



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

What a great information-filled breakfast meeting for the Avon Chamber of Commerce, on Tuesday, February 4, 2020. Mike Carroll presided and welcomed Bruce Amey, Steve Harrison, Barbara Herman, Leann Hill, Bob Hunn, Jenn Krause, Rene Lyness, Ryan Pacatte, Marjorie and Herb Martin, Marinda Rucinski, Melissa Savino and Ann Younger.

◆First off: Steve discussed the brochure currently being planned as a reissue of the "Shop Avon" brochure. The Genesee Valley Penny Saver will print; possible caption is "Here's What's in Avon?" - the purpose of the brochure is to make people aware of local businesses and possibly enlarging to 8-1/2" x 14", having three folds, that is, with four panels each side. Possibility of including business phone numbers? Melissa suggests adding "Barns to Ballrooms" information (more, below). Mike suggests adding local photos, perhaps by Larry Tetamore. Cost of participation remains \$20; target for printing is springtime (spring's coming up soon, we hope).

◆Steve will check with Hurricane Technologies on our current on-line status.

◆Citizen of the Year Dinner is Saturday, May 16.

◆Steve is also working on the Complete Livingston County Business Directory. This will be all-inclusive of County businesses, and will list business website, e-mail, and physical location. Steve will interview any advertiser purchasing a half-page ad or larger for a quick video as to why people do business with you; you can also have an advertorial produced by Amanda Dudek from Genesee Valley Penny Saver.

◆Marjorie has a new, additional, role; for the American Legion, she will oversee rental of the building. Rental cost will be \$175 for four hours, \$225 for the entire day. Herb mentions again that efforts continue, to raise funds for payoff of building loans. Marjorie also added updates on veterans' events: proceeds of the March 7 Dinner Dance, now in its 11th year, will benefit the Veterans Outreach Center in Rochester. On March 18 a casino run to Niagara Falls will include \$30 "play money" and free food for veterans. There will be a veterans' float in the St. Patrick's Day parade, returning to Avon this

year (hooray). Marjorie added that excess food at the Food Pantry is donated to the Martha's Kitchen program at Zion Church.

◆Marinda reminded all, of the continuing project at Community Bank, donations of canned food. The goal is to collect 5,000 cans for the Avon Food Pantry.

◆Avon Central School District's new Superintendent, Ryan Pacatte, is getting to know the Avon community; the ACS comprehensive plan is in works.

◆Rene reported she had a great time decorating the office building for the Holiday Spectacular. The Lima office will participate in the Inspiration Trail being organized by the Livingston County Economic Development office; this promotes "talk to an artist".

◆Paul reported that both the Avon and the Lima offices of the Tilly Agency will participate in the Wedding Expo (again, below). This offers great insurance information for couples embarking on a new life.

◆Melissa reported on the multiple events by the Livingston County Chamber: all vendor spots for the February 23 event were sold, although other advertisers are welcome but will have no booth space. All registered brides received the promotional brochure: "From Barns to Ballrooms: Your Matrimony Map through the Western Finger Lakes". The County Chamber's annual Farmer-Neighbor Dinner will be in March, at the Willow Creek site, and will feature local food sources. A Home Show is being planned for autumn, possibly in the southern area of the county. The Livingston Chamber is producing a business directory for Chamber members only. The Rising Storm brew-pub in Lakeville was sold out for a Valentine's Day event. Melissa reported also that "Education to Employment" 's Angela Grouse has met with the ACS superintendent (see above!)

◆Melissa's own business, The Cake Place, was once again at the Chocolate Ball in Rochester, and once again was "the People's Choice" for the third year. Theme this year was "Beyond the Reef".

◆Jenn reported on lots of special menus and events at the Avon Inn, including a Valentine's Day Special (the Inn is closed to

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the public for special events like this); there's also a Murder-Mystery brunch on March 22. Similar brunch specials are in the planning for Easter and Mother's Day.

- ◆Ann reported on the progress at the Park Theatre. The apartment is completed and available for rent. Grants from New York State is dependent on finalized dates of renovations for the theater. Ann is gathering downtown business owners for a March 10 meeting at the Library. There is a possibility of applying for a National Park Service grant as a national historic district (Note: not a local historic district).
- ◆Mike (so glad to have you looking so great after your December heart "episode") reported the Matthews Bus project in the East Avon Mall is nearly completed; an open house may be scheduled for June. He reported some geothermal service had been installed. The White Horse business has been sold. Mike will be jurying the Pottery Festival next month.
- ◆Leann reported for Edward Jones Investments on the Medicare workshop scheduled for February 4 (tonight!) at the Makacademy in Livonia.
- ◆Bob reported that Avon Floral World has been able to reduce its price on arrangements of roses, to \$49.99. Bob is looking for someone who can produce a video of the store. Help, anyone?
- ◆Our next Chamber meeting will be Tuesday, March 3, at noon (NOTE THE TIME) at the Avon Free Library. Barbara has been delegated to bring pizza and beverage for all.

(Many thanks to Leann Hill for her excellent notes after the February 4 meeting. They were a great help filling in gaps where your secretary was slow to write! Come back, do it again, Leann!)