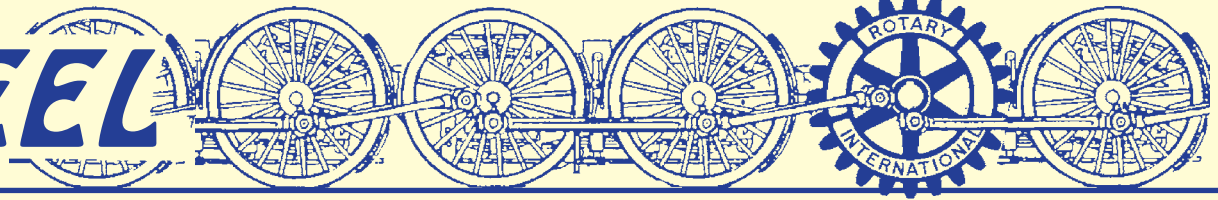


# The BIG WHEEL

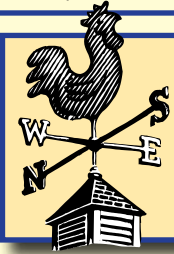


Rotary Club of Novato

Chartered April 26, 1954

The Golden Nugget of the North Bay

In The Valley of Gentle Seasons



**February 26, 2021**  
**Vol. 72, No. 32**  
**Editor:**  
**Alan Dunham**

## In the Beginning

**President Chris DeGabriele** opened our meeting at 12:30 from the broadcast studio of KRCN from the virtual lounge of the Jonas Community Center on the Indian Valley Campus of College of Marin.

**Pledge: Mike Morrissey** shared his screen of the American Flag and The Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Marty Wickenheiser**.

Thought for the Day: **Ron Harness** used this time to discuss the relative new "Area of Focus" for Rotary International called "Environment." The list of issues is growing and includes, planting trees, protecting wildlife habitat etc. Projects may apply for District and RI Grants. Our Club has a new Environmental/ Sustainability Committee with Ron as the Chair. Next year there will be a Board position for this "Area of Focus."

## Raffle Rules

**Jim Spilman** explained the Raffle rules.

## Visitors & Guests

**President Chris** welcomed and thanked the following visitors for attending (partial list as no formal list is available): **Susie McCurdy** with

**Craig; Vicki McDill** with **Bill; John Reuscher** of the Novato Sunrise Club; **Gloria Dunn-Violin** with **Don**; and **Duncan McSwain**.

## Sunshine Report

*(Mostly gleaned Pre-Meeting Chatter.)*

**Donna Falzon** is doing pretty well recovering. She is using a cane and wheelchair as needed.

**Frances Borok** is home and will be receiving physical therapy to help with her balance.

**Peian's** mother's condition has stabilized.

**Jorg** reported that his recent skiing trip caused his daughter to have her ACL (one of the major ligaments in your knee) repaired while his wife, **Linda**, was blown over by the wind and resulting in strains to her right arm and back. Might be the end of downhill skiing. However cross country skiing might be a possibility.

**George Estes** has completed his chemo and radiation treatments and is getting his energy back. Good news. He even worked through these procedures. Wow, what dedication.

**Frank** noted that **Robin** is "hanging in there" and he is going to have his fifth surgery on his shoulder rotary cuff. Very painful and hard to sleep.

Today is **Toni Bramon's** mother's, **Rena Rose Tryon**, 100th year birthday. Wow **Toni**, with those genes we will happily be seeing you around for many years.

## Announcements

### The Rotary Foundation

**Jorg Westerheide** reported that we are at \$19,000 towards our goal of \$22,000 for the Annual

Fund. 47 of our members are enrolled in the EREY (Every Rotarian Every Year) program.

## Novato Rotary Endowment

**Bill Vespa** proudly announced that we have finally reached our goal of \$1,000,000. The Endowment was created 30 years ago when **Darrell Scott** was President so we would have a source of funds to support our Community and World Service projects. He thanked **Craig McCurdy** and his Non-Polenta Feed Committee, the Endowment Board and all the generous Donors. Congratulations!!!!

