



CREATE HOPE  
in the WORLD

### Inside this issue:

President's Message	1
Club Schedule & Celebrations	2
Naples Golf	2
Volunteers in Action	3
Home Care Solutions	3
Rotarian of the Year	4
Rotary Foundation Drive	4
Big Hit at the Ball Game	5
Corn Festival T-Shirts	5
Avon's First District Governor	6
Rambling on Rotary	7
Change of Officers	8
Happy New Year!	9
Volunteers in Action	9

## President's Message



Happy Rotary New Year!!!

It is with great pleasure and excitement that I address you as our President for the first time. I am truly honored to have the opportunity to serve in this role and work alongside each and every one of you to make a lasting

impact on our community

First and foremost, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to our outgoing President, Steve. Under his remarkable leadership, our club has achieved significant milestones and made a tangible difference in the lives of those we serve. Steve, your dedication, passion, and unwavering commitment to Rotary values have been an inspiration to us all. Thank you for your invaluable contributions, and we look forward to your continued support and guidance as we move forward.

I would also like to take a moment to reflect on the recent tailgate and celebrate changeover dinner, where we came together as a Rotary family to celebrate our year and honor outstanding individuals within our club. It was a joyous occasion filled with camaraderie, laughter, and heartfelt appreciation. During the event, we had the privilege of recognizing Jaime Lovullo as the recipient of the 2022/2023 Rookie of the Year award. Jaime, your enthusiasm, dedication, and contributions to our club have been truly commendable. Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition!

Furthermore, we had the distinct pleasure of awarding the Paul Harris Fellow recognitions to two exceptional members: David Kilgore and Bob Mellen. Their selfless commitment to improving the lives of others and their tireless efforts in supporting our club's initiatives have left an indelible mark on our community. Congratulations to you both.

We also had the opportunity to award Paul Harris fellows to three remarkable individuals: Shandell Marie Barnes, Temu Azir Medford, and Emyotion Giani White. Their selfless commitment to ensuring comfort to our dear friend Jerry Dougherty in his final months and providing solace to his loved ones is a testament to the profound impact selfless individuals can have on the lives of those in need.

And let's not forget Katie DeGraff, who unfortunately could not make our changeover dinner, so we surprised her early with her Rotarian of the Year award. Katie has been an incredible asset to our club, dedicating her time and energy to serving our community selflessly. Her dedication to Rotary and the Avon community is truly inspiring.

In the coming months, we have an array of projects, fundraisers, and community outreach initiatives planned. I encourage each of you to bring forth your ideas, talents, and energy to make these endeavors a resounding success. Remember, it is through our collective efforts and unwavering commitment that we can truly make a difference and leave a lasting impact. Look for those signups from Jaime in your emails and let's hit the ground running.

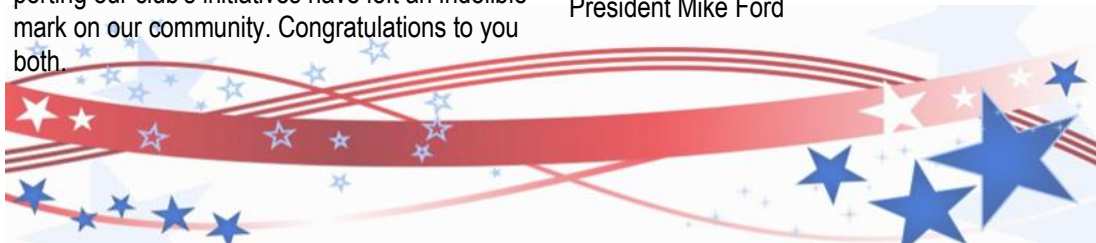
Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to all our members, without whom none of our achievements would be possible. Your dedication, generosity, and passion for service inspire me every day. Let us embrace this new Rotary year with open hearts and a renewed sense of purpose. I am confident that, together, we will make remarkable strides in serving humanity and fostering positive change. Thank you for your unwavering support, and I am excited to embark on this extraordinary journey with you all.

