



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

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**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

President's Message



November proved to be a great month celebrating the Rotary Foundation. We were able to give another Paul Harris to our Community member Mary Lou Marks. This was a wonderful celebration and a much deserved honor for Mary Lou who has done so much for our community. We also had the pleasure of seeing one of our own receive her first Paul Harris. Karen Vanderbilt has been doing so much for our club for many years now and she is also a well deserving recipient of this honor. Our congratulations to Karen and thanks for all you do for Avon Rotary and our community. On the same night that Karen received her Paul Harris there were also plus pins presented for Jeff Herberger (+1 and +2), Dave Henehan (+3), and yours truly (+4). Its great to see the dedication that so many Avon Rotarians have in supporting the Rotary Foundation. Many thanks to all these members and all of you who donate to the Foundation on a regular basis. I'm asking that each of you continue to consider donating to the Foundation as we continue to work towards our goal for this Rotary year.

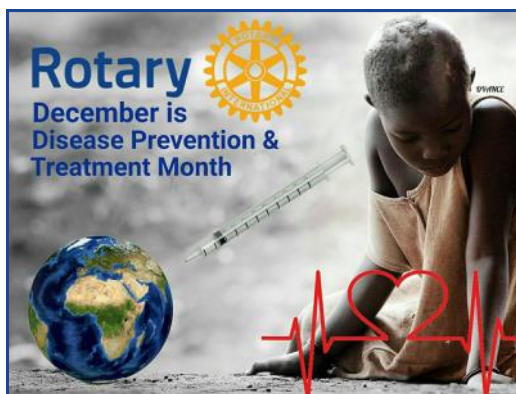
Along with the Foundation presentations this month we were also very fortunate to have our Interact club run one of our meetings. Interact President Jo Jo Vanryn did an outstanding job running our meeting and even had the pleasure to fine me for my lack of attendance as compared to hers. Of course I had a good excuse but none the less this was a fun time and made for a good opportunity to raise funds for Interact. On this same night we also had a lot of fun with the "fun facts trivia" game that we played. It was a good chance to learn something about our fellow Rotarians that we probably would never get the chance to know. I want to thank Laurie and Katie for putting this game together for all of us.

As we close Foundation month I hope each of you enjoyed the videos at our meetings and received some level of renewed inspiration. Thank you to our Foundation committee led by Kirk for all you did during the month.

I hope everyone enjoyed their Thanksgiving. We will look forward to December and the holiday season.

Yours In Rotary Service,

Tom Vonglis, President 2021-2022





DECEMBER Club Schedule

Wed. Dec 1	School Support Project 7—8:30 am, Avon Central Schools
Sat. Dec 4	Avon Community Holiday Spectacular
Tues. Dec 7	Regular Meeting 6:30 New Member Inductions, Program: Stove Team, Forest Resener
Sat. Dec 11	A Christmas Carol 7:00 pm, Park Theatre, \$20 per person
Tues. Dec 14	Regular Meeting 6:30
Mon. Dec 20	Board of Directors Meeting 6:30 at Circleview Conference Room
Tues. Dec 21	Holiday Party 5:00 at the Avon Inn
Tues. Dec 28	NO MEETING—ENJOY THE HOLIDAYS!



make it a *December* to remember



Rotary Anniversary

Ernie Wiard 1975 (H)

Bob House 1987

Marcia Cameron 2005

Rodney George 2010

Cathy Jo Murphy 2011

Terry Hayes 2012

Dominique Lalisie 2014

Jim Varner 2014

Julie Welch 2015

Jean Antkowiak 2016

Greg Antkowiak 2016

Karen Vanderbilt 2018

Birthday

⇒ *Jake Ayers*

⇒ *Colin Bruckel*

⇒ *Bob French*

⇒ *Tom Honan*

⇒ *Chris Masten*

⇒ *Ryan Pacatte*

⇒ *Shawn Rice*

⇒ *Julie Welch*

⇒ *Ernie Wiard*

Wedding Anniversary

⇒ *David Kilgore*

⇒ *Marcea Tetamore*

⇒ *Bill Wall*

⇒ *Julie Welch*

⇒ *Joe Yantachka*



December Celebrations

November Highlights



Julie Carney, Karen & Kirk Vanderbilt, Laurie & Tom Vonglis, Diane & Bruce Amey, Cindy & Jim Varner

Submitted by: Laurie Vonglis via social media

Foundation Brunch

November 7: Several Avon Rotarians traveled to Geneva on Sunday to Ventosa Winery for the 7120 District Foundation Brunch. The keynote speaker was past District Governor & Foundation expert, Don Alhart. He shared an inspirational message we all needed to hear. Many thanks to all the speakers sharing knowledge about Polio Plus efforts, project and all the good our Foundation contributions are making in our communities and around the world.



