



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 35 - November 12, 2020

LAST MEETING: November 5, 2020 (via Zoom)

President Bliss presided.

Visiting Rotarians: None

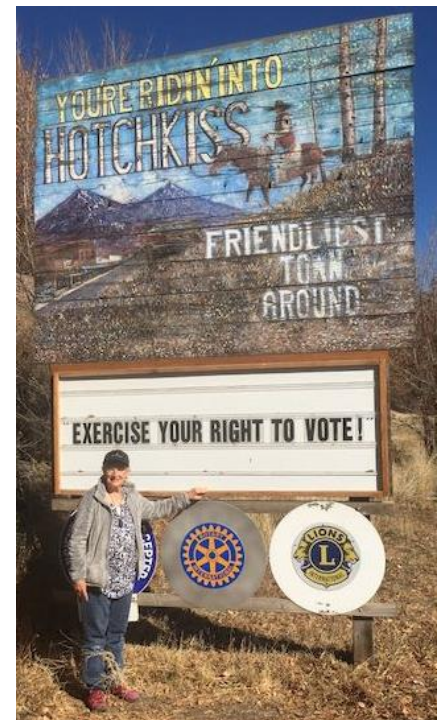
Other Guests: None

Key Guest: No key guest

(Annette now has the key).

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- We had a 73% turnout for the Zoom meeting today.
- The Highway Cleanup was successful. Lots of trash was collected with no injuries. No clear winner for beer brands - well distributed. And lots of water bottles.
- The Rotary signs at two of the three highway entrances to Hotchkiss have been installed. One Welcome sign (on the Crawford Road) had been taken down to refurbish but will be reinstalled shortly and a new Rotary sign will go on that. Sarah volunteered to have her phone number displayed on the signs for more information.
- Dictionaries for the 3rd graders should be arriving any day. Pam will send out a schedule for distributing the books for anyone who wishes to participate.
- North Fork Senior Connections Service Saturday is November 7th. Meet in Town Park Call 527-3482 or email nfseniorconnections@gmail.com for more information or to sign up.
- The KPP Lasagna Delivery Dinner on November 23rd will benefit the Rotary Scholarship Fund. Everyone is encouraged to participate. The lasagna is good. (See poster below)
- If the Club would like to sponsor an exchange student for year '21-'22, we would need to let them know by November 20, 2020. Contact Greg if you are interested.
- Committee Chairmanship positions available for:
 - Public Relations Committee. Facebook familiarity (or willingness to learn) would be helpful.
 - Fundraising Committee. Ideas for non-contact fundraising needed. Contact Pam or Randy.
- Anyone wishing to take over as Newsletter Editor is welcome to do so. Contact a Board Member.



Judy with one of the new signs

PROGRAM: SOLAR FORWARD PROJECT: Mary Marshall

Sarah introduced Mary Marshall, the Solar Forward program manager from Solar Energy International (SEI). She created the project, initially for Delta County only, in response to the local coal mine closures. The program has since been expanded throughout Colorado with 1.8 megawatts of distributed energy resources having been installed to date.

Ms. Marshall started by mentioning a joint project with the Colorado Energy Office via the Colorado Agriculture Energy Efficiency Program (AgEE). The program provides free weatherization and energy audits for agricultural producers as well as helping these producers apply for grants for energy efficiency upgrades.

Ms. Marshall then displayed a Power Point presentation explaining what the Solar Forward program is, how it helps communities and what tools the program has to offer. SEI initiated the Solar Forward project in 2015 as a way to aid in local economic development in a way that aligned with their mission to bring renewable energy to the world. The program began as the Solarize program which was designed to incentivize the adoption of solar energy in the community. It also included the Solar in the Schools program which adapted SEI's training program for a High School curriculum. SEI also worked with County officials to create the Colorado Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy ("C-PACE") program to provide financing for renewable energy and efficiency upgrades. These efforts have been recognized by the U.S. Dept. of Energy.

The mission of the Solar Forward program is to enable barriers to clean energy adoption to be addressed by local grass-roots economic and policy solutions. This collection of unique solutions together provides a force for addressing the current climate crisis. The program has been established in five Colorado counties to date. In addition to a technical consultant, a Solar Forward tool kit is provided which consists of a collection of documents compiled by industry experts that make it easier to create outreach initiatives. SEI workforce development training as well as professional services for technical oversight of installers are also made available. Scholarships for training at SEI are also available.

The Solarize program is a bulk-purchase campaign that reduces the cost of solar installation to incentivize community adoption. It involves partnering with local installers as well as an education and outreach campaign. Local installer Brad Burritt of Empowered Energy Systems made a cameo appearance in a film clip and said the Solarize program had quadrupled his sales of solar systems over the three years it ran and increased the number of people he was able to employ.

Q & A

Q: Will your efforts be moving beyond Colorado?

A: There have been conversations with Wyoming, as they also have a need to transition to renewable energy with the loss of their local coal mining operations. On the ground partner groups are essential to operating in these communities.

Q: How do you see your partnership with the Colorado Energy Office (CEO) expanding your reach?

A: Their large existing operation is already operating in target areas, and are both SEA and CEO are sharing their contacts and networks.

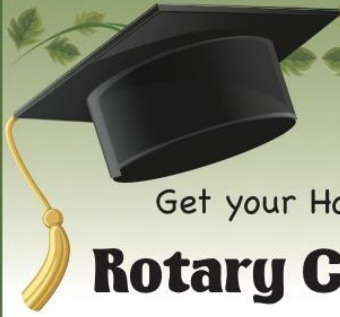
Q: Do you anticipate any more Solarize programs in the Delta County?

A: Nothing currently in process, but would be open if a group was interested.

UPCOMING MEETING PROGRAMS:

Date	Speaker	Program	Member
11/12/20	Cindy Mercer	To be determined	Norm Lewark
11/19/20			Nick Lypps
11/26/20		Thanksgiving	
12/3/20			Randy Campbell
12/10/20			Annette Choszczyk
12/17/20			John Coombe
12/24/20		Christmas Eve	
12/31/20		New Years Eve	
1/7/21			Susie Coombe
1/14/21			Glenn Dahlgren
1/21/21			Marsha Grant





Get your Homemade Kids' Pasta Project Lasagne & Support

Rotary Club of the North Fork Valley's SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Each year our Rotary Club gives thousands of dollars in scholarships to North Fork high school and Technical School of the Rockies students. This year, due to COVID-19, our fundraising has been limited, so please help us out!

at a

KPP Lasagne Delivery Dinner

Lasagne arrives germ safe READY-TO-BAKE in your home!
Just bake until bubbly!

Monday, November 23rd - 5:00 pm

Lasagne Pickup at the Paradise Theater

215 Grand Avenue in Paonia

Personal delivery is also available in the Paonia vicinity.

Cost: PWYW (Pag What You Want)

Everything donated over the cost of supplies
(roughly \$4/serving)

will go to Rotary Club of the North Fork Valley's Scholarship Program

Orders must be placed by Friday, November 20th at 4 pm!

Email kppreservations@gmail.com

or call 970-779-2191 to order.