Yours in Rotary Service,  
President Mike Ford

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

#### Board of Directors

Mike Ford, President  
Karen Vanderbilt, President Elect  
Rob Lupisella, Senior Director  
Katie DeGraff, Director  
Rodney George, Member at Large  
Cat Jensen, Member at Large  
Nick Lovullo, Member at Large  
Steve Csapo, Past President  
Jaime Lovullo, Secretary  
Hans Koomen, Treasurer



# JULY

## Club Schedule

Tues. July 4	Happy Independence Day! No Meeting!
Tues. July 11	Rotary Meeting 6:00 District Governor Visits Program: Dick Neth, Restoration of antique fire truck
Sat. July 15	Rochester Pride Parade 1:00
Mon. July 17	Board of Directors Meeting 6:00 at Avon Circlevue Conference Room
Tues. July 18	Rotary Meeting 6:00 Linda Kime Scholarship presented
Tues. July 25	Rotary Meeting 6:00 Vocational Scholarships presented Program: Sex trafficking/Miss Julie's school of Beauty

## July Celebrations

### Birthday

- ⇒ Joe Callahan (H)
- ⇒ Charlene Masten
- ⇒ Karl Sawicki
- ⇒ Marcea Tetamore

### Rotary Anniversary

- ⇒ Ted Coyne 1955 (H)
- ⇒ Steve Stevenson 1963 (H)
- ⇒ Julie Carney 2009

### Wedding Anniversary

- ⇒ Greg & Jean Antkowiak
- ⇒ Mike Giso
- ⇒ Will McLaughlin
- ⇒ Ryan Pacatte
- ⇒ Jim Ryan
- ⇒ Ernie Wiard

## AVON VISITS NAPLES FOR GOLF

**June 2:** On a beautiful Friday afternoon, four Avon Rotary Golfers, trekked down to Naples in support of the Harris Cup Golf Tournament, sponsored by the Naples Rotary Club. And as luck & a bit of talent would have it, Avon rocked it coming in 1st place. Truth be told, there were only four teams that played and no actual prizes other than some great donuts in the morning. In the end we were all winners, sharing fellowship with some pretty nice folks at a gorgeous golf course.

*Submitted by Laurie Vonglis*





## VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION



**June 3:** Avon Rotary Club had the privilege of lending a helping hand at the Genesee Valley Riding and Driving Club's Spring Event, and what an incredible day it was! Our dedicated Rotarians took on the challenging task of efficiently managing the parking of participants' horse trailers, ensuring a smooth and organized event for everyone involved.

During the event, we witnessed firsthand the passion and commitment of the GVRDC team and their members. They work tirelessly to educate not only their own members but also the broader public about crucial aspects such as safety around horses, the welfare of horses, the value of sportsmanship, and the sheer beauty of riding and driving horses.

If you're passionate about horses, riding, or driving, we encourage you to learn more about the GVRDC and

their incredible work at ([gvrdc.org](http://gvrdc.org)).

Together, let's support their mission of educating and fostering a deep appreciation for these remarkable equestrian arts.

*Submitted by Mike Ford via social media*



## BLOSSOM MODERN HOME CARE SOLUTIONS

**June 6:** We were joined by Kim Salvaggio, the owner of Blossom Modern Home Care Solutions of WNY.

As the owner of Blossom: Modern Home Care Solutions of Western New York, Kim demonstrated her profound knowledge and dedication to improving the lives of individuals requiring home care. She enlightened us on a variety of crucial topics, including:

- Creating nurturing and safe environments at home for seniors and those with illnesses and disabilities
- Tailoring care plans to meet unique individual needs
- Promoting independence and overall well-being
- Showcasing the latest innovations in home care technology
- Providing valuable resources and support to caregivers and families
- Home care's cost efficiency

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Kim Salvaggio for sharing her expertise. Her and her staff's dedication to providing exceptional care through Blossom Modern Home Care Solutions of WNY is truly commendable.

