



**IMAGINE
ROTARY**

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President's Message



As I sit down to reflect on this past month, I am truly thankful for the beautiful weather we have enjoyed so far this summer and hope it continues into August. It was great seeing so many of you at the meetings in what is usually a very busy month for everyone.

Congratulations once again to Karen Vanderbilt for receiving her Paul Harris Fellow plus1 pin.

Thank you to Cat for organizing the party in the bag service project and Jaime for her work on the online sign up. Thank you to those who contributed items and helped assemble the bags.

We were delighted to have Jacob Davis present his German language skills to us. It is amazing how well he can now speak the language in such a short time. We look forward to hearing from him during his year in Austria.

Last Tuesday we presented our two vocational scholarship recipients, Mikaela & Ella with their checks and learned a little more about them. We wish them well in their future academic endeavors.

August will be a very busy month as we honor more Paul Harris fellows, return to putting on our Corn Festival, host a blood drive, visit GVRC, welcoming our two exchange students. and have a visit from our district governor. It will be fall before we know it!

Looking forward to everything we have planned for August!

Yours In Rotary Service,
President Steve Csapo

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

Board of Directors

Steve Csapo, President
Mike Ford, President Elect
Karen Vanderbilt, Senior Director
Rob Lupisella, Director
Bruce Amey, Member at Large
Jeff Herberger, Member at Large
Tom Vonglis, Past President
Charlene Masten, Secretary
Katie DeGraff, Treasurer

Membership Our Greatest Asset

Rotary



August is Membership & New Club Development Month



Club Schedule

Mon. Aug 1	Board of Directors Meeting 6:30 at Circleview Conference Room
Tues. Aug 2	Special Meeting—Medical Community Foundation Presentations 6:00
Tues. Aug 9	Regular Meeting—Corn Festival Meeting, Final Preparation
Sat. Aug 13	Corn Festival—ALL HANDS ON DECK
Sun. Aug 14	Corn Festival Clean up—ALL HANDS ON DECK
Sun. Aug 14	Corn Festival Celebration Picnic @ Rodney George's Poolside
Tues. Aug 16	American Red Cross Blood Drive 2:00—6:00
Tues. Aug 16	Visit to Genesee Valley Rotary Camp—GVRC @ Camp Sam Wood, Pike
Tues. Aug 23	Regular Meeting—District Governor Ralph Brandt visits
Tues. Aug 30	Regular Meeting—Program: Rick French, Journey of Solutions



Wedding Anniversary

- ⇒ Kevin Van Allen
- ⇒ Jake & Heather Ayers
- ⇒ Bob House
- ⇒ Chris & Char Masten
- ⇒ Bob Mellen
- ⇒ Shawn Rice
- ⇒ Carmine Simone
- ⇒ Brock Thrasher
- ⇒ Tom & Laurie Vonglis
- ⇒ Paul Warren
- ⇒ Wayne Warriner

August Celebrations

Birthday

- ⇒ Jeff Herberger
- ⇒ Bob Mellen
- ⇒ Bill Shaw

Rotary Anniversary

- ⇒ Katie DeGraff 2017
- ⇒ Charlene Masten 2017

July Highlights

Foundation Moment

July 12:

Rotarian Karen Vanderbilt was surprised when presented with her Paul Harris plus 1 pin.

Congratulations and thank you for your continued support of the Rotary Foundation Karen!



School Garden

July 15:

The garden is doing well and the kids just picked some summer squash. It was delivered to the Avon Food Pantry.

An enrichment camp is maintaining the garden along with summer staff. *Rob Lupisella*



Jacob's off to Austria

July 19:

Avon Rotary's exchange student Jacob Davis gave our club a presentation in German that he will be giving to his host club when he leaves for his exchange in August. Jacob is a recent Livonia grad and will be doing his exchange in Austria for the next nine months. Good luck and safe travels Jacob, we can't wait to see your updates from Austria!



July 19:

Past President Tom put the finishing touch on the garden project. The official sign is now hanging on the gate and it reads, "This garden has been established by the Rotary Club of Avon, NY in honor of Rob Lupisella who faithfully served the children of Avon Elementary for 24 years. His vision and commitment were the seeds nurturing children to grow and prosper."

Tom said, "The garden beds are very impressive with all the growth. Thought it would be good to share with everyone. Thanks again for making it happen."