## The Birds

**Mike Morrissey** shared a video he took of the starling murmuration in the Dry Creek area.

*Continued on page 3*

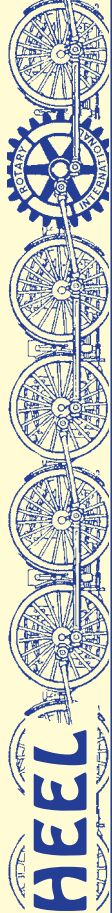
**You've read the bulletin! Now's your chance to write it!**

**What are you waiting for?**

**Big Wheel Editors**  
**NEEDED**  
**for the Months of April, May, June & July**

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



**UPCOMING ZOOM MEETING**  
**March 5**

**Lori Frugoli**  
**Marin County District Attorney**

Our own member, **Lori Frugoli**, is in her first term as the Marin County District Attorney. This position, like many of our political positions, has been controversial and difficult with the public not sure what they want. There has been a part of the public that wants more tolerance in sentencing; the three strikes law has been challenged; and free speech issues have been criticized. **Lori** will be sharing information on the launch of the Marin County Gun Safety Collaborative and Veterans Court. **Lori** will talk about many of these issues and will be prepared to answer your questions.

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## Upcoming Programs

**March**

**Mar. 5**    **Lori Frugoli:** Our own member, Lori Frugoli, is in her first term as the Marin County District Attorney. This position, like many of our political positions, has been controversial and difficult with the public not sure what they want. There has been a part of the public that wants more tolerance in sentencing; the three strikes law has been challenged; and free speech issues have been criticized. Lori will be sharing information on the launch of the Marin County Gun Safety Collaborative and Veterans Court. Lori will talk about many of these issues and will be prepared to answer your questions.

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

**ROTARY CLUB OF NOVATO**  
**2020/2021 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

<p><b>OFFICERS</b></p> <p><b>Chris DeGabriele</b> <i>President</i></p> <p><b>Christina Stroeh</b> <i>Vice President</i></p> <p><b>Reggie Winner</b> <i>Secretary</i></p> <p><b>Jim Bates</b> <b>Debbie Brusatori</b> <i>Treasurer</i></p> <hr style="width: 20%; margin: 10px auto;"/> <p><b>Holger Knaack</b> <i>R.I. President</i></p> <p><b>Mary Bates</b> <i>District Governor</i></p> <p><b>Carola Detrick</b> <i>Assistant District Governor</i></p>	<p><b>DIRECTORS</b></p> <p><b>Craig Anderson</b> <i>Club Administration</i></p> <p><b>Michael Morrissey</b> <i>Public Image</i></p> <p><b>Jim Spilman</b> <i>Community Service</i></p> <p><b>Phil Dougherty</b> <i>International Service</i></p> <p><b>Jorg Puh-Westerheide</b> <i>The Rotary Foundation (TRF)</i></p> <p><b>Shawn Campas</b> <b>Katie Chase</b> <i>Youth Service</i></p> <p><b>Christina Stroeh</b> <b>Sonia Seeman</b> <i>Membership</i></p> <p><b>Burt Hoffmann</b> <i>President, Nova-Ro Corp.</i></p> <p><b>Bill Vespa</b> <i>Chair, Novato Rotary Endowment</i></p> <p><b>Ron Harness</b> <i>Past President</i></p>
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Continued from page 1

Apparently they gather in the afternoon as a community for protection and warmth. It appears they do not collide because they communicate with the seven birds around them. A wonder of nature and a beautiful video.

### Birthdays

Last meeting of the month so all birthdays had been previously recognized.

### Program

**Mike Howard** introduced our speaker **Alan Bates**, Novato Police Sergeant whose presentation was titled “Novato Response Team.” He spoke mainly about the homeless population in Novato and the problems involved in helping the homeless community. There are many laws and policies that are contradictory which makes law enforcement difficult. It is especially difficult when they are offered help and refuse. Our Club has been asked to build a fence near Lee Gerner Park. **Bates** said they received support from many environmental agencies declaring the camps along the creek are detrimental to the environment. He also spoke of the need to retain the two School Resource Officers who provide friendly interface with students. The number of arrests of youth in general has decreased since having them at the schools.

