

North Stockton Rotary



Bill McDonald

01/07/25

Tuesday, January 7th we were at the Hilton. I chose the vegetarian lunch and had a perfect salad with no dressing, I felt naked.

At 12:24 **Andy Chesley** rang the bell, and called up **Karen Rogers**, (no relation), to give the pledge, lead the salute and had a thought for us. She said:

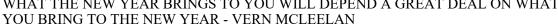
AND NOW WE WELCOME THE NEW YEAR. FULL OF THINGS THAT HAVE NEVER BEEN - RANIER MARIA RILKE

WE ALL GET THE EXACT SAME 365 DAYS. THE ON-LY DIFFERENCE IS WHAT WE DO WITH THEM - HIL-LARY DEPIANO

CELEBRATE ENDINGS - FOR THEY PRECEDE NEW BEGINNINGS - JONATHAN LOCKWOOD HUIE

THE BEST PREPARATION FOR TOMORROW IS DOING YOUR BEST TODAY - H. JACKSON BROWN JR.
WE KEEP MOVING FORWARD, OPENING NEW DOORS, AND DOING NEW THINGS,

BECAUSE WE'RE CURIOUS AND CURIOSITY KEEPS LEADING US DOWN NEW PATHS - WALT DISNEY
WHAT THE NEW YEAR BRINGS TO YOU WILL DEPEND A GREAT DEAL ON WHAT



YOU ARE NEVER TOO OLD TO SET A NEW GOAL OR TO DREAM A NEW DREAM -



Explaining NY Theme "Thought"

C.S. LEWIS

Karen then conducted us in Auld Lang Syne, which translated can mean, "old times, especially times fondly remembered." Now a famous New Years Song, it was written in 1788 by Scottish poet Robert Burns.

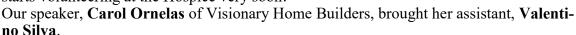
Visiting Rotarians and Guests:

Rotarian **Frank Ferral** of the Chamber of Commerce stood and introduced himself, a member of the Stockton Rotary. He wanted to let us know his STAART Program has 3,000 eyeballs watching our backs! He also had a guest, his associate, **Treston DaShiell. Treston** is the sustainability coordinator for the STAART anti shoplifting

program at the Chamber.

Diane Stauffer introduced her guest for the third visit and soon to be our newest member **Jamie Sanchez**.

Jamie's not sitting still in her efforts to give back, she starts volunteering at the Hospice very soon!





Proposed new member Jamie Sanchez

Sunshine Bucks:

Diane Stauffer just had to get up and say how excited and happy she is to have met **Jamie.** So are we **Diane!**



Let's get this party started!

Frank Ferral Program and Public Policy Director for the Greater Stockton Chamber of Commerce

2024-2025 CLUB OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

the state of the s											
President:	William	McDonald	Community Service:	Diane	Correia	Club Service:	Karen	Rogers	UOP Rotaract:	Jim	Dugoni
President Elect :			Community Service:	Michelle	Haner	Membership:	Tamara	Fooy	Camp RYLA:	Jim 🕟	Dugoni
Immediate Past President:	Andrew	Chesley	International Services:	Ray	Call	RAH:	Dennis	Delpaine	Dir. At Large:	Richard	Carr
Secretary:	Andrew	Chesley	Youth Leadership & Services:	Jim	Dugoni	Scholarship:	Jim	Dugoni	Wheelbarrow:	Chris	Hunefeld
Treasurer:	Jeff	Groom	Lincoln Interact:	Shelly	Moreira	Social Director:	Kendra	Clark	Facebook:	Chris,	Hunefeld
Vocational Service:	Evan	Stone	NSR Endowment:	Jim	Dugoni	Speech Contest:	Ray	Call	Rotary Read In:	Jim	Dugoni
RI Foundation:	Rav	Call									

Upcoming Speakers

01/14/25	Jason Perry	GM of ASM for Ball Park, Event Center & The Fox	Stockton Hilton
01/21/25	CEO Scott Watkins	Stockton Symphony and Peter Jaffee Conductor	Stockton Hilton
01/25/25	Mel Hansen Memorial	Outstanding Rotarian in every way. Saturday 10am	DeYoung Shoreline Chapel

Sunshine Bucks:

Frank Ferral: Eager to promote the Chambers new STAART APP to help fight Shoplifting. Through the app they now have 3,000 eyeballs watching for retail theft with 370 incidents reported already. Arrests are being made! Click ere to join: <u>STAART</u>

Jamie Sanchez: echoed Diane's sentiments and is eager to get started!

