



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: June 9, 2016

ANNOUNCEMENTS: June 30 is the next 5th Thursday. Marsha and Don Grant will be our hosts. It will likely be a cook-out. More details to come. Plan on bringing guests, particularly potential members.

The Polio Plus jar is always on the club meeting sign in table. Please fill it up.

Please sell tickets for the pancake breakfast on June 25 and give the money to Felix right away.

The club will have a float in the Cherry Days parade on Monday, July 4. There will be a large, inflatable duck on the float to advertise our Ducky Derby to be held on Sept. 10. The ducks will be released upstream of the River Park. They will be collected at the park, where a festival will be held. We will be selling chances on the winning duck during Cherry Days. This fund raiser will be a substitute for the coal shoveling contest we have sponsored in the past.

The club welcomed back Ulli Lange, who has been attending to wife, Inge, since her diagnosis of cancer on March 1. She is currently undergoing chemo-therapy.

The Blue Sage Regatta will be held on June 25 in the afternoon.

Trudy Dalty, who is involved with the upcoming co-housing project in Paonia, was among our guests.

PROGRAM: Randy Campbell introduced Dave Knutson, the team leader of the local affiliate of the Denver-based "A Little Help." [Paul Ramsey, the Director of that organization, was unable to present our program today.] Our club foundation has already given a grant to Dave's team to get this program going in the valley. A Little Help is designed to support seniors, who wish to stay in their own homes rather than move to a senior facility. This is an intergenerational approach that connects neighbors of all ages that builds and strengthens community. A year or so ago, a group of women, who were looking into co-housing and a group of men, who were concerned about the aging process came together. There were several public meetings, which culminated in a 5 member committee being appointed to start making decisions. The committee operates according to 5 principles: 1) Get someone on your team who knows what they are doing; 2) Don't duplicate services - there are services in the valley for low income residents, but lots of folks who want to stay in their homes can pay for services; 3) Vet service providers and volunteers and keep track of how they are received; 4) Always move forward; 5) Pay service providers directly, not engage a bureaucracy.

The committee studied several service models. Village to Village Network and Share Care looked appealing except that the start up costs would be in the \$60,000 to \$80,000 range for service to the North Fork Valley. The committee continued to do a lot of demographic and other research and discovered that

a lot of people moved to nursing facilities, not because they had a medical need, but because they could no longer deal with the upkeep of their homes.

Almost by accident, a committee member discovered A Little Help in Denver. At first the organization did not want to expand because of bad experiences in Colorado Springs and Glenwood Springs. But the committee's persistence got the Director to visit our valley. Because of the research and other work done, A Little Help decided to grant a branch affiliate in the North Fork. The North Fork kick off meeting in Paonia was on 6/1. Follow up meetings will be held on 6/23 at 1:30 in Crawford Town Hall and at 4:30 in Hotchkiss Memorial Hall. This 501(c)(3) organization intends to launch this fall. The committee is currently soliciting volunteers, service providers, members, funding - \$20,000 is their launch goal, and a part time branch manager. Because most of the administration takes place in Denver, the NFV branch launch will be much cheaper and sooner than starting something from scratch. Knutson's presentation was followed by a delightful video and a mock service request and response, starring Barb Heck - definitely ready for prime time - and President Marsha. [Kudos to the club's program committee for consistently informative and entertaining programs. - ED]

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL: The June Rotary theme is Rotary Fellowships. (A continuation from last week) Some Rotary Fellowships that may be of interest to our club members are: jazz, music, photographers, recreational vehicles, Rotary global history, Rotary heritage and history, skiing, social networks, travel and hosting, wine, and yachting. If your recreational or vocational interest isn't represented in the current list of Rotary Fellowships, you may start your own. All groups are subject to approval by the RI Board of Directors. Contact RI staff at rotaryfellowship@rotary.org for more information.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

June 16: Doris Danielson reporting on the board retreat

June 23: Annual business meeting

June 30: 5th Thursday - at the home of Marsha and Don Grant

