

# June 2023 Newsletter



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# 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

# **President's Message**



As I sit here writing my last president's message as president of the club, I can't believe how quickly this Rotary year has gone, I will be honest in saying it took a good 6-7 months to get into a good rhythm being your president. I

truly have enjoyed this year and all the many accomplishments our club has done. I for one was thankful to be able to have the Corn Festival back as well as hosting two exchange students and sponsoring an outbound student. I look forward to hearing about his year once he returns.

We sadly lost two outstanding Rotarians and members of our greater community along with their wives. Jerry and Doc Hayes will be forever remembered in my heart. Thankfully we added two new members that are engaged in our club, I look forward to their future contributions. Katie and Collin make this club thrive for many years to come.

This past month Greg Antkowiak took the lead on the Special Olympics day that was held here in Avon. Once again Avon Rotary was well represented with our volunteers who helped make the day a success. The district Conference was held in nearby Bloomfield. I am sure those who attended had a great day there, thankfully the weather cooperated too! The Geneseo Rotary Club hosted Quad Cities, those who participated enjoyed a wonderful day of golf followed by fellowship at the dinner. Jaime organized the service event in Mt. Morris at the Livingston County Center for Nursing and Rehab where many members and their families helped by sanding their outdoor patio furniture on a rainy day.

We had some great programs during the month by Gavin Rice regarding his Eagle project & Honor Flight, which was a very emotional presentation, I am glad we as a club support their program. This past week's programs were also amazing. The Guardians of Hope by fellow Rotarians Dave Georgiev & Cameron Knaub. I am thankful so many of us where there to see what they have done in the past and their plans. Victor and Jack Giso's 4 H presentation and how they are raising their pigs along with the auction that will be held at the Hemlock Fair must have been a proud parent and grandparent moment for Giso's and the Houses! They did an outstanding job.

This month we will have our Foundation drive which will give us a chance to honor Jerry & Doc Hayes once again, this will enable us to give more to the Foundation which helps with many projects around the world and in turn a portion of our giving returns to us to use on our district simplified grant projects in our own community.

We will not meet on the 20th with the hopes many of us will attend the District Changeover Dinner on the 21st at Willow Creek 3100 Rochester Road in Lakeville. The cost is \$45.00 per person, it would be nice to support Avon's first District Governor Julie Carney as she takes on this role.

Lastly, I wanted to thank our Board of Directors for all that we were able to accomplish this year. Mike will take over shortly and we will be there to support him on his journey as our club president.

Yours in Rotary Service, President, Steve Csapo



# Club Schedule

Mon. June 5	Board of Directors Meeting 6:30 @ Circleview Conference Room				
Tues. June 6	Rotary Meeting 6:30 Program: Kim Salvaggio, Livingston County				
Tues. June 13	Rotary Meeting 6:30 Program: Foundation Drive and Pin Presentations				
Tues. June 20	Take the Night off and attend District Changeover Dinner—Wednesday!				
Wed. June 21	District Changeover Dinner 5:00 Willow Creek Venue 3100 Rochester Rd. Lakeville, NY				
Tues. June 27	ues. June 27 Change of Officers Celebration 5:00 Avon Inn—Tailgate Party				



**May 6:** Avon Rotary had a great day serving Special Olympics athletes at Avon Elementary School. This service is what Rotary means.

Many thanks to Greg Antkowiak for his leadership and congratulations to all participants.



# June Celebrations

#### **Birthday**

- **⇒** Bruce Amey
- ⇒ Kelly Cole
- ⇒ Dave Henehan
- ⇒ David LeFeber
- ⇒ Jim Ryan
- ⇒ Jim Tompsett

#### **Rotary Anniversary**

- ⇒ Colin Bruckel 2014
- ⇒ Steve Csapo 2010
- ⇒ Bob French 1979
- ⇒ Doug Hayes 2012
- ⇒ Rob Lupisella 2012
- ⇒ Laurie Vonglis 2004
- ⇒ Paul Warren 2012

#### **Wedding Anniversary**

- ⇒ Nick & Jaime Lovullo
- ⇒ Karl Sawicki
- ⇒ Steve Stephenson
- ⇒ Jim Tompsett

#### HONOR FLIGHT OF ROCHESTER



**May 2:** We were honored to have Cindy Baker and Tim Cox from Honor Flight of Rochester speak at our meeting tonight. They shared with us their mission to honor and serve our nation's veterans by taking them on an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington D.C. to visit the memorials dedicated to their service.