President Andy gave us an update on Bill McDonald's health. There's not much new to report. The medicine is helping the Covid symptoms and the rheumatoid arthritis. His will visit an oncologist today to discuss treatment options.

Future Highlights:

January 20: Our Annual Speech Contest at Lincoln High. February 25: Rotary Read in. Sign up with Jim Dugoni.



Rotary Foundation: Ray Call awarded Jim Dugoni his +5 Paul Harris Pin and Jim received a well deserved Standing Ovation!

January 7th in History:

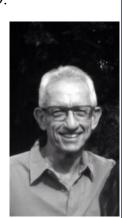
President Andy pointed out that Jan. 7th is

"Happy Orthodox Christmas Day" and "I am a Mentor Day". Not to be outdone, he added it's also, "National Flatulence Day". I kid you not, this is what I have to work with... Also George Washington was unanimously chosen to be the first President of the United States in 1789.



Select Facts about the Coopers Hawk **Andy** saw in his back yard: The Coopers Hawk is very hard to distinguish with their smaller cousin the Sharp Shinned Hawk. They prey on rodents and small birds and can be seen in urban areas by dumpsters and bird feeders. They are a species of special concern, but their numbers are increasing due to the banning of DDT and their adaptation to urban areas.

After so many years of bending over backwards to help everyone, **Richard Carr** had to go to Stanford for back surgery. Please keep **Richard's** recovery in your thoughts and prayers. And now on to our Speaker.







Carol Ornelas speaking to NSR

Our Speaker today is Carol Ornelas, founder of Visionary Home Builders. Started 40 years ago as a dream, they have built over 1600 affordable homes all over California. She has 85 employees. A big goal of hers is to dispel the myth that affordable housing means rundown tenement in 5 years. She says the key is to have diligent qualifying, enforcement of the rules and excellent property manage-

ment. Their mission is to create and advocate for healthy, vibrant, safe communities through the de-

velopment of affordable housing and educational opportunities for families, seniors and individuals of low and moderate income.

OUR VISION is a community where every child and adult have access to **Safe, Decent, Affordable Housing**, along with educational and training opportunities. We believe a home is the foundation which builds a healthy community where families can grow, strive for their dreams and hope for their future.

A non-profit developer, <u>Visionary Home Builders</u> most significant achievement was its emergence from a small group of farm workers in 1983, whose sole purpose was to improve the living environment for farm workers in public housing into a prominent leader in the development and renovation of housing in the Central Valley region.



Grand View Village on Minor Ave, Stockton



Carol standing at the Grand View Village site.

Visionary Home Builders' development of a year-round housing community for farm workers is a vision that began 40 years ago. Starting with the construction of nine self-help homes, and what we've built today, a 70-unit multi-family development known as Casa de Esperanza stands as our shining jewel. This housing community was distinctively designed to house 70 large families in a beautiful environment that includes Head Start, a health clinic, job placement, classes to teach English as a second language and many other services. Living out our vision for *Purposely Built Housing*, Visionary Home Builders is a multi-cultural agency. Our dreams of a small group of farm workers has never been forgotten. We build housing and strengthen communities in the toughest neighborhoods that no other developer would consider. Our road to success has not been an easy path to take but it is rewarding to be recognized along the way.



Andy, Diane, Carol and Valentino

The housing crisis has been a very difficult time for many of the homeowners in the communities we serve. Through our Homeownership and Rental Center, we play a key role in helping thousands of homeowners who have struggled through the fore-closure process, as well as those seeking loan modifications. The Homeownership and Rental Center has been a great asset to those who are looking to buy a home, avoid foreclosure and assist customers to find rental housing.

She stressed they use local contractors and services, and only rent to local qualified tenants. The idea is putting it all back into the community and helping tenants to become home owners. Also, she doesn't build anything she wouldn't live in! Well done and thank you **Carol!**

President Andy had her sign a children's book and rang the bell at 1:21pm.