We encourage all our followers to visit Blossom Modern Home Care Solutions of WNY's website (<https://www.blossomhcs.com/>) and learn more about the incredible services they offer. Let's support a local expanding businesses that makes a difference in the lives of individuals and families in our community.

*Submitted by Mike Ford via social media*



## ROTARIAN OF THE YEAR



**June 13:** We are thrilled to announce that Katie DeGraff has been awarded the 2022-2023 Rotarian of the Year honor by the Avon Rotary Club!

Katie has been an incredible asset to our club, dedicating her time and energy to serving our community selflessly.

Over the past three years, she has admirably fulfilled the role of Treasurer, ensuring our financial health and stability. Her meticulous attention to detail and financial expertise have been invaluable to our club's success.

Katie has also taken the lead in organizing numerous social events for our club, bringing us together and fostering a sense of fellowship among our members. Her creativity, enthusiasm, and dedication to making these events enjoyable for everyone have made a significant impact on our club's vibrant social fabric.

Katie will also be stepping into a new role on our board starting July 1st as our Junior Director and will serve our club as President in the 2026-2027 Rotary year. Her leadership, passion, and unwavering commitment to Rotary values make her the ideal candidate for this position.

Katie, your dedication to Rotary and the Avon community is truly inspiring. You have shown us what it means to be an outstanding Rotarian, and we are grateful for everything you have done and continue to do.

Please join us in congratulating Katie on this well-deserved recognition. Let's give her a big round of applause and show her our appreciation for all her hard work and contributions to the Avon Rotary Club!

*Submitted by Mike Ford via social media*

## ROTARY FOUNDATION DRIVE



Front: Katie DeGraff, Josh Tonra

Back: Paul Warren, Bruce Amey, Laurie Vonglis, Kirk Vanderbilt, Jaime Lovullo, Ginny House

**June 13:** As we come to the end of the Rotary year, the Avon Rotary Club organized a special fundraising drive in memory of three remarkable Rotarians who sadly passed away this year: Doc Hayes, Jerry Dougherty, and C.A. Krenzer.

We held our drive with the aim of raising funds for the annual fund of the Rotary Foundation in honor of Jerry, Doc, and C.A. We are thrilled to announce that together, we raised an incredible \$4000!

In addition to honoring these three great men, we also took the opportunity to honor Rotarians with Paul Harris Fellow pins for their continued contributions to the annual fund. Paul Warren received his first Paul Harris pin and

Janis McMIndes received her Paul Harris +6 pin.

Our Rotary Foundation Champion, Bruce Amey, also took the opportunity to use his accumulated Paul Harris Fellow points to bestow several Avon Rotarians and one community member with Paul Harris pins. Rotarian Jaime Lovullo received her first Paul Harris pin, community member Ginny House received her Paul Harris +1, and these Avon Rotarians received plus pins: Josh Tonra +2, Katie DeGraff +1, Laurie Vonglis +6, Kirk Vanderbilt +3.

Congratulations to all and thank you for your continued contributions and service to the Avon Rotary Club. *Submitted by Mike Ford via social media*



Janis McMIndes receiving her PHF +6 pin



# YOUR AVON ROTARY: A BIG HIT AT THE OL' BALLGAME



"Take me out to the ballgame; take me out with the crowd."

Now we're talking about Thursday, June 15th and Tuesday, June 20th at Rochester's Innovative Field, home of the Red Wings, and your Avon Rotary Club was up to bat, taking a swing with their latest fundraising strategy-working the concessions stands-and oh, let me tell you ladies and gentlemen, Tinker to Ev-ans to Chance were never better. In other words...SMOOTH!

Volunteers arrived for their pre-game chalk talk then manned their positions at the beer, pretzel,

and ice cream stands. Smiles and laughs ensued-you know our gang! Pouring the suds, pushing the pretzels, and scooping ice cream earned your Avon Rotary Club some frothy tips.