Party in a bag Service Project & More

At the end of our meeting, the club prepared party bags once again for the Avon Food Pantry. Organized by Cat Jensen, 30 bags will be delivered.

Many thanks to the club members who donated the supplies!

Lastly, DGE Julie, presented President Steve with this year's banner theme which will hang proudly at each meeting.

Submitted by: Laurie Vonglis



Avon Rotary Rocks

July Highlights *continued*

Vocational Scholarships Presented

July 26:

Avon Rotary awarded its first ever Avon Rotary Vocational Scholarships to Mikaela Engstrom & Ella Hoskins.

The Vocational Scholarship is intended to provide financial assistance to a student who enrolls in an accredited career/trade path or apprenticeship or vocational program at a trade/technical school, or college within New York State. The scholarship is intended to support the vocational educational goals of the recipient and may be used for expenses incurred in pursuit of the vocational program (such as required tools or equipment) or for tuition. The scholarship is awarded to a student who exemplifies the character traits of service, honesty, hard work and humility.



Mikaela plans to R.I.T to pursue a career in advertising photography with a desire “to immerse herself into the photography world and use her work to impact others. She wants to be able to use photography as a way to shine light on many events, moments in life, and places that tend to get overlooked in everyone’s day to day life. She hopes that she can find a way to story-tell through her photographs.”

Ella plans to attend SUNY Binghamton to pursue a career in medicine hoping to become a Family Care provider. She was inspired to this vocation following the “care provided her dad when he was diagnosed with stage 3 prostate cancer; she wants to give back to a community of people that need her help and to a nation that will need constant advances in medicine.” Ella began her presentation for this career by attending the Genesee Valley BOCES Health Careers Academy this past year.

Congratulations Mikaela and Ella and good luck in achieving your future goals.

Submitted by: Mike Ford

Rotary



THE FOUR WAY TEST
OF THE THINGS WE THINK, SAY, DO

- 1 Is it the **TRUTH**?
- 2 Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
- 3 Will it build **GOODWILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIP**?
- 4 Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

Rambling On Rotary—August



By: Bruce Amey

Summer seems to be a roasting time this year. I'm thinking of the RI's area of focus: the environment. From the RI web page, "We are committed to supporting activities that strengthen the conservation and protection of natural resources, advance ecological sustainability, and foster harmony between communities and the environment." As we read about global warming, as we are living through it, I wonder what we, as Rotarians, can do to "foster harmony between communities (i.e., countries) and the world"? What can we influence in our own country when government officials cannot seem to agree on a course of action to positively affect our environment, our world? What activities can we start in our community to have a positive impact on our environment and then can those activities be expanded on a national or global level? I don't have the answers but given what we are seeing with respect to the environment around our country and the world, we Rotarians must do something. Together, we can accomplish anything.

As you know, the eradication of polio in the world has been a major focus of Rotary since 1979. I was dismayed, even angry when on July 21 it was reported that a case of polio was confirmed in the United States "in an unvaccinated adult in Rockland County", which is north of New York City. What angers me is that we have been striving to get all children in the world vaccinated against polio and here was an adult who chose to be "unvaccinated" and, as such, contracted the disease. "I think it's concerning because ... it [polio] can spread," said Walter Orenstein, a polio expert at Emory University. "If there are unvaccinated communities, it can cause a polio outbreak. The inactivated polio vaccine we have is very effective and very safe and could have prevented this," he said. "We need to restore our confidence in vaccines."

We have just recently gone through the "anti-vax" paranoia with COVID vaccines and to think that polio could have a resurgence, like measles did in 2019-20, when we have vaccines that are effective in curbing, if not eliminating, the spread of these diseases frankly angers me. Again, as Rotarians, a major area of focus we have had is to eradicate polio in the world. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, "Polio and its neurologic effects cannot be cured, but can be prevented through vaccination." We need to do better in educating our own community and

country members that vaccines are effective and can help keep the world healthy.

Which brings me to past District Governor Janet Tenreiro's recent email regarding the PolioPlus Society. I had not heard of this program previously but I am impressed that PDG Janet is taking on this focus for our district. The application to become a member of the PolioPlus Society was included in the summer edition of the Grapevine. The PolioPlus campaign is a part of the RI Foundation, in addition to the Annual Fund.

