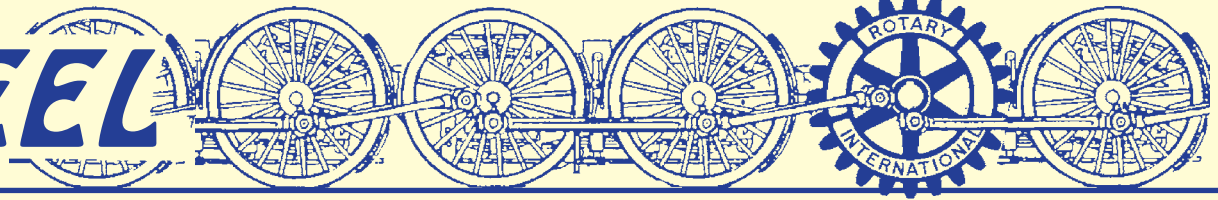


The BIG WHEEL

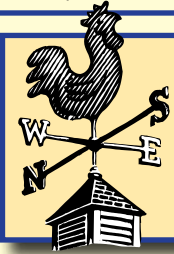


Rotary Club of Novato

Chartered April 26, 1954

The Golden Nugget of the North Bay

In The Valley of Gentle Seasons



March 19, 2021
Vol. 72, No. 35
Editor:
Penny Hansen

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.

Boomers to Zoomers, Year Two

We are taught; to survive we must adapt. With growing Zoom attendance counting 56 plus participants and a strong relevant Speaker schedule our meeting screen time is filled with members, guests, visitors and the curious on lookers - checking us out. Yes, COVID is devastating to the very mature - so we persevere the Vaccination process. By **President Chris'** vaccination Zoom hand count, the vaccinated among us is approaching 100%.

In these prolonged emotionally trying times we wait to open the doors for gathering in a place of honor to **Bill and Adele Jonas** and thankfulness to our Rotary Club Jonas Committee that persevered a thousand challenges to create our new Rotary home.

With military precision **President Chris DeGabriele** punctually clangs us to attention. I scan the squares of smiling faces and about 6 or 7 are not familiar. Whoopee, more potential members.

Debbie Brusatori led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and **Rosanna Chenette** gave us a 'Thought for the Day' quoting **Gwen Ifill**, "I believe if we only talk to people who agree with us, we will never learn and grow..."

Gwen Ifill former PBS NewsHour Anchor on KQED overcame social barriers as a black female journalist taken down at age 61 to cancer in 2016.

Visitors

President Chris introduced two visiting Rotarians: **Charley Vogt**, Rotary Member of the Month of Ignacio Rotary, and **Jeffrey Tador Reed** of Petaluma Valley Rotary. Also visiting, former Novato Mayor, third term City Council and City Hall Brick Project champion **Jeanne MacLeamy** and Brick Project partner **Elayne Miller**.

Raffle

Jim Spilman had family emergency, so **Mike** stepped up and explained the Raffle.

District Assembly

President Chris encouraged us to Zoom attend the District Assembly.

Recognitions

President Chris recognized birthday boy **Rob Marshall**, in retirement from Hotel and Restaurant ownership, claims to only shave once a week. He explains his interest in Australian Out-back hats.



Adventure Awaits

Dennis Hagerty, our 30-year member and best-looking guitar player in a cowboy hat. A Novato City community spark plug and civic innovator: July 4th Parade, Novato Music and Wine Festival and Western Weekend. He even wrote and published a song about living in Novato, by request.

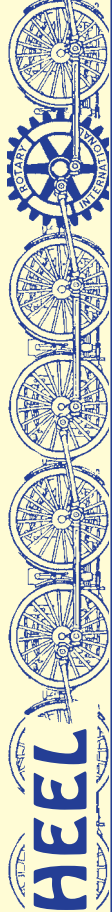
Dennis and **Gilda** are saddling up next week and moving to a rural ranch of Westcliffe, Colorado. I hear musical lyrics of, "tired of this old City, big boots carry me home," not exactly a million miles from city life. **Dennis** says the City of 17,000 is only five miles away. They will be joining his family and grand daughter **Brooke** to explore the richness of nature. The winter post card scene is his home. **Dennis** can finally get his horse a home on the range.

Polenta Feed memories with **Dennis** and his band will be in our hearts. I can hear the fiddle music, smell the food and admire the amazing western outfitted crowds and **Camie's** western scene murals as we squeezed together in food lines laughing and trying not to spill our drinks. Best party ever.

