



**IMAGINE
ROTARY**

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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



The month of April has been another great month for our club. We began with a very successful blood drive with the American Red Cross. A big thank you to Karl for organizing these drives and the volunteers who donate to them. With such a demand

for blood it is important that we continue to hold these drives.

We had a nice presentation from Isabelle as we said goodbye to her, that was a fast three months! Many thanks to Kirk & Karen for hosting her.

Jaime Lovullo presented us with some great ideas for service projects and a fundraising idea. Jaime can always be counted on for taking a suggestion and running with it.

On the 19th a few of us braved the cold windy day to erect the pergola at the Noyes Mental Health facility in East Avon. Thank you to Tom Vonglis, Rob Lupisella, Bob Mellen, Bruce Amey along with myself and Gerald Chamberlin from Noyes. We had it constructed in about 3 hours. It has been well received from the staff and management at Noyes. They are grateful for us to have chosen them for our District Simplified Grant project. A special thank you to Peter Vonglis for allowing us to store the very large kit at his facility since Thanksgiving. We were able to save over \$800.00 by purchasing it then before the 2023 price increase along with their end of year sale. He also provided the trailer to transport it to East Avon along with the equipment to load it on the trailer. We will receive \$3,800.00 from the district as a result of satisfying the conditions of the project. Thank you, Bruce Amey for all the paperwork in the planning stage and then the final submission to the district. It is critical that we dot our i's and cross our t's for the district to reimburse us.

We had quite a few of our members attend the District Training Assembly in Bath. Thanks to Cat for her display on Diversity Equity and Inclusion. Cat had positive responses for the Pride Parade

to be held July 15th in Rochester. Please consider participating along with Cat and other Rotarians from our district. It sounded like the new trade show format was well received – well done Julie! It was great to hear how much everyone enjoyed it and were able to come away with more knowledge of Rotary.

We ended the month with great presentations from the Avon Library and Ryan Pacatte with the school budget for the upcoming year. We appreciate you presenting that to us and answering questions for us. Julie & Tom Honan gave a preview on next year's district conference, this conference will put our club in the spotlight, I am certain we will rise to the occasion!

May will be another busy month; the district conference will be held on the 6th in nearby Bloomfield. It is a one-day circus themed event with a cost of only \$50.00 per person including food options. Children are encouraged to attend and 12 & under have free admission.

Greg Antkowiak also sent out a notice for assistance with the Special Olympics which is also happening on the 6th of May. Please consider helping Greg with this project if you can't make the conference. He needs the 10:30 – 2:00 time mainly so it could be possible to do both as they are close to each other.

Quad Cities golf and dinner will be held on May 22nd at Livingston Country Club in Geneseo and the Valley Oaks Event Center also in Geneseo. We will not be meeting on Tuesday the 23rd so it would be great to see as many of our members as possible attend this event. It is a great time to meet members from the Geneseo, Caledonia, and Mt. Morris clubs and hear what each club is doing to support their communities. If you have not signed up for golf or can not get away from work, please consider signing up for dinner which will be held at Valley Oaks Event Center starting @ 5:30.

Yours in Rotary Service,
President, Steve Csapo



Club Schedule

Mon. May 1	Board of Directors Meeting 6:00 at Avon Circleview Conference Room
Tues. May 2	Rotary Mtg 6:00, Program: 1. Eagle Scout, Gavin Rice 2. Honor Flight, Cindy Baker & Tim Cox
Sat. May 6	District Conference Special Event—Bloomfield, all day
Sat. May 6	Special Olympics (Volunteer Opportunity) 10:30—2:00, Avon Central School
Tues. May 9	Rotary Mtg 6:00, Program: Guardians of Hope, Dave Georgiev
Tues. May 16	Rotary Mtg 6:00, Corn Festival Meeting
Mon. May 22	Quad Cities Golf & Dinner
Tues. May 30	Rotary Mtg 6:00



QUAD CITIES DINNER & GOLF OUTING



MAY 22, 2023

Golf @ Livingston Country Club
 12:30 tee off
 \$30 golf & cart

Dinner @ Valley Oaks Event Center
 5:30 social hour / 6:30 dinner
 \$35 buffet dinner

RSVP to Katie by 5/15

Birthday

- ⇒ Jean Antkowiak
- ⇒ Marcia Cameron
- ⇒ Kate Carbone
- ⇒ Leann Hill
- ⇒ Rob Lupisella
- ⇒ Cathy Jo Murphy

Rotary Anniversary

- ⇒ Ed Kime 2010

Wedding Anniversary

- ⇒ Marcia Cameron
- ⇒ Kelly Cole
- ⇒ Steve Csapo
- ⇒ Tom Honan

May Celebrations



Red Cross Blood Donation



On April 4th we conducted our 15th blood drive. It turned out to be another very successful drive with a total of 28 units of blood being collected! For the first time, everyone that showed up was able to donate and their blood was saved for people in need. There were no deferrals!

