



THE SPOKES SPEAK - GEARED TO SERVICE

Rotary Club of the North Fork Valley

POB 1543, Paonia, CO 81428

WEB SITES: www.rotary.org www.rotary5470.org www.paoniarotary.org

Meeting Thursdays at Noon in the Paonia Town Hall

District 5470

Club 1180

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LAST MEETING: January 7, 2016

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The second annual Casino Night will be held Jan. 30 at the Glennie Coombe Gallery. Volunteers are needed and tickets need to be sold. Let's all pitch in.

Glenn now has Don's cards. Buy a shopping card for \$100; \$5 goes to our foundation thanks to Don Holt's generosity.

Randy, Betsy and Greg Thompson are the Program Committee members. Give the committee your program ideas.

President Marsha announced that the second round of the Kids in the Kitchen project would start February 1. This session will be for the older elementary school children. Could some of them come and tell us about this project and what they have learned?

The dictionaries have arrived and will be distributed to all valley third grade students soon. Contact Pam about being involved with this really fund event. Pam, send us a note about when the distribution dates will be.

Glenn won the football pool guessing the correct winner of all but one game! This pool has raised \$250 for our scholarship program since it started last fall.

Felix announced that any remaining unpaid absentee fines from 2015 have been expunged from the record. "We shall start off 2016 with a clean slate" he said.

PROGRAM - Greg Thompson introduced Greg Norris, MD who spoke about Electronic Medical Records (EMR). He started by debunking the myth that the US has the best health care system in the world. It is, however, the most costly. Our system ranks 37 in the world and last among 11 developed countries. We are particularly poor at coordinating care, with unnecessary duplication of tests etc. An Electronic Medical Records system can go a long way to streamlining care and avoiding mistakes. While it can't change the behavior of poor employees, it can identify them. EMR requires that medical orders go through a computer so the provider does not rely on oral orders or a scrawled note. Thus legibility and communications improve 100%. Patient security and privacy are vastly improved when the computer is used to replace paper records. EMR allows for patient internet portals and clinical decision support. For example, is there a research study that might apply to a patient's condition? EMR helps avoid duplicate testing and determine how prescribed drugs might interact with those a patient is already taking. EMR can select

drugs from a patient's insurance formulary to help avoid excessive costs. It can also respond to queries about what type of pneumonia or other disease is prevalent in the area and what drugs are most effective against it. EMR is not cheap but invaluable in the long term. There is a steep learning curve when adopting this system. A down side for the North Fork Valley providers is that EMR requires high speed internet service to be effective. Thanks, Greg, most informative.

A ROTARY HONOR, PART 1 - For her work to mitigate extreme poverty around the world, Susan Davis has received many honors. But the 2015-16 Rotary Foundation Global Alumni Service to Humanity Award has special significance.

“It feels like a circle of completion,” says Davis, who was a Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholar in 1980-81, doing graduate studies in international relations at Oxford University in England. “Rotary invested in me when I was young, and now is celebrating the harvest.”

A decade ago, Davis co-founded BRAC USA to advance the mission of BRAC -- Bangladesh Rehabilitation Assistance Committee -- the world's largest nongovernmental development organization, which was founded after Bangladesh's partition from Pakistan in the 1970s. The U.S. branch is dedicated to fighting poverty and to creating opportunities for the poor in Africa and elsewhere. (Part 2 next week)

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

January 14 - Julia Bowman and Elaine Brett about a TEDx (local TED talks) event coming up at the Paradise

January 21- New KVNF manager, Jon Howard, about himself and what's happening at the station