In the August 2022 edition of the Rotary Magazine, past RI President and current Foundation Trustee Chairperson Ian Risely stated, "To me, Rotary and its Foundation are inseparable – you can't have one without the other. They are two sides of the same coin. I love the friendship and fellowship and projects I experience as a member of the Rotary Club of Sandringham, Australia, but I am also thrilled to be part of a global movement that is changing the lives of countless people through the Rotary Foundation." Our fellowship along with our focus on service are the two sides of the Rotary coin. Rotary's areas of focus: promoting peace, fighting disease, providing clean water, sanitation and hygiene, saving mothers and children, supporting education, growing local economies, and protecting the environment ... addressing projects that support these areas of focus are possible through the Foundation. If we do not focus our efforts on addressing the global warming phenomenon, I am not sure that the other areas will make much of a difference. But having these seven areas should allow each of us to choose something locally and internationally as our own area of focus. During our fire-side chats with new members, we encourage everyone to find their own niche. Find where you are comfortable and work there, or, better yet, find where you are uncomfortable and lead others there. Rotarians are people of ACTION. We cannot sit on the side lines in the comfortable; we need to get into the arena, into the uncomfortable, and together we need to serve others, our community and our world. We need to appreciate both sides of the Rotary coin. And, as usual, I have rambled on long enough.



Exchange Student Jacob Davis

With only a day trip to Canada being the extent of his experience outside the U.S., Jacob Davis is about to make a huge difference in his life—by flying to Austria for 10 months. And at age 18 he's going alone via the Rotary Youth Exchange program.

Inspired by his older brother's exchange trip of four years ago, Jacob said Austria was No. 1 on his list of destinations "because it seemed like there was a lot to the area." Among the Austrian attractions he listed a "just gorgeous countryside and a strong interest in hiking, seeing the castles, and maybe to try skiing in the Alps."

A Livonia resident, he is expecting an experience described by others in the program who say "the first few weeks it feels like the coolest vacation ever. And then it settles in that you're there for the year and you start to get home sickness, start understanding how badly you need to work on the language. Slowly from there as you become able to communicate with people it'll go back to that honeymoon grace period."

When he encounters the homesickness bug "the first thing I'm gonna miss is my dogs and then probably my family, in that order. Then I'll probably miss driving. I like to do that a lot."

Program rules prohibit students from driving so Jacob plans to use buses to ride to school every day. He said he also will have a bicycle and "if need be I will be on the back of my host brother's moped."

Jacob's hopes for the year are to "learn a new language, see a part of the world and meeting people that I wouldn't have seen otherwise.

"I'm also going to do a tour that will take me around in a triangle in Austria, Germany, France and Italy. I'll also get a chance to see some of the bigger cities in Austria like Vienna and Salzburg. I'm going to milk every opportunity to see as much of Europe as I can."

Jacob will be living in Bregenz. First settled in 1500 BCE, Bregenz lies in extreme western Austria about 375 miles from Vienna. At one time a Celtic settlement and then a Roman camp, it has grown to about 30,000 people. It sits at the south end of Lake Constance, which is as long as Seneca Lake and three times wider.

Although English is the second most spoken language in Austria, Jacob will have to deal with German everywhere every day, especially in school. Despite teaching



himself some basic German in preparation for this trip, he is a bit worried about complications from the "heavy accent" in Bregenz. So "I think it's going to be a pretty big learning curve. There's going to be a little while where my preparation will not seem helpful."

He doesn't expect any of his classes to be in English but "I'm not going to get in trouble for not understanding my classes because grades aren't connected to anything of consequence as far as my education here. It hasn't been made clear to me whether I'll be graded but if I am it will not be of any consequence."

Jacob says he also "would love to get involved in sports while I'm over there, especially running and tennis. Those are sports I did here in my freshman year. I also would like to learn to ski better. My host brother has said that we will go skiing sometime."

As for his first host family, he is "really excited to meet them. They seem to be very happy people and very accommodating."

Even though Austrians are known for enjoying hikes, Jacob said his host parents are "especially interested in getting out to hike because it's been years since they could convince their children to go on hikes with them."

After he returns to the U.S. he intends to start classes right away at SUNY Fredonia, studying to become a high school English teacher. He expects his year abroad will help him in college because "it really matures a person very quickly. I'm not sure maturity is something I can force but it would be handy."

