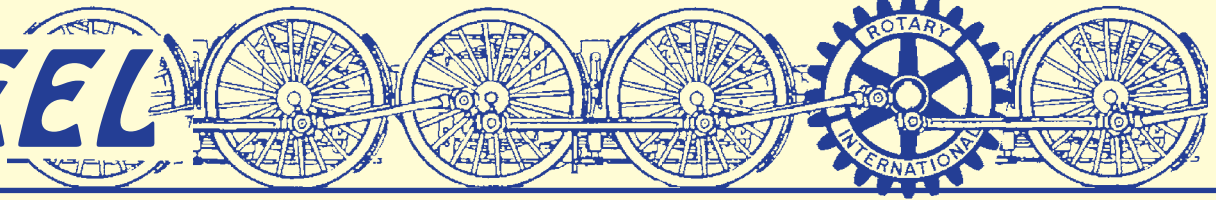


The BIG WHEEL



Rotary Club of Novato

Chartered April 26, 1954

The Golden Nugget of the North Bay

In The Valley of Gentle Seasons



February 12, 2021
Vol. 72, No.30
Editor:
Alan Dunham

In the Beginning

President Elect **Christina Stroeh** call the Zoom meeting to order from her home studio at 12:20 as she needed to give the entire meeting time to the program.

Phil Dougherty led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.



In honor of Black History Month, **Christina** provided the Thought for the Day: "The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members, a heart of grace and a soul generated by love."
Coretta Scott King.

Guests, Announcements, Sunshine and Recognitions will occur next week.

Program

Christina introduced her long time actress friend **Lauren** and her husband **Blake Montgomery** who performed the play "Love Letters" live from their home in Chicago. The

play was written in 1989 by American playwright **A.R. Gurney** about the life journeys of two friends who met in the second grade. Issues of hope, sadness, losses, illness, joys, etc. in their lives were shared in the written letters over the years. A very touching performance particularly suited to zoom and appropriate for Valentine's Day.



Raffle Winner

Next week we will double the winners.



You've read the bulletin! Now's your chance to write it!

Big Wheel Editors

NEEDED

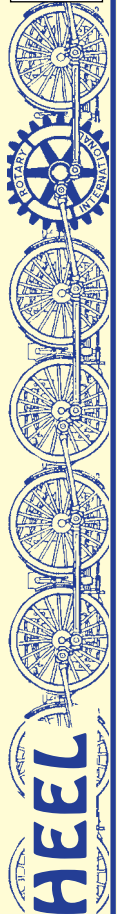
**for the Months of March,
April, May,
June & July**

Contact Bill Vespa

What are you waiting for?

Support the most interesting Rotary Club ever!

Help share the meeting with family, friends and members unable to attend.



P.O. Box 657
Novato, CA 94948

"Rotary Opens Opportunities"

The Four-Way Test

"Of the things we think, say or do:

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?"

Where to Make Up
Contact the Club you wish to attend for dates, time and virtual meeting code. The District website lists the Clubs and websites for contact info at:
Rotary5150.org/clubs/rotary-club-directory/



UPCOMING ZOOM MEETING February 19 **Sanja Kulenovic, Author**

Sanja has written the book the "Siege of Sarajevo - One Families Story of Separation, Struggle and Strength". For years Sarajevo was known as a crossroads of cultures - a peaceful place that valued a variety of religious traditions and ethnic heritages. It hosted the 1984 Winter Olympics. The rise of nationalism within former Yugoslavia led to a brutal conflict that threatened to wipe away the city's legacy of openness and tolerance. For almost four years, Sarajevo was under armed siege, and when it was finally lifted it was left a broken city it was marked by crumpled buildings, the scars of mortar shells and shattered families beset by grief. The book is about life under siege, resilience and determination. While it's been 20 years since the siege ended, it serves as an example for all as we navigate a confused frightened world while being under siege during this pandemic. Sanja keep you interested in her subject.

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Upcoming Programs

February

- Feb. 19 **Sanja Kulenovic**, Author of the book "Siege of Sarajevo - One Families Story of Separation, Struggle and Strength". Sanja will keep you interested in her subject. You might want to read her book before this meeting.
- Feb. 26 **Novato Police Sergeant Alan Bates:** Alan will talk about the job that he and his officers do on a daily basis. This is an opportunity to learn about the procedures and how they handle things as such as homelessness, family arguments, and perhaps defunding such a hot topics.

