

Rotary Club Of Estes Park Spoke

Mon Oct 01, 2012

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Duty Roster:

Prayer:

Jack Endacott

Song & Pledge:

Lloyd Scott

Guest Intro:

TeresaMaria Widawski

Meeting Notes:

Karen McClure

Greeter:

Bert Bergland

Program Intro:

Jack Dinsmoor

Back Booth:

Mark Richards

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Ward Nelson

Program

Posted by Brad Rosenbaum

Today's Program

“AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN THE ESTES VALLEY “
with Rita Kurelja

Rita Kurelja is the Executive Director for the Estes Park Housing Authority and has been with the Housing Authority for 10 years, starting as the Program Manager and moving into the Executive Director position. While with the Housing Authority Rita has helped over 300 families with housing assistance.

Included in her tenure is the addition of 80+ rental units, 54 homeownership units and numerous housing programs designed to assist the residents of Estes Park.

Prior to working for the Estes Park Housing Authority, Ms. Kurelja was the Executive Officer for the Estes Park Board of REALTORS.

Kurelja moved to Estes Park in 1976 from New Jersey and has called Estes Park home ever since. She and her husband Chris raised 2 daughters here and now have 3 grandchildren. She enjoys cycling, running, skiing and being outside.

Affordable housing is a passion for Rita and she hopes to continue on this road of assisting all residents find an affordable place to call home.



Rockin' with the Rotary at the Opry a smashing success

Posted by Douglas Fox

Membership
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Fund Development
Donald Widrig

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Photography
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Speakers

Oct 04, 2012
Kathleen Anderson/Tom Anderson
The Learning Place/ClubRunner

Oct 11, 2012
Scott Zurn
Estes Park Transportation

Oct 18, 2012
Vaughan Baker, Kyle Patterson
RMNP Update

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Club Events

October Board Meeting
US Bank/George Hix Room
Oct 04, 2012 08:00 AM

Duck Race Committee Meeting
Nikki's Restaurant
Oct 11, 2012 05:00 PM

Fund Development Committee Meeting
Library/Wasson Room
Oct 16, 2012 05:00 PM - 06:00 PM



"That was a night to remember -- a really special night. Everything about it was so special." That's Noon Rotary Club President Pete Sumey's assessment of the Rocky Mountain Opry's benefit performance on Sept. 18th.

Sumey offers high praise to all those that

helped make the night so special. "The Estes Park Car Club had at least 15 classic cars parked outside," said Sumey.

"The Estes Park Museum provided a wonderful display of pictures out in the lobby depicting the period of the 1950's and 60's here in Estes Park. Scott Webermeier donated the use of the theater. And the Rocky Mountain Opry, as always, was spectacular. What a show!"

Barbara Barleen and George Staerkel were especially helpful planning the special features of the show. George worked with Car Club President Craig Bigler to include songs in the show for some of the cars, and Barbara organized the period pictures in the front lobby. Both of them put together an amazing array of trivia questions for the pre-show and intermission, and were very generous with music CD's provided as prizes for trivia winners.

Sumey said club members felt they would be lucky to attract 210 people to the show. "The Barleens were so generous by giving us the proceeds from the show. That was a very special gift on their part," said Sumey.

"We were hoping for \$5,000. We actually had 238 people attend and Brenda Barleen handed me a check during the show for \$6,000! We can't thank the Rocky Mountain Opry enough. By any measurement it was a spectacular evening."

Sumey said the \$6,000 will go the Estes Park Rotary Foundation's charitable projects fund. The foundation has indicated the money would be spent on literacy and reading programs at the Estes Valley Library and in rural Guatemala.



Rotarian Don Widrig, who spearheaded the event and came dressed like Elvis for the show, said, "It was an awesome performance. The energy

Foundation Board Meeting

Library/Wasson Room
Oct 22, 2012 05:00 PM

Special Board Meeting

The Other Side Restaurant
Oct 25, 2012 10:00 AM

Dist. Governor Visit

Rotary Meeting Room
Oct 25, 2012 11:30 AM

Duck Race Committee Meeting

Nikki's Restaurant
Nov 08, 2012 05:00 PM

Duck Race Committee Meeting

Nikki's Restaurant
Dec 13, 2012 05:00 PM

Duck Race Committee Meeting

Nikki's Restaurant
Jan 10, 2013 05:00 PM

Duck Race Committee Meeting

Nikki's Restaurant
Feb 14, 2013 05:00 PM

Duck Race Committee Meeting

Nikki's Restaurant
Mar 14, 2013 05:00 PM

Duck Race Committee Meeting

Nikki's Restaurant
Mar 28, 2013 05:00 PM

Duck Race Committee Meeting

Nikki's Restaurant
Apr 11, 2013 05:00 PM

Duck Race Committee Meeting

Nikki's Restaurant
Apr 18, 2013 05:00 PM

Duck Race Committee Meeting

Nikki's Restaurant
Apr 25, 2013 05:00 PM

Duck Race Day Kickoff Party

Nikki's Restaurant
May 02, 2013 05:00 PM

Duck race Day

May 04, 2013

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["The Peak" September 2012](#)

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was flowing both from the audience to the stage and from the stage to the audience. Everybody was having a great time. They were literally hopping up and down in their seats."

Rotarian TeresaMaria Widawski won the 50's-60's costume contest with a white sweater, poodle skirt, and neck scarf. "That was a lot of fun," said Widawski. "Julie Phares loaned me part of the costume. I could not do it without the help of another Rotarian. It was fun. We should do it again. Let's do the 60's so

I can drag out my old clothes."

Widawski may get a chance to do that. There's already talk of another benefit show next year. "That is our hope," said Widrig, "Early part of the summer next year. It's going to be rock 'n' roll – everybody loves that."

So, hang on to those poodle skirts, black leather jackets, and penny loafers – you may have a chance to go Rockin' with the Rotary at the Opry next year!

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Rockin' with Rotary at the Opry Pictures

Posted by Brad Rosenbaum