



Avon Chamber of Commerce

Citizens & Business Working Together

The Economic Development Committee encourages industrial and commercial growth along with a commitment to our existing business and industry in Avon.

The Civic Committee is dedicated to community activities that enhance the quality of life in Avon.

Let us

develop the resources of our land, call forth its powers, build up its institutions, promote all its great interests, and see whether we also, in our day and generation, may not perform something worthy to be remembered.

Daniel Webster

Call (585) 226-5030
for more information about
the Avon Chamber of
Commerce!

Visit us on the web:
avonny.org

74 Genesee St.
Avon, New York
14414

We wanted summer – and we got it!! Our Chamber of Commerce in July 2023 was on a fine summer day. Presiding on July 11 was Mike Carroll, over a fine Peppermints lunch. Enjoying the same were Geri Brewer, Leann Hill, Robert Hunn, David Leven, Christine Quinlan, Marinda Rucinski, Bonnie Taylor-Davis, Larry Tetamore, Paul Tilly, Rene Tilly-Lyness, Robert Westfall, Steve Harrison and your secretary Barbara Herman. Joining us were guests representing the Ahrens Fox Circle Preservation Society, Richard Neth and Kerry Murray. From the Avon Central School District we welcomed Suzanne Freeman, Christina Ecklund and Erik Schneider. President Daniel Cochrane of the Avon Preservation and Historical Society joined the lunch. And a pleasure to have Betty Lou Tilly, Paul's wife, with us as well.

- Mike Carroll's first presidential duty was to present a draft of a letter of support to accompany a grant proposal, on behalf of the Avon Free Library. All Chamber members present agreed by voice vote. By motion by Bonnie Taylor-Davis, second by Marinda Rucinski, motion passed.
- Mike reported on the Western New York Pottery Festival, held June 17-18 on the grounds of his Studio Sales Pottery, 5557 East Avon Road. Attendance was up 35% over last year, and vendors reported a 30% increase in sales, both, very impressive results. Mike acknowledged assistance from Livingston County's Tourism office, matching grant monies helping with marketing and show set-up.
- Chamber Vice President Steve Harrison of the Genesee Valley Penny Saver next assumed the gavel, to introduce Richard Neth and Kerry Murray, for a presentation of the Ahrens Fox Society as identified above, with an interesting history of the "FOX", as the combination pumper has been known. Built by the Ahrens-Fox Company of Cincinnati, the pumper served Avon from 1926 until 1959. After a number of owners, the truck is now residing at the Canadian Automotive Museum in Oshawa, Ontario, but available for purchase by the Avon group, hopefully to be returned to this area as a museum and parade star. Helping in the fundraising effort to achieve this are committee members Bonnie Taylor-Davis, Dan Cochrane and Christine Quinlan. To "Bring Back the Fox" is the goal, and a total of \$55,000 to purchase and \$5,000 to move the truck to Avon is the need. Contact rjnaf17@gmail.com for more info or to donate. Sidebar information on the truck: never missed a call, it's now 147 years old ... the fire departments in those years were all-volunteer.
- Christina Ecklund, Director of Academic Programs at Avon Central Schools, introduced Erik Schneider, discussing digital citizenship programs, a weekly news program handled by students and further digital projects. We're so pleased to have frequent district updates on programming and instructional activities at the schools.
- Paul Tilly reported there is space available for rental at the Zion Church complex.

- Larry Tetamore's Gallery at 50 Genesee is a site you need to visit! Larry and Christine Quinlan discussed the riding and carriage shows at the Downs. There will be miniature horses at a future date, and a parade following the final show. Larry also summarized ongoing photography work during a busy summer season.
- Bob Westfall brought an update on the remodeling/renovation of interior space at the Opera Block building. The third floor, he reports, has been sanded twice. We're all looking forward to a view of the finished building.
- Daniel Cochrane reported on activities at the Avon Preservation and Historical Society. There are new jigsaw puzzles available for purchase, and thanks, again, to Larry Tetamore for his beautiful photo shots. Recent visitors at the Museum include school groups. And Avon's Grandma Ruth is at the museum on selected Sunday afternoons. Stop in to browse and to chat with Grandma Ruth. Dan encourages contributions to the "Bring Back the Fox" fundraising endeavor.
- David Leven brought news from Sports Medicine Concepts in East Avon: they are currently working with WNBA and in autumn will be working with NBA groups.
- Robert Hunn reports a very busy summer wedding season for the Avon Floral World. Did you know there's a gift shop inside the Floral World? Great place to shop!!
- Marinda Rucinski reports for Community Bank N.A. – parents who are readying their students for fall college admission, don't forget to visit your local bank to establish accounts those students will need. Marinda also reports our Student Service Award of \$1,000 goes to recipient Katherine Krasinski. As reported in our last newsletter, she was the unanimous choice of Chamber committee members reviewing student essays.
- Geri Brewer reports for Avon Preservation and Historical: getting ready for the Corn Fest and promoting a raffle opportunity for all. Find Geri around town with raffle tickets at a traditionally-low price for a chance at the quilt.
- Leann Hill reports for Edward Jones Investments: helping anyone "tired, to retire". See her at the Genesee Street office for retirement planning. Also, the Business Networking Initiative group meets every Thursday morning right at Peppermints for breakfast and information interchange. This Genesee-Avon group is a great source for referrals.
- Steve called for a vote: a motion to fund an ad in the Avon Rotary Corn Fest program, at \$125, was offered by Bonnie, second by Bob Hunn, approved by Chamber members by voice vote. Also, after our Chamber's recent request to Avon Village Board to increase its annual contribution to the Chamber to \$750, for continuing marketing needs, the Board approved this request, and we all express our gratitude. Once again, we'll be soliciting nominations for our Citizen of the Year winner. Start planning an entry for a worthy Avon resident to be recognized in October.

• And We're meeting on August 1, Tuesday, at Peppermints for lunch at noon. And YOU should be with us then to share business and community news for all.