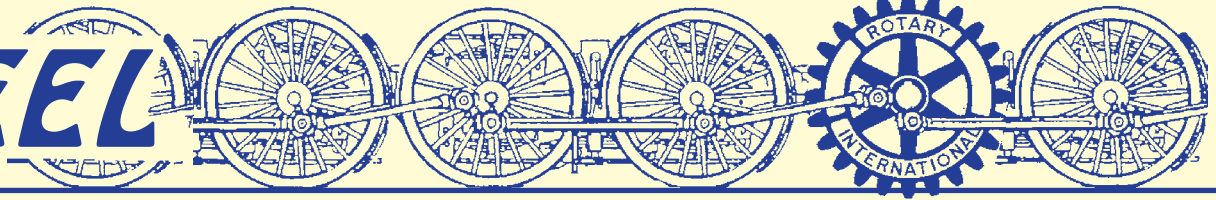


The BIG WHEEL



Rotary Club of Novato

Chartered April 26, 1954

The Golden Nugget of the North Bay

In The Valley of Gentle Seasons



March 5, 2021
Vol. 72, No. 33
Editor:
Penny Hansen

In the Beginning...

Most recent **Past President Ron Harness** chaired our meeting today. Thank you, **Ron**. Your Zoom background of Lake Atitlan Guatemala from your 2020 Rotary International Project journey was a reminder of an epic humanitarian clean water accomplishment.

The 'Thought for the Day' by **Reggie Winner** was fabulous, I thought. She decided to exchange "the John" the euphemism for bathroom with "Gym." Ha. Repeating the improvement by saying, "I start my day at the Gym."

Sadie Remak led the Pledge of Allegiance. **Sadie** is age 6 now in 1st grade at Old Greenwich School in Connecticut and enjoys ballet, art and especially snow days. I have memories photographing the entire **Remak** family Hula-hooping at **PP Frank Bruno's** 50's Rock and Roll Music Evening that included poodle dog skirts, pony tails, attitude with Classic Cars parked outside. That was fun.

Gary Bramon PP 1999 has kept our Novato Rotary Club meetings cognitively stimulating and bouncing with a mind-boggling line-up of Guest Speakers with current and controversial local Civic topics of concern including our Novato City Manager and former Police Chief **Adam McGill, NPD**

Sergeant Alan Bates, and Rotary Club members **NPD Lieutenant Mike Howard** and **Marin County District Attorney Lori Frugoli**. I would surmise with OMG!

Club participation is energetically urged by our next incoming President **Christina Stroeh**. Volunteering to produce our meeting coverage for our Rotary Club newsletter Big Wheel is a learning experience not to be missed. Interestingly, Zoom makes the task easier by seeing the names of people speaking. I was Baptized by fire. As a new member, 6 years ago, I was offered the chance to be Editor of the Big Wheel before I knew the names of 50 or so members and guests at our in-person Club lunch meetings, a slightly more challenging experience than Zoom. You are not required to take photos.

Ways to Support the Novato Rotary Endowment

Thanks to **Rene Prado** and **Mike Morrissey**, I will share a way to donate part of your Amazon purchase to the Novato Rotary Endowment Fund. After 30 years of contributing, we reached the 1 million mark, we are singing joy.

Instructions: First you must register your charitable organization (Novato Rotary Endowment) at org.amazon.com. Sign in to org.amazon.com, then click the Help link at the top of the page, then under General Program information select the Spotlight Charities link to access the application form. What is the AmazonSmile Foundation. Thank you, **Rene** and **Mike** for your enduring patience.

Guest

Gary Bramon introduced guest **Polly Guy** whom he met at Novato Starbucks, one of her many

Starbucks she administers, trying to assist a roaming young homeless woman for 3 hours. **Gary** reports no response from several agencies due apparently to priorities of the organizations that are over-whelmed during Covid Pandemic. Never heard the outcome.

Continued on page 3

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

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.

What are you
waiting for?



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
March 12

Dayna Inskeep
Teaching During a Pandemic - One Teacher's Perspective

How has teaching changed in the last year and what are the positives that may come from it? Dayna Inskeep, Elementary teacher in Coos Bay, Oregon, will discuss the pandemic from the eyes of an educator, Joy Fillman will be our host. With so many concerns about schools and Covid-19 and the idea that our youngest generation is going to be the "lost generation." Dayna will speak to that concern, and report from the front lines about how she is navigating all the stresses of being a teacher-creating the often only reliable and reassuring psychological structure in kids, last but not least, providing the opportunity and engagement that celebrates and quenches young peoples' natural thirst for learning. In sum, we owe a debt of gratitude for the unbelievable job under fire that our teachers are doing in nurturing a generation that is, plain and simple, the future of our planet. Especially when their parents are stressed and need reassurance themselves, on top of that keeping children physically healthy and safe from Covid-19 .

