examples for all of us to follow with their high level of passion towards the Rotary cause. We will always remember both of them for all they have contributed to our club and community. Continue to keep both Mark and Margo's families in your thoughts and prayers.

The month of November will be a busy one as we kick off Foundation month. Along with all that is planned for the Foundation we will be having our roadside cleanup on the 6th and of course Thanksgiving will be celebrated this month. I will be on vacation the first week so thank you again to Marcia for stepping in and running our November 2nd meeting. Reminder that the Rotary Auction is in full swing (thank you Tom Honan). Please encourage friends and family to participate. Lets look forward to a good November for the Avon Rotary Club.

Yours In Rotary Service,

Tom Vonglis, President 2021-2022

**Avon Rotary Club meets
Tuesdays at 6:30 pm**

Board of Directors

Tom Vonglis, President
Steve Csapo, President Elect
Mike Ford, Senior Director
Karen Vanderbilt, Director
Bruce Amey, Member at Large
Julie Carney, Past President
Laurie Vonglis, Secretary
Katie DeGraff, Treasurer



Make a Difference!

JOIN OUR BOARD

Together we can do amazing things

CALL TOM VONGLIS FOR BOARD NOMINATIONS

In Remembrance of Mark Evans



October 21, 2021: We are heartbroken to inform you that one of our most committed and active members, Mark Evans, has passed away.

Mark grew up in Buffalo, but fully embraced the Avon community upon moving here. He was a teacher, librarian, avid political memorabilia collector and dealer, and Grover Cleveland and Jimmy Carter presidential historian. He considered Carter his personal hero and had several opportunities to meet with Jimmy and his wife Rosalyn on his many pilgrimages to the Plains Georgia Peanut Festival nearly every September.



As an Avon Rotarian, Mark joined our club in 1994, served as president in the 99-00 year, and was our Rotarian of the Year in 2005. He served as a chairman or committee member on many club fundraisers, and was a long time member of both ours and the district's foundation committees. He was crucial in starting our Avon Honors program and most community members may know him as our yearly emcee for the Avon Corn Festival corn eating contest. Club members will remember him as the King of the Dad Joke which were often met with groans to which he would always jokingly re-

ply with his patented line, "It's a cruel club."

Most importantly, Mark was husband to Miss Pat for 32 years, father, grandfather, brother, son, and friend.

R.I.P. Mark, you will be truly missed.

Submitted by Mike Ford via Social Media



In Remembrance of Margo Harper



October 30, 2021:

Our Rotary Club in Avon was still pretty much a "boys' club", but that was about to change, on that day in 1999 when Margo Harper and I joined, the very same day. Over the years, Margo has been a wonderfully generous member of the club, with donations to the GVRC Camp, to Polio Plus, and to many other needs, but without a lot of attention-getting. Over the last months, she was the primary reason for our four-some -- Mark Evans, Jim Tompsett, and I joining with Margo -- to get together for lunch. Margo loved these modest get-togethers -- and she loved to recall for us favorite meals she had enjoyed in cities all over the world, many with her hus-



band John. She was faithful to her Michigan State teams, and traveled to games many times to urge them and celebrate for them. (She's the only car-owner I know who carries the name of her team on her license plate.) She did not permit her loss of sight and loss of mobility to hamper her socializing and participating, good-natured until the last meal we all shared. At that meal with Hallowe'en costumes increasing the enjoyment, she told me that "next year, I'll get the Corn Festus costume to wear".

Bruce Amey stated, "Regardless of her health situation, she did her best to attend Rotary meetings and events. She was there whenever she could be not just when it was convenient. She believed in Rotary and what it does to serve others."

