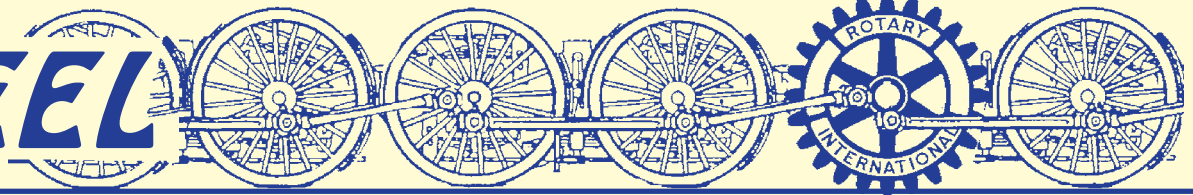


# The BIG WHEEL



Rotary Club of Novato

Chartered April 26, 1954

The Golden Nugget of the North Bay

In The Valley of Gentle Seasons



**January 14, 2022**  
**Vol. 73, No. 18**  
**Editor:**  
**Suzanne Bales**

## In the Beginning...

A half hour of socializing before the official start let us hear from **Mike Morrissey**, just back from Finland and the arctic circle. He experienced the auroa borealis and drove dog sleds! Trivia fact - **President Christina** shared her grandmother was from Finland. **Frank Bruno** shared a picture of his 5 week old granddaughter. As **Gloria Dunn-Violin** mentioned gosh, we sound just like a family!

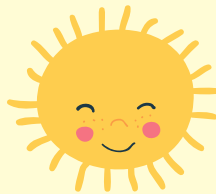
**Christina** banged her cowbell and called the meeting to order. **Ben Borok** led the Pledge while **Peian Harness** offered the "Thought of the Day." **Peian** stated while growing up in Taiwan, they were encouraged to watch the Golden Girls to improve English skills. "Now that I'm 91, as opposed to being 90, I'm much wiser. I'm much more aware and I'm much sexier." said **Betty White**.

## Visitors & Guests

We had lots of visiting Rotarians to hear our speaker; **Millie Anderson**, Terra Linda; **Judith Patterson**, Central Marin; **Jaime Ortiz**, San Rafael Harbor; **Val Stilson**, San Rafael; **Helen Abe**, San Rafael Harbor; **Hugh Murphy** also Harbor; **Al Shirley**, Marin Evening; and **Keith Axtell**... Whew!!

**Kevin Merritt** was a guest. A bit of competition for him as he is **Jay Wayne's** neighbor and **Gary Bramons** guest. **Roberta** was with **Alan Dunham**.

## Sunshine Report



Several members contributed to Sunshine news. **Dennis Baldwin** is recovering from major heart surgery. **Roberta Dunham** is having a knee replacement scheduled January 19th. **Frank Bruno** stated **Roy Pfeifer** is recovering from Covid.

**Jim Spilman** reported on **Frank Falzon**, who is suffering from inner ear problems.

## Announcements

### Breakfast at Sam's

**President Christina** discussed National Blueberry Pancake day on January 28th. In the works to meet at Sam's for breakfast, using the outside patio. More to come.

### Western BBQ & Line Dance - Postponed

**Chris DeGabriele** announced the Western BBQ & Line Dance has been postponed since IVC is allowing only 50 people during these times. No new date as yet. **Frank Bruno** still has some spots on the 2nd Super Bowl board, \$20 per square.

### District Conference

**President Christina** reminded us to register for the District Conference on May 14th at the Academy of Art Theater in San Francisco.

**Please Note:**  
**We are back to ZOOM meetings until further notice.**

## Polo Shirts and Blue Books are here!

She also said the last order of Rotary polo shirts have arrived so contact her if you need one. Also the Blue Books.... pick them up at Zenith Printing on Grant Ave.

## Resilient Neighborhoods

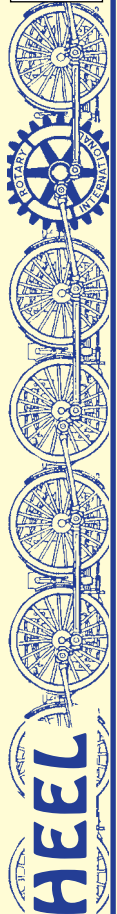
**Gloria Dunn-Violin** again reminded us of Resilient neighborhoods A session starts on Jan 18th, at 6:30 pm via Zoom, Two hours every other week for 10 weeks. Contact [gloriaviolin@yahoo.com](mailto:gloriaviolin@yahoo.com) if you have questions.



## In Memoriam J. "Don" Dole 1936 - 2022

There will be a service in the Spring when the weather is better. Meanwhile cards can be sent to his daughters:

Lisa and Jennifer Dole  
193 Captain Nurse Drive  
Novato, CA 94949



P.O. Box 657  
Novato, CA 94948

“Serve to Change Lives”

### 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?”

**Rotary Club Meeting**  
**MARIN MOCA**  
 Museum of Contemporary Art

**January 21 - ZOOM MEETING**

**Amy Owen,**  
**Executive Director of MarinMOCA**  
*Update on Activities at the Museum*

Amy Owen joined the Marin Museum of Contemporary Art as Executive Director in April 2021. Owen came to MarinMOCA from McEvoy Foundation for the Arts in San Francisco where she was Exhibitions and Public Programs Manager. Prior to that, she served nearly seven years as Curator at the di Rosa Center for Contemporary Art in Napa. She was previously Senior Exhibitions Manager in the Visual Arts Department at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts in San Francisco and Director of Exhibitions at Artists Space in New York City. Owen received her B.A. from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas and her M.A. from the Center for Curatorial Studies at Bard College in New York.