Cindy and Tim showed us a heartwarming video that showcased the experiences of the veterans who have participated in the Honor Flight program. It was truly emotional to see how much this trip meant to them and the impact it had on their lives. We were reminded of the sacrifices that these brave men and women have made for our country, and we are grateful for the opportunity to show our appreciation.

We learned that any World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War, or Cold War veteran is eligible for this trip, and it's a simple process to sign up. If you know a veteran who would be interested, we encourage you to visit the Honor Flight of Rochester website (honorflightrochester.org) to learn more.

As Rotarians, we are dedicated to serving our community and making a positive impact in the world. We were honored to make a donation to Honor Flight of Rochester in support of their mission to serve our veterans. We hope that our contribution will help make a difference in the lives of those who have served our country.

Thank you, Cindy and Tim, for sharing your passion with us and for all that you do to support our veterans. We are proud to be a partner in this effort and look forward to finding more ways to support your organization in the future.

Submitted by Mike Ford via social media

## **VOLUNTEER FOR A MEMORABLE CORN FESTIVAL EXPERIENCE!**

With the highly anticipated Corn Festival just around the corner, we are thrilled to share that our dedicated Corn Festival committee has been diligently planning and preparing for this exciting event. As we gear up for a memorable celebration, we are calling upon our members to step forward and lend a helping hand to ensure the festival runs smoothly and becomes an extraordinary success.

Volunteering at the Corn Festival is a fantastic way to contribute to our community and experience the joy and camaraderie that comes with being part of such a beloved tradition.

We urge each of you to consider dedicating your time, skills, and enthusiasm to assist in various aspects of the festival. Whether it's helping with setup, working in the corn booth, selling 50/50 tickets, assisting with parking, gatekeeping, or even lending a hand during the cleanup, there is a role for everyone to play.



Additionally, we encourage you to reach out to your friends and family members, inviting them to volunteer alongside you. The Corn Festival has always been a testament to the power of community involvement, and by extending this invitation to your loved ones, you can help create an even more vibrant and engaging experience for all.

It is important to remember that volunteering is not just about giving back to the community—it is an opportunity for personal growth, building new connections, and fostering a sense of pride in being part of something greater than ourselves. Many of our valued members started their journey with the Avon Rotary Club by volunteering at the Corn Festival. Who knows? This could be the start of a transformative experience for someone you know!

To offer your assistance as a volunteer or to refer potential volunteers, please look for our sign up sheet at meetings over the next few weeks. Or you can contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Jaime Lovullo, and she can help you get signed up. Your involvement, no matter how small, will play a vital role in creating an unforgettable Corn Festival for our community.

Thank you for your ongoing support, and we eagerly await your participation in making this year's Corn Festival an exceptional event that will be cherished by all.

Yours in service. Mike Ford

#### A SPECTACULAR FOR KIDS & ROTARIANS OF ALL AGES

"Come one, come all! Welcome to the greatest entertainment since the fall of Rome."

Ok, that might be just a smidge of hyperbole, but there's no denying the spectacular circus atmosphere the Bloomfield Rotary Club staged for the Saturday, May 6, District Conference at Veteran's Park.

With more fun than could fit under one tent (so they had three!), activities ranged from a sky diving demonstration to live music, a silent auction, Crosman air gun demos, chain saw carving and not the least of which, a circus performance! All in all, the perfect way to bid a fond farewell to District Governor Ralph Brandt's stint as ringmaster of District 7120.



Tom Honan, Helen Zamboni,
Rotaractor-Henry Lemen, Cat Jensen

The morning began with a salute to all the District 7120 Rotarians who

passed away over the last year. Jerry Dougherty and Doc Hayes were among those mentioned in the memorial service.

Keynote speaker Julie Chapus from Miss Julie's School of Beauty offered an emotional and heartfelt address. Miss Julie's School of Beauty is a non-profit cosmetology school, empowering survivors of human trafficking. Julie works tirelessly to help survivors with rehabilitation and reintegration by training and assisting them to acquire their cosmetology licenses. Once that license is awarded it gives the survivor the opportunity to earn an income, helping them break free from the chains of human trafficking. Julie's message was a valuable one and it is my hope the Avon Rotary may help this important cause going forward (missjuliesschoolofbeauty.org).