Thank you to my fellow Rotarians and neighbors for making your donation and to our host Jen who makes our drives so comfortable and makes them run smoothly.

The Red Cross staff made a point to their superiors that they enjoyed being with us, having fun with the Rotarians and that the Inn is such a terrific venue.

Blood Drive # 16 is scheduled for August 15th, the Tuesday after Corn Fest. I hope you will consider donating providing you are feeling healthy enough.

3% of our population will donate their blood. It is projected that 70% of the population will need blood during their lifetime.

YIRS, Karl

Thanks Volunteers!



Friends of the Avon Free Library

1h · 🌐

HUGE thanks to the [Avon Rotary Club](#) for their help moving books to their new home at the [Avon Central Presbyterian Church](#) 📖

Vanderbilt's & Van Allen's, April 8



SCHOOL GARDEN NEWS



April 12: Our kindergarteners rolled up their sleeves and got their hands dirty tilling soil and planting seeds at our elementary school's new vegetable garden, which Vonglis Enterprises, LLC, members of Avon Rotary Club and Avon Interact Club and other volunteers built last spring.

This season, students are growing potatoes, peas, carrots, beets and much more in the enclosed garden's 12 raised beds.

A special shout out to Teacher Aide Mike Garrett, who helped lead stu-

dents through the planting process last week.

We're so grateful to all our community partners who came together to make this new garden a reality and are looking forward to sharing its progress in the coming weeks and months! Submitted via Avon Central Social Media

April 19: Planting of the seeds begins!



District Simplified Grant Project Completed, Pergola Erected

On a cold, dreary morning in April a handful of intrepid Avon Rotarians lightened the mission of the clinical team at Noyes Mental Health and Wellness clinic. Steve Csapo, Rob Lupisella, Tom Vonglis and Bruce Amey, aided by clinic project manager Gerald Chamberlin, erected a 144-square-foot pergola sought by the clinic to enhance their therapy sessions with 367 current patients. Also involved was Peter Vonglis, who provided storage for the pergola parts. Conceived by Csapo and Michael Donegan, vice president of operations for UR Medicine and Noyes Health, the pergola will provide a relaxing, pleasant outdoor environment for patients to work through their issues with staff therapists. ‘Major kudos to Avon Rotary for investing in the health of the Avon and surrounding communities. Thank you for your investment and work,’ Donegan said. ‘The clinical team at the site is thrilled, planning for both personal break use and client care,’ he said. ‘Their efforts are now focused on praying for good weather so they can use the space. Associate Director Laura Bond agreed, saying, ‘It’s just a lot easier for some patients to talk in a more comfortable environment than sitting in someone’s office. We can do some of the assessments of prospective patients out there and we see people for ongoing mental health therapy sessions. We just wanted to beautify the space here as well. I think it adds a lot to the outside space to have a structure like that.’ And that is exactly what will be enhanced even further in Avon Rotary’s phase 2 plan for the Tec Drive property. Given that pergolas are defined as outdoor structures with vertical posts supporting an open roof of beams, cross rafters and sometimes a lattice often covered with climbing plants, Csapo envisions adding greenery and some additional seating. There is money left in the project budget, he said. Rotary’s budget allocated \$7167 for the project, \$3800 of which was provided by a District Simplified Grant. With the structure alone costing only \$4728, the club is in process of approving the purchase of four chairs and some shrubbery with some of the remaining money.

‘The need for mental health services is increasing,’ Bond said, and ‘being able to take patients outside is really helpful.’ With hundreds of patients already at the clinic the pergola certainly will be a very busy place during the warmer months.

Written By: Bob Mellen Photos By: Bob Mellen



Working to erect the pergola are Gerald Chamberlin, Steve Csapo, Rob Lupisella and Tom Vonglis.



The intrepids, seated from left in the finished pergola, are Bruce Amey, Rob Lupisella, Tom Vonglis and Steve Csapo. Standing is Gerald Chamberlin, clinic project manager.



Rotarians erect the pergola beside the Noyes clinic on Tec Drive in Avon.