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Upcoming Programs

March

March 12 **Teaching during a Pandemic-One Teacher's Perspective: Dayna Inskeep**, Elementary Teacher will discuss the pandemic from the eyes of an educator and concerns about schools, Covid-19 and the idea that our youngest generation is going to be the "lost generation." Dayna will discuss the stresses of being a teacher-creating the often only reliable and reassuring psychological structure in kids, and providing the opportunity and engagement that celebrates and quenches young peoples' natural thirst for learning.

March 19 **VP of Administrative Services Greg Nelson** will share a slideshow of the Jonas Center, surrounding improvements, and programming that will be in place to take advantage of such an exciting venue. **Director of School and Partnerships Anna Pilloton** will share general updates on COM programs and initiatives followed by time for Q and A.

www.novatorotary.org

ROTARY CLUB OF NOVATO 2020/2021 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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

Ron Harness introduced **Gloria Dunn-Violin** who described in detail the new 7th Focus of Rotary International. Environmental Sustainability. There is a multitude of opportunities for participation in our community and internationally. Currently there is a hefty backing of 18 million available for Projects. Got an idea? Talk to **Ron** and **Gloria**.

Sunshine

Larry Harrison is feeling improved from his shoulder replacement. **Frank Bruno** commiserates with sympathetic shoulder issues. **George Estes** reports that he is winding up the Chemo and radiation barrage to eradicate illness. He is back at work, helping people. Good medicine.



Volunteers Needed

Community Service Project needs volunteers to distribute Hams Tuesday with North Marin Community Service. Talk to Chairman of Community Service **Jim Spilman**. Great effort is maintained to keep social-distancing and helping. Mask is mandatory.

Also, second event of Brick placement at Novato City Hall patio. March 17, 9:00 a.m. These bricks are already engraved with many Rotary Club past presidents from Novato's three Rotary Clubs. This is work. Removing a "blank" brick then sizing and leveling the replacement engraved brick. You are supervised and the results are wonderful.

President Elect Training

Our future President **Christina Stroeh** is going to PET, President Elect Training.

Decaf anyone?

PP Marty Wickenheiser has an abundance to share. Peet's whole bean decaf. Contact her.

The Program

Our Guest Speaker was introduced by **PP Gary Bramon** Speaker Chair.

From Terra Linda High to Marin District Attorney by election, our Rotary Club member **Lori Frugoli**.



In a position well earned with many years of determination and experience wearing the Badge, Investigations and a Law Degree. She will be launching the Marin County Gun Safety Collaboration and she shows statistics of gun ownership increases likelihood of suicide. She will also introduce Veterans Court.

A member and business owner expressed having to tolerate the daily sight of the homeless encampment and negative impact of creek use, damage and debris and negative impact to his life long established professional business with negative impact to his clientele with the physical take-over of Novato's Public Lee Gerner Park next to the Library. What came to light from several recent Rotary Club meeting Guest Speakers, City Management and Police is the Supreme Court decision to protect the unhoused that results in a financial toll on our City - which is in debt as we learned from the **City Manager Adam**



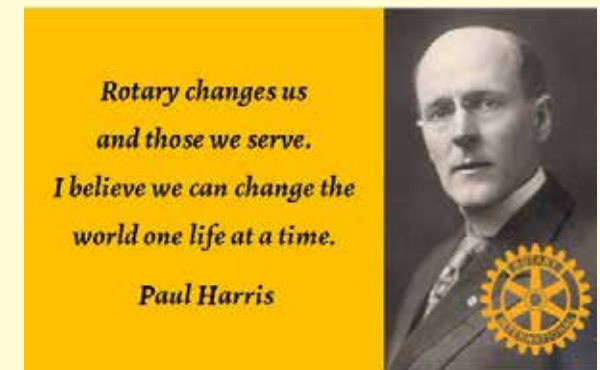
McGill and the demoralizing of our Police Department we learned from NPD **Sgt Adam Bates**. With conflict between what is currently legally allowed by the homeless encampment, the physical destruction to our creek

and bank that is used as a toilet, endless piles of garbage and debris vs socially conforming, law abiding nearby business owners and public use and social decency.

The homeless camping in our public Parks are refusing placement. They enjoy the freedom of the Park that the law allows. We also learned from our DA that due to Covid there are only two Covid Safe Court Rooms and there is a Prosecution Case backlog of 200. We also learned the process of selection for releasing San Quentin prisoners due to Covid rules to provide safer single occupied cells.

Raffle winners

It was a tie. **Don Violin** and **Rene Prado**.



Rotary Photo Album - March 5, 2021



Street protests to release San Quentin prisoners.



Polly Guy

Gary Bramon met Polly while trying to help a stranger wandering at Starbucks.



Gloria Violin

Gloria describes Rotary's new focus - Environmental Sustainability.



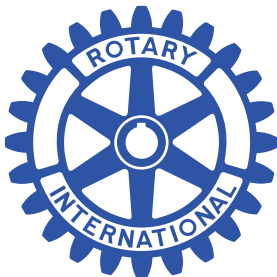
Marisa Remak

Sadie Remak led the Pledge.



Craig

Dr. Craig McCurdy describes health conditions and creek terracing for tents at encampment at Lee Gerner park.



Encampment at Lee Gerner Park.