March

- Mar. 5 **Lori Frugoli** our Marin County District Attorney. Lori is a member of our Novato Rotary Club and will talk about gun violence.

www.novatorotary.org

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RI President-Elect Announces 2021-22 Presidential Theme

By Ryan Hyland - Rotary International Magazine

Incoming Rotary International President Shekhar Mehta urged members to become more involved in service projects, saying that caring for and serving others is the best way to live because it changes not only other people's lives, but also our own.

Mehta, a member of the Rotary Club of Calcutta-Mahanagar, West Bengal, India, revealed the 2021-22 presidential theme, Serve to Change Lives, to incoming district governors on February 1, 2021 during the Rotary International Assembly. The assembly, a yearly training event for district governors-elect, was originally set to take place in Orlando, Florida, USA, but was held virtually because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mehta spoke about how participating in service projects through Rotary changed him as a person and made him empathize more with the needs of others. Soon after joining his club, he helped carry out projects that benefited rural communities in India.

Some of the poor conditions he saw in those communities strengthened his commitment to service. "I truly understood the plight of my brethren," he said.

Mehta participated in initiatives that brought artificial limbs to children, clean water and sanitation to homes, and better health care facilities to communities.

"Rotary kindled the spark within me to look beyond myself and embrace humanity," he said. "Service became a way of life for me and I, like many others, adopted the guiding philosophy that 'Service is the rent I pay for the space I occupy on this earth, and I want to be a good tenant of this earth.'"

Mehta encouraged district governors-elect to lead by example during their term and inspire Rotary and Rotaract members to participate in projects that have measurable and sustainable impacts. He's asking each club to conduct a Rotary Day of Service.

"At the end of your term as district governor, you should feel that because of your leadership, because of your inspiration to Rotarians and Rotaractors, the world has changed for the better because of the service done by them during the year," he said.

Focusing on diversity, membership

For the 2021-22 Rotary year, Mehta wants members to focus their efforts on empowering girls and ensuring their access to education, resources, services, and opportunities so that future generations of women leaders will have the tools they need to succeed. Mehta asked members to use Rotary's belief that diversity, equity, and inclusion is critical in all we do as a compass to guide this work.

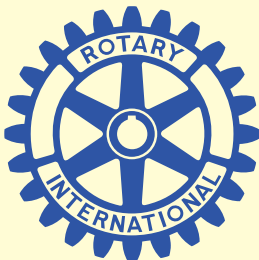
"There are many issues that girls face in different parts of the world, and you as leaders will ensure that we try and mitigate the disadvantage of the girl that they may have," he said.

To be able to do more through service, Rotary needs to increase membership, Mehta said. Membership has hovered around 1.2 million for the past two decades. He challenged the incoming governors to be catalysts in their districts to help increase membership to 1.3 million by July 1, 2022. Mehta's Each One, Bring One initiative asks every member to bring one person to join Rotary within the next 17 months.

Increasing membership while also continuing our commitment to eradicating polio, fighting COVID-19, and serving our communities is an ambitious goal. "And that should excite you," Mehta said. "Rotarians love challenges."

Rotary kindled the spark within me to look beyond myself and embrace humanity.

*Shekhar Mehta
Rotary International President-elect*



The Rotary Club of Novato

NON Western Polenta Feed & Dance

Have you made your
donation?
It's not too late!

Send your check to:
Novato Rotary Endowment
P.O. Box 657
Novato, CA 94948
or visit
www.novatorotary.org
to pay with Credit Card



Rotary Photo Album - February 12, 2021



A Zoom production of the play Love Letters, by AR Gurney was performed live from Chicago by Lauren and Blake Montgomery



Lauren and Blake Montgomery.



Russ Ketron, Donna Falzon, Frank Falzon, Chris DeGabriele, Ron Harness, Penny Hansen, and Jean Brown celebrate February Birthday's with a Lunch at Sam's.

Actress Lauren Montgomery was a drama student of Christina Stroeh's and they have remained friends attending each other's weddings. Lauren is married to Blake Montgomery and they have a young child. They live and work in Chicago. This was their first Zoom production thanks to Christina. - Penny