District Simplified Grant Project Completed

April 19: Well done President Steve Csapo, Tom Vonglis, Rob Lupisella, Bruce Amey and photographer, Bob Mellen. Our 2022-23 grant project is complete and well received at the UR Wellness Center.

NOTES OF THANKS:

⇒ Thank you to you and the team for the work on the pergola in Avon yesterday. Gerald tells me it was a brisk morning, but your team powered through to completion of the task.

The clinical team at the site is thrilled, planning for both personal/break use and client care. Their efforts are now focused on praying for good weather, so they can use the space!!!

Major kudos to Avon Rotary for investing in the health of the Avon and surrounding communities. Thank you for your investment and work.

*Michael Donegan—Vice President, Operations
UR Medicine | Noyes Health*

⇒ Let me also echo the thanks! The project looks fantastic and will no doubt get great use. As always, we appreciate the community partnership in support of our services and staff/patients.

Please extend our thanks to the entire Rotary team.

*J. Chad Teeters, MD, MBA, MS, FACC
President/CEO, UR Medicine - Noyes Health*

⇒ On behalf of the team at the Avon Clinic, we are grateful for the pergola and for the rotary members that braved the less than ideal weather yesterday to construct it. It really looks beautiful!! We are so excited to use it with our patients!

Thank you!

*Laura Bond, LCSW-R
Associate Director, Noyes Mental Health and Wellness*



GOOD BYE ISABELLE



At our April 18 meeting, we bid farewell to our Rotary New Generations exchange student, Isabelle Bonafé, as she returns to her home in Brazil. New Generations Service Exchange is a short-term, customizable program for university students and young professionals up to age 30. Participants can design exchanges that combine their professional goals with a humanitarian project. Not only was Isabelle Avon Rotary's first New Generations exchange participant, but she is the first ever in our Rotary District 7120.

During her time here in the United States, Isabelle had the opportunity to learn valuable skills in school counseling, school psychology, and special education at Avon Central Schools.

Isabelle plans to utilize these skills to make a positive impact on the lives of her students. She is excited to apply her newfound knowledge and experience in her future work as a school psychologist and advocate for students with special needs.

We are so proud of Isabelle and all that she has accomplished during her time here in the US. We know that she will make a difference in the lives of her future students, and we wish her all the best in her future endeavors. Safe travels, Isabelle, and thank you for being a part of our Rotary New Generations exchange program!

Submitted by: Mike Ford, via social media

Avon Free Library News

Maureen Wheeler and Grace Frenzel, the Avon Free Library's President and Director, respectively, gave us an update on our Library at the club's April 25th meeting.

Grace joined our Library about two months ago, coming to Avon from the Livonia Public Library where she served as its Family Services Coordinator. Grace told the club that the Avon Free Library is now completely fine-free – no fees for late returns of any borrowed item! She is very excited about the summer reading program, which will be themed All Together Now, joining members of the community of all ages to participate in reading activities. Next month is Local History Month, and the Library is partnering with the Avon Historical Society for programs and activities. There will be a monthly e-newsletter from the Library coming soon, too. Any club members wishing to be on the mailing list can contact the Library staff.

Maureen informed the club that the Library is in the process of developing a five year long range plan, "Our Next Chapter". The board committee working on this is starting the step of gathering input from the community.

One thing the Library and its board recognize is the need to improve accessibility to and within its 95 year old building.

In mid-May, the Library will begin is a complete renovation of the "front yard". This will entail replacing the sidewalks and ramps leading to the front door and a new book drop to be ADA-compliant, and new lighting and landscaping. During the construction period, expected to be about two months, the front entrance to the Library will be closed and all access will be through the entrance to the children's library at the back of the building. As part of this project, the Library will need a free-standing book drop to be placed adjacent to the public sidewalk along Genesee Street. On completion of the project, this book drop would be relocated to the rear of the building. Based on Grace's research, such a book drop would cost about \$2,000, and would be a wonderful opportunity for partnering with Rotary.

The Library also plans to transform the "back yard" into a multipurpose space for programming, with a pavilion, several gardens, and paved accessible parking and paths with lighting.

The slate roof of the Library is its original, so almost 100 years old. It's being regularly checked, but will need to be replaced soon. Because the building is an historic building, in order for the replacement to be eligible for state aid, a new roof must also be slate.

Finally, the Library intends to commission a study of ways to improve accessibility inside the building, for example, by adding an elevator.

The projected cost of all these projects over the next five years is \$1,200,000. Grant and state aid secured to date covers about a third of this, and projects will be prioritized and phased based on availability of funds.