Even before he gets on the plane Jacob has some advice for others: "I think definitely more people should be taking advantage of this opportunity because it is a really cool chance."

Jacob promises to keep in touch with folks back home through monthly correspondence that will include photos of his new friends and travels. Stay tuned.

Submitted by: Bob Mellen



Built in 1661, Bregenz's old town hall (altes rathaus) is a private residence now.



**END
POLIO
NOW**

2022 Wild Polio Case Counts as of July 31, 2022

<u>Country</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>Date of last case</u>
Afghanistan	56	4	1	Jan 2022
Malawi	0	1	0	Nov 2021
Mozambique	0	0	4	July 2022
Pakistan	84	1	13	July 2022
Total	140	5	18	



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

Updated statement on report of polio detection in United States

29 July 2022

The Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) has been informed of a case of paralytic polio in an unvaccinated individual in Rockland County, New York, United States.

The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) are coordinating with New York State health authorities on their investigation. Initial sequencing confirmed by CDC indicates that the case is type 2 VDPV.

Following the detection, the Global Polio Laboratory Network (GPLN) has confirmed that the VDPV2 isolated from the case is genetically linked to two Sabin-like type 2 (SL2) isolates, collected from environmental samples in early June in both New York and greater Jerusalem, Israel, as well as to the recently-detected VDPV2 from environmental samples in London, UK. Further investigations – both genetic and epidemiological – are ongoing to determine possible spread of the virus and potential risk associated with these various isolates detected from different locations around the world.

It is vital that all countries, in particular those with a high volume of travel and contact with polio-affected countries and areas, strengthen surveillance in order to rapidly detect any new virus importation and to facilitate a rapid response. Countries, territories, and areas should also maintain uniformly high routine immunization coverage at the district level and at the lowest administrative level to protect children from polio and to minimize the consequences of any new virus being introduced.

Any form of poliovirus anywhere is a threat to children everywhere. It is critical that the GPEI Polio Eradication Strategy 2022-2026 is fully resourced and fully implemented everywhere, to ensure a world free of all forms of poliovirus can be achieved.

GPEI Website 7.31.22

Avon Food Pantry

Pantry critical needs in August are:

Cereal, Ketchup, Mustard, Syrup, Salad Dressing, Instant Coffee, Tea Bags, Jello.

Collection is the 3rd Tuesday each month. Place in bin at our meeting. For questions contact Cat Jenson or David Kilgore.

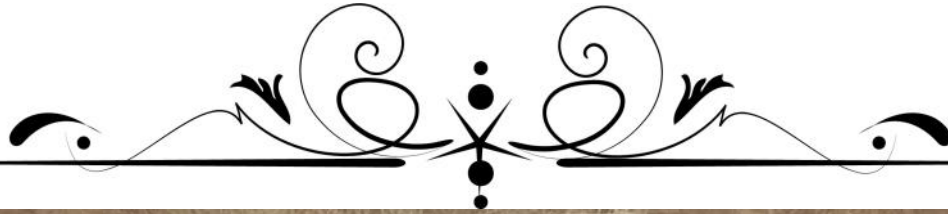


Is a fellow Rotarian ill or in need?

Please contact the club
Sunshine Liaison Agent

Barbara Herman 226-6735





TO BE A ROTARIAN

It takes a unique quality to set aside one's needs
and join a special club to ensure dreams succeed
It takes determination that comes from deep within
It takes one of a kind- to be a Rotarian

It takes one who is willing to heed a call for help
It takes belief to act in SERVICE ABOVE SELF
It takes a heart of gold to say "Yes, count me in"
It takes rock-solid character- to be a Rotarian

It takes time and patience and staying to the end
and a stranger's cry for help for you to be their friend
It takes dealing with rejection and leading with your chin
It takes real humility- to be a Rotarian

It takes far reaching vision to see when people fall
and a hand outstretched to help them again stand proud and tall
It takes a shoulder to the wheel and words of "Let's begin!"
It takes a voice of hope- to be a Rotarian

It takes a kind of magic to achieve the things they've done
Teamwork-Trust-Tenacity and of course a lotta fun!
It takes all of the above but when all is said and done
It just takes one who cares- TO BE A ROTARIAN

Doug Slater

