



## ***THE SPOKES SPEAK - GEARED TO SERVICE***

### **Rotary Club of the North Fork Valley**

POB 1543, Paonia, CO 81428

WEB SITES: [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org) [www.rotary5470.org](http://www.rotary5470.org) [www.paoniarotary.org](http://www.paoniarotary.org)

Meeting Thursdays at Noon in the Paonia Town Hall

District 5470

Club 1180 - Chartered 12/20/22

Vol 57 Issue 30 - August 16, 2018

**LAST MEETING: August 9, 2018**

President Heck presided.  
Glenn has Don's cards.

#### **Announcements:**

Barb:

- August 30, museum/river park for 5<sup>th</sup> Thursday.
- Pasadena Rotary looking for donations for Rose Bowl float.
- Barb sent email regarding bylaws update.

Sarah:

- Sent out notice about increase in dues and meal cost to club and distributed to tables. New fee schedule defined. Recruiting more members will reduce costs. Change in policy on meals for traveling members. After first 2 weeks, meal fees will be waived.
- Ducky Derby signup. Need setup on Aug 16<sup>th</sup> and someone to sell tickets on Aug 17. Have made \$1160 (of \$8000 goal) in ticket sales so we have a long way to go!

Jackie:

- Tools for school fundraiser for back to school supplies. Started go fund me (\$3900 goal) for calculators for high school and our Rotary Club will match.

Key Guest: Carrie Silvernail brought by Bob Lario. Next key holder: Norm Lewark

#### **Program:**

Speaker: Randall Palmer, Principal of Paonia High School & Jr. High and Tim Esgar, the athletic director was introduced by Pam.

Randall:

Tim is a workhorse. He is a math teacher and coach for multiple sports for the high school and junior high. On Sunday mornings, Tim is at the school picking up trash—he is a humble gentleman!

Randall mentioned that he is glad that ticket takers wear their Rotary service shirts to the various games. It's a big deal and very helpful so parents can watch the children participate.

The entrance sign to Paonia High School reads "Paonia Community". It's a shared success in our community. Paonia has had 16 state championships over the last 7 years in football, volleyball, baseball and track. Girls

won 5 state championships without a track. in track and we don't even have a track for our students!!! This past year we had 2 Boetcher Scholars (however one stepped down to go to the Naval Academy) 2 to the Naval Academy, 2 Daniel Scholars and 1 Air Force Academy out of 31 graduates! As a comparison in the last 40 years Aspen High School has had 2 Boetcher Scholars and Paonia has had 6! Seventeen to twenty students won the Colorado State competition in math, English and social studies!

Every day at school we start with the Pledge of Allegiance. Our mission has nothing to do with SAT scores—we do not focus on those, but they are good nonetheless. Our vision statement is about producing positive contributing American citizens. We're producing students to enter colleges, universities, technical schools and the workforce and when they leave they're going to become a neighbor—the near and distant neighbor concept. The “Exponent Influence” or “Zombies” is the same concept PHS/JHS is doing with students. There is only one Paonia in the world!

Tim Esgar is a math-count sponsor. In Math competitions Paonia had 3 students who went to State this past year. The next closest school has 650 students. We had 48 students in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and 41 students in 7<sup>th</sup> grade and 1 student finished in the top 8! Paonia is the first public school to enter. The competitors are magnet schools. This year we are pushing the foundation down to Jr. High grades – we'll take 41 7<sup>th</sup> graders camping to build unity and learn how to rely on one another. We're having the students earn the right to call themselves an Eagle and we're calling it “Earn Your Wings”. The “village thing” works. It has to be modeled for the students. Most of our teachers have a least 3 classes to prepare for, some have 4 or 5 classes per day to prepare for.

The high school is in need of graphing calculators, which are \$85.00 a piece! Randall put \$4,000 into this out of his budget. Rotary is helping raise money for these. The school is also providing Chrome Books to students as now they turn in their work using computers.

NeuroTeach using MRI to understand how brains work to create neuro pathways. Will be rolling out strategies to teachers to optimize learning.

Sarah: Q: Can Rotary provide “Rotary Supports PHS” banner to put up at the school

A: yes

Ulli: Q: 31 graduates last year, what is the long-term future for PHS (Merge with Hotchkiss)?

A: This question has been out there for a long time. Paonia and Hotchkiss already share resources between schools—there are 6 students who go to Hotchkiss High School. AP Physics, AP Biology, Speech, etc. Each community, both Paonia and Hotchkiss, want to have their own schools because it's “hard to kill a mascot” but there are financial and logistic issues involved.

Barb: RYLA students will be program in a couple of weeks. Randall is welcome to join us.

**Remember to feed the polio jar. Also, pay your dues.**

## UPCOMING MEETINGS:

August 23: TBA

August 30: Fifth Thursday Pot Luck at the Paonia Historical Buildings

September 6: RYLA kids

September 13: Marty Rover, the new principal at Hotchkiss HS,

