



**IMAGINE
ROTARY**

Inside this issue:

President's Message	1
Club Schedule & Celebrations	2
August Highlights	3,4,5
Youth Exchange	6,7
Rambling on Rotary	8
Corn Festival	9,10
Spotlight	11
Polio Update	11
Food Pantry & More	11

President's Message



August was a very busy month for us! We started the month recognizing three Paul Harris Fellow award recipients to the Avon Central School Nurses. They really deserved this recognition with their dedication to the students and to helping them by being on the front line with regards to Covid and all the safety protocols associated with that. I am sure it was a very challenging time for them, but they excelled in what they did for our student community.

The program by The Gift of Life Adventure was very informative. Thanks to all that donated to them that evening so they may continue to complete their journey in helping others understand the importance of organ donation and the proper way to set it up.

August 13th saw the return of our corn festival; we were blessed with beautiful weather and a great turnout! I would like to take a moment to thank all the members and committee chairs for all you did to make the day a memorable one. We will share the results with the club once we have all the figures in place.

We welcomed our two exchange students Maria & Benni on 15th and 18th. We look forward to seeing them experience life as we all know it in Avon.

On the 16th Karl organized the blood drive at the Avon Inn. Thank you for setting that up and to all those who donated blood. Later that day a group of us traveled to Camp Sam Wood in Portageville where our Genesee Valley Rotary Camp is held, although the weather was less than favorable the look on the campers faces during the magicians show made the trip a joyous event that I encourage all Rotarians to attend whenever possible. They really appreciate our continued support of the camp. Thank you to Ernie & Dave for all you do for the camp.

August 23rd had us being joined by our district Governor Ralph Brandt with his and Rotary International President Jennifer Jones message for 22-23. It was a good night to have some potential members in attendance as his message probably answered many of their questions as to what Rotary is. We also had a beautiful presentation from Sydney Murray regarding her RYLA experience. The evening concluded with Kelly Cole's Paul Harris recognition of Dr. Ghosh. Kirk always does a great job of explaining what it means to be recognized with a Paul Harris Fellow award.

We ended the month with a presentation by Rick French & Jaima showing their commitment to assisting with the schools in Tanzania! It was one of our larger crowds gathered to hear their stories and see their photos. Their goal that they set out for was to raise enough funds to keep two girls in school. With the help of our Avon interact and your generous donations they achieved their goal. Well done Avon Rotary!

September will have us shifting gears towards our next major event, the auction. Please support Tom Honan in any way you can assist him with this important fundraiser for our club. We also look forward to adding a few new members to our club in September. Thank you to all those who have brought potential new members to our club and Josh Tonra for being our membership chair.

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



September

Club Schedule

Tues. Sept. 6	Regular Mtg 6:30	Service Project: Jaimie Lovullo, Thank you cards for ACS Teachers
Tues. Sept. 13	Regular Mtg 6:30	Board of Directors Mtg following
Tues. Sept. 20	Regular Mtg 6:30	Program: Stephanie Dempsey, Daughters of the American Revolution & Service Project
Tues. Sept. 27	Regular Mtg 6:30	Program: Mike Fitzsimmons, Endurance Challenge with Spina Bifada

EVERY GREAT DREAM BEGINS WITH
A DREAMER. ALWAYS REMEMBER,
YOU HAVE WITHIN YOU THE
STRENGTH, THE PATIENCE, AND THE
P A S S I O N
TO REACH FOR THE STARS TO
CHANGE THE WORLD.

HARRIET TUBMAN



September Celebrations

<u>Wedding Anniversary</u>	<u>Birthday</u>	<u>Rotary Anniversary</u>
⇒ Katie DeGraff	⇒ Will McLaughlin	⇒ Josh Tonra 2014
⇒ Jerry Dougherty	⇒ Bill Wall	⇒ Leann Hill 2017
⇒ Hans Koomen		

August Highlights

Paul Harris Fellows Presented to Avon Central School Nurses

August 2: Avon Rotary awarded Paul Harris Fellows to three of the many unsung heroes of the COVID pandemic nationwide that went above and beyond their typical roles, our Avon school nurses Nicole Montesano, Katie Conroy, and Rhonda Goeke. School nurses shouldered a heavy COVID workload identifying cases, testing, contact tracing, comforting students, alerting parents about infections, and learning ever changing guidelines while juggling the already demanding responsibilities of their regular nursing roles. Avon Rotary, our school district, and community truly appreciate your hard work and sacrifices made during this time. Thank you to Nicole, Katie, and Rhonda. *Submitted by: Mike Ford*



Avon Central School Nurses: Rhonda Goeke, Nicole Montesano, Katie Conroy



Avon Superintendent Ryan Pacette gave his remarks about seeing first hand Avon nurses' hard work and sacrifices made during the Covid pandemic.



