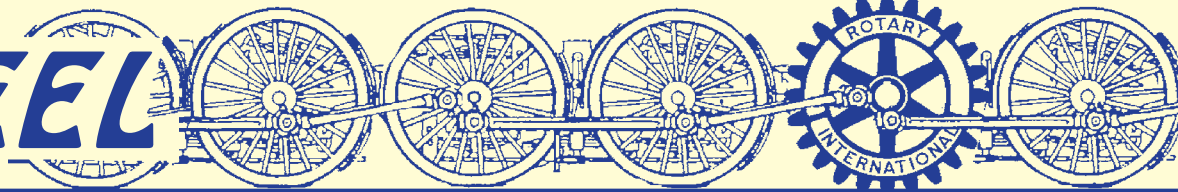


# The BIG WHEEL

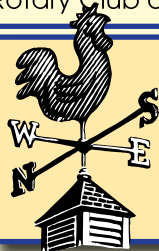


Rotary Club of Novato

Chartered April 26, 1954

The Golden Nugget of the North Bay

In The Valley of Gentle Seasons



**February 4, 2022**

**Vol. 73, No. 21**

**Editor:**

**Alan Dunham**

## In the Beginning

Pres. Christina called the meeting at the Jonas Center to order at 12:15. It was unique because it was the first hybrid meeting, Zoom and live. Thanks to the tech team of Mike Morrissey, Rene Prado, Phil Dougherty, Bill Vespa, Marisa Remak, Jim Spilman and Roberts Marshall's brother John.

Joy Fillman led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag via Zoom and Sonia Seeman gave the following 'Thoughts for the Day': "Nobody sees a flower really: It is so small. We haven't time, and to see takes time-like to have a friend takes time." – Georgia O'Keefe. "Flowers always make people better, happier, and more helpful; they are sunshine, food and medicine for the soul." – Luther Burbank. "Orchards were not made by an ideal engineer; they are jury rigged from a limited set of available components." – Stephen Jay Gould.

## Guests & Visitors

Guests included Jan Anderson, our speaker with husband Fred; Hank Schreeder of the Novato Police Department with Mike Howard; and Mike Morrissey's wife Jacqueline Janssen on Zoom. There were no visiting Rotarians listed.

## Four Way Test

Fred Anderson gave a brief history of our "Four Way Test" and had us all recite it.

## Sunshine Report

Marty Wickenheiser had no reports on members, however we were all glad to see our President Christina back as her usual exuberant self.

## Announcements

### Western BBQ and Dance

The event is rescheduled for May 21. Chris DeGabriele and his Committee are in the planning stages again.

### Super Bowl Pool

Frank Bruno explained how the pool works.

### Birthdays

The following members were acknowledged for their February Birthdays: Gloria Dunn-Violin, John Ringgenberg, Ron Harness, Jean Brown, Arlene Henry, Russ Ketron, Rafelina Maglio, Don Violin, Frank Falzon and Penny Hansen.

### Get Well Cards

President Christina thanked members for cards, emails and calls during her recovery and read one from Alan "That request to share my experience with right and left brain as an architect was an eye opener. It seems I'm totally right and Roberta is totally left brain. Maybe we have needed each other during our 61 years of marriage...."

### Blue Books

Sonia Seeman noted there are still Blue Books (Club Directories) available at Bill Vespa's Zenith Printing on Grant Avenue.

### Community Service

Jim Spilman indicated the project at Pleasant Valley School has been postponed and will be rescheduled.

### Youth Poetry Contest

Rotary Club of Novato through Youth Service sponsored our first Youth Poetry Contest with San Marin HS in October

2021. The theme was The Power of Hope. Two students won \$50 each and their English teacher/class won \$100 each. President Christina read poems by students Sally Cesko and Cesar Martinez Lopez.

## District Assembly & District Conference Dates

The District Assembly is March 26 at Redwood High School in Larkspur.

The District Conference is May 14 at the Academy of Art in San Francisco.

## Copper Canyon Presentation

Marty Wickenheiser narrated a slide presentation of a World Community Services trip to Copper Canyon in 1998 and the life changing experiences while sharing food, clothing, dental and other services with the Tarahumara, the native inhabitants. This was one of many trips until they were discontinued due to dangers with the drug traffic in the area.

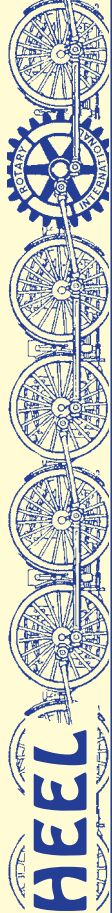
## Program

The scheduled speaker canceled so President Christina contacted Fred Anderson who gave an overview of the History of Orchid Collecting and Cloning. Prior to 1960 orchids were exclusively the purview of the elite. Today orchard collecting is far more egalitarian thanks to improved reproduction and propagation technology including cloning. There are now over 25,000 species.

