LAST MEETING: June 18, 2015

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Our club is sponsoring, and benefiting from, the coal shoveling contest on July 4th in Paonia Town Park. Jackie passed around a sign up sheet for helpers. Be sure to add your name to the list.

July 13 is the Kids Pasta Project dinner supporting our club foundation. We will have a wine grab at that event. Every club member should bring a nice bottle of wine to Marsha in advance of that date.

Our annual business meeting will be held today, which includes the official passage of the gavel from President Glenn to incoming President Marsha.

PROGRAM: Club member, Betsy Marston graciously filled in at the last minute as our speaker last week. She noted that the last page of the bi-weekly High Country News, that outstanding national magazine, which is published here in Paonia, is a collection of short, humorous articles called "Heard Around the West." She col-lects and edits these articles. She also edits "Writers on the Range", which are short essays published in western newspapers, as well as on HCN's website.

She recalled seeing a bumper sticker that said, "Guns, Guts and God Keep Us Free". Keeping with that theme, she read snippets from stories that have appeared in "Heard Around the West". For example:

Recently, Salt Lake City experienced more air pollution than Beijing. One Arizona town council member tried to pass an ordinance that all residents over the age of 13 must wear a side arm. It failed. A brothel owner was voted on to a Nevada county Board of Commissioners. Considering he was a leading member of the community, this was not considered strange. Five coyotes had taken up residence in a church yard in Albuquerque. When the choir practiced, the canines would sing in harmony. How appropriate that the coyotes and parishioners would sing, play and pray together! Elsewhere, an odiferous 800 pound sea lion took over a popular fishing dock much to the dismay of local fishermen and other residents. And so it went.

This was one of our more enter-taining programs. Betsy, do come back with more stories! [Considering Betsy's profession, I have taken extra care in preparing this bulletin. – ed.]

Don says, "I will not be here a week from now, will be at my little sister's 95th!!! But I'll attach a picture of the two of us. We were really buddies and could have fun at anything.   This pic is called 'A Pig in a Poke!' or perhaps "Three Little Piggies'."

Our newest Avenue of Service came about in 2010 when Youth Service was designated to recognize the positive change implemented by youth and young adults through leadership development activities, involvement in community and international service projects and exchange programs that enrich and foster world peace and cultural understanding.

A New Generation Service Exchange (NGSE) program for 18 to 30 year olds was just approved and presented at the RI Convention in Sao Paulo last week. This program fills the gap between the traditional youth programs and Rotary. This program is a 30 to ~90 day international work internship funded by the traveler and facilitated by District to District MOU's to insure a host residence or family and internship have been arranged. This internship could be for crafts, trades, university study or professional business experience to develop new leaders. This New Generations Service Exchange (NGSE) has not been formally established by our District 5470 at this time but if there are interested Rotarians that would like to arrange international internships for young professionals, please contact Bill Tarpley at 970-247-8867 to discuss the development of this program.

Our five Avenues of Service provide many opportunities to get involved. We encourage you to find the projects or program that you would like to get directly involved in with your Club.

(The previous message sent to all Rotary Clubs from Clyde Church, outgoing District 5470 Governor. Thanks, Governor Clyde, for your leadership.)