

ROTARY CLUB OF THE NORTH FORK

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

LAST MEETING April 23

ANNOUNCEMENTS;

The Rotary KPP will be June 15. There will be a wine grab @ \$20/bottle. Everyone should bring a bottle of nice wine.

Pam Cocker will donate 2 bottles of very special wine!

PROGRAM: Ulli Lange reported his family experience on April 20, 70 years ago. *The Russians are coming.* The Russian army crossed the Oder River, the dividing line between Poland and Germany. Ulli lived 35 miles from the invasion point on his grandfather's farm. His home was bombed continuously one night. A military hospital moved onto the farm. There was also German military there and refugees flowing west. Lots of villages around them were on fire. They wanted to leave, but had to be authorized to do so. They lined up 11 wagons when the authorities allowed, and they headed northwest away from the Russian forces. They traveled 7 days to Schwerin. The Russians headed south to Berlin. During their travels they were bombed by the

British who were aiming at the military detachments. When the Russians showed up at Schwein, Ulli and the family traveled by boat to an island in a lake nearby. Ulli was in charge of bailing. U S troops moved them back to shore. With the division of Germany the Russians moved in. Ulli's family moved west and eventually moved into Berlin. They never were able to move back to the family farm.

But, so it goes.

TODAY:

ELYSE ASKERMAN, Department of Local Affairs (DOLA).



JUNE 26:

Dave Mitchell - The Creative Coalition's "Celebrate the Fork" event in August.

AIRPLANE SCHMAIRPLANE

When Lord Kelvin — the great physicist— was invited to join the Royal Aeronautical Society in 1886, he resonated with these words: *“I have not the smallest molecule of faith in aerial navigations other than ballooning or of the expectation of good results from any trials we have heard of. So you will understand why I would not care to be a member of your society.”*

A couple years later, the great inventor, Thomas Edison voiced his opinion: *“it is apparent to me that the possibilities of the aeroplanehave been exhausted, and that we must turn elsewhere.”*

And in 1901—two years before Kitty Hawk—Wilbur said to Orville, *“Man will not fly for 50 years.”*

These stories prove Casey Stengel's point that *“Predications are difficult, especially about the future.”*

NASA AND THE NAVAJO

INDIANS

When NASA was preparing for the Apollo Project, they did some astronaut

training on a Navajo Indian reservation. One day a Navajo elder and his son were herding sheep and came across the space crew. The old man, who spoke only Navajo, asked a question, which his son translated. “What are you guys doing?”



A member of the crew said they were practicing for their trip to the moon. The old man got really excited and asked if he could send a message to the moon with the astronauts. Recognizing a promotional opportunity for the spin-doctors, the NASA folks found a tape recorder. After the old man finished his recorded message, they asked the son to translate it, he refused.

So...the NASA reps brought the tape to the reservation, where the rest of the tribe listened and laughed, but reused to translate the elder's message to the moon. Finally, NASA called in an official government translator. He reported that the moon message said, “Watch out for these guys; they've come to steal your land.”