Our club is the poorer in many ways with her loss. R.I.P Margo, you will be missed! *Submitted by Barbara Herman*





Club Schedule

Tues. Nov 2	Regular Meeting 6:30 Program: Welcome to Foundation Month, Kirk Vanderbilt
Sat. Nov 6	Road Side Cleanup 8:00 at Storage Building
Mon. Nov 8	Board of Directors Meeting 6:30 @ Circlevue Conference Room
Tues. Nov 9	Regular Meeting 6:30 Run by Interact Club
Tues. Nov 16	Special Meeting 6:30 Paul Harris Fellow Presentation: Mary Lou Marks
Tues. Nov 23	Thanksgiving Dinner Meeting 6:30 Program: Paul Harris Fellow Recognition
Tues. Nov 30	Red Cross Blood Drive 2:00—6:00 Avon Inn No Regular Meeting

Wearing Your Rotary Pin

When you wear your pin people you know and work with will see that you are proud to be a Rotarian. They may even ask you about Rotary. You might tell them that Rotary is a group of people who pool their resources and use their talents to serve their communities. That Rotarians' dedication to serve is best expressed in our motto: ***Service Above Self.***



Rotary Anniversary

- ⇒ Dave 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
- ⇒ Rhonda Hirschler 2018
- ⇒ Joe Yantachka 2020
- ⇒ Marcea Tetamore 2020
- ⇒ Ryan Pacatte 2020

November Celebrations

Birthday

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

Wedding Anniversary

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



Welcome New Members!



Dan Oswald, October 19, 2021

I am fairly new to the Town of Avon, but a long-time resident of Livingston county. I moved to the County in 1978 and since then I have lived in towns from the Northernmost to Southernmost tips of Livingston. I graduated from York HS in 1987 and began what was to be a long-term career in the military. After serving on active duty in the Army overseas, I began a new career with NYS. My first job was in the Division for Youth and after 13 years I transferred to the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities where I have been for over 16 years.

When I lived in Dansville some co-workers and friends talked me into giving back to our community and joining the ambulance dept. This was a very interesting and exciting opportunity that I was looking forward to excelling in and helping make a difference. Not long after joining I was offered a promotion in my agency that brought me to Rochester, and I relocated away from my volunteer commitment. Over the years I have either received assistance or watched people or groups that I admired for making a volunteer commitment and caring for people they often may not even know. I knew someday I

would find an opportunity again. Since I have moved to Avon my neighbors have reached out and welcomed our family to the town. After a few years of interrogation, surveillance, and retirement from the military, my very thoughtful neighbor Bruce Amey decided it was time to make sure I didn't seize up, and I should keep this body and mind in motion. On 10/19 we put that plan in place!

I look forward to new friendships and new opportunities to make Avon and other communities worldwide a better place within the work and dedication of the Avon Rotary Club.

Dan's Contact Information: Usafkc135r@gmail.com
585-245-2176

485 North Ave.
Avon, NY 14414

Mike Giso, October 19, 2021

Born and raised in Colonie, NY (just West of Albany). Graduated in 1994 from South Colonie CSD. Attended Clarkson University in Potsdam, NY where I received a BS degree in Civil Engineering, and where I met Rachel House from Avon who was attending SUNY Potsdam at the time. After college Rachel and I moved to Connecticut where I accepted a position to work for Turner Construction.

In 2001, Rachel and I were married at Avon First United Methodist Church with a reception at the Avon Inn. Shortly after we move to Arizona to explore the Southwest for several years before moving back to New York in 2005. We settled in Nassau near Albany and raised 2 boys - Victor, age 15 and Jack, age 10. In 2020 we all made the permanent move to Avon.

I continue to work as a Project Manager for Turner Construction. Outside of work I enjoy spending time outdoors hiking and camping, and skiing in the Winter. Rachel and I are ADK 46ers having summited all 46 high peaks in the Adirondacks. We are currently on a quest to section hike the entire Long Trail in VT after almost completing the Massachusetts portion of the Appalachian Trail (also in sections). I also enjoy watching my favorite sports teams - NY Yankees, NY Giants and Syracuse Orange men's basketball.

I choose to join Rotary for the opportunity to be involved in this community, expand my network, and develop relationships along the way.

Mike's Contact Information: gisomj@charter.net
518-301-0313

1652 Batzing Rd.
Caledonia, NY 14423





Foundation Presentation



November 12:

We were so happy to welcome Louis Lee and his many guests to the Avon Inn to recognize his years of service to the Avon community by naming him a **Paul Harris Fellow**. This is a continuation of Avon Rotary's tradition of honoring some of our non-Rotarian friends and community members who demonstrate a life of service to others. Louis is a long-time Lion's member, business owner, part-time police officer, and silent benefactor for those in need. A foundation in Louis' name operates in the Avon area to help families with a variety of needs. Louis is an inspiration and a great mentor to many, and we're lucky to have him!! Congrats to Louis and Suzanne! Submitted by: Kirk Vanderbilt via Facebook



