

Rotary



Club of Chico Sunrise

A Spectacular Meeting

By Heidi E. Houlihan on Thursday, September 3, 2020

President Geralyn opened our ♦spectacle-spectacular♦ meeting wearing some googly eyes. **James S.** gave the invocation, speaking about how there is a lot of negativity in the world and that he always comes back to gratitude. He delivered some good quotes and led us in the pledge.

Guests today included Alpo Portelli, president of the Marion, North Carolina Rotary club and Angela Claire BJORoy-Karlsen, our speaker.

Announcements and updates

- Geralyn S.: September♦s theme is Basic Education and Literacy. We do a ♦spectacular job with literacy.♦ We will have a program later this month regarding Reading Pals.
- Texts are now working with AT&T.
- Survey questions were answered by approximately 90% of our members. You can still respond if you have not. Members like our projects, especially hands-on ones, our socials and having fun. The qualifications for membership in our club bylaws had mixed responses. This will be discussed at a later date. No changes will be made to the bylaws at this time. Thank you for responding.
- Rotary 100 ♦ all original events have been cancelled. The noon group has a C-note team, **Carl O.** will head up the team for our club.
- Centennial Park ♦ CARD requires a waiver for any worker at the park. You will be receiving an email regarding this so that we can work on our planned project there.
- **Tanya L.:** celebrates her 14 year Rotaversary as of 9/1/20. She talked about what she enjoys about Rotary and our club.
- **Nancy H.:** ♦Not much to report regarding the Literacy committee♦ or is there? There is no update regarding the Free Library Boxes outside of each school (that we would build) as the start of school with distance learning has been a bit chaotic, as many of you have heard. She attended a Reading Pals virtual training session and encourages members and others to volunteer. She noted that most of the volunteers are women over 65 and thinks more men and younger volunteers would benefit the kids. Go to www.readingpalschico.org or call Michelle Curran 530-570-5570. She also thanked Slater and Son who donated 4000 books! Thank you, Howard!
- **Randy K.:** The Community Action Committee visited Forrest Ranch School to assess the viability of an outdoor learning space for the kids. It seems like a perfect project for our club. More to come on this potential hands-on project.
- **Deb L.:** Gave an update on Chico State. All in-person classes have been cancelled due to 78 people testing positive for COVID-19. Only 8% of classes this semester were actually face to face, now they will all be virtual.
- District News: you should have received an email regarding the Fall Seminar on 10/3.
- Polio Plus: At the presentation last week, they asked our club for a Polio Warrior. **Tanya L.** volunteered. There is a new society for Polio Plus with the donation of \$100 per year. The Gates Foundation will match this 2:1. This money can also count toward the Paul Harris Society.

Recognitions

- **Howard S.** gave a Big Benjamin in celebration of his 42 years of marriage yesterday. Congratulations Howard and Diane!!!
- **Carl O.** spent two weeks in August in Wisconsin on the family farm, mostly visiting family. His family started a foundation to preserve the history in that area and donated \$1500 to a project to restore the interior of a building from 1900. Gifts to the president included Wisconsin sausage and cheese but his thank you came in the form of 3 bells.
- **Rykyn**, potential future Rotarian, was volunteered by his mom, **Kaytlynn D.**, for a Happy Hamilton!

Program

Leo W. introduced our speaker, Angela Claire BJORoy-Karlsen, who was the only woman to graduate from the Norwegian military in her class of 1992. She gave a presentation on ♦A Refugee Crisis ♦

Events/Speakers

September 10th
[Chico Sunrise Weekly Club Meeting](#)

September 17th
[Chico Sunrise Weekly Club Meeting](#)

September 24th
[Chico Sunrise Weekly Club Meeting](#)

Birthdays



[Bob Linscheid](#)
September 13th

Club Anniversaries



[Carol Linscheid](#)
08-19-2004
16 Years



[Tanya E. Layne](#)
09-01-2006
14 Years



[Jose Bravo](#)
07-31-2014
6 Years



[Greg Melton](#)
07-31-2014
6 Years



[Kaytlynnne Michelle Deardorf](#)
08-01-2019
1 Year

Norway. In 2015, 31,145 people applied for refugee status in Norway and 10,300 of these were children. As many of you remember, Europe was over-run by refugees. There were three times as many refugees that year than the average number for the past ten years in Norway. It was estimated 3-4,000 people died crossing the Mediterranean (1 million crossed).

Because of the dangers, refugees began taking the eastern route through Russia, the Arctic Circle, and into Norway. They crossed the border on bicycles because of a Russian law that one cannot leave Russia if not on wheels! Angela worked at a refugee camp in northern Norway where they received 267 people per day, with only 650 beds available, where they would be held for at least 72 hours. She talked about the challenges of language, capacity, weather, clothing, etc. The temperature ranged from -20 to -49 below. The refugees were families escaping war, ethnic cleansing, children travelling alone, women escaping sex slavery, and parents trying to save their daughters from sex slavery.

They transported families to different parts of Norway where they would begin their new life. They gave refugees integration courses which included learning Norwegian, social skills, and on the job training for three years. They do not expect families to give up their culture, but expect them to respect Norwegian values. She included stories of individuals that were memorable including a girl from Syria who was upset that she had a B in Norwegian Language class who is now following her dream of going to medical school. It was a very interesting presentation.

Thanks

- Invocation: James S.
- Check In: Randy K.
- Bulletin: Heidi H.

Next Week

- Invocation: Howard S.
- Greeters: John C, Dawit Z.
- Check In: Kevin B.
- Bulletin: Sean I.

Club Meeting

Chico Sunrise
Meets at Canyon Oaks Country Club
999 Yosemite Drive
Chico, CA 95928
Time: Thursday at 06:45 AM