New Member Induction

New Member **Gloria Dunn-Violin** was introduced by her mentor and husband **Don**. She is renewing her Vows and has a thriving history

Continued on page 3



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 26

Drew McIntyre
 General Manager of
 North Marin Water District

Drew McIntyre, General Manager of North Marin Water District and past president of Rotary Club of Novato Sunrise: Novato has received less than 9 inches of rainfall since last July, the lowest amount since rainfall records were established in 1916. **Drew** will give an update on North Marin Water District and Novato water supply conditions including possible water use restrictions residents can expect this summer and fall.

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Upcoming Programs

March	
March 26	Drew McIntyre, General Manager of North Marin Water District and past president of Rotary Club of Novato Sunrise: Novato has received less than 9 inches of rainfall since last July, the lowest amount since rainfall records were established in 1916. Drew will give an update on North Marin Water District and Novato water supply conditions including possible water use restrictions residents can expect this summer and fall.
April	
April 2	No Meeting

www.novatorotary.org

ROTARY CLUB OF NOVATO
2020/2021 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

OFFICERS Chris DeGabriele <i>President</i> Christina Stroeh <i>Vice President</i> Reggie Winner <i>Secretary</i> Jim Bates Debbie Brusatori <i>Treasurer</i>	DIRECTORS Craig Anderson <i>Club Administration</i> Michael Morrissey <i>Public Image</i> Jim Spilman <i>Community Service</i> Phil Dougherty <i>International Service</i> Jorg Puh-Westerheide <i>The Rotary Foundation (TRF)</i> <hr style="width: 20%; margin: 5px auto;"/> Shawn Campas Katie Chase <i>Youth Service</i> Christina Stroeh <i>Membership</i> Burt Hoffmann <i>President, Nova-Ro Corp.</i> Bill Vespa <i>Chair, Novato Rotary Endowment</i> Ron Harness <i>Past President</i>
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with Rotary and even convinced some members to march and dance in a July 4th Parade. She has stamina and now joins **PP Ron** with the newest focus of Rotary International, the Environment.

The Speaker

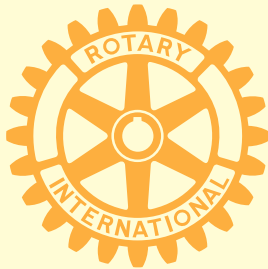
Our eagerly anticipated Speaker **Greg Nelson**, College of Marin Superintendent was unable to attend for our update on the Jonas Center. **Anna Pilloton** Director of COM School and Partnerships shouldered the presentation, with an unfortunate crash of her slide show share. With well-schooled professional aplomb, **MS Pilloton** soldiered on as we listened to all the good aspirations of the community college meeting the employment needs of students and a ninth grader high school program. She diplomatically explained the necessity of not allowing us to open our Jonas Center until student classes resume.

Raffle Winner

The Raffle winner was **Alan Dunham**.

Reminder

Also, there will be NO MEETING on April 2.



Brick Laying Work Party at Novato City Hall



Community Service Chairman, Jim Spilman.



Former Mayor Jeanne MacLeamy and Elayne Miller, brick supervisor.



Left: Past President Ron Harness at the saw. Right: President Chris DeGabriele and future President Christina Stroeh.



By Penny Hansen

On a cold Saint Patrick's morning we masked up and put on layers to continue a decade long Novato City Hall project that has a growing patio of engraved bricks that covers the history of Novato and it's growth naming the civic leaders of our town. Novato resident **Elayne Miller**, who lives across the street from City Hall, organized a Purchase a Brick project in 2008 for \$100 with brief engraving.

Past Mayor Jeanne MacLeamy furthered the project that coincided with the massive building renovation of turning the original First Presbyterian Church of Novato into a City Hall conference room while maintaining the original exterior of the church architecture adding the City of Novato's crowing rooster logo on top of steeple. The entire church was elevated for a new foundation and the building was moved several feet away from the street. A buried time capsule was discovered and replaced for opening on the 100th birthday of Novato incorporation, 2040.

The City Hall brick patio of engraved bricks is the history of this area preceding the Miwok indigenous first people and leaders and donors to the present. Three Rotary Club past presidents, Citizens of the Year and Mayors are named on the bricks. You can walk through time from the front to around the building. As citizens donate the history grows. You have to stand on the Patio to appreciate the impact.

With forethought and organization, a labor force was needed to remove blank bricks to be replaced with engraved bricks. Members of three Novato Rotary Clubs have provided a willing crew, repeatedly.

Rotary Photo Album - March 19, 2021



Zoom participants.



Zoom participants and Speaker Anna Pilliton (top left).



Debbie Brusatori leads the Pledge of Allegiance.



Rob Marshall wearing his Australian outback hat with pride was recognized for his birthday.



The Bill and Adele Jonas Center nearing completion.



Returning member Gloria Dunn-Violin and mentor, husband Don Violin.



Above: The Hagerty homestead in Westcliffe, Colorado.



Right: Gilda Hagerty with granddaughter Brooke.