PDG David Hannan, DG Janet Tenriero, PDG Don Alhart, PDG & District Foundation Chair Tom Rogers

Interact Runs The Meeting

November 9: As part of our club's annual celebration of World Interact Week, Avon High School's Interact Club took over our club meeting. Interact is Rotary International's service club for young people. Interact clubs are sponsored by individual Rotary clubs, which provide support and guidance, but they are self-governing and self-supporting. Current Avon Interact President Jojo VanRy did an excellent job running our meeting and kept us updated on Interact's current and future fundraising activities.

Submitted by: Mike Ford via social media



Interact Treasurer Maggie Vanderbilt, Interact member Olivia Caiazzo, Interact President Jojo VanRy, Interact Vice President Sydney Murray, and Interact advisor Rotarian Karen Vanderbilt.



President Tom Vonglis, Paul Harris Fellow Recipient Mary Lou Marks with John Marks, Foundation Chair Kirk Vanderbilt

Foundation Presentation

November 16: Every year, Avon Rotary conducts its Honors Program to recognize, honor, and celebrate non-Rotarian citizens and businesses that have made a difference in our community. In the third installment of this year's event, Avon Rotary proudly honored long time Avon citizen Mary Lou Marks with a Paul Harris Fellow +1. Mary Lou is known throughout the Avon community for her bright smile, warm hugs, but most of all her relentless spirit of volunteerism. Groups that Mary Lou has volunteered for include, but are not limited to, Make Today Count, Habitat for Humanity, St. Agnes School, The Avon Interfaith Council, Avon Food Pantry, and the Avon Chamber of Commerce. Congratulations Mary Lou and thank you for everything you do for the Avon community! *Submitted by: Mike Ford via social media*



Long time friend Cindy Zhe, gives remarks on Mary Lou's life of service.

November Highlights Continued

Roadside Cleanup

November 20: Avon Rotarians & family members started the crisp fall morning with our bi-annual roadside cleanup. Our designated section of Route 39 is now liter free. Thanks to all who participated!

Tom & Laurie Vonglis, TJ, Reed & Archer Vonglis, Bruce Amey, Rob Lupisella, Jeff Herberger, Katie & Madden DeGraff, Bill Wall, Hans & Trisha Koomen, Nick & Jaime Lovullo.



fellowship

fel-low-ship

(n.) Lifelong relationships built around a shared commitment to serving our communities.



Paul Harris Fellow Presentations

November 23: Avon Rotary was proud to recognize four club members for their service to the club and community and for their generous contributions to the Rotary Foundation.



Karen Vanderbilt was awarded a Paul Harris Fellow for her efforts in our club with youth exchange and as an Interact club advisor, but also for her service outside of Rotary participating in school builds in Nicaragua, her past service on the Circle Nursery School board and current service on the Avon Central School Board of Education. Karen has held committee roles in club fundraisers long before she became a member in 2018 and continues her active leadership as a current Rotary Club board member. She is an excellent example of Service Above Self!

Three other members received Paul Harris Fellow plus pins for their continued donations to the Rotary Foundation. President Tom Vonglis received his +4 pin, Dave Henehan received his +3 pin, and Jeff Herberger received his +1 and +2 pins.

Thank you all for your service and continued support to the Rotary Foundation.

Submitted by: Mike Ford via social media



Red Cross Blood Drive

November 30: Several Avon Rotarians turned out to volunteer and give blood for the final of our triannual blood drives of the year at the Avon Inn. Thank you to Rotarian Karl Sawicki for coordinating the event and thank to all the Rotarians and community members that came out to donate life saving blood. Our next drive will be in April, more details will be available when we get closer to the drive.



Karl Sawicki, Laurie Vonglis, Katie DeGraff, Mike Ford— A few of the club members donating blood

Coats 4 Kids

We have collected over 20 coats for kids so far and over 30 including some adult jackets I've received as well! Thank you to all those who have donated. We're quickly reminded how cold NY winters can be and helping those in need is always our mission.

If you haven't donated and would like to, there's still time. You can drop off at Tompkins by December 7 or bring to the 12/7 meeting.

