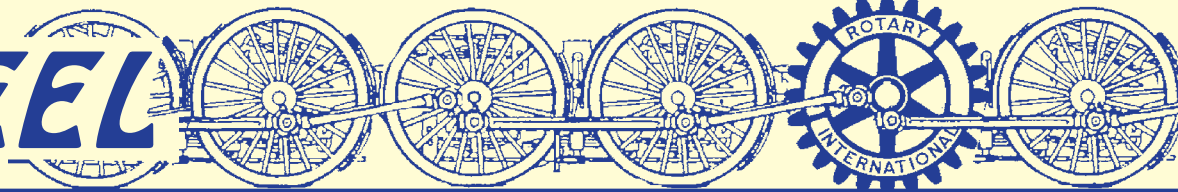


# The BIG WHEEL

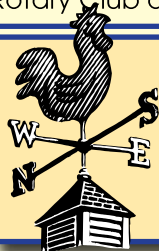


Rotary Club of Novato

Chartered April 26, 1954

The Golden Nugget of the North Bay

In The Valley of Gentle Seasons



**July 8, 2022**  
**Vol. 74, No. 1**  
**Editor:**  
**Suzanne Bales**

**Editor's Note: Due to supply chain issues, The Big Wheel will be printed on ivory paper until yellow is available.**

## In the Beginning...

Welcome to **Peian's** first official meeting as President. **Tom Rickey** did double duty, the Pledge and "Thought for the Day." Quoting **Ghandi**, "Be the change you wish to see in the world." and a Chinese thought ending with "If you want a lifetime of happiness then help some one else."

## Guests & Visitors

Lots of visiting Rotarians to witness **Peian's** first meeting: **Cyndy Simms**, Foster City; **Ron Gin**, **Rhonda Pierce** and **Liz Mark**, all of SF Chinatown; **Russ Ketron's** brother **Bruce** from Napa Rotary; and **Sylvia Barry** from Novato Sunrise.

Guest of Rotarians included: **Marisa Remak's** children **Ryan** and **Ashby**; **Ellen Henderson**, neighbor of **Peian** (**Ellen** also had the job assignment of Club photographer due to **Penny's** absence); **Larry Harrison** and **Gloria Dunn-Violin** shared guest duty for **Rebekah Shapiro Gonzalez**; **Alan Dunham** hosted spouse **Roberta**, and **Elisabeth Unseld** and her friend **Karin Erdle**, both from Germany; and **Bill McDill** and **Vicki**...the duo!

## Sunshine

**Frank Bruno** mentioned **Jim Spilman** has been in the hospital due to an infection. He shared a note from **Jim** and **Diane** that they feel blessed to be part of Rotary.

**Russ Ketron** mentioned **Mary Ann Elloway** is doing well. In **John's** memory, her garden is flourishing! If you visit **Mary Ann** you will walk away with veggies!

**Dean Heffelfinger** was acknowledged Sadly he was unable to attend the debunking due to health issues. **Dean** had put so much work into the evening! **Dean** is "baching it" with spouse **Jo** and daughter **Gretchen** off on a Croatia fling

**Warren Glass** was welcomed back with a health saga to share. While driving down from Ukiah, **Warren** checked himself into the Novato Emergency room. No particular complaint but a gut instinct something was off. Two hours later **Warren** was being ambulated to Marin General for a triple bypass. **Warren** did have a longer stay than usual doing to the wounds not healing. Glad to see you back and healthy **Warren!!**

**TJ** was called upon for an upcoming BIG birthday and mentioned he would probably go out to dinner and probably pay for the dinner!

## Announcements

### Rotary Scholarships

**Frank Bruno** reminded the Club our next meeting will have Rotary Scholarships. 11 of the 22 will be with us. An amazing \$76,000 in scholarships will be distributed. Be sure to show up on the 15th

### Save the Date!

**Larry Harrison** mentioned a save the date, August 20th at 8 a.m. for packing meals at the Druids Hall. Because of COVID the numbers are restricted to Rotarians only

### Basic PRLS Course

**Peian** discussed the Basic PRLS Course will be July 23rd, 8:30 am to 1:00 pm. The cost is \$25 but the Club will reimburse you, so take advantage of this freebie to enhance leadership skills.