Louie Lee, Paul Harris Fellow



Louie & Suzanne Lee



Gary Necaster (presenter), Louie & Suzanne Lee, Kirk Vanderbilt (presenter)

Halloween Fun

At our **October 26** meeting, club members reflected on fellow Rotarian Mark Evans. With fist bumps, anecdotes and Mark-isms, we shared our stories and sadness over his passing. In recognition of the 'holiday' several members dressed up for the occasion. The judges ruled and our very own 'social butterfly,' Katie DeGraff won best costume despite the close competition. Many thanks to Kirk Vanderbilt for stepping in to lead the meeting in President Tom's absence. Submitted by Laurie Vonglis, photos by Katie DeGraff



Rambling On Rotary—November



By: Bruce Amey

It has been said of Rotarians that “Service is the rent I pay for the space I occupy on earth.” As I have shared before, I knew of the value of service before I joined Rotary through the example set by my parents. Their service was mainly directed through our church but they also gave by driving for Meals on Wheels and working with Habitat for Humanity of Rochester. President Tom’s emails informing club members of the passing of Rotarian Mark Evans and Margo Harper truly humbled me as I thought of their years of service in our community and through our club. How can we honor the lives of service of other club Rotarian members who have passed away? Club members like Hoyt Mason, Tom Ippolito, Bert Croop, Charlie Pease, Ben Siragusa, Gladys Iler, Steve Vanderbilt, and others.

Service is why we join Rotary. We recently welcomed new members Mike Giso and Dan Oswald. Each of them commented that a reason to join Rotary was to give back to our community through service and to be a part of something bigger than themselves. As we know, there are 1.2 million Rotarians worldwide and the service we contribute to is definitely bigger than any one of us, which is why we join. RI President Mehta has challenged us with “Each one, Bring One”. What better way to share the joy of serving others than to share it with new members joining Rotary? What better way to honor former Rotarians who have passed away than to invite others to become members?

As you know, November is Rotary Foundation Month. Our club has been focused on the Foundation for the past few months as we have honored community members with our COVID-revised Paul Harris Honors presentations to Norm Barrett, Louie Lee, and, in November, Mary Lou Marks. As Kirk reminds us whenever a Paul Harris Award is presented, it is bestowed “in appreciation of tangible and significant assistance given for the furtherance of better understanding and friendly relations among peoples of the world.” The Rotary Foundation’s mission is to “help Rotarians advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace by improving health, providing quality education, improving the environment, and alleviating poverty.” Because of donations to the Foundation, since it was founded more

than 100 years ago, the Rotary Foundation has spent more than \$4 billion on life-changing, sustainable projects. The Rotary Foundation transforms our gifts (yours and mine) into service projects that change lives both close to home and around the world.

October 24 we celebrated World Polio Day recognizing Rotary’s commitment to eradicate polio from the planet. In the October Rotary Magazine, World Health Organization polio chief Aidan O’Leary commented, “The single most important relationship that the program (to eradicate polio) has is between a frontline vaccinator and the caregiver who answers the knock at the door.” He continued, “The eradication program is not about achievements. It’s about closing gaps: access gaps, surveillance gaps.” Continuing our work as Rotarians requires each of us to make connections with others while inviting them to join us in our service towards others. And we truly are “this close”.

As I started this Rambling, the rewards of serving others were shown to me before becoming a Rotarian but Rotary has given my service direction and purpose. The Rotary Foundation expands our service beyond our community to countries and peoples we will likely never meet. That truly is being a part of something much bigger than ourselves. That is a way to remember and honor Rotarians who have served before us. The Rotary Foundation needs each of us. And, as usual, I have rambled on long enough.



NOVEMBER IS

ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH

EVERY ROTARIAN EVERY YEAR

The Rotary Foundation transforms more than 90% of its gifts into service projects that change lives both close to home and around the world.

The Rotary Foundation

www.rotary.org

Project Coat Drive

Catholic Charities
Steuben / Livingston



As a part of our monthly service projects and with winter quickly approaching, Avon Rotary has teamed up with Livingston/Steuben Catholic Charities to provide coats and jackets to children in need. For the month of November, at each Tuesday meeting, there will be a bin for new and gently used coats to be donated. Additionally, a bin will be located at Tompkins Bank (263 East Main St) to drop off coats if you're unable to make the meeting.

