



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 - Chartered 12/20/22

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LAST MEETING: April 4, 2019

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

No key Guest.

Program: Elsewhere Studios

Peggy Szvetcz introduced the new Director of Elsewhere Studios, Carolina Porras. Peggy is working with Carolina to come up with programs for Senior Citizens.

Elsewhere Studios gives artists a space to exercise their creativity. Space + Time for Artists.

Carolina was a resident at Elsewhere Studios in 2013 and 2014. In September, 2017 she was the program manager and when Karen Good retired, Carolina took over and became the new Director. Elsewhere Studio changed her life. Carolina was impressed by the enthusiasm over the art wall as it was being built.

Elsewhere Studios was established as a residency in 2011. It was created through the many hands of community members. Karen helped work on the building for a couple of years.

They have had 210 artists from 31 states and 14 countries. Elsewhere Studios is both a national and an international residency. The artists come for 1 to 6 months. There are 4 to 6 art spaces available plus, Aolian Acres, in Midway, for 3 artists.

The program: Elsewhere Studios is open to visual artists, writers, composers, and performing artists at any stage of their career as well as scientists, activists, teachers, students or any kind of creative thinker interested in exploring and expanding their work. Elsewhere Studios is a creative space that benefits both the local community plus visiting artists. A symbiotic relationship between community and visiting artists where long-term collaborations are created. They promote visual arts, sound/performance art, ceramics, oil painting, zoetrope animation and environmental art such as snow drawing field trips. There's all different kinds of art and they do different field trips including a West Elk Coal Mine tour. Visiting artists integrate with the North Fork Valley community and some teach community workshops.

Inspired Art At Work is a socially engaged project with our community. They partner with 5 other organizations, culminating with a 2-day symposium. They have tapestry, dance rituals, and documentary film making.

Elsewhere Studios has two presentations per month. The Alleyscape art wall was one of the presentations. Alleyscape art wall is a creative community place-making project with over 160 community volunteers that has been worked on from 2013 to Present. It is a naturally built wall.

Resident Alumni Shay Lopez says, “Elsewhere is a hub of activity, a gathering place for the art, music and magic of Paonia and it quickly works its way into your soul, leaving anyone who’s spent time here with the sense they’ve come to the right place”.

Elsewhere is a gathering place for the art, music and magic of Paonia. This is world class art in Paonia making long lasting connections between visiting and local artists and creating opportunities for collaboration, connection and inspiration. Elsewhere Studios will be working with Blue Sage in November, 2019. This year there will be 35+ events including artists presentation, open studio workshops, events with Paradise, etc. There will be continuing collaborations within the community (i.e. with the senior center). They worked on “cardboard quilt” with senior citizens depicting “What do you do to recharge?” which was put up at the Senior Center—bridging community with art. Elsewhere Studios work with the Paonia alternative school—Paonia Experiential Leadership Academy, The Learning council VBC and the North Fork Valley Creative Coalition, Solar Energy International and have promotional videos. They are looking for VISTA members.

Looking to the Future: Summer art film series collaboration with Paradise theater (fund raiser for Elsewhere) showing movies and documentaries. Elsewhere Studios is also going to have an “Art 5K” (with costumes) at the end of May which will finish at the end of the alley with music and food. They are currently looking for sponsors and want art stations for kids and others. They are also looking to host Native American artists working with nearby reservations.

Q&A:

Q: What is your medium?

A: As a resident working with drawing, painting and installation work which is on the back burner now. Now working on a project to visit other unconventional artist residencies and use the information to create a publication. Socially engaged project is “My life” in my new art form, building community and resources through art.

Q: Who has hit it big after residency at Elsewhere? Have they become supporters?

A: No one has “hit it big” in fact alumni support needs to be a little more giving.

Q: Do you partner/collaborate with other residencies?

A: No, but that is a good idea. Elsewhere Studios has their first program with Texas Tech University on socially engaged work about the environment. They are connecting with High Country News and SEI.

Q: Where is next road trip?

A: Going to the Northeast in the fall of 2019. Have already visited 150 other programs.

Q: Do some people just go from one residency to another?

A: Yes, there are folks like that but they try to weed out those sorts.

Q: Have you had anyone outside traditional artistic community as residents?

A: Not yet. Need to increase outreach efforts. (universities, etc.)

Q: Small homes getting popular. How about partnering with architectural schools?

A: Great idea.

Q: There used to be a ditch on the east side of the Elsewhere building with a water wheel and there was a shaft

connected to a generator inside. It was the first electric generator in Paonia. Were you aware of any of this?
A: Yes, the building was built in 1902 and was the power station for Paonia.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- 4/11/19: DCMH: Jason Cleckler, CEO and Jacque Davis, head of Marketing and Communications (Marsha Grant)**
- 4/18/19: Ken Knight – Paonia Town Administrator (Mike Heck)**
- 4/25/19: Club Meeting - Fund Raising Ideas**
- 5/2/19: TBD (Bob Lario)**
- 5/9/19: Business Meeting**
- 5/16/19: TBD (Norm Lewark)**
- 5/23/19: TBD (Jackie Parks)**
- 5/30/19: Potluck**
- 6/6/19: TBD (Kevin Parks)**
- 6/13/19: TBD (John Coombe)**
- 6/20/19: TBD (SEI)**
- 6/27/19: Swearing in of new President and BOD**

