

# ROTARY CLUB OF THE NORTH FORK VALLEY

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Issue 16  
WEB SITES: www.rotary.

Www.rotary5470.org

www.paoniarotary.org

## LAST MEETING:

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

President PEGGY gave a big thanks to NORM and GLEN for their faithfully setting up the room for our meetings.

She also gave a big thanks to PHYLYIS and ASHLEY for the wonderful Thanksgiving lunch they served.

DORIS agreed to stand for board membership.

KATE asked for an update on the membership list with email and email addresses.

A slate of officers will be presented on December 5th and we'll vote on December 12.

KENETH BUTCHER was inducted into the club. Present was his wife.

On 12/29 KEVIN and Jackie PARKS will hold the *Holliday Party* where we will cheer the Broncos.



## PROGRAM:

MIKE LUDLOW, Executive Vice President of Oxbow Mine which is owned by BILL KOCH in his worldwide energy organization. But this is the only mine he owns. The mine can store up to 300,000 tons of mined coal. It is shipped out in 2" chunks At a power plant it is ground into dust and blown into the furnaces. Coal trains are loaded by computer to approximately 250,000 lbs.

The coal veins are from 10' to 24' in thickness where they are mining. Continuous mining machines are operated by remote control. After the continuous mining machine makes a passageway a long-wall machine is introduced. To grind out the coal, mostly pulverized. The ground above then subsides. Here the subsidence is about 1'.

Coal mining is no longer in the top 10 of the most dangerous occupations. Com-



mercial fishing is #1 and agriculture is #2. Oxbow accident rate is very low.

Currently on 12/2/12 there was a bounce in the longwall room. An air blast knocked out the ventilation control. On 12/27/12 CO-2 gas increased, an evidence of combustion. On 1/13/23 they closed off that section of the mine to eliminate the gas and control a possible fire. In 9/13 they discovered more gas release and fire. They will not recover the longwall equipment from this area. Very valuable. Then they cut the workforce in half again.

(Editor's note: Quite a number of years ago we were told that heat caused the fire, that the fire did not cause the heat. Thus the name *Fire Mountain*.)

Coal sell at \$25/T at the portal. One hundred fifty coal fired electric plants have shut down since 2008. 173 additional plants are to be closed by 2022. Proposed regulations are so severe that no more will be built. Technology exists to eliminate particulates, SO-2 and other chemicals from the plants. They certainly are not being used in China where the smog is terrible.

**COAL CAN BE BURNED  
CLEANLY**

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## LATEST NEWS:

Looks like This is settled for a while with the closing of the mine!!!!

## DECEMBER 12:

CRAIG CHILDS will tell us some stories.

INDIVIDUAL COMMITMENT

IS WHAT IT TAKES

TO MAKE A TEAM WORK

TO MAKE ACOMPANY WORK

TO MAKE A SOCIETY WORK

TO MAKE CIVILIZATION WORK

Vince Lombardi

*"Letting the cat out of the bag is a whole lot easier than putting it back in"*

Will Rogers