This is open to the public, so

if you know of someone looking to clean out closets or give to a worthy cause, please feel free to share.

Catholic Charities sees the greatest need with children from 5-12 years, but will gladly accept all sizes for both boys and girls.

If you have any questions, please contact Katie DeGraff, project leader.

585-704-0479



The
Rotary  **Foundation**

Doing Good In The World



EVERY
ROTARIAN
EVERY
YEAR



Welcome to November, Foundation month in the Rotary world. As we make our way through the month, we will have several opportunities to learn about and engage with the Foundation. We've had a fair amount of exposure lately with our Rotary Honors events for Norm Barrett and Louie Lee, and we have 1 more scheduled for MaryLou Marks in a few weeks.

This month I'll encourage everyone to think about and follow through with their contributions at whatever level you feel is appropriate. As a Club and as an organization, we accomplish so many amazing things through the Foundation. From local projects like our upcoming Community Garden at the school, to international clean water projects, Avon Rotary has a long history of leveraging our own contributions to the foundation to help our neighbors here in Avon and families and children throughout the world who we will likely never meet. It is my hope that we all, as Avon Rotarians, have "skin in the game" towards these endeavors.

To that end, I also encourage everyone to create a My

Rotary account on the RI website. Your My Rotary page is a place for members of Rotary to access tools and information to make your membership experience better. You can monitor your Rotary Foundation contributions and easily make donations to the Foundation. My Rotary page also has access to the Causes of Rotary, Rotary Programs, the History of Rotary, and News and Features. You can share ideas with other Rotarians, exchange ideas. The Learning Center has much information and other learning tools regarding Club Leadership, District Leadership, Public Image, and Professional Development, among others.

For those of you that have traditionally written checks (made out to: The Rotary Foundation), I will happily accept those, as well as cash donations at any time. Those wishing to use Venmo can do that as well by sending to @Avon-Rotary with a note to indicate it's for the Foundation. Thanks in advance and please do not hesitate to reach out to me, Bruce, or Laurie with any questions you may have.

YIRS,

Kirk Vanderbilt, Foundation Chairman

Check out these Trunks

October 31:

Avon Rotary once again participated in the Halloween tradition of Trunk or Treat. Many thanks to Bruce Amey for organizing this service project and all those that volunteered to help him.

Bruce said, "We had a great time. Community children came thru for a bit more than 2 hours. It was a very nice collaboration with the Avon Wesleyan Church and Avon Rotary Club."



Avon Rotary



Proudly Presents our 54th Annual

ROTARY *On-Line* AUCTION

October 31st - November 11th, 2021

Past Auction Items

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



BIDDING OPENS

October 31st at 8 AM

BIDDING CLOSES

November 11 at 7 PM

Item Pick-Up Day

**November 13 from 10am-12pm
at the Elementary School**

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

<http://www.charityauction.bid/avonrotary2021>

or download the Auctria App in your App store,
enter ***Avonrotary2021*** to add the Event.



**American
Red Cross**



Avon Rotary Blood Drive

**Avon Inn - Ballroom
55 E Main St
Avon, NY 14414**

**Tuesday, November 30, 2021
2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: avonrotary to schedule an appointment.

Maximize your blood donation. Help more patients.
If you are an eligible type O, B - or A - donor, consider making a Power Red donation.
Red blood cells are the most commonly transfused blood component.



Scan to be directed to
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pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of
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**END
POLIO
NOW**

2021 Wild Polio Case Counts as of October 31, 2021

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



For more information go to: <https://polioeradication.org/>

In the Spotlight

The scouts have put up a flag pole in front of the scout house! It was completed on October 6 and had their closing around it. What a great moment.

Submitted by: Shawn Rice



Is a fellow Rotarian ill or in need?

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



November is the month to remind us to be thankful
for the many positive things happening in our life.

Avon Food Pantry

Pantry critical needs in November are:

Cereal, Canned Goods, Peanut Butter

Please drop off at the food pantry or bring to a meeting.

If you have questions, please contact Rhonda Hirschler. Thank you!