**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/](http://Rotary5150.org/clubs/rotary-club-directory/)

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*Upcoming Programs*

**January 2022**

Jan. 21 **Amy Owen, Executive Director of MarinMOCA**

Jan. 28 **NO MEETING** - *National Blueberry Pancake Day at Sam's Place! Come to Sam's any time that morning for breakfast. Outside seating available. Bundle up for pancakes! President Christina will be there at 9am!*

**February 2022**

Feb. 4 **Dr. David Coon, College of Marin President**

Feb. 11 **Love Song Singalong with Joni and Christina**

Feb. 18 **NO MEETING** - *Random Acts of Kindness project with Interact Club*

[www.novatorotary.org](http://www.novatorotary.org)

**ROTARY CLUB OF NOVATO**  
**2021/2022 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

<b>OFFICERS</b>	<b>DIRECTORS</b>
<b>Christina Stroeh</b> <i>President</i>	<b>Craig Anderson &amp; Jim Bates</b> <i>Club Administration</i>
<b>Peian Harness</b> <i>Vice President</i>	<b>Marisa Remak</b> <i>Public Image</i>
<b>Phil Dougherty</b> <i>Secretary</i>	<b>Jim Spilman</b> <i>Community Service</i>
<b>Reggie Winner</b> <i>Treasurer</i>	<b>Gloria Dunn-Violin</b> <i>Environmental Sustainability (NR-CAT)</i>
<b>Shekhar Mehta</b> <i>R.I. President</i>	<b>Holly Axtell</b> <i>International Service</i>
<b>Danielle Lallement</b> <i>District Governor</i>	<b>Jorg Puhr-Westerheide</b> <i>The Rotary Foundation (TRF)</i>
<b>Terri Carillo</b> <i>Assistant District Governor</i>	<b>Lynn Dawson</b> <i>Youth Service</i>
	<b>Sonia Seeman</b> <i>Membership</i>
	<b>Robert Marshall</b> <i>President, Nova-Ro Corp.</i>
	<b>Jay Wayne</b> <i>Chair, Novato Rotary Endowment</i>
	<b>Chris DeGabriele</b> <i>Past President</i>

## Betty White Memories

While there was some difficulty getting a video started on Zoom, **Jacqueline Janssen**, **Mike Morrissey's** better half, filled in with her tale of being on the **Betty White** talk show with her talent... at age 5 she had memorized the Gettysburg Address. She remembers **Betty White** being so nice to her.

## The Speaker

**John Legend's** video musical "Glory" very much set the mood for our speaker, **Noah Griffen Jr.** **Noah** is on his second term as president for Central Marin Rotary. The presentation is entitled 'The King's Quest, The Interrupted Journey.' His is a very interesting perspective. **Noah** has intimate and long time knowledge of the **King** family. His mother grew up with **MLK's** mother and both women attended the same college. **Noah's** mother had to pass on being a bridesmaid at the wedding of **MLK** parents. As an aside **MLK's** mother always thought her son would die young.

In **Noah's** opinion there are three great men who

have changed the world: **Mahatma Gandhi**, **Nelson Mandela** and **Martin Luther King Jr.**

**MLK** was brilliant, attending his father's alma mater Morehouse College when he was 15. On to theology school at Crozer, and then Boston University. An aside both his father and he were named **Michael** but both officially changed the name to **Marin Luther** in honor of the religious reformer.

When **MLK** was jailed for a sit in at an Atlanta department store his parents appealed to both the **Nixon** and **Kennedy** campaigns. **Nixon** did nothing while **JFK** got him freed and immediately **MLK's** dad changed party affiliation to democrat.

**Noah** also discussed that **King** knew he was facing a rough road but had no idea of the forces against him. **J. Edgar Hoover** taped his phones, and there is a belief **Hoover** knew of the attempt to assassinate. In 1998 the family won a lawsuit against the government on this.

**MLK's** mother was also assassinated in June 1974, while playing the church organ and his brother drowned under mysterious circumstances.

This talk has been recorded and I urge you to listen as it is impossible to cover all facts in this bulletin

**Noah** closed with some personal, family photos associated with the **King** family. As an aside kudos to our program committee. They do a fantastic job!

## The Winner

The 25er was won by **Suzanne Bales**.



## Support the Novato Rotary Endowment

Many more of us are shopping on-line these days. If you use Amazon for your shopping, try using **Smile.Amazon.com** Select the Novato Rotary Endowment as your charity and 0.5% of your purchases will go to the NRE.

# Rotary Photo Album



42 participants total from many nearby Rotary Clubs.



Jacqueline Morrissey recited the Declaration of Independence on the Betty White show at age 5.



A symbol of voting rights, on March 7, 1965, the late John Lewis led civil rights leaders over the bridge from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama and was beaten.



Noah Griffin, President of Central Marin Rotary Club, presented Martin Luther King, Jr. history.



Noah Griffin with Martin Luther King Jr. Family.