And what a circus-themed event would be complete without eats? The May 6 District Conference fare included Dainty Donuts, popcorn, BBQ, and craft beer. There was an excellent variety of food trucks to choose from. Each patron received \$25 in food tickets to purchase whatever tickled their taste buds.

May 6 also offered a different opportunity to celebrate with the Bloomfield Club and District Governor Ralph Brandt's successful year. District conferences are typically two to three day affairs, but the Bloomfield Club hosted a pleasant one day celebration this year with a lower admission fee-something out of the norm and something well executed.

Well done Bloomfield Rotary Club-you have something, No!, you have everything to be proud of!

Submitted by: Cat Jensen

#### **VOLUNTEERS AT MURRAY HILL NURSING HOME**



ROTARIANS AT WORK **Saturday, May 20**: Avon Rotarians met at the Livingston County Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation in Mt. Morris to help refinish all of their patio furniture in their beautiful courtyards so the residents can start enjoying Memorial Day weekend. We had a total of 12 volunteers working 9-12, with the Vanderbilts staying to finish up. Many thanks to all who participated!

Submitted by: Jaime Lovullo



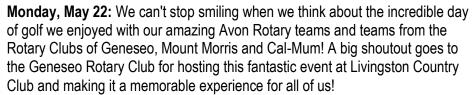


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## **QUAD CITIES**







Under the warm sun, our teams teed off with excitement, showcasing our love for the game and the spirit of Rotary. The camaraderie and joy on the golf course were truly contagious, as we strengthened our friendships and built even stronger bonds within our Rotary family.

But the fun didn't stop at golfing! After the rounds, the clubs came together at Valley Oak Event Center for more fellowship and shared a delightful dinner. It was an opportunity to relax, unwind, and further deepen our connections. The laughter and conversations flowed, creating an atmosphere of warmth and unity.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Geneseo Rotary Club for their exceptional hospitality and efforts in organizing this remarkable event. Your dedication and attention to detail truly made the day extra special. Thank you for opening your hearts and making us feel welcome!

Submitted by Mike Ford via social media











#### **4-H LIVESTOCK AUCTION**



**May 30:** Meet Victor and Jack Giso, two passionate members of our local 4H community who joined us for tonight's meeting. They have dedicated their time and efforts to raising two pigs, Bacon and Sabbath, with a goal to sell them at the 4H Livestock Auction at this year's Hemlock Fair.

Through their hard work and commitment, these brothers have not only learned valuable agricultural skills but have also developed a deep understanding of the economic impact of their efforts. By raising these pigs for the livestock auction, they are actively participating in local economic development.

The auction itself serves as a platform where community members can come together to support these young farmers and invest in high-quality, locally raised meat products. This collaborative effort not only benefits the local 4H club, but also strengthens our local economy by promoting sustainable agricultural practices.

By connecting their journey to Rotary's focus on economic and community development, we emphasize the importance of supporting young entrepreneurs like Victor and Jack, who are actively contributing to the growth and prosperity of our community.

We invite you all to join them at the Hemlock Fair on Saturday, July 22nd, to witness this inspiring example of economic and community development in action. Let's show our support for these ambitious young farmers while fostering a thriving and sustainable local economy.

Submitted by: Mike Ford via social media

#### **GUARDIANS OF HOPE**



**May 30:** We were joined by David Georgiev and Cameron Knaub, from Guardians of Hope. Guardians of Hope began their charitable efforts with help from local missionaries a few years ago by focusing on providing care to Zambian children at the New Hope Children's Village orphanage and digging fresh water wells for Zambian villagers. Their efforts led them to plan an expansion to their beloved orphanage, however, their compassion and dedication led them to take on an even greater role. They stepped in and assumed responsibility for the entire operations of New Hope Children's Village, thus transforming several lives.

But their impact didn't stop there. In recent times, Guardi-

ans of Hope expanded their mission to provide support to Ukrainian refugees and children whose lives have been devastated by the ongoing war with Russia. Their unwavering commitment to bringing hope and solace to those in need is truly commendable.



During their presentation, David and Cameron shared their personal experiences, the challenges they faced, and the triumphs they achieved along the way. They took us on a heartfelt journey through the transformation of

New Hope Children's Village and their ongoing efforts in aiding Ukrainian refugees. We were inspired and moved by their incredible stories of resilience and compassion.