The 9-percent sales commission will be mailed in a couple of weeks, but all said and done, the games turned out to be a fun and easy path to success. Your Cat Jensen has scheduled two more games in September. The times vary, evening and day, as well as weekdays and weekends.



The first Red Wings season is a "test drive". We will learn what days and times will produce the best commissions. When that's been determined, the club can go forward and choose the premium games for next season. We will go into next season with seniority giving us a better shot at the best times and dates. All this equals hefty deposits to our account!

Here's hoping the end result will be a productive fundraising opportunity in the easiest way possible. We volunteer, we show up, we smile and laugh while we're having a good time. Then we take home tips and a sweet commis-

sion. That's about as uncomplicated and as effortless as it gets!

Our upcoming games are: July 19 & 20, August 27 & 30, September 13 & 16. Put your kids to work! 16 and older are eligible. Volunteers are needed, Rotarians! Don't be shy, step up to the plate and take a swing-this could be a hit for our club. When you volunteer, it shows you care about your club!

*Submitted by Cat Jensen*



**CORN FESTIVAL IS COMING SOON.**  
**Order your t-shirt today!**  
<https://cornfest2023.itemorder.com/>



# AVON'S FIRST DISTRICT GOVERNOR



DG Julie & Jim Carney

**June 21:** Rotarians from all over Rotary District 7120 gathered at our District Changeover Dinner to see our own Julie Ostrander Carney become District Governor, the first District Governor from Avon in the 96 year history of our club. Her dedication, leadership, and unwavering commitment to service have led her to this remarkable achievement, and we couldn't be happier for her!

Julie's journey with Rotary has been truly inspiring. From her early days as a passionate youth services advisor, to her numerous community service projects and charitable endeavors, she has shown us what it means to embody the spirit of Rotary. She has touched countless lives through her selflessness and has been a shining example for all of us.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Julie for this exceptional accomplishment. We know that under her guidance, District 7120 will continue to thrive and make a lasting impact on our communities and the world at large.

We are excited to see what the year will bring for Julie and to show off Avon Rotary to the rest of our District. Please join us in celebrating this momentous occasion and wishing Julie all the best in her new role as District Governor!

*Submitted by Mike Ford via social media*



DG Julie & her family



DG Julie receives her District Governor pin from outgoing District Governor Ralph Brandt



Bloomfield Rotary Club #4761 President Marce Chavez passes the District 7120 Governor's Home Club banner over to Avon Rotary's President-Elect Mike Ford



A great turn out by the Avon Rotary Club to welcome and celebrate our new District Governor Julie.



## Rambling On Rotary— July



By: Bruce Amey

June 19

I am writing this edition of Rambling before ours or the district's Change Over dinners, as such, I will not be mentioning anything about either one. Rather, I would like to reflect on President Steve's year (or should I say Scott) and look forward to President Mike's year.

For me, this past year was a milestone for Rotary. RI's first female president Jennifer Jones challenged us to Imagine Rotary. See what we have accomplished when we work together over the past century and Imagine all we can continue to accomplish which segues wonderfully into incoming RI President Gordon McInnally's theme to "Create Hope In The World". Rotarians are people of Action but, in my opinion, most positive action is the result of initially having hope and belief in the ability to make things happen.

This past month has been dubbed Pride month. Pride month 2022's theme has been celebrating 50 years of Pride with a focus on acknowledging the many positive achievements of the LGBTQIA+ movement. I will take it further to celebrate the positive achievements that have been made by all persons who have been discriminated against or marginalized in our society and our world. We just recognized Juneteenth day; I venture to guess many did not celebrate it. As I look back on history, June 19th is recognized as the last day that slaves in Texas were finally told that they were free; yet that was almost TWO and a half years after the Emancipation Proclamation was issued by President Lincoln on January 1, 1863. TWO and a Half years these persons were kept in slavery when they already had been freed but were never told. By the time these slaves were told they had been freed by the Emancipation Proclamation 2.5 years after the fact, the 13th Amendment to the US Constitution had already been passed by Congress on January 31st, 1865 (on its way to being ratified on December 6, 1865) earlier that year. The 13th amendment abolished slavery in the United States.