### Raffle Winner

**Peian Harness** was the lucky winner being only one number off the winning number.

### Next week's program

Our own **Lori Frugoli**, Marin County District Attorney.

## Honolulu to host 2027 Rotary International Convention

*HONOLULU (Feb. 18, 2021) - RI Magazine*

Almost one year after canceling its international convention in Honolulu due to the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic, Rotary announced it will hold its annual gathering in Honolulu for the membership service organization's 118th convention on June 5-9, 2027.

Held in a different city around the world each year, Rotary conventions bring members from all continents and cultures together to learn from each other and various experts, and to share ideas for delivering long-term solutions to the w-o attend the event in Honolulu in 2020, which was estimated to bring \$35-40 million into the local economy.

“After canceling our convention in 2020 due to COVID-19, we are grateful to the citizens of Honolulu for welcoming us again in 2027,” said Rotary International President Holger Knaack. “As a global organization that values bringing people together, we look forward to sharing and celebrating our friendships, cultures and service in the spirit of Aloha.”

“Beyond the incredible economic impact this convention will have, the people of Hawai'i will be inspired by the humanitarian causes of Rotary International, to include: promoting peace, fighting disease, providing clean water, saving mothers and children, supporting education, growing local economies and protecting the environment,” said John De Fries, President and CEO, Hawaii Tourism Authority. “As a global community, Rotary members embody the values we cherish here, in Hawai'i.”

Organized by Rotary International in conjunction with the Honolulu Host Organizing Committee of local Rotary members, the convention will provide attendees with ample opportunities to experience Oahu's many attractions.

The Rotary Club of Honolulu, chartered in 1915, is Rotary's first club in Honolulu. Today, there are more than 1,470 Rotary members who belong to over 45 clubs across Hawai'i taking action on important local issues including drowning prevention, creating green space in Waikiki and helping homeless people receive medical care.

# Rotary Photo Album - February 26, 2021



Past President Ron Harness introduce added Environment focus to Rotary.



Past President Rotary International Ian Riseley 2017-2018 introduces Sustainability as added focus.



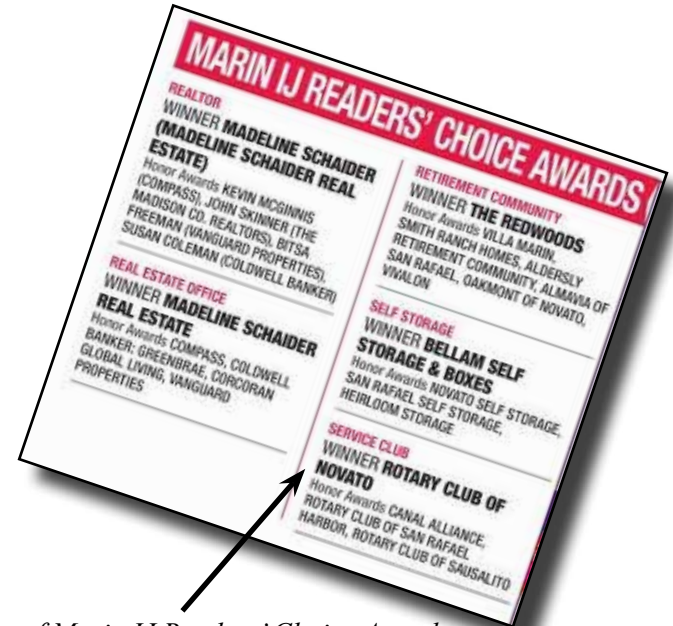
Mike Morrissey shared a video of Starlings in Healdsburg doing their winter dance.



Lieutenant Mike Howard introduces NPD Sergeant Alan Bates.



NPD Sergeant Alan Bates explains Homeless at Lee Gerner Park.



Winner of Marin IJ Readers' Choice Awards for best Service Club - Rotary Club of Novato!