To help the Library defray inflation in operating costs, the school budget ballot will include Proposition 4 to increase the levy for the Library from \$121,100 to \$143,800, increasing the rate per thousand of assessed valuation from \$0.217945 to \$0.258798. On a house assessed at \$100,000, this would increase the Library tax from \$22 to \$26.



President Steve pictured with Maureen Wheeler, Library Board President & Grace Frenzel, Avon Library Director

Following the presentation and Q&A, President Steve presented a check from Rotary to the Library. And in a wonderful surprise, Kirk Vanderbilt presented a check from himself and his brother in memory of their parents. Their mother was a librarian and served on the Library board for many years, and their father was a big supporter of the Library.

Written By: Helen Zamboni
Photos By: Cat Jensen



Kirk Vanderbilt pictured with Maureen Wheeler, Library Board President & Grace Frenzel, Avon Library Director

Rambling On Rotary— May



By: Bruce Amey

I heard it said that “We do not find ourselves, our life, by pursuing it. We find it by losing it to something or someone greater than ourselves.” To say the least, this past year has offered me the opportunity to reflect on things that are truly important. May is Rotary’s Youth Service Month. As most of you know I spent 41 years in public education working with youth. This is a very special month for me and over these past months I have had many reflections on all the opportunities I have had to work with youth.

I love the work done by Karen and Ed with the youth in our community and region. I look forward to Cathy Jo Murphy returning to our club as she inspired so many of our community’s youth when she was our Interact advisor. Helping with our club’s support of the Exchange Weekend is a bright spot for me each year. Our youth are our future and, as a club, we need to do more to support and engage our Interact Club and Rotaract club. Our youth are the future of Rotary and they can and do inspire us to engage and do more in our community and our world. Their ideas will inspire us and other young persons into a mission of service.

As we approach our 2023-24 Rotary Year with our club Past President Julie Carney to become District 7120 District Governor and her passion for youth and youth exchange, I am energized. As Julie shared at our April 25 meeting, the success of her year will rest on the support of all of us club members and those throughout the district. We are ALL Rotarians who joined to perform SERVICE for others. On one hand, I am disappointed that I have had to step back some this year following my heart procedure and recovery along with the emotion and support required as I support Diane with her medical issues. Second to my support of the Rotary Foundation is my support for the Alzheimer’s Association.

Our current Rotary year is almost over. I am concluding my third and final year as a Board Member at Large. I congratulate next year’s Board of Directors for their willingness to “step up” and serve: President Mike Ford, President-Elect Karen Vanderbilt, Senior Director Rob Lupisella, Director Katie GeGraff (finishing a 3-year term as club treasurer), secretary Jamie Lovullo, Treasurer Hans Koomen, and Directors-at-large Rodney George, Nick Lovullo and Cat Jensen, and Past-President Steve Csapo. I look forward to their leadership in the coming Rotary year. But I encourage all club members when called upon to support and encourage our Board of Directors. In my three years on the BOD, I have valued the leadership and club history provided, in particular, by past-president Tom Vonglis.

Our club has a lot to offer our world and community. However, I do not believe our community is aware of all the service that our club provides. I am thankful that Jaime Lovullo is promoting community service projects for our club and increasing our club’s visibility. In the community, our club supports numerous community functions and activities of which we should all be proud. Our recent project at the East Avon Mental Health Clinic, President Steve’s District Grant Project, has been well received by the facility staff and will be a tremendous benefit for patients, as was desired by Liz Green to whom the center is dedicated.

For me, Rotary is something so much greater than myself and I am very proud to be a Rotarian. The Rotary Foundation is the arm of Rotary that allows the organization to continue its service to the world, and you all know I am committed to the Foundation and its work. Rotary is greater than any one of us individually. But together, our service is changing our community and the world. Thank you to each of you for your enthusiastic energy and service. I look forward to continuing to work with and for you. And, as usual, I have rambled on long enough.





**END
POLIO
NOW**

2023 Wild Polio Case Counts as of April 30, 2023

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



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



*Corn Festival Plans are well underway
get your volunteer in gear and find out
how you can help make this a success*

Avon Food Pantry

Grocery Items Needed in May are:

Tea	Tissues	Pancake Mix	Salad Dressing
Syrup	Coffee	Canned Fruit	Crackers

Healthy Snacks for Children

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



**Happy Anniversary
Avon Rotary
Club Charter
May 10, 1927**

*“What you do makes a difference,
and you have to decide what kind
of difference you want to make.”*

- Jane Goodall -



Is a fellow Rotarian ill or in need?

Please contact the club
Sunshine Liaison

Barbara Herman 245-2637

