



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

Vol 55 Issue 11 April 13, 2017

LAST MEETING: April 6, 2017

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Thanks, Jacquie Gannon, for a wonderful 5th Thursday!

Ashley Trego underwent open heart surgery at the Medical Center of the Rockies in Loveland. She is recovering and should be home in a few days. Get well soon, Ashley.

The Board met and decided to contact members who were not attending meetings or paying their dues to determine whether they wished to remain part of the club.

Membership matters: A membership brochure and invitation cards will be produced in advance of June 4, which will be a special event to which members should bring prospective members. There will be a speaker as part of this social event. The BOD is considering holding the event at Wiseheart Springs. The club account may not be sufficient to cover the \$250 rental fee. President Greg invited club members to invest in the club's future and make a contribution toward the \$250 rental fee. Also under consideration is a once a month breakfast meeting. Under discussion for some time has been financial assistance to potential members, who cannot afford to join Rotary. There will be no specific requirements of the candidate, but the sponsor must submit a written proposal requesting and justifying financial assistance.

Upcoming events: President Greg encouraged members to attend the 4/20-22 district training and conference in Glenwood Springs. This is a great way to become familiar with our Rotary District and Rotary International. James Schott is planning on attending the Thursday and Friday sessions and invited others to join him. May 5 - highway cleanup; one to two hour commitment. April 18 - deadline for scholarship application submission; May 11 - awards assembly. May 5 - Paonia Chamber of Commerce Cinco de Mayo celebration at Rio Bravo. June 17 - pancake breakfast; Marsha will mentor the new event coordinator.

Guests: Liz Evans - fitness guru among other talents and raising 10 children. Amy Crick - Marketing director for First Colorado NB and Delta Rotarian. Jeff Skeels - Mountain Harvest Creative Board Member, all around good guy, and potential member.

President Greg recognized Doris Danielson as the newest Paul Harris Fellow. 62% of our active members are now Fellows!

Felix Belmont wants to step down as club secretary. Somebody else needs to step up.

Give speaker ideas to Randy Campbell.

The club's facebook page is up. Put some posts on it.

Remember to feed the polio jar. Also, pay your dues to Felix Belmont in Kate Zachman's absence.

PROGRAM: Randy Campbell introduced Bob Hammon, the CSU extension agent from Grand Junction, who talked about the phylloxera insect infestation in the Western Colorado vineyards. It is an aphid-like insect that feeds on nothing but grape roots and is so small it requires a 40 power microscope to see. It infested French and German vineyards in the 1860s, where the vintners spent 20 years learning the cause of the death of their vines. Resistant root stock now exists in Europe (and probably needs to be brought here? - ED) Phylloxera has probably been in Western Colorado for 10 years. It was found in southeast Colorado in the 1970s and 1980s and is a native insect of North America.

The insect reproduces mostly asexually underground and produces a gall on the root, which eventually starves the plant. Galls can form on leaves as well, which don't hurt the plant, but facilitate transmission of the insects between plants and vineyards. A female can lay 200-500 eggs, which overwinter as nymphs. CSU just began looking for the insects here late in 2016. Now that the disease is here, **YOUR vineyard WILL become infested!** So far, 9 Western Colorado vineyards, 2 of which are in Delta County, have been identified as infected. USDA will begin a statewide survey this summer to identify which vineyards are infected or are at risk. Grape growers are beginning to pay attention to the problem.

Managing the infestation: The impact of the insect is near zero in the short term, but fatal in the long term. Chemical control will buy time. There is no help for organic growers. Biological controls reduce a pest, but do not eliminate it. There must be limited movement of people and equipment between vineyards to slow the infestation. Vintners need to learn to grow new plants from new, resistant root stock. Self rooted vineyards in Western Colorado are all at risk and will eventually need to be replanted. One must graft a desirable variety onto a resistant root stock, then protect the graft point from the cold. The advice to vintners is to start planning now for the inevitable need to replant.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL: April is Maternal and Child Health month. Our impact on the lives of mothers and children: The Rotary Foundation reaches mothers and children in need by giving communities the help and training they need to take control of their own maternal and infant health care.

Rotary makes amazing things happen, like: Mobile prenatal clinics - Haiti has the highest maternal and infant mortality rate of any country in the western hemisphere. Rotary provided a fully equipped medical Jeep to volunteers and midwives to reach mothers and children in remote areas.

Cancer screening - Rotarians provided a mobile cancer screening unit and awareness training around Chennai, India, where there is a high mortality rate of women with breast and cervical cancer due to late diagnosis.

Preventing injuries and deaths - Rotary members launched a \$3 million, five-year pilot to save lives of mothers and children during home deliveries in Nigeria. Since 2005, they've also repaired 1,500 obstetric fistulas — 500 more than their initial goal — restoring dignity and hope to vulnerable mothers.

“If mothers are empowered and healthy, so are their families, leading to an alleviation of poverty and hunger.” Robert Zinser, co-founder of the Rotarian Action Group for Population and Development and retired president for Asia at chemical giant BASF

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

4/13: Kristen O'Brien of Empowered Energy Systems talking about CPACE

4/20: Art Trevena, Black Canyon Astronomical Society - the total solar eclipse happening this summer.

4/27: Amy Lockner, USFS, reporting on beetle kill in nearby forests.