Thank you to David and Cameron for your presentation and your message of hope. If you wish to learn more about supporting Guardians of Hope and their mission to make a lasting difference in the lives of those in need, visit their website at https://www.theguardiansofhope.org/





## Rambling On Rotary— June



By: Bruce Amey

In the May 2023 edition of the Rotary Magazine, I was caught by the cover story, "The CART Fund seeks to solve the puzzle of Alzheimer's", as I am certain most of you understand why the article caught my eyes. CART stands for Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust. Two of our club members have

lost spouses to this disease and, as quoted in the article, "[Alzheimer's] is the longest goodbye you'll ever have in your life." I recall as if it was yesterday the trials of Greg Deragon and Cathy Jo Murphy as they watched their spouses (Kris and Mike, respectively) go through this ordeal and, as most of you know, I am living with it today. The article talks about collecting coins from Rotarians in "little blue buckets" reminding me of another fund-raiser we did during President Dom's tenure. As Rotarians, we are people of action. I am very proud of the mission Rotary undertook in 1978 to eliminate polio throughout the world. As an international club, that mission is not yet complete. There has been talk about a "next mission" to eliminate human trafficking, which I think would be a tremendous undertaking. In my heart, I am wondering if there is much we could do to help advance research to help address Alzheimer's disease. Research for earlier detection and for cost-effective treatments.

In that same Rotary magazine issue, the current Foundation Trustee Chairperson past RI President Ian Riseley referred to Rotary's limitless potential with "Do all you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can." This is why I give to the Rotary Foundation. There are times I feel overwhelmed wondering what can I do as just me to address and to serve, but then I realize that is what Rotary is about, this is why I am a Rotarian. To serve others. To do all I can for all the people I can for as long

as I can; this is what the Foundation tries to do everyday in many places around the world.

I know many of you are likely tired of hearing me talk about the Foundation. But IT is one of the vehicles by which we each as individuals can reach beyond our selves and our community to serve others. Jaime Lovullo has been trying to arrange opportunities for our club members to serve our community, which I hope to help with as often as I can. Cat is trying to arrange fundraising opportunities for our club by "working" at Red Wings games, which I think would be fun. For me, the most difficult part of any of these is the time away from Diane: maybe she can be a part of some of these with me as leaving her alone is not an option and she does not want others to come in to be with her. I was looking forward to attending the DTA in Bath but she asked me to not leave her alone for the day. I asked if she wanted to come with me: she did not. I also offered to make arrangements for her to be with someone else, maybe shopping or just visiting or to come be with her, she did not want those offers. As such, I did not attend the DTA. I find hope and joy attending our club meetings and activities. I know (and I believe Diane knows) that I need these things for me to stay healthy and well, which is my paramount responsibility so I can continue to take care of her. Through my heart ordeal since August of last year, my overriding focus was I had to get better to take care of her. I'm not sure if I'll get a CART Fund project off the ground, but it is a neat idea to try to replicate. Maybe it can be a "tip jar" idea for one of our Red Wing activities or a focus for a fund raiser like our Blue Jean Ball used to be. Forgive me as this article has been a very personal one rather than a more global one, but, as usual, I have rambled on long enough.



#### **AVON'S DISTRICT GOVERNOR ELECT**



We are absolutely thrilled to share that Avon Rotary member and Rotary District 7120 Governor Elect, Julie Ostrander Carney, had an extraordinary experience at the Rotary International Convention in Melbourne, Australia!

During the convention, Julie had the incredible opportunity to contribute her insights and expertise as she sat on a thought-provoking discussion panel. Alongside two other District Governor Elects, she shared the stage with none other than the upcoming Rotary International President, Gordon McInally!

The panel discussed Rotary's upcoming year and delved into the future of our beloved organization. Julie's presence and contributions showcased the dedication and commitment of our Avon Rotary Club, District 7120, and our collective passion for serving our communities and making a positive impact worldwide.

Julie's participation on this prestigious panel is a testament to her leadership skills, her profound Rotary knowledge, and her unwavering commitment to the principles and values that define us as Rotari-



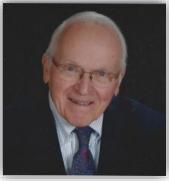
ans. We couldn't be prouder of her achievements and her representation of our club and district!



Her contributions to the discussion and her presence at the Rotary International Convention truly exemplify the spirit of service above self that Rotary stands for.

