



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: August 22, 2019

President Coombe presided.

No visiting Rotarians.

No key guest.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Still need a Bulletin Editor
- James: A Little Help does not exist locally, now it's the North Fork Senior Connection. A Board was created and documents are in place. It was a smooth transition from the previous organization. They are doing some fund raising and need to get a list of vetted service people who could be put on a list and made available to members, i.e., plumbers, service people, etc. Recommendations can be put on a card and given to James.
- Marsha: Slow food dinner at 6:30 p.m. on September 21st. Using local chefs, Marcus from Salt Pollen and Chelsea from Remedy. Cost is \$75.00 per person for dinner. An optional cocktail hour is not included in the price. Tickets are available on line at Brown Paper Tickets.

Program: International Service in Peru.

Sarah introduced Brad Burritt and Danielle, from Empowered Energy. Sam Brown and Tara Miller were also integral to today's presentation.

Danielle:

In 2017 she and Brad planned a trip to Peru by contacting Tara and Sam who laid the groundwork. They installed 2 small solar systems. The people in Peru have an interest in expanding solar systems (from 100 watts) for improved refrigeration and for cell phone service. Some of the systems they have are aging and there is a need for educational programming to provide local expertise.

She gathered contributions from previous customers for tools, panels and airfare. SEI also provided Spanish language curriculum and books.

They arrived in Peru in February, during the rainy season, when the people were celebrating a local festival called the Candelaria Festival, which is a dance competition and parade.

They took boats owned by the local people to an island on Lake Titicaca, 12,500 feet above sea level. There are no cars or dogs; no horses or donkeys. They stayed 2 or 2½ weeks. When they arrived on the island, a local festival lasting 7 days was going on. Men play the music and the women dance. The people are all dressed up in local costumes—women wore several layers of bright colored shirts with incredible hand-woven belts. Everyone gathers in the town square, where there are 7 different dance groups and men play the music. They travel from home to home and when they arrive at a home they dance and are fed by the family that owns the home. Sam and Brad leaned to play the flute while on the island. They also perform in front of officials.

Brad:

There is lots of off-grid solar on the island. They taught classes to 8 students. It's hands-on training. The locals perform a coca leaf ceremony to bless the installation. Brad showed a slide show of training with the students performing an installation. They don't worry too much about the electrical code. A foot plow is used to dig holes; all hand tools are used to install the solar. Class participants receive a voltmeter and various tools. LED lights are sewn into the fabric. They break the strips of LED lights for the size of the room. Eucalyptus trees are used for the solar poles. The poles are wired to the North of the roofs of the homes. They tie solar panels on the roofs of the homes.

Besides the main class they also did some workshops. They also brought in local experts to teach in the native language when necessary.

The sunlight is intense in Peru. They work until the solar electric system is installed and working and then they dance to celebrate.

Q&A

Q: What was the wattage of new installations and purpose?

A: Mostly for lighting and phone charging (100W). All is 12v.

Q: Was installation DC?

A: Most homes have inverters to convert from DC to AC, but most lighting is 12 VDC.

Q: What is the population on the island?

A: About 2000. Most have solar, but some is in need of repair.

Q: What kind of plaster is used?

A: Lots of brick.

Q: Power for lighting allows students to study. Does it support economic development as well?

A: Light helps a lot with economic development.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Date	Speaker	Program	Member
9/12/2019	Don Grant	Blue Sage Building Grant	Marsha Grant
9/19/2019	Amina Ubén	2020 Census	Randy Campbell
9/26/2019			John Coombe
10/3/2019		Business meeting	
10/10/2019			Felix Belmont
10/17/2019			Pam Bliss
10/24/2019			Barb Heck
10/31/2019			Fifth Thursday
11/7/2019			Mike Heck
11/14/2019			Ulli Lange
11/21/2019			Bob Lario
11/28/2019		no meeting	
12/5/2019			Betsy Marston
12/12/2019			Jackie Parks
12/19/2019			Kevin Parks
1/2/2019			Karri Polson

