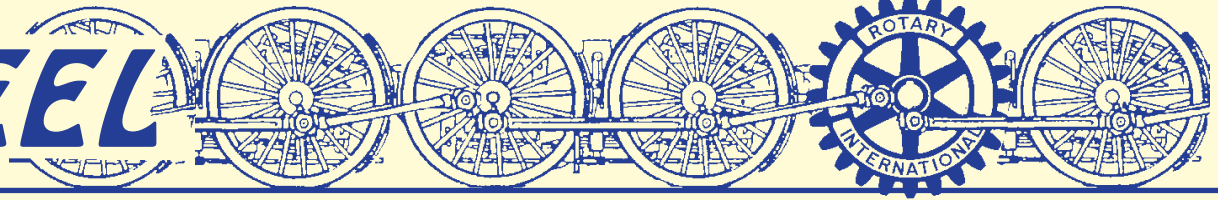


The BIG WHEEL



Rotary Club of Novato

Chartered April 26, 1954

The Golden Nugget of the North Bay

In The Valley of Gentle Seasons



June 4, 2021
Vol. 72, No. 46
Editor:
Tony Garza

Sunshine Report

It was reported that **Jay Wayne** is doing fine at home, resting and on the track of full recovery. The procedure went well.

Guests & Visitors

Gary Chow, Karen Palmer, Biraj and Lahari Palmer, Toni Bramon, Christina Stroeh's daughter Alex, and Jo Heffelfinger.

Announcements

District Awards

Gary Chow presented the District Awards, and was happy to leave his bunny slippers and Zoom meeting behind for his first live, in-person Rotary meeting since the pandemic restrictions took hold.

Congratulations went to **Craig Anderson, Sean Campas, Christina Stroeh, Jim Spilman, Jorg Puhr-Westerheide, Mike Morrissey and Phil Dougherty** for the awards they received. And as mentioned in the previous meeting the Rotary Club Novato received the Best Club of the District Award. Appropriately, **Chris DeGabriele** accepted this award.



Birthdays

Upcoming birthdays were announced: **Jorg Puhr-Westerheide, John Cutrufelli and Bruce Palmer.**

Aside from the b-day breakfasts at Sam's, **John** was heading to Windsor to spend time with family and grandkids, **Bruce** is thinking

about it, and **Jorg's** going solar!

Other June birthdays: **Tiffany Fischer, Sonia Seeman, and Steve Delahunty** (May 31).

Endowment Update

Endowment Chair **Bill Vespa** gave a brief report. Reminder for the newbies, the Endowment is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization for the funding of international and local Rotary service projects. Current standing: the \$1 million mark was reached this past year and is holding up.

Continued on page 3

Opening Remarks



President Chris announces Bill and Adele Jonas Center meeting date.

President Chris DeGabriele announced "the first and last in-person Rotary Novato meeting of the '20-'21 year". This long-awaited setting was held at, President Elect, **Christina Stroeh's** backyard amphitheater. All of those unable to attend were missed, and all that were present appeared to enjoy the camaraderie, not missing a beat from the last time together. **Pres. Chris** mentioned that multiple sites for this meeting location were pursued but ultimately unavailable. Thank you **Christina** for hosting!

John Cutrufelli led the way for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Bill Vespa channeled the thoughtful words of Margaret Mead - "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

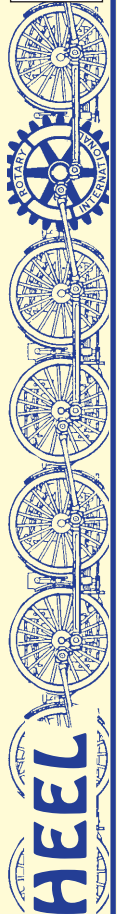


Big Wheel Editors **NEEDED**

for the
Month of 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?"



UPCOMING ZOOM MEETING
June 11

Dan Keppen
"Water"

Dan Keppen, businessman and farmer from a Valley in Northern California -Tule Lake will discuss a long term issue in the west, "Water." There are many parties to this issue. Farmers/ranchers, Native Americans fishermen, power companies, consumers, and environmentalists, all wrapped up in their own issues. **Dan** will talk about this difficult issue to help us understand. He is a member of Rotary in his community and is a national speaker about this subject.

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

June

June 11 **Dan Keppen** will discuss a long-term issue in the West: "Water" There are many parties to this issue. Farmers/ ranchers, Native Americans, fishermen, power companies, consumers, and environmentalists, all wrapped up in their own issues. He is a national speaker on this subject.

June 18 **ShelterBox: Jim Carriere** Shelterbox delivers emergency shelter and life-saving supplies to people affected by natural disasters or conflict around the world and is an official Project Partner of Rotary International. Jim will tell us about this inspirational program and how we have been participating.

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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Expect seeing **Jay Wayne** at the helm as chairman next year and **Gary Bramon** heading the newly formed Visioning Committee.

Reminder: Amazon Smile - a donation tool, is in full force. Check it out.

The Jonas account is unchanged, and on a separate note, the scholarships are growing (thank you, **Gary**). Scholarships to be awarded July 16th.

Special Announcement from Bruce Palmer

Bruce Palmer provided a brief history of the Endowment, mentioning its start in April 1954 by **Clark Palmer** with Rotary's inclusion of **Joyce Palmer** not too long thereafter. In the same breath, "perfect attendance" was brought up and later repeated a few times.

Bruce surprised all with the presentation of the amazing gift of \$250,000 to the endowment. A standing ovation followed the announcement. "A glorious day in a glorious setting", says **Pres. Chris. Bruce** had been waiting for an opportunity to present the gift live. Not sure Zoom was capable of transcending the moment.

The Raffle

Christina Stroeh's daughter, **Alex**, selected the winning paper strip from a bag, it read - "**Bill McDill** on the bench with a tuna sandwich"

Afterthoughts of the day

- A sense of gratitude for **Christina Stroeh's** hospitality was shared amongst all.
- **Ron Harness** thinks all rotary meeting should include free cookies – this was strongly affirmed by the few crumbs left behind.
- **Frank Bruno** spoke for all in thanking **Pres. Chris** for maintaining a highly active Rotary Club through the pandemic.

Rotary Photo Album



Lahari, Karen, Bruce and Biraj enjoy lunch at Chez Stroeh.



Penny Hansen.

Photos by Marty Wickenheiser and Gloria Dunn-Violin.

Fund our Club Projects!



Support the Novato Rotary Endowment

Many more of us are shopping online 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



Palmer Brothers make a generous donation: President Chris DeGabriele; Bill Vespa; Joyce Palmer's sons Biraj and Bruce Palmer.



A picnic in the woods.

OUR FIRST OUTDOOR MEETING IN 2021!



Our next District Governor, Gary Chow of San Francisco personally awards our Club as the Best.



Memories of summer camp.

Craig Anderson brings Reggie Winner's cookies down the trail.



Chris DeGabriele accepts the award for the Best Club in District 5150 in unusual times.