

History of the Rotary Club of Chico Sunrise

Beginning in 2001 thirteen members of the Rotary Club of Chico “spun off” to form the new morning club. They sought the intimacy of a smaller group (the noon club exceeded 230 members) and the convenience of early morning weekly meetings in forming the new club. The charter president of the new club, and the driving force behind its formation, was past District Governor Ron Piret. Ron presided over the new club until its charter night celebration on April 1, 2002.

Thirteen charter members came from the Chico Noon club were: Joe Drakulic, Pete Giampaoli, Tim Hanna, Craig Lares, Chuck Lohse, John Lucchesi, Dana Miller, Loyal Miner, Pat Pillsbury, Mark Stuenkel, Ron Piret, Rob Salvagno, and Dave Warner.

Al Lotspeich came over from the Durham club.

Twenty-two others joined rotary as charter members of Chico Sunrise: Tami Barlow, Barbro Becket, Steve Benson, Tony DeLuca, Bill Dinsmore, Dennis Fife, Larry Guanzon, Bob Johansen, Jim Hazlehurst, Brian Lange, Tony Mallery, Chris Mullins, Ric Newton, Erin Norlie, Vicki Ryther(Hightower), Cindy Santulli(Lares), James Seegert, Tom Seely, Greg Smith, Lisa Ventimiglio, Larry Wahl, Don Wallrich, and Leo Weiss

Bob Linscheid supported forming the new club and was president of Chico Noon at that time. For this, the club has awarded him an honorary membership.



Pictured from back left:

Steve Vanella, Don Walrich, Alan Lotspiech, Brian Lange, Leo Weiss, Kirk James, Stephen Benson, Ron Piret

Dana Miller, Pat Pillsbury, Jim Mann, Tom Seely, Tony DeLuca, Tony Mallery

Dave Warner, ???, Rob Salvagno, Moaty Fayek, Tami Barlow, Chuck Lohse, Jim Hazlehurst,
Jerry Roster, ???, Chris Mullins

Front row: Pete Giampaoli, Carl ?, Craig Lares, Bill Dinsmore, Ric Newton, Vicki Hightower,
Cindy (Santulli) Lares, Joe Drakulic, Dennis Fife, Barbro Beckett

Presidents have been

2002/2003	Craig Lares
2003/2004	Chuck Lohse
2004/2005	Cindy Santulli (Lares)
2005/2006	Ric Newton
2006/2007	Vicki Ryther-Hightower
2007/2008	Hugh Mattingly
2008/2009	Randy Linquist
2009/2010	James Seegert
2010/2011	Dave Warner
2011/2012	Susie Sorenson
2012/2013	Mark Breault
2013/2014	Sean Isom
2014/2015	Courtney Farrell
2015/2016	Dan Bay
2016/2017	Carol Linscheid
2017/2018	Howard Slater
2018/2019	John Carlon
2019/2020	Carl Ochsner
2020/2021	Geralyn Sheridan
2021/2022	Paul Peck

Local Projects

Sunshine Kids -Other things we have accomplished were holding 2 bike days for special needs kids. 2008, 2009

Members coached and assisted with wheelchair basketball 2008

Purchased 3 adaptive bikes for special needs kids. 2009

Chico Police Department Exercise Facility remodel year

Chico Police Department Automatic License Plate Readers 2013

Library Display Cases Grant (2013/2014?)

Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs

Career Days

Purchase first aid kits for police officers

Habitat for Humanity- home repair

Salvation Army Blitz Build- served meals 2014

Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Salvation Army Cantina repair 2005

Scholarships

Welcome to Chico sign on Hwy 32. Centennial project 2004

Boys and Girls club:

Purchase a literacy related computer program 2012

Paid a license fee for another computer program literacy related 2013, 2014

Held literacy days - donated books and held hot dog BBQ 2013, 2014, 2015,

Members volunteered to tutor 2013, 2014,

Members volunteered to mentor 2013

2015 - Back to school Target shopping spree - \$1,000 donated and 11 volunteers 30 hours.

McManus School:

Started **Millionaire Club** 2012 for kids who read 1 million words. Provide a subscription to a kids magazine, picture on library wall, picture in ER, and end of year lunch with principal.

Recognized most improved readers quarterly. Winners get recognition certificate and \$5 gift certificate to Barnes and Noble. 2013

Annually, most improved reader in each class gets name on perpetual plaque which hangs in library. They also get an individual plaque. 2012

Reading Pals. Instrumental in starting this program. Donated books the first year. Members have and continue to volunteer as weekly tutors. 2012

Held 2 work days where we classified all the A/R books in the library. 2014

Donated 3 flags to hang outside the classroom which has the most improved readers or which has read the most words. 2014

Donated the **Library Mural 2013.** Marty Parker is the Mural Artist

Donated books to the library on behalf of speakers. 2013, 2014, 2015

Started the planning process for the **McManus Reading Area Pavers.** Work in progress after receiving grant. 2015 **so far we have had 23 volunteers, 52 hours, total project cost at completion estimated to be \$26,400**

Chico Observatory

Install sidewalks, concrete floor at outdoor observatory area 2014, **committed \$ towards scholarships for students at observatory, battery purchases to provide power**

Caper Acres (pending)

Chico Air Museum 2015, two Chico Sunrise Rotary members donated the extensive installation of a complete burglar alarm, fire alarm and CCTV system.

Chico Air Museum pending outdoor park

Major Fundraisers:

Night at the Races 2004?-2010

Run for Rotary 2011

Dancing with Rotary 2011-2013

Dueling Pianos 2014-2106

Districtwide Activities:

Provided dictionaries to all third graders. 2002-date

Camp Royal

Camp Venture

International Activities

Provided computers for Vietnamese English lab. 2012, 2013

Provided bicycles for underprivileged Vietnamese students. 2013, 2014

Helped sponsor an eye clinic in Ho Chi Minh City 2014

Helped sponsor four LN-4 trips to Vietnam 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, and one to Peru 2015

Helped sponsor a computer software program to assist underprivileged Vietnamese children to learn to read and speak English. 2012

One member participated in a Rotoplast Cleft Palate Repair Mission to Cumana, Venezuela 2007 and another Cleft Palate Repair, Alliance for Smiles in Xian Yang, China 2009

Two members went to Panama Ipeti-Chacoe water project 2010-2011

Exchange Students Inbound:

Kim Champion – France 2008-2009

Azusa Yoshioka – Japan 2009-2010

Marc Meyer – Switzerland

Mirjam Casanova –Switzerland 2010-2011

Julien Paques – Belgium 2011-2012

Exchange Students Outbound:

Erica Parker - Mercy High to France 2004-2005

Kayla Mahoney – CHS to Peru 2005-2006

Adrienne Carlson – PVHS to France 2006-2007

Priam Roberts – Durham High to Chile 2007-2008

Jillian Leach – to Columbia 2008-2009 (first exchange student to Columbia in 40 years)

Stephanie Bowers – Chico High to Chile 2009-2010

Aubrey Stanley – to France 2010-2011

Elizabeth Growdon Brazil 2011-2012

Lacy Christopher PV High 2012-2013

Lucy Sandoe to Czech Republic 2015-2016

Group Study Exchange GSE

Mexico 2005-2007?

Ethiopia-Kenya 2008

East Africa 2015

Rotary Foundation

Each year the club has 100% participation in giving at least \$100 to The Rotary Foundation. This earns us a Paul Harris Sustaining Membership.