Recently retired Avon Elementary School Principal Rob Lupisella gives his remarks about seeing all the hard work our nurse have done the past two and a half years.

Gift of Life Adventure



Anil, President Steve, and Anil's wife Deepali.

August 9: We were joined by Anil Srivatsa and his wife Deepali from Gift of Life Adventure. Years ago, Anil was able to save his brother's life with a kidney donation. and he has started Rotary's first organ donation based club. He is traveling the world, starting in Bangalore, India, to raise awareness about live organ donation and making people around you (family, friends, medical personnel, and government officials) aware of your donation wishes after your own death. His goal to speak to one hundred Rotary Clubs and reach one million people with his final destination being Perth, Australia where he will defend his gold medal for team India in the world transplant games (On a side note, his brother who receives his kidney is also a defending gold medalist so both of Anil's kidneys have won gold) and Mel-

bourne where he will speak at the Rotary International Convention.

Anil feels in many cases overcoming fears is what holds people back when it comes to organ donation. He also encourages people to tell those around you your intentions to donate after death because in most cases donation come from automobile accident victims because their license is seen in these situations but not in many other death situations. And with cars becoming safer and safer year by year, organ availability is becoming less.

So if you want to be an organ donor, sign up and make sure you let those around you know of your intentions, because there is no greater gift than the gift of life.

Submitted by: Mike Ford



Deepali with Avon Rotarian and District Governor Elect Julie Carney

August Highlights *continued*

Red Cross Blood Drive

August 16: Avon Rotary hosted our 13th blood drive, the second of its triannual. Rotarians and community members turned out for another very successful drive that provided the Red Cross with several pints of life saving blood. Thank you to all that took the time to donate!



- ⇒ 19 Whole Blood units collected
- ⇒ 33 appointments made
- ⇒ 10 power red units collected
- ⇒ 87 lives potentially saved

If you wish to schedule a donation or want to learn more about life saving blood donations visit:

<https://www.redcross.org/give-blood.html>

Our next drive is scheduled for TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29th



Genesee Valley Rotary Camp

August 16: Avon Rotarians and friends made the trip down to Pike to visit the Genesee Valley Rotary Camp. GVRC is always one of our first meetings after all the busy work of the Corn Fest. It's like hitting the reset button on our Rotary year and getting a chance to see one of the many places our fundraisers efforts go towards.

"This is one of my favorite visits each year and one of the most important things the Avon Rotary Club does. It supports local kids and helps them realize their gifts and potential. The effect on them, their families, and the staff literally changes lives."



GVRC is a one week summer camp for young people ages 8-21 with various disabilities. GVRC allows these kids to have a traditional camp experience with a highly skilled staff that can attend to their specific needs. GVRC is supported by Rotary clubs throughout Livingston, Steuben, Wyoming, and Allegany counties.

If you know a child in our area that could benefit from this life changing camp experience contact a Rotarian or send us a message and we can help you get them enrolled at no cost to their family. *Submitted by Mike Ford*



August Highlights *continued*

District Governor Visit, A Word about RYLA and a special Paul Harris Fellow Presentation



August 23:

First we were joined by District Governor Ralph Brandt who was visiting our club to give his Governor's message, his goals for Rotary District 7120, and to inform us on Rotary International President Jennifer Jones's mission and goals for Rotary in the 2022-2023 year.

Next Avon Interact President Sydney Murray joined us to tell us about her experience at RYLA. RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) is an intensive leadership experience organized by Rotary clubs and districts where you develop your skills as a leader while having fun and making connections with fellow students.



Then we had the honor to present Dr. Shontanu Ghosh with a Paul Harris Fellow. Avon Rotarian Kelly Cole chose to honor Dr. Ghosh with this award for his years of selfless care not only to him and his family, but to the Avon community as a whole.



Finally, our club was introduced to our two Rotary Youth Exchange students, Maria "Duda" from Brazil and Benedetta "Benni" from Italy. Welcome to these young women, we can't wait to see your growth and what the exchange year brings you.

Submitted by: Mike Ford via social media



Journeys of Solutions

August 30:

Special guests Rick French and Jaima Herberger from Pack paddle ski and Journeys of Solutions shared stories of their latest adventures and projects. Rick reminded us of his longstanding relationship with Rotary and how helping one person can evolve into changing the lives of many. He told the story of Yusef and how our club helped change his life. Jaima told us about her last trip to Lake Eyasi, Tanzania and how a heart wrenching situation was turned into an opportunity to help young girls stay safe and receive quality education. Jaima shared the story of Tere-sia and how she could no longer care for her children. Journeys of Solutions have given them a safe place to live and an education to break the cycle of abuse and dependency. Our Interact and Rotary clubs have combined forces and donated funds to help sponsor the two young girls. For all those that contributed tonight, thank you! If you wish to contribute, more information will be sent to the club.

