

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 28, 2016

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Tamie Meck was inducted into the club as an honorary member. Most of the photos, or at least the good ones, that appear in this bulletin will be hers. Welcome, Tamie!

The club project "Kids in the Kitchen" starts up again at Paonia Elementary School on Mondays in February - Feb. 1, 8, 22 and 29 to be exact - from 3:30 to 5:00. The first part of this project in the fall was for grades 1 - 3. This part is for grades 4 - 6. President Marsha encouraged Rotarians to come share in the fun.

The Club Board of Directors is still looking for a President Elect Nominee, who will preside during the 2017 - 18 Rotary year. If you are hesitating to offer your services, know that there are numerous opportunities between now and July 2017 to learn about all the various aspects of Rotary. The first one is an intensive training session at the end of February. You will be amazed at the incredible bunch of Rotarians you will meet. It is very inspiring. Do step forward today.

Scholarship applications will be available on line next Tuesday. Send prospective applicants to paoniarotary.org.

The program committee will be asking club members to give a talk about themselves or their business. Be prepared.

Ulli announced that the park in Dresden where Joe Cocker gave a now famous concert in 1988 before 85,000 fans has now been renamed "Cocker-Wiese". Ulli was instrumental in dedicating a plaque in the former Bluhewiese to Joe last year. Apparently his efforts spurred the locals to memorialize the entire park. The headlines read: "Bluhewiese heist jetzt Cocker-Wiese. Der legendare und mittlerweile verstorbene Sanger wird fur sein Konzert 1988 in Dresden geehrt."

PROGRAM: Betsy introduced Brian Calvert, the managing editor of High Country News (HCN). Also present were two new interns, one of whom has just written a book. She claimed he is a breath of fresh air and gave his shoulders a small massage as he came to the front of the room. (He is her boss, so a few kind words and a friendly touch may be helpful ?)

Most everyone in the room subscribes to HCN or at least knows about this magazine, which is published 22 times a year. It helps describe the ecological relationship between the people who live in the west (11 western states and Alaska) and the west itself. It deals with huge questions such as our natural resources and how we use them. It is the myth buster of the big western myths. HCN has online version as well as being a print journal. The website, HCN.org, was revamped and relaunched a year ago. The 6 to 8 new stories per week on the website are more current than those in the print version.

Brian previewed two upcoming stories that will appear in the magazine. One deals with what goes missing from oil fields. Oil and specialized equipment are two items likely to disappear. The other story deals with sexual harassment complaints at Grand Canyon National Park to which park officials have been unresponsive.. [NOTE: NPR reported on this situation just last week. -Ed]

Other recent stories have recorded the water wars in Nevada, and the Fish and Wildlife Service's reluctance to use non-lethal predator control. Elizabeth Shogren, a former NPR correspondent, is now HCN's Washington, DC correspondent.

Brian grew up in Wyoming, but left to see the world. He was a foreign correspondent for 15 years. He has finally returned to the west. He has a degree in English and journalism. He discovered one can do good journalism here, not just in cities. He has also discovered that HCN has a huge impact on the west. For example, he has gotten calls from a major New York journalist about the standoff at the Malheur Wildlife Refuge in Oregon because in any discussion about the situation, the name of HCN always comes up.



So where should the magazine go from here? There is active discussion of ideas among people who live here.

Some questions from the audience: "When you do an expose, do things change?" Hard to tell. "What feedback have you gotten from Congress?" Copies of HCN have been sent to all the members of Congress for only a few months, so not much feedback yet. One can donate to this effort. "Who are you supporting for President?" HCN will not endorse a candidate in an election, though it will likely discuss related issues. Thanks, Brian, we like your style.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL: "The month of February is very special in the Rotary calendar since it is designated World Understanding Month. The month also includes the anniversary of the first meeting of Rotary held on February 23, 1905, now designated World Understanding and Peace Day... World Understanding Month is a chance for every club to pause, plan and promote the Fourth Avenue of Service-Rotary's continued quest for goodwill, peace and understanding among people of the world."

Many clubs are already participating in activities that promote world understanding through humanitarian service in support of a variety of international projects. What might our club do to promote more World Understanding in our Rotary World? Should we seek out and support international projects through our district's matching grant program?

This is the month to expand our club's "World Understanding" as a way to embrace the broad mission of Rotary with "Peace Through Service."

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

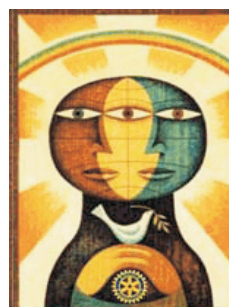
February 4 - Mark Eckhart, Delta bypass and economic development

February 11 - Sharon Fipps, All Points Transit

February 18 - Jack Ferrell and Cassandra Shenk, Teens on Farms

March 10 - Burnie Zercher of Pueblo speaking about The Rotary Foundation

April 14 - Dr. Jerry Nelson, topic "Climate Change and Food Security"



**World
Understanding**