Congratulations to Julie on this remarkable accomplishment! Submitted by: Mike Ford via social media

#### FOUNDATION DRIVE IN MEMORY OF JERRY & DOC



In an effort to maximize our Club's impact with the Rotary Foundation, and to give everyone a convenient opportunity to make a Foundation contribution and "have skin in the game", we are going to have a small informal Foundation Drive at our regular meeting on June 13th. We will make all donations that evening in memory of our dear friends Jerry Dougherty and Doc Hayes. As an additional incentive we will offer a raffle ticket for each \$25 donation and the winner will receive an additional 100 Recognition Points toward their own Foundation efforts! I would

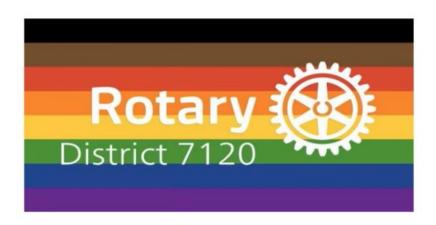


be so proud to have our Club become an EREY (Every Rotarian, Every Year) Club, which means 100% of our Club members make at least a \$25 contribution to our Foundation Annual Fund. Remember that half of our donations come back to us in the form of District Grants for impactful projects like our garden beds at the school or our gazebo project at the mental health clinic. Hope to see everyone there for a fun night!! If for some reason you can't be there that night, contact me in advance and we can let you be part of the raffle. Submitted by: Kirk Vanderbilt, Foundation Chair

## **Rotary Club District 7120**

We are looking forward for each club of the district 7120 to join us to march at the Roc Pride Parade.

Is our 1<sup>st</sup> time marching at the Rochester, NY Pride Parade 2023.



Where: Line up Park Ave and Alexander St. Rochester

When: July 15th, 2023

Time: Parade starts 1:00pm, line up 11:00am

Email: Wanda Martinez-Johncox & Cat Jensen for more information:

wmartinezjohncox@gamil.com catwomyn19@gmail.com



# Rotary District 7120 Change Over Dinner

# June 21, 2023 Wednesday

5:00 pm- 9:00 pm 5:00 pm- Cocktail Reception

6:30 pm- Dinner & Presentation



DGE Julie M. Carney Avon Rotary Club

# Willow Creek Venue

3100 Rochester Road Lakeville, NY 14480

\$45.00 per attendee

Register Online Today:

https://bit.ly/7120-Change-2023

Attire:

**Rotary Business Casual** 

R.S.V. P. by June 12



Located conveniently 1 mile south of 390 at Exit 9 in the town of Lakeville in Livingston County, just 30 minutes south of Rochester.



Questions?

Vicky Vorhauer at vvorhauer@gmail.com



#### PLEASE JOIN US TO



## AVON ROTARY CHANGE OF OFFICERS

TUESDAY, JUNE 27

GARDEN AT THE AVON INN

5:00-6:30 COCKTAILS & BACKYARD FUN

6:30-9:30 DINNER & AWARDS

\$25 PER PERSON

# BUFFET MENU

CHEESEBURGERS HOTDOGS

BBO PULLED PORK

HOME FRIES

MACARONI SALAD

BAKED BEANS

ITALIAN TOSSED SALAD

ROLLS/CONDIMENTS

HOT MEAT SAUCE

LETTUCE/TOMATOES/ONIONS

COOKIES & BROWNIES



Casual Attire-favorite team jersey

RSVP: Laurie by June 20

Payment in advance required







#### 2023 Wild Polio Case Counts as of May 31, 2023

<u>Country</u>	<u>2021</u>	2022	<u>2023</u>	Date of last case
Afghanistan	4	2	2	April 2023
Malawi	1	0	0	Nov 2021
Mozambique	0	8	0	November 2022
Pakistan	1	20	1	February 2023
Total	5	30	3	



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

"A true hero isn't measured by the size of strength, but by the strength of his heart."

-Negcules, Virney



# **Avon Food Pantry**

**Grocery Items Needed in June are:** 

Pasta, Sauce, Pancake Mix & Syrup, Canned Fruit, Salad Dressings, Heathy Snacks for Kids

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

Barbara Herman 245-2637

#### To do list:

- Sign Rotarian of the Year certificate
- 2. RSVP for our Change of Officers dinner (6/27)
- 3. Consider becoming a corn festival patron
- 4. Attend the District Changeover Dinner on 6/21
- 5. Membership directory: edit your info or ok?