When I at times reflect on the history of our country and our world, I am distraught and disgusted by how we have treated others. Given the preamble to our Declaration of Independence, it saddens me to see the discrimination and marginalization towards so many in our country. "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are creat-

ed equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." Key words "ALL MEN" (meaning persons), not just those who agree with me or look like me or worship like me.

Rotary took a stance a few years ago to expand upon its DEI initiative: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Our Four-way test states it emphatically: "Of the things we think, say or do: Is it the Truth? Is it FAIR to ALL concerned? Will it build Good Will and Better Relationships? Will it be Beneficial to ALL Concerned?" Yes, I have emphasized the word ALL in each of the four steps because, in my opinion, that is the essence of the test. Are we faithful to ALL, or just those we choose to like or who are like us? In what we say, think, and do!

At our June 13 meeting, we recognized the accomplishments and service of eight persons this past year: Paul, Janice, Ginny, Jaime, Josh, Katie (twice), Laurie, and Kirk. Our club does tremendous things in service to others in our community and around the world. President Jennifer said in her closing column for the Rotary magazine, "All of us have imagined Rotary this year. This means looking past what we are today and reaching for what we could do tomorrow.... Focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts that lift EVERY voice in our organization and beyond." In looking ahead to Mike's year as club president and Julie's year as our District Governor (a first for our club), I am looking forward to the ways we can "Create Hope in the World" through our service for others in our community and our world, and let us take pride in this. Not pompous, bragging pride, but rather the feeling we are doing good for others, of celebrating positive accomplishments. May our club always be inclusive of the differences within our society. And, as usual, I have rambled on long enough.



## 2023 CHANGE OF OFFICERS CELEBRATION



**June 27:** We gathered at our “Tailgate & Celebrate” changeover dinner to celebrate the achievements of our Rotary Club in the past year and welcome our new board of directors. It was an evening filled with joy, camaraderie, and delicious Garbage Plate and BBQ menu!

During the event, we had the honor of recognizing outstanding individuals who have made a significant impact in our community.

We presented the 2022-2023 Rookie of the Year award to Jaime Lovullo, acknowledging her contributions to our club and our community. Her dedication and enthusiasm have been truly commendable, and we celebrated her achievements wholeheartedly.



Additionally, we awarded the Paul Harris Fellow recognition to members David Kilgore and Bob Mellen for their contributions to the Rotary Foundation, our community, and our club.



We also had the opportunity to award Paul Harris fellows to three remarkable individuals: Shandell Marie Barnes, Temu Azir Medford, and Emyotion Giani White. Their selfless commitment as caregivers ensuring comfort to our dear friend and long time Avon Rotarian, Jerry Dougherty, in his final months and providing solace to his loved ones is a testament to the profound impact selfless individuals can have on the lives of those in need.

Next our friends to the west, the Cal-Mum Rotary Club, as part of the 50th anniversary celebration made a \$250 dollar contribution to the Rotary Foundation to celebrate Avon being their charter sponsor club fifty years ago. Thank you Cal-Mum Rotary for the donation and for the impact you make in your community and the world beyond!



We ended the night with outgoing President Steve Csapo wrapping up the many accomplishments our club has made the past year and with incoming President Mike Ford giving his vision for the year ahead.

