



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 12/20/1922

Vol 60 Issue 18 - May 20, 2021

LAST MEETING: May 13, 2021 (in-person)

Co-President Pam Bliss presided.

Visiting Rotarians: None

Other Guests: Bronnie Barry, Bruce Woodside, and Carol Kiese

Key Guest: No key guest

(Annette now has the key).

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Greg report that the May 7th Highway 133 Cleanup was a success.
- May 15th is North Fork Senior Connections' Service Saturday. Call Randy for more information.
- Treasurer Sarah Bishop thanked the club for keeping up our dues payments during the pandemic-caused Zoom meetings. She also passed out slips to all members with an estimate of Birthday and Happy Bucks committed during the remote meetings.
- Pam announced a sale of the left over Smith Fork Ranch gift shop stock. The sale will be held in front of Western Colorado Realty in Hotchkiss in conjunction with the Sheep Dog trials.
- Ulli reminded us of a fundraising dinner for the Blue Sage to be held on May 30. Seating is limited; contact Ulli or the Blue Sage to reserve a place.

PROGRAM: Dr. David Inouye, biologist with Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory in Gothic.

Dr. Inouye reported on environment changes that have been witnessed since the 1970's at the RMBL. Recorded changes include the precipitation mix changing to more rain relative to snow; decreasing snowfall; earlier snowmelt; and rising temperature. He then showed a number of examples of how plants, hummingbirds, and insects have responded to these changes.

For instance, bluebells (*mertensia*) have fallen in numbers since 2000. Their total growing season has stretched out at both ends, and a mid-season dip has become more pronounced. Flowering patterns have changed differently for different flowers. There are flowers such as the aspen sunflowers that don't bloom at all some years. This is because the earlier snowmelt causes them to start growing early, then the flower buds are killed by a late frost.

Butterflies are also affected. Fritillary butterfly counts correspond to the flower counts and are nearly

zero in years that the flowers failed due to frost.

Hummingbirds depend on avalanche lilies as an early-season food source. Avalanche lily bloom dates and hummingbird arrivals are both changing with the rising temperatures, but not at the same rate. At current trends there will be a time when hummingbirds arrive and have nothing to eat.

A few other examples of change: bumblebee populations have move up the hillsides, but the plants they depend on can't do that so easily; larkspurs flower best in big snow years, they are favored by humming birds, so lower snowfalls are bad for the hummingbirds; total insect populations at Gothic are declining – there is no cause other than climate change.

UPCOMING MEETING PROGRAMS:

Date	Speaker	Program	Member
4/22/21	Julie McCluskie	Colorado State Representative	Sarah Bishop
4/29/21	Sarah Bishop	Roast and Toast Bill Bishop	5th Thursday
5/6/21	Abby Harrison		Pam Bliss
5/13/21	Dr. David Inouye	Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory	Nick Lypps
5/20/21	Merrily Talbot	Her company, Placebos, and other topics	Susie Coombe
5/27/21			Annette Choszcyk
6/3/21			John Coombe
6/10/21	Linda McCone	Program Manager of North Fork Senior Connections	Randy Campbell
6/17/21			Glen Dahlgren
6/24/21			Marsha Grant
7/1/21			Ulli Lange
7/8/21			Bob Lario
7/15/21			Norm Lewark
7/22/21	Scott Thomas	Water Circuit Rider for Colorado Rural Water Association	Ed Bliss



MEMBERSHIP

Sarah Bishop +++ *
Pam Bliss *
Ed Bliss +
Randy Campbell + *
Annette Choszczyk
Susan Coombe*
John Coombe
Glenn Dahlgren + *
Marsha Grant +*
Stephanie Helleckson!!
Ulli Lange +++++ +*
Robert Lario +
Norm Lewark *
Nick Lypps
Betsy Marston +
Bob McHugh
Tamie Meck!!
Jackie Parks + *
Kevin Parks +
James Schott +*
Peggy Szvetecz + *
Greg Thompson +*
Bain Weinberger+
Frankye Wist !!

+ Paul Harris Fellow
* Past President
!! Honorary Member
OL On Leave
Corporate Member

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS 2020-21

Presidents Pam Bliss
Randy Campbell
President Elect Ed Bliss
Secretary Bain Weinberger
Treasurer Sarah Bishop
Past President Susie Coombe
President Elect Nominee Annette Choszczyk

DIRECTORS

Chairman, ServiceSusie Coombe
Chairman, Rotary FoundationUlli Lange
Chairman, ScholarshipJames Schott
Chairman, Membership..... Ed Bliss
Chairman, Speakers.....Susie Coombe

OTHER CLUB LEADERS

Chairman, RYLA.....
Club Bulletin EditorPam Bliss & Randy Campbell
Chairman, PR.....Bob McHugh
Chairman, Fundraising
Set up/Clean-up CrewAll of us

DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Chip Ecks

ASSISTANT GOVERNOR

Dave Frank (Montrose)

THE FOUR WAY TEST - Of the things we think, say or do:

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?