### Bocce Tournament

There will be a Bocce Tournament in San Rafael on August 28th at 9am. The cost is \$45 and includes lunch. This is a fundraiser for Rotaplast.

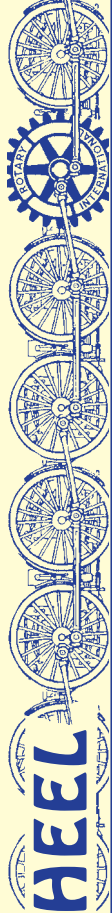
### Rotary Books and Art Around Town

**Marisa Remak** reported on the 4th of July Books and Art Around Town. The had a good turnout and the tattoos (temporary!!) and stickers were a hit with the young crowd.

### Ambassador Scholarship

**Alan Dunham** discussed a program that he and **Roberta** gave their hearts to. Sadly, it is no longer a part of Rotary. The Ambassador Scholarship was the first program sponsored by the Rotary Foundation after World War II.

The goal was to go abroad to study and build friendships. Hence **Alan's** guest today, **Elisabeth Unseld**. **Elisabeth** recounted how she got into the Ambassador Program. She flew into SFO and there were **Roberta** and **Alan** to welcome her and get her up and running at the medical center at UCSF. **Elisabeth** recounted Christmas, Easter and Thanksgiving at the **Dunham's**. As she stated "they are my California parents."



P.O. Box 657  
Novato, CA 94948

"Imagine Rotary"

## 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?"

**Big Wheel Editors**  
**NEEDED**  
for the  
**Month of July and Beyond**  
Contact Bill Vespa  
Support the most interesting  
Rotary Club ever!  
Help share the meeting with family,  
friends and members unable to attend.




**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/)

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**Upcoming  
Rotary Club Meetings**  
**Bill & Adele Jonas Center**

**July 15**  
Scholarship Commiette:  
**Scholarship Awards**



## Upcoming Programs

**July 2022**

July 15 **Scholarship Committee:** Scholarship Awards

July 22 **John Geoghegan:** Flying Dirigibles

July 29 **Club Board of Directors:** Club Assembly

**August 2022**

Aug. 5 **Norm Gershenz** from SaveNature.org: Youth Exploring Nature, Hands-on Insect Discovery Lab

Aug. 12 **Lori Frugoli & Shelly Scott**

Aug. 19 **Jack Gedney** from Wild Birds Unlimited: Natural History of Notable Novato Backyard Birds

Aug. 26 **Dora Zuñiga** - Donor Director from Project Amigo: Project Amigo Yesterday and Today

## ROTARY CLUB OF NOVATO

2022/2023 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

| OFFICERS   | DIRECTORS  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>Peian Harness</b><br/><i>President</i></p> <p><b>Phil Dougherty</b><br/><i>Vice President</i></p> <p><b>Tom Rickey</b></p> <p><b>Phil Dougherty</b><br/><i>Co-Secretaries</i></p> <p><b>Reggie Winner</b><br/><i>Treasurer</i></p> | <p><b>Fred Anderson</b><br/><i>Club Administration</i></p> <p><b>Marisa Remak</b><br/><i>Public Image</i></p> <p><b>Jim Spilman</b><br/><i>Community Service</i></p> <p><b>Gloria Dunn-Violin</b><br/><i>Environmental Sustainability (NR-CAT)</i></p> <p><b>Holly Axtell</b><br/><i>International Service</i></p> <p><b>Jorg Puhr-Westerheide</b><br/><i>The Rotary Foundation (TRF)</i></p>    |
| <p><b>Jennifer E. Jones</b><br/><i>R.I. President</i></p> <p><b>Gary Chow</b><br/><i>District Governor</i></p> <p><b>Terri Carrillo</b><br/><i>Assistant District Governor</i></p>   | <p><b>Lynn Dawson</b><br/><i>Youth Service</i></p> <p><b>Chris DeGabriele/Larry Harrison</b><br/><i>Membership</i></p> <p><b>Sonia Seeman/Christina Stroeh</b><br/><i>Jonas Center Liasons</i></p> <p><b>Dean Heffelfinger</b><br/><i>President, Nova-Ro Corp.</i></p> <p><b>Rob Haff</b><br/><i>Chair, Novato Rotary Endowment</i></p> <p><b>Christina Stroeh</b><br/><i>Past President</i></p> |

## The Speaker

Dr. Moses Jacob introduced our speaker **Ed Ryken**. Some recognized him in his role (retired) as CEO of Whistlestop. In his retirement **Ed** became the Coordinator of Waterbird Docents on the island of Alcatraz.

