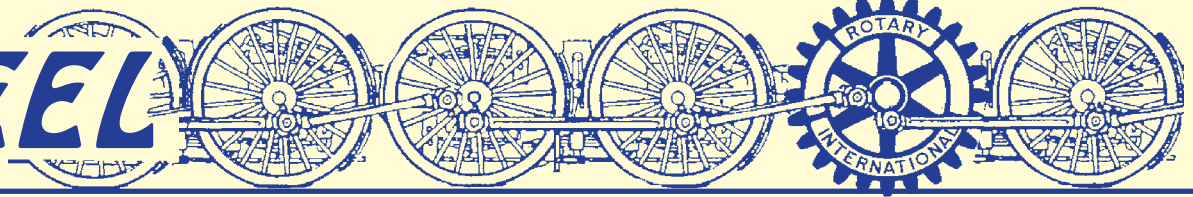


The BIG WHEEL



Rotary Club of Novato

Chartered April 26, 1954

The Golden Nugget of the North Bay

In The Valley of Gentle Seasons



January 3, 2025
Vol. 76, No. 19
Editor:
Boy Tayle (Dean H)

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Prez Tommy Rang Da Bell.

Roy Pfiefer led the pledge then gave the thought for the day. "As we move into a brand new year, thoughts of triumphs and failures of the last year may linger, and hopes, dreams and worries of the New Year may grow. But dreading on the past or musing about the future means you're missing the most important time of all, and that's right now. We all know that we can't change the past or control the future, but we keep falling back to our old habits of doing so which creates regrets or worry. The challenge then going into the New Year, a resolution if you will, is to let the past and future stay in their respective places and live each day to the fullest." "Cheers," **Roy**.

Visiting Rotarians

No visitors!

Guests of Rotarians

Jim Spilman intro'd the L.O.H.L. (love of his life) **Diane Marisa Remak** brought her whole family, well at least **Mike, Abby and Sadie**. **Bill McDill** brought his first, last and only wife, the lovely **Vicki**. **Sasha D'Amico** intro'd **Ava D'Amico**. **Jackie Lee** intro'd her hubby, another singer, **Randall**. **Phil Dougherty** intro'd his First Mate, **Laurie**.

Birthdays, Anniversaries, Member Years

Ben Borok celebrated his 91st birthday on January 1st! **Dennis Baldwin's** birthday is January 6th. **Ron and Peian** celebrated several dates in January. A number of members celebrated