

# Rotary



# Club of Chico Sunrise

## Holiday Cheer and Ugly Hats

By Debra Larson on Thursday, December 17, 2020

**President Geralyn** opened up our last meeting of 2020, on Zoom, at 7:02 am and called on **Susie Sorenson** for the invocation and pledge. For today's invocation, Susie sang We Wish you a Merry Christmas.

Our guests today included our speaker Ann Nikolai with OLLI at Chico State, and Leanne Chrisman our district governor.

## Announcements and updates

Leanne Chrisman spoke briefly to us about Polio Plus Society. Joining the society is through a gift of \$100/year. Leanne recognized **Dr. Tanya Layne, Geralyn Sheridan, Susie Sorenson and John Touchette** for their contributions. Our district polio plus program is a new program of four months to our district. Tanya is our club's polio plus champion.

Congratulations to our Rotary anniversary recognitions. **Mike Birch** has been a member for three years. **Susie Sorenson** has been in the club 16 years. She spoke about the process of becoming a member of the club many years ago one that is very different than today's process.

**Dan Bay** was recognized for being a Paul Harris plus One. The Paul Harris program recognizes gifts of \$1000 to the Rotary Foundation.

**Teresa Frediani** reported on the survey on gala or not to gala the club voted to conduct a virtual gala and to keep with the St. Patrick's Day theme. Teresa shared some early ideas on the gala.

**Randy Korte** provided us an update on local projects. He thanked the club for their participation in the Salvation Army bell ringing program. **John Carlon** has received the delivery of the supplies (e.g. furniture) for Forest Ranch school. Our holiday project will be to deliver meals on December 23 to the homebound residents of the FEMA village. Volunteers will meet at Shelly's Creative Catering. Randy will email us with a sign-up list with additional details.

**Carl Ochsner** spoke about the Rotary 100 meeting. Details are still under discussion and may include a guest speaker and historical picture show of the two clubs. Aaron Souza and Sean Isom each have a good number of pictures.

**Nancy Haas-Depa** provided report on literacy program. We are exploring with CUSD the idea of on free little libraries at each elementary school, and are looking into working with the Gateway Science Museum with their science learning library.

**Joe Schultz** reported on programs. We are set through January 21. He asked us for additional program suggestions.

**Geralyn** conducted an ugly hat contest. Members sported many interesting and unique hats. **Paul Peck** was the winner and will receive a chocolate bar, Baileys, Egg Nog, cookies, candy, and a St. Patrick's hat.

## Happy Hamilton Recognitions

- Carol Linscheid** announced the Enloe is getting their vaccination supply (5000 doses) today that will cover all of their staff plus some first responders. Tayna and Carol spoke about the importance of taking the vaccination. 0 Bells
- Karen Hansen** gave us an update from the Enterprise Record; recognizing Carl's fun letter to the editor and a photo of the Thanksgiving meal delivery project. 0 bells.

## Program

## Events/Speakers

December 24th

**DARK - SEASON's Greetings**

December 31st

**DARK - Happy NEW Year**

January 7th

**Weekly Club Meeting**

January 14th

**Weekly Club Meeting**

## Birthdays



Michael W. Birch  
January 1st



Ron R. Piret  
January 17th

## Club Anniversaries



Leo A Weiss  
04-01-2001  
20 Years



Bob Linscheid  
04-01-2002  
19 Years



David W Warner  
04-01-2002  
19 Years



Ron R. Piret  
04-01-2002  
19 Years



Peter Giampaoli  
04-01-2002  
19 Years



Patrick Pillsbury  
04-01-2002  
19 Years

Sean Isom

**Phil Wilke** introduced today's speaker, Ann Nikolai who directs the OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute) program at Chico State.

Ann spoke about the overnight transition from in-person to online. The average age of the OLLI membership is 70 and technology familiarity was supported through the members and staff. The process of transition has been a highlight of Ann's career.

Ann provided us with a background of OLLI, and the importance of the in-person social connection as a core feature of its founding mission. Bernard Osher and his wife (a former ambassador to Sweden) launched the idea of OLLI. The first OLLI program was launched in Southern Main, followed by one in San Francisco. Today, there are 124 OLLI programs. OLLI has something for everybody, not just those who have a college degree. OLLI is limited to members age 50 and older. Mission is to provide learning opportunities for all through guest academic presentations, day trips, and much more.

The connection to universities provides a significant offset to the costs of offering, and universities also supports OLLI with development and advancement assistance. Our OLLI program has been endowed through two \$1M gifts. Membership is \$250 per year. OLLI has been recently partnering with communication disorders program at Chico State. Graduate students have been working with the OLLI members on hearing and this work has included presentations, surveys, and small group activities. Local OLLI membership is down about 40% with the likely reason that many do not want to sit in front of their computers.

The transition to online has revealed many silver linings including:

- Controlling the volume,
- Being able to see each other's face,
- Being able to record classes,
- Allowing for ways to expand the reach to those that have not been able to attend in-person.
- Expanded partnerships with the other 124 OLLI programs and sharing content.

This spring, Chico State OLLI is offering 66 online courses. The spring catalog was released yesterday, and the spring class preview will be on January 13. Classes start February 8. A normal class is a 45 to 60-minute program once a week. OLLI encourages participants to sign in early to a class to facilitate social interactions before a program begins. Website is [olli.csuchico.edu](http://olli.csuchico.edu) and email is [olli@csuchico.edu](mailto:olli@csuchico.edu)

## In Closing

Geralyn thanked Ann and conveyed our club's thanks through a book donation to McMannis Elementary School in Ann's name.

Geralyn reminded us that we are dark on 12/24 and 12/31. Our next meeting is January 7, 2021. The board met immediately after today's meeting.

### Thanks To:

Greeters: Nick  
Invocation: Susie  
Check in: Larry Guanzon  
Bulletin: Deb Larson  
Zoom Facilitator: John Touchette



Phil Wilke  
01-19-2006  
15 Years



Dan L. Bay  
01-19-2006  
15 Years



Aaron Souza  
03-24-2011  
10 Years



Peter Bell  
01-01-2013  
8 Years



Jill E. Hendry  
02-06-2014  
7 Years



Richard W. Powell  
02-26-2015  
6 Years



Nancy Haas-Depa  
01-18-2018  
3 Years



Kevin Baker  
01-25-2018  
3 Years



Phil Wilke  
01-17-2019  
2 Years

## Club Meeting

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