



## ***THE SPOKES SPEAK - GEARED TO SERVICE***

### **Rotary Club of the North Fork Valley**

POB 1543, Paonia, CO 81428

WEB SITES: [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org) [www.rotary5470.org](http://www.rotary5470.org) [www.paoniarotary.org](http://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: February 28, 2019**

James Schott presided.

Sam Kevan – visiting Rotarian. Sam announced that he will finish his term at the end of the Rotary year. Dave Franks will be the new Assistant Governor. Also, there is a new Rotary Club (Black Canyon Rotary Club) in Montrose which consists of a younger group with 35 members meeting on Thursday mornings.

Visitors: Watson Wiggington. Watson is interested in joining the club and is starting a new enterprise in the barber shop location in Paonia.

#### **Announcements:**

Judy Martin, a representative of the Public Library District attended Rotary today and announced that 5 district libraries are losing funding due to decreased tax revenue. The library district has formed a foundation in order to solicit funds to provide training for staff. The library needs businesses and individuals to step up and support the library while they are working to remedy funding issues.

Today is Doc Vincent's last day! The Chamber of Commerce is putting together a scrapbook of appreciation for Doc Vincent so if anyone is interested in contributing, please take contributions to First Colorado National Bank or Lizzy's Market.

Felix received a letter from the Technical College of the Rockies thanking Rotary for the \$1,000 Scholarship. This year the scholarship recipient is Joanna Fashelle. The Technical College had their Nursing department award ceremony in February, 2019.

Stephan: He is looking for rental housing in Paonia.

Don Foster (former member) passed away on February 26, 2019. Bob, Betsy, Sarah and Felix gave testimonials of how Don made a difference in their lives, i.e., Don didn't hire Bob as a realtor; Sarah mentioned that Don was the Editor for our weekly newsletter for a number of years and he always had great jokes about lawyers; Felix came to Paonia in 1976 to get a builder started on his home up on Stucker Mesa and didn't have any luck with CitiBank. He came in and talked to Don and Don said to open a savings account and gave him a pad of

papers and told him whenever he needed money to fill out a form and get it to him and he'd put the money into the savings account. Betsy mentioned that she and Ed needed \$6,000 to start a paper (at the time it was called The Paonian). Betsy said Don was known as the "hippy-backer".

James announced that Susie Coombe has a sincere demand that someone stand up to be President Elect. (no one did)

**Program: Guest speaker: Travis Loburg - Paonia Public Works**

Travis Loberg from the Town of Paonia was to speak on the situation of water in the valley but because he has been out since 2:00 a.m. dealing with the Paonia water emergency, Ed Bliss stood in for him.

Ed has been on the Cathedral Water Board for 26 years and has worked a lot with Travis over the course of time. There is a lot of expense to water system customers to meet state regulations. The Cathedral Water Board has spent \$115,000 required from the EPA for a problem they never had. Since then the state has backed off a little bit. In 2017, they needed an air relief valve and had to replace 400 feet of line up at Cathedral Point. This shut the system totally down for 2 days to fix the line. They were losing 7 to 8 gallons of water per minute. On October 18, 2018 they replaced a 2-inch pipe which cost \$11.00 per foot! They put a band-aid on it, costing \$7,000 with a coupling for \$200.00. Ed's dog helps him find leaks.

The Cathedral Water has 97 shares—one-third of which are on Fruitland Mesa and most customers there have storage for their water. This service line is more than 70 miles of pipe, going to Fruitland Mesa, Onion Valley and Clearfork to name a few service areas. In that water line the state has a decree that it must be plumbed to the current line which will cost \$200 to \$300 per customer.

When air is in the water more chlorine must be added.

There are lots of problems and expenses which plague the water systems. Original lines were not built to proper specifications which caused eventual failure and had to be replaced. Leaks can be very difficult to locate. With gravel surfaces, it is really hard to find water leaks. Some times it can take years.

In the Town of Paonia when the leak down by the river on 4th Street was fixed, someone either shut off or turned on the hydrant too quickly which caused more problems. They found that leak because of town water flowing into the river—when chlorine was found in the water sample.

Sarah said Ted Knight, the Town Manager told her there is a state emergency management team working up at storage tanks. He was cautiously optimistic that there would be good news this evening.



## **UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

- 3/7/19: Paul Larmer, High Country News (Pam Bliss)**
- 3/14/19: TBD (Randy Campbell)**
- 3/21/19: Lori Lenhart – PACE (Karri Polson)**
- 3/28/19: TBD (Peggy Szvetecz)**
- 4/4/19: TBD (Glenn Dahlgren)**
- 4/11/19: TBD (Marsha Grant)**
- 4/18/19: TBD (Mike Heck)**
- 4/25/19: TBD (Ulli Lange)**
- 5/2/19: TBD (Bob Lario)**
- 5/9/19: TBD (unassigned – was Ben Lehman)**
- 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**