Check out their website at <https://journeysofsolutions.org/> and <http://www.packpaddleski.com/>

Contributors: Karen Vanderbilt, Laurie Vonglis



News on our Youth Exchange Students



On August 10th Rotarians and family met at the Rochester International Airport to see Jacob Davis off for his 10 months in Austria. Jacob was all smiles, ready and anxious to begin his exchange journey. We gave hugs and wished him well!

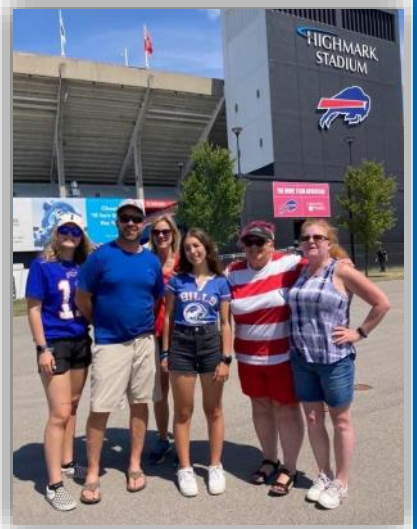


On August 15th Avon Rotarians, host families, classmates, and friends met at Rochester International Airport to welcome our first of two Rotary Youth Exchange Students this year, Maria A.K.A Duda. Maria comes to us from Brazil and is the daughter and niece of two former Rotary Youth Exchange Students to Avon. We can't wait to see what the year has in store for her. Welcome Duda!!!



Rotary Exchange Student, Benedetta A.K.A. Benni, arrived in Rochester on August 18 from Italy and was greeted by her 1st host family, Steve & Lisa Csapo and many other Rotarians. Within days future host Mom, Cat Jensen, brought her to her FIRST American football game at Highmark Stadium to watch a Bills preseason game. "She didn't really understand what was happening in the game (yet) but she said she liked it & would go again!" A true

"people watching" experience for her! Benni is the young lady in the middle with her first Bills t-shirt!



Contributors: Mike Ford, Cat Jensen, Laurie Vonglis



Meet Maria & Benni



Maria Rezende- Franca-Brazil

"In three weeks, I discovered that the world could be bigger than I thought.

I met many people and things that I really loved.

I'm so grateful to have this experience of doing things I've never done before.

My thinking has changed a lot, and I'm very excited to have as many experiences as I can."



Hi, I am Benedetta and I am an exchange student from Italy, more precisely from a small town in northern Italy called Berzo Inferiore that no American has been able to pronounce yet.

I arrived on August 18 after an eight hour flight from Milan to New York and another shorter, one hour from New York to Rochester and I will spend my year here in Avon

I was welcomed by so many people at the airport and I would like to thank Rotary and all members for welcoming me so well.

I've only been here for two weeks but I've already done a lot of things: I went to see the Buffalo Bills, my first American football game, I played golf, I went to Seneca and Canandaigua lake, go shopping and many other things.

I'm also happy to have started soccer, the girls are really nice and cute, they immediately welcomed me and made me feel comfortable.

Although it has been a short time since I arrived, Avon is a very nice and welcoming town and I feel very comfortable, as well as in my host family: my parents are very helpful, ready to take me to any place, nice and above all very kind.

I would therefore like to thank all Rotary members who have made this experience possible and I hope that my year here in the USA and particularly here in Avon will be one of the best of my life.

Benni

Rambling On Rotary—September



By: Bruce Amey

I am writing this article immediately following our successful Corn Festival 2022 and a few days before my medical procedure. We all need to take a few moments to reflect on the success of this year's CornFest. It was great to see so many people in the street and food court enjoying the festival, which was the culmination