Thanks for all you do!
Katie DeGraff



Make a Difference
**JOIN OUR
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Together we can do amazing things

CALL TOM VONGLIS FOR BOARD NOMINATIONS



A GHOST STORY OF CHRISTMAS

A Christmas Carol



PRESENTING

Mr. Kim Tenreiro performing Charles Dickens' classic tale of reclamation and salvation.

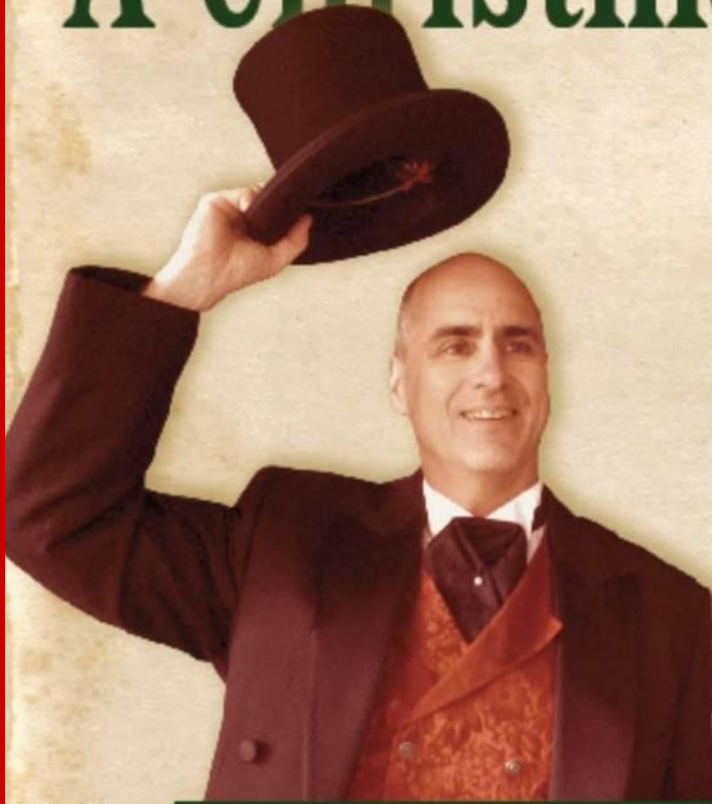


A dramatic one-man performance that brings to life over 30 characters during the show.

Mature audience suggested

All proceeds from the performance are donated to a variety of local charities

In the spirit of keeping Christmas well



Presented by the Avon Rotary Club
100 % of ticket sales to benefit the

Avon Food Pantry & Avon Community Theatre

Saturday, December 11 at 7:00 pm

(optional actor prologue starts at 6:15)

Park Theatre, 71 Genesee St, Avon NY



Ticket Donation \$20.00 - Pre-Sale Only! (suggested for ages 13 and above)

Tickets: <https://rotary7120.myeventscenter.com/event/A-Christmas-Carol-57589>

Rambling On Rotary—December



By: Bruce Amey

Sir Winston Churchill said, "We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give." This truly is the season of giving; we even just celebrated a holiday designated for giving thanks for the gifts that we have. We are entering the season when we think of giving gifts to others and I would venture to guess that many of

us have already begun (if not yet finished, for some) shopping for those gifts. The real meaning of the season is not in what we will get but in what we can give back. But why do we have a "season" for giving rather than a life of giving?

This has been a difficult year for so many, and taking the time to help others if you are able is more important than ever. Still, it can still be difficult to find the motivation, interest, and energy to get up and go and do.

We were fortunate to add two new members to our club in October but we also had to sadly say goodbye to two others. In December we will add three additional members to our club. Each of our new members will allow our club to do more through service to our community and our world and they will each inspire all of us in new Rotary directions. To grow our membership means we are sharing Rotary values with others who will then be able to help Rotary grow and do more.

Throughout November, we heard much about the Rotary Foundation. We celebrated our third Paul Harris Fellow Honors recipient with Mary Lou Marks on November 16th. On November 23rd we celebrated club member Karen Vanderbilt as she became a Paul Harris Fellow, and recognized other club members for their donations to the Rotary Foundation as they received their "plus" pins. RI President Mehta has said, "The Rotary Foundation is the engine that powers so many Rotary projects throughout the world. The Foundation transforms YOUR gifts into projects that change lives." Paul Harris recognitions are recognitions that the Foundation is able to do more service around the world because of gifts given to it. Past RI President and current Foundation Trustee Chairperson John Germ said, "The Rotary Foundation is the heart of Rotary. ... The Foundation combines our emotional response of compassion [and giving] with pragmatic action. With both our hearts and brains, [we] can change the world."