**Ed** discussed the Native American period where the various tribes gathered eggs and then the Spanish, Mexican, United States and importantly the US Military's cycle on the island. The island is 21 acres and the equivalent of 13 stories tall.

The theme was the adaptability of the various species. Blue herons like the eucalyptus trees. The snowy egrets like the overgrown north side of the island. Cormorants like the west side.

One species comes to Alcatraz because they nest in the holes left by pulling off the wood frame from concrete. Some of the birds come from British Columbia.

**Ed** also discussed breeding and nest behavior. There was a discussion of the female showing the male how to do it... but this is a family bulletin.

Kudos to the speaker committee for an entertaining and enlightening talk.

## The Winner

The 25er was won by **Ed Ryken**, yes, our speaker. He kindly donated it back to the Club

## Dot Luck is Cancelled

The Pot Luck for Saturday July 16th at the Harnesses is canceled.



Susan Matthews, Novato Citizen of the Year and Vicki McDill, 10 year parade Volunteer.

Wild Bill McDill - pre-Parade street patrol



Phil Dougherty cooking at the 4th of July Buckaroo Breakfast.



Gary and Toni Bramon

HAPPY Fourth of July



Rob Sundberg and parade MC Larry Harrison



Rotary Books and Art Around Town at the Buckaroo Breakfast.



Maureen and Jay Wayne



Arlene Henry



Fred Anderson



Tom Rickey



Liz Mark and Ron Gin



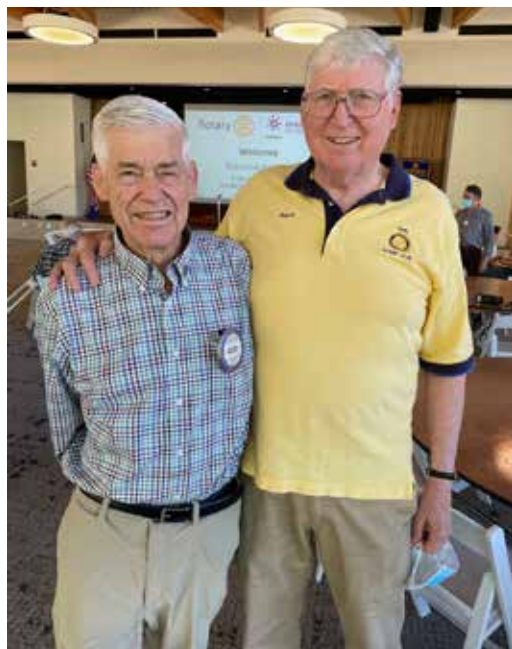
Suzanne Bales



Diana Tomasini



Rhonda Pierce and Cyndy Simms



Russ Ketron and brother Bruce



Speaker Ed Ryken



John Ringgenberg

## EYEGASSES FOR OTHERS:

Thanks to **Russ Ketron**, the Rotary Club of Novato has supported eyeglass reuse projects for many years. This includes the boxes of eyeglasses that **Russ** pays to ship to the USC Ophthalmology Department for grading and disbursement in their free eye clinic in Los Angeles.

In addition, we support the Global Re-Vision International Project with a small donation. The \$500 we send helps pay for the necessary software to help make the grading and distribution of free eye glasses work.

Global Re-Vision is working with three states in Mexico in the distribution of glasses to the poorest of the poor. Rotarian **Bob Martin**, Executive Director, says that they have exceeded one million pairs of glasses that have now been collected and made available for distribution.

**Russ** is looking for some help to work with our Club to encourage members to find and donate glasses. Let him know if you are interested. ~ **Holly Axtell**