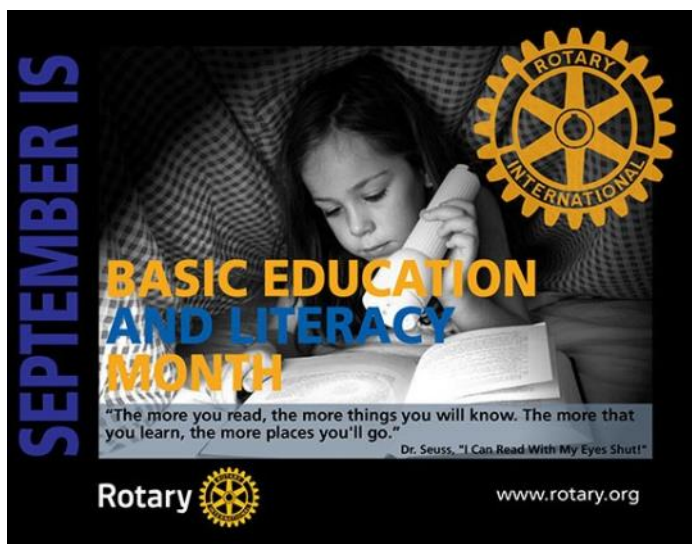
of 8 months of work by many club members. Kudos to Chairperson Mike Ford on helping guide the event all these past months, but the festival could not occur nor be successful without the contributions and efforts of all members. To see our prospective member Colin Hayes working throughout the day and newer members Marcea Tetamore, Will McLaughlin, Dan Oswald, Cat Jansen, Jamie and Nick Lovullo, Mike Giso, and others ... spoke volumes to me of our growing, energetic club. It was also inspiring to see club member spouses come in to help, as well. However, in that recognition of our volunteers, I still need to recognize there were many responsibilities/positions that went unfilled during the sign-up period. Dave Henahan worked well past his "volunteer shift" mixing fritter batter because no one volunteered to fill the slots; the same happened at several gatekeeper positions and elsewhere during the course of the day. We all recognize that, at times, family and work responsibilities occur on the same day as our major fundraisers, and we have several members whose health does not afford them the opportunity to engage as they once did; however, our club can only be as successful in our service to others as each one of us is in our service within our club. Be looking for announcements from Tom Honan regarding our upcoming Auction; he will be looking for many items to auction and sponsors for our auction.

September is Rotary's Basic Education & Literacy Month. I think every one of us recognizes the outstanding learning opportunities available within our Avon community. Our children have teachers second to none and I am thankful to have been able to be a small part of that for a few years. As you are aware, our club supports the building of schools as one of our club's international projects; we do this through an organization called Linking Hands For Learning started by Rotarians Rob and Jeannine Lupisella. From their Facebook link, "Ten years ago we partnered with the Enlace Project to raise money for and to build a school in Ocotal, part of El Sauce, Nicaragua. Since then, thanks to our supporters - family, friends, Rotary Clubs, community members, and our partnership with Enlace Project, we have

raised funds for 12 more schools - changing lives through education, not only for the children, but our lives and those of our volunteers have been forever changed by the amazing people we have met along the way in Nicaragua and in the US. It is not cliché, it's the real deal! After a COVID pause in volunteers being able to assist in country, LHFL is hoping 2022 gets them back into action in Nicaragua with a group of volunteers helping to build a school that our club has budgeted to help support.

In addition to supporting education for others in our community and internationally, it is essential that we, as Rotarians, continue our own learning and educational opportunities. Log in to my.Rotary.org/online tools/Learning Center. There are ten areas listed and each area has a plethora of learning opportunities contained therein. There are many Rotary specific topics but also many to just help in your personal and professional life. Topics such as effective facilitation, collaboration, building consensus, developing a speech, interpersonal communication and networking, Rotary Action Group Basics, Youth Guide to Service-Learning, etc. Continuing our learning as Rotarians will only help each of in our Service Above Self.

Avon Central Schools motto is Learning For A Lifetime. That motto is one for our entire community. Let each of us take the opportunity to continue learning about each other and from each other. As Rotarians, let's use the resources available to us to continue our learning while helping others continue to learn. Doing so will only enhance our ability to serve others. And, as usual, I have rambled on long enough.



2022 Avon Rotary Corn Festival



2022 Avon Rotary Corn Festival



Many Thanks...

Chairman, Mike Ford & the Corn Festival Committee
Our Corporate & Entertainment Sponsors
Rotarians, Friends & Family Volunteers
Rodney & Donna George for our Celebration Picnic

EVERYONE... MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR NEXT
YEAR'S FESTIVAL—SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 2023



Is a fellow Rotarian ill or in need?

Please contact the club
Sunshine Liaison Agent



Barbara Herman 226-6735

*Please keep Jerry Dougherty & Bruce Amey
in your thoughts as they continue to recover
from their recent surgeries.*



JEFF HERBERGER

Many thanks to our "Asset Manager" Jeff Herberger and his small team of Assistants for their awesome work on cleaning out, reorganizing and getting the club storage building in order.

As a reminder, if you would like to borrow (rent) tables/chairs or some other Rotary item, you must contact Jeff.

Also, before you attempt to store any of your Rotary items in the building, the same should be done, contact Jeff.

Avon Food Pantry

Pantry critical needs in September are:

CEREAL

TUNA

PEANUT BUTTER

COOKING OIL

PANCAKE MIX

SYRUP

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



**END
POLIO
NOW**

2022 Wild Polio Case Counts as of August 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	5	August 2022
Pakistan	84	1	13	July 2022
Total	140	5	19	



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