I celebrated at our November 9th meeting having attended the District Rotary Foundation Brunch on 11/7 where Rotarian Don Alhart gave the address "Good Night Rotary Moon". He remarked, "Rotary is the moon that

shines worldwide. It is not the direct light but the reflected light." The "direct light" wants the recognition of "look at me, look what I am giving" while the "reflected light" focuses on "what we are doing, accomplishing through our service around the world". Newbery Medal author Carol Ryrie Brink said, "The most truly generous persons are those who give silently without hope of praise or reward." The work of Rotary around the world is "reflected light" serving others without need of any "praise or reward". When we each give to the Rotary Foundation, we are giving not to get an award, not to get a "plus pin", not to get the recognition. We give because we know what the Foundation is accomplishing in projects for others, in part, because of our gifts. As Trustee Chair John Germ said, "It's not about the money; it's [about] what the money can do!"

RI President Mehta has said, "I like comparing the Rotary Foundation to the Taj Mahal, a monument of one man's love for a woman. The Foundation is a dynamic monument of our love for all humanity." When we give of our time, our talents, and our gifts, we are "making a life" for ourselves. We are making our lives more meaningful. We are serving others, many times not even knowing whom we are serving through our gifts. But nonetheless, we are serving.

Yes, this is the "season of giving" but I suggest we focus our time and service on our giving throughout the entire year, not just during a season. The Rotary Foundation allows us to do that through our gifts to it. Our club service activities planned throughout the year allow us to do this locally. Our heartfelt service to others truly is a "dynamic monument of our love for all humanity." As Rotarian Alhart said, "As we look at the moon at night, Rotarians around the world are looking at that same moon. And the moon's light is reflecting on Rotary service projects around the world." And that is not just during a season, that is year-round. Our service IS above and beyond ourselves.

I give thanks to be able to be a member of a great club and a phenomenal organization like Rotary. I give thanks for the wherewithal to give. I give thanks for each of you. And, as usual, I have rambled on long enough.





My thoughts are with the Club this week as it mourns the passing of Margo and Mark.

As Barbara wrote so well in the November newsletter, she and Margo joined Rotary on the same day. I was Barbara's sponsor and I remember that day fondly. John and Margo lived the four-way test, and her strength in the years since John's passing was truly inspirational.

Mark was President one year before me. He pinned my President's pin on my lapel at the 2000 change of officers meeting and he was a tremendous asset during my year as President of the Club. I remember he gave me an arrow on the night of my becoming President, along with a story about how that gesture symbolized a change in leaders.

Sometime Tuesday, while the Club is having the weekly meeting, I will celebrate the lives and service of these two fine Rotarians.

God bless Margo and Mark,
Steve Newvine

Just a note to extend our sympathies for the recent loss of two of your members, Mark and Margo. Not only is it a difficult loss for their families, but also for the community which they served.

Please know that your Club, its members and the families of those lost are in our thoughts and prayers.

With heartfelt sympathy,
The Avon Lions Club

Please accept our sympathy in the passing of Margo Harper & Mark Evans.

With sympathy,
Rotary Club of SW Rochester





**END
POLIO
NOW**

2021 Wild Polio Case Counts as of November 30, 2021

<u>Country</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>Date of last case</u>
Afghanistan	29	56	3	Nov, 2021
Pakistan	147	84	1	Feb, 2021
Total	176	140	4	



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

A letter from Reverend Michelle Allen, East Avon Church

At the October Interfaith Council meeting, we discussed developing a Volunteer Driver Program to assist local residents who do not have reliable transportation in getting to work, job interviews, medical appointments, and even grocery stores or food pantries. I am inviting anyone interested to form a sub-committee which will investigate legal and logistical issues and then move forward in planning and implementing this ministry. Please respond to this email (or forward it to anyone you think might be interested) and let me know what days/evenings you are generally available to meet.

So far, this potential mission has inspired much enthusiasm! I feel very blessed to minister here, where so many hearts want to serve and share God's love.

If you are interested in helping or to learn more, contact Reverend Allen—pastor@eastavonchurch.com

Forwarded to Avon Rotary by Rhonda Hirschler to benefit the Avon Food Pantry



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 December are:

ketchup, mayonnaise, coffee, can goods
and food items for the holidays .. green
beans, cranberry sauce etc.

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

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