Fred's wife Jan talked about raising orchids. They have been collecting and raising orchids since 1981. They currently live in Novato and have a greenhouse filled with numerous species. Correct growing, watering and cloning is an ongoing learning process as all orchids originate from areas around the globe with different climates. She did however suggest to "water weakly weekly." She provided a large display of beautiful plants showing the diverse colors, leaves, flowers and sizes.

They are active in the American Orchid Society. See AOS.org for more information.

*Continued on page 3*



P.O. Box 657  
Novato, CA 94948

**"Serve to Change Lives"**

### The Four-Way Test

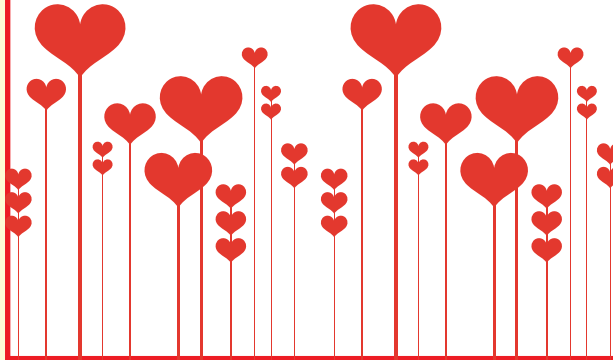
"Of the things we think, say or do:

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  
February 11  
Bill and Adele Jonas Center  
& ZOOM**

**Love Song Singalong  
with  
Joni DeGabriele  
and  
Christina Stroeh**



### 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/**

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## Upcoming Programs

### February 2022

- Feb. 11 **Love Song Singalong:** With Joni and Christina
- Feb. 18 **NO MEETING - Pioneer Park Picnic / Social Event**
- Feb. 25 **Marin Museum of the American Indian:** Victoria Canby, Executive Director

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

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

#### OFFICERS

- Christina Stroeh**  
*President*
- Peian Harness**  
*Vice President*
- Phil Dougherty**  
*Secretary*
- Reggie Winner**  
*Treasurer*

- Shekhar Mehta**  
*R.I. President*
- Danielle Lallement**  
*District Governor*
- Terri Carillo**  
*Assistant District Governor*

#### DIRECTORS

- Craig Anderson & Jim Bates**  
*Club Administration*
- Marisa Remak**  
*Public Image*
- Jim Spilman**  
*Community Service*
- Gloria Dunn-Violin**  
*Environmental Sustainability (NR-CAT)*
- Holly Axtell**  
*International Service*
- Jorg Puhr-Westerheide**  
*The Rotary Foundation (TRF)*
- Lynn Dawson**  
*Youth Service*
- Sonia Seeman**  
*Membership*
- Robert Marshall**  
*President, Nova-Ro Corp.*
- Jay Wayne**  
*Chair, Novato Rotary Endowment*
- Chris DeGabriele**  
*Past President*

## Winner

**Gary Bramon** was this week's big winner.

## Next Week

Love Song Singalong with **Joni De Gabriele** and President Christina.



### Hands-On Project for Open Space Saturday, February 19th from 9am – 12Noon

Join us in a volunteer work day to remove invasive french broom and plant native milkweed to improve monarch butterfly habitat. This project will convert broom and blackberry bramble into a much less fire prone area with higher quality habitat. Broom removal and planting are moderately strenuous and involve bending, kneeling on level terrain. It is recommended for volunteers of all ages and skill levels. This is a drop in day with the philosophy of come when you can, leave when you must.

Dress in layers you can get dirty, wear sturdy shoes, and bring water. Please bring gloves if you have them. Snacks, tools, gloves and extra water will be provided.

Directions: Meet at intersection of Alameda Del Prado and Alameda Del Prado near the old Marin II building in Novato. DIRECTIONS: From Hwy101 in Novato, take the Alameda Del Prado exit, head south approximately .2 miles to 150 Alameda Del Prado. Park in designated areas along Alameda Del Prado.

In the event of heavy rain and/or high winds call (415) 473-3778 to find out about event status.

If you have any questions about the event contact Marin County Volunteer Coordinator email **Greg Reza** or call at (415) 473-3778.

You can also contact contact **Gloria Dunn-Violin**, Novato Rotary Climate Action Committee, at 415-259-7090 or gloriaviolin@yahoo.com. You may RSVP to **Gloria** if you like.

