



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

Issue 47 August 27, 2015

LAST MEETING: August 20, 2015

ANNOUNCEMENTS: President Marsha presented a Certificate of Merit to long time club member, Don Foster, recognizing his many years of service to the club as editor of the Spokes Speak. We think Don was delighted with his recognition! The President also thanked Sarah for assuming responsibility for editing the bulletin.



More thanks again to the folks who helped dedicate the gazebo at the Paonia Library, and especially to Doris for inviting Tami Meck to publish an article in the North Fork Times about the event. Publicity is good!



Davis Walton, a former member of the Pascagoula, MS RC was inducted as a member into our club. He moved to the area in December. He is a former hospital administrator. As a Mississippi State graduate, he was first introduced to the club by former member, Russell Fletcher.

With a happy buck, Don announced that he was very happy to be out of seclusion and was delighted to be able to hear a bit better.

PROGRAM: Betsy Marston introduced Karen Good of Elsewhere, an artists in residence facility in Paonia. Elsewhere is celebrating its fifth year as a residency program. It has served over 100 artists from 18 states and 9 countries. 30% of the residents are writers, the other 70% are composers and visual artists. They spend one to six months here, focusing on their work and trying new things. One could say the experience is like R & D for artists.

Artists submit applications, which are reviewed by a committee. Right now, prospective residents can anticipate a year's wait for an opening. There are 500 Artist in Residence programs in the country, which advertise on the Alliance of Artists website. Thirty percent of Elsewhere's residents apply because they have heard about the place from someone who

has been there. Elsewhere sends prospective artists a handbook that describes both the residency and what it is like to live in Paonia.

Each artist collaborates with local artists and participates in at least two events: a meet and greet upon arrival and a public presentation of their work before leaving. They also have the opportunity to collaborate with the Blue Sage or the Hive. There are usually two artists in residence at a time, who enjoy both living space and open studio space. Some artists see the residency as a retreat; some come to participate in the community. One writer who stayed at Elsewhere won a \$10,000 prize for fiction.

In addition to providing space for visiting artists, Elsewhere supports several community projects. It has an art lending library that has been housed at the Blue Sage and will soon move to the Hive. There is a community garden behind its facility where workshops may be held. It started work on the alleyscape wall next door two years ago. Though mostly done, it is still a work in progress.

Elsewhere is mostly run by volunteers, but became a 501(c)(3) public charity a year ago so it could raise money to pay staff. In order to be sustainable it needs 60% donor funds to support all its programs. It costs \$2000/month/artist in residence. The individual pays a quarter of that cost. Their masquerade ball last September was a successful fund raiser.

Karen was very much involved with the Creative Coalition and the naming of the North Fork Valley a Creative District. She urged us to be supportive of the Coalition.

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION - Doing Good in the World. Our international foundation, which is highly rated because of its charitable giving and excellent management, is certainly making a difference in our world. We are even closer than “This Close” in removing polio from the list of debilitating diseases. The 6 Rotary Peace Centers are furthering the education of up to 100 Peace Fellows from around the world. Graduates populate national governments, major non-profit organizations, international agencies, and other significant institutions. TRF provides grants to districts like ours for local projects as well as to support large-scale international activities. The Foundation’s areas of focus are: peace and conflict prevention/resolution; disease prevention and treatment; water and sanitation; maternal and child health; basic education and literacy; and economic and community development. Foundation grants also support scholarships and vocational training teams.



UPCOMING MEETINGS:

August 27 - Norm Lewark

September 3 - Marsha Grant, District Governor, Bob Delevan.

September 10 - Bob Lario

September 17 - Ulli Lange