*Submitted by: Mike Ford via social media*



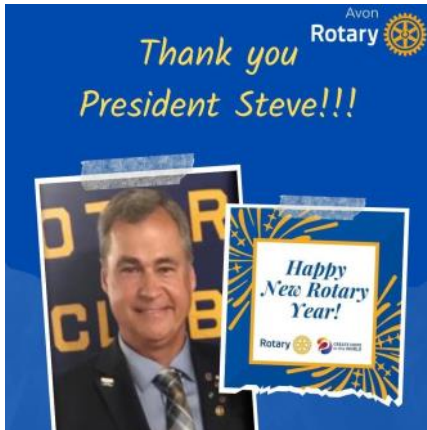
### WELCOME 2023-2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



L-R Hans Koomen, Mike Ford, Karen Vanderbilt, Rodney George, Cat Jensen, Steve Csapo, Jaime Lovullo, Nick Lovullo, Rob Lupisella. Missing: Katie DeGraff



## HAPPY NEW YEAR!



July 1st marks the beginning of the Rotary year. As Steve Csapo's term as President of Avon Rotary Club comes to a close, we would like to take a moment to express our deepest gratitude for his leadership and dedication. It has been an exceptional year under Steve's guidance, filled with numerous achievements and community-building initiatives.

One of the highlights of Steve's tenure was the return of the Corn Festival. The festival was a tremendous success, and its revival has rekindled our bond with the Avon community.

In addition, Steve oversaw the revival of our youth exchange program, allowing us to send one student Jacob to Austria and host two incredible young women Benni for

Italy and Maria from Brazil.

Under Steve's leadership, we also forged new partnerships with organizations such as Journey of Solutions, RocMaidan, and The Livingston County Office for the Aging.

Another remarkable achievement was hosting District 7120's first-ever New Generations Student. We provided an enriching experience for Isabelle as she worked at Avon Central Schools, enabling her to further develop her leadership skills and inspiring her to become a change-maker of tomorrow.

Furthermore, we proudly installed a beautiful pergola at the UR Medicine Noyes Health Mental Health and Wellness facility, creating a serene and welcoming space for patients and staff alike.

Of course, these accomplishments only scratch the surface of Steve's exceptional leadership and the incredible work carried out by the Avon Rotary Club during his term. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to Steve and his commitment to making our community a better place.

Thank you, Steve, for your tireless dedication, vision, and passion. We are grateful for your outstanding service as President of Avon Rotary Club! *Submitted by: Mike Ford via social media*

## VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION



**June 30:** Some of our incredible Avon Rotary Club members had the pleasure of volunteering at the Avon Senior Nutrition Program. This fantastic program aims to provide hot and nutritious lunches to individuals aged 60 and over, ensuring they receive 1/3 of the recommended daily allowance for optimum nutrition. Not only does this program nourish their bodies, but it also creates a welcoming environment filled with fellowship and social activities.

After lunch, our Rotarians went to work, serving up a delicious ice cream social to those in attendance with ice cream and toppings donated by the Avon High School Interact Club.

While there, those in attendance were surprised by Avon High School graduate and current Eastman School of Music student Michael Cullinan who sang an Italian opera solo to the delight of all.


Witnessing the smiles and laughter of the seniors as they enjoyed their meals and shared stories of their lives truly warmed our hearts. It was a beautiful reminder of the power of community and the impact we can make when we come together. *Submitted by: Mike Ford via social media*





**END  
POLIO  
NOW**

### 2023 Wild Polio Case Counts as of June 30, 2023

<u>Country</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>Date of last case</u>
Afghanistan	4	2	5	May 2023
Malawi	1	0	0	Nov 2021
Mozambique	0	8	0	November 2022
Pakistan	1	20	1	February 2023
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>6</b>	



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

### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES...**

- ◆ Sign up to volunteer at a Red Wings game.
- ◆ Sign up to volunteer for our annual Corn Festival.
- ◆ Assist at a weekly meeting as a greeter or 50/50 sales.
- ◆ Look for community service projects and join a team to help.

### **Is a fellow Rotarian ill or in need?**

Please contact the club  
Sunshine Liaison

***Barbara Herman***  
**245-2637**



## **Avon Food Pantry**

**Grocery Items Needed in July are:**

***Pasta, Sauce, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Canned Fruit, Jello  
Salad Dressings, Pudding, Healthy Snacks for Kids***

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