## Rotary Club of Novato members:

Last night I participated in a Zone 26 & 27 ZOOM Polio District Polio Chairs' Meeting and we received a superb update from RI Polio Chair, **Mike McGovern**. Yesterday was the one-year anniversary of the last reported case of Polio in Pakistan. Of course, we had the three cases of wild polio reported from Afghanistan last October. **Mike** told us the World Health Organization (WHO) is promoting 2022 as a very critical year for our long-standing Polio eradication efforts. Individual Rotarians, Clubs, Districts, our Rotary Foundation along with the Polio Plus Societies are doing an excellent job of raising cash donations. There are major efforts to have PolioPlus Societies sanctioned as official - just like the Paul Harris Societies.

Cash donations for Polio Eradication are up worldwide but we are way down with District Designated Funds (DDF) donations. It is important to remember Our Rotary Foundation still matches DDF 50 cents on the dollar and with the two for one match from the Gates Foundations means for each dollar of DDF donated to Polio our dollars are leveraged 4.25 times. This means the \$7,000 our WCS committee just approved from our club's DDF- with Rotary and Gates leverage, will result in another \$31,500 to our worldwide Polio eradication efforts.

This all adds up to our worldwide Rotary \$50 million commitment to qualify for the Gates 100 million dollars. Our award-winning Rotary International Foundation receives the funds at the beginning of each Rotary year. This means Rotary is in charge of distributing the funds worldwide and not some high overhead non-profit.

If you have not signed up for our District Polio Plus Society, please think about doing so as "Together we make a Difference" helping immunize over 400 hundred million children each and every year. You can contact our End Polio Society District Chair, & DGND, **Steve Wright**, at [stevewright1220@gmail.com](mailto:stevewright1220@gmail.com) for details on how to join.

*Thanks, again for your help in supporting of our PolioPlus efforts,  
Russ Ketron, D5150 Polio Co-Chair & Rotary Club of Novato Polio Chair.*

Rotary Club of Novato Social Event

## Pioneer Park Picnic. Frisbee Contest and Bubbles!

Friday, February 18 / 12:00 Noon

Pioneer Park -  
look for the balloons and the fun loving Rotarians!

All ages welcome.

Please bring your lunch, blankets or chairs.

We will provide the Frisbees for the contest  
and the bubbles!

This is a great chance for everyone to see the all  
the work that the Club has done on the gazebo!

Please join us!

27th Annual Proceeds Support Community and International Service Projects

Rotary Club of Novato

## Western BBQ & Line Dance

Bill & Adele Jonas Center  
IVC Campus, Novato

**Saturday, May 21, 2022**

5:30 - 6:30 - BELLY-UP to the Bar  
6:30 - Dinner • Auctions through the Evening

LIVE MUSIC

Menu  
BBQ Chicken Thighs, Pulled Pork  
Beans, Cole Slaw & French Roll

BIG SKY AUCTION

PIE AUCTION

**\$45 per Person**  
Tickets are Available  
From Novato Rotary Club Members  
Please make checks payable to:  
Novato Rotary Endowment  
P.O. Box 657 • Novato, CA 94948

Tickets may also be purchased at  
[novatorotary.org](http://novatorotary.org) or use QR Code below

NO Tickets at the Door!

All CDC, State and Local Covid Guidelines will be followed.  
Proof of vaccination or negative COVID test to attend. Masks are required.



COVID vaccination screening before entry to meeting.



PP Frank, Bruno with the Super Bowl fund raiser.



**Passing along Rotary news.**

Our 5150 former District Governor 2018, **Jayne Hulbert** of Rotary Club of Ignacio is in the current February issue of Rotary magazine. She describes her history with Polio in her family and her membership with Rotary. As a champion Polio Fund raiser for two decades, she recounts handling all of the cash and checks and worry filling out forms versus the introduction of rotary.org/raise for online donations.

By Penny



PP Chris DeGabriele in person and on Zoom announcing the May 21 Western BBQ and Dance.



Documentarian Mike Morrissey connects audio and video for Zoom coverage.



The Rotary Club of Novato Chairman of Community Service Committee Jim Spilman joined with San Rafael Evening Rotary with Juniper removal for Fire protection of a Elipida Residential Care Home. PP Marty Wickenheiser, Larry Mazzotta and Jorg Puhr-Westerheide joined with San Rafael Evening members President Leslie Biagini, Will Biagini, Jagpal Sran and Stacie Vance, Fred A. and Alex Biagini on a sunny day of hard physical work with dramatic results. The Juniper removal will continue February 19 and 20. Contact Jim Spilman to sign up.