

Rotary



Club of Chico Sunrise

Connectivity, The Fiber of our Lives

By Sean Isom on Thursday, July 17, 2025

President Randy Korte opened the meeting by looking for **Nick Mariottini** to do the invocation. **Aaron Souza** announced that he was the fill-in for Nick and that he got the call late last night. In true Aaron style, he was well-prepared with a fully rhyming poem including Nick's oversleeping and President Randy's hopes for his year.

Aaron was followed by our Joke of the Day wizard **Mark Stuenkel** who clarified last week's poorly delivered joke and may or not have entertained us with a current joke.

Guests today included Honorary Member **Bob Linscheid**, who avoided recognitions by sharing that he has been out of Chico for 13 years. He is now in Walnut Creek working for their chamber of commerce.

Josh Marquis and Joe Moran were also guests, as well as our program.

Announcements & Comments

Karen Hansen was asked how many years she has been in Rotary...25 years in total, with 7 or 8 at Chico Sunrise.

Larry Guanzon had the same question...22 years was his answer followed by an untrue age statement as he tried to justify a Rule of 85, that is when your age and your Rotary Years of Service exceed 85. Larry shared he will look for a form to submit to the board when the appropriate time comes. Larry continued his untrue statements when asked the question: What is your favorite part of Rotary? His answer: Being with all of you (barf emoji).

Carol Linscheid gave an update on the Literacy Committee. They are having a meeting on August 1st somewhere. Contact Carol if you can attend.

Randy explained his attempts to continue Aaron's perfect attendance rewards. Members who have made up all missed meetings will get a Paul Harris sustaining contribution courtesy of the club.

Mark Stuenkel was recognized for feeding the entire club at the demotion party without anyone getting food poisoning. Actually, Mark's efforts were greatly appreciated by all, which he then reflected back to **Jason Smith** and Tami for hosting the party at their home a few weeks back.

Recognitions

Taylor Gilmore shared about a fire at his house that started at his fence, spread to the home and had firefighters knocking at his front door. His kid's didn't wake up, but the damage estimate he shared should startle his insurance guy out of bed! Taylor was also recognized for attending to his Rotary duties the next day in spite of the fire. This was followed up with a story about Vegas and a gift to the president of a can of beer named: 'Vegas AF', but the can actually spelled it out!!! No bells were heard by this reporter.

Carl Ochsner was quizzed about the RI President. Despite Carl's limited answers, Randy shared how Mário César Martins de Camargo, Rotary International's president-elect for the 2025-2026 term, resigned from the position, on June 8th! Randy shared how inspirational the guy was at President Elect Training, however health issues took precedent. Carl thought the RI President was Italian, but was corrected by Randy who says he is from Malta. Well this reporter doesn't want to give Randy a break, so you can read where our new RI President, Francesco Arezzo is from in [this article](#).

Susie Sorenson then moved us to Two Truth's and a Lie. She called upon 6 old white men to stand, then asked **John Touchette** to identify the one who: 1. Made a song with a famous person(?), 2. Has three testicals, 3. Wha, wha Whaaaa, after #2! The true person was **James Seegert**, but I'm not sure what his lie was as the chaos was too overwhelming.

Events/Speakers

July 24th
Weekly Meeting-Sheila McQuaid, 530 Food Rescue Coalition

July 31st
Weekly Meeting-Nancy Haas-Depa, walking the Camino Frances

August 7th
Weekly Meeting-Ellen Valente, reading success at Chapman Elem.

August 14th
Weekly Meeting-Jolene Church, Workplace Culture Whisperer

Birthdays



Richard W. Powell
July 18th



Gary R. Podesta
August 6th



Phil Wilke
August 14th



D. Forrest Melton Jr.
August 15th

Club Anniversaries



Larry C. Guanzon
07-17-2003
22 Years



Carol Linscheid
08-19-2004
21 Years



John Carlon
07-07-2005
20 Years

Program

Phil Wilke introduced Josh Marquis from the City of Chico. Josh came from Paradise where he had an IT business, worked for the City of Paradise and now works for the City of Chico.

Josh shared how the city got ARPA (pandemic stimulus) money which they are using as seed money to deploy fiber internet connectivity to the City. The initial areas are generally south of the Big Chico Creek with 8th Street under construction today and intended to go live in Q4 of 2025. The program is an open access network using ISPs to deliver the service on top of the city's 'wires' into home.

A lively Q&A was held (almost usurping his program) where we learned the difference between Race Communications' plans for 'profitable' neighborhoods compared to the city's more equal access plan. Areas of deployment were shared with Chapman Town, downtown, the triangle, Barber, etc. all planned for activation in 1-2 years. Personally, I hope this all works, but that is an ambitious plan!

In Closing

Raffle Drawing Results:

- Wine: Mark Stuenkel
- VIP Breakfast: Dan DeClaires.
- Drawing for \$1477 was John Touchette's chance with 2 cards to draw. He pulled the Queen of Hearts and was a winner, keeping \$200 for himself and giving the remainder back to the club!

Thanks To:

Invocation: Aaron S, subbing for Nick M
Greeters: Sean I and John T
Check In: Forrest M and Gary P
Bulletin: Sean I

Next week:

Invocation: Forrest M
Greeters: Tanya and Neil
Check In: James F and Taylor G
Bulletin: Geralyn
Sgt of Arms: Susie S

To join our meetings by zoom, please [Use this Link!](#)



Heidi E. Houlihan
07-07-2005
20 Years



Tanya E. Layne
09-01-2006
19 Years



Karen Hansen
07-05-2018
7 Years

Club Meeting

Chico Sunrise
Meets at Mom's Restaurant
209 Salem St
Chico, CA 95928
Time: Thursday at 06:45 AM