



THE SPOKES SPEAK - GEARED TO SERVICE

Rotary Club of the North Fork Valley

POB 1543, Paonia, CO 81428

WEB SITES: rotary.org rotary5470.org northforkrotary.org

Meeting Thursdays at Noon in the Paonia Town Hall

District 5470

Club 1180 - Chartered 12/20/22

Vol 59 Issue 5 – February 13, 2020

Guest Editor: Bain Weinberger

LAST MEETING: February 6, 2020

President Coombe presided.

Visiting Rotarians: None

Key Guest: No key guest

(Annette now has the key).

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Bob Lario (!) was the winner of the Superbowl Pool.
- Pam Bliss has stepped up and agreed to be Co-President with Randy next year.
- Pancake Breakfast (June 20th) needs volunteers to be on the committee to take on various aspects of the event. Let James, Susie or Randy know what part you want to play.
- Ulli wished to thank all of the members who contributed to the well-being of the Blue Sage by contributing via Gold Sponsorships and Foundation Sustaining Memberships. He asked for continuing support since grants and other income cannot do it all.
- Jackie announced a Mardi Gras fundraiser supporting Tools-for-Schools at the Blue Sage Saturday, February 22 from 6:00 to 8:30. See the posters around town for details.
- Betsy wanted to remind everyone about the Senior Movies in the Morning at the Paradise on the first Thursday of the month. It is free for Seniors (60+). Popcorn and drinks are provided.

2020-2021 Board Nominations

Randy pointed out that the Club was past due in identifying Board members for the coming year and asked that those willing to serve this coming term identify themselves.

- Susie, as current Club President, has no choice but to be on the Board.
- Bain indicated he would be willing to continue to serve.
- Ulli said that he would also be willing to serve on the Board. He has been a Board member in the past.
- Felix asked that he be allowed to remain on the Board if his plans change and he stays in town.

Randy said he will be asking again at the next meeting as there was a relatively light turnout today.

And a President Elect will also need to be designated.

PROGRAM: The Road Home: Reflections on Finding Place and Purpose in Rural America

Felix introduced Sally Kane, Chief Executive Officer of the National Federation of Community Broadcasters, the national trade organization of Public Radio, with particular focus on the smaller, rural stations. He pointed out that a significant part of KVNf's early growth and development took place under Ms. Kane's leadership as

General Manager of KVNF.

Ms. Kane read a prepared speech, beginning with a glowing tribute to Rotary in general and the Rotary Club of the North Fork Valley in particular.

She then spoke of the challenges rural areas face in terms of population decline or growth, and the changing character of the North Fork Valley as it transitions away from coal mining to a more diversified economy. Concepts of “home”, and what that means on various levels, was next articulated - with several personal examples.

She next spoke about the Community Counts Initiative launched by the NFCB. It is a cohort-based learning program for community radio stations serving rural and underrepresented communities. NFCB does not provide programming, focusing instead on training for Programmers, Administrators, Development personnel and Operations staff.

Ms. Kane ended with a poem her son wrote after walking 300 miles along the Camino del Santiago between Portugal and Spain, with a theme of showing up for yourself and moving in the direction of things you love.

A Q&A session followed, including a description of how the Corporation for Public Broadcasting operates and news that their funding formula is being modified to provide more aid to smaller stations. Media consolidation on a massive scale, to the point that most media in the US is now owned by four people, was also discussed. One result was the consolidation of many local Public Radio stations into larger state-wide networks.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Date	Speaker	Program	Member
2/13/20	Amelia Baldwin - Principal	Paonia Elementary	Bill Bishop
2/20/20	Pete Kolbenschlag & Lisa Delaney	CO Farm and Food Alliance	Sarah Bishop
2/27/20			Ed Bliss
3/5/20			Pam Bliss
3/12/20			Randy Campbell
3/19/20			Annette Choszczyk
3/26/20			John Coombe
4/2/20			Glenn Dahlgren
4/9/20			Marsha Grant
4/16/20			Barb Heck
4/23/20			Mike Heck
4/30/20		Fifth Thursday	Coombes' House
5/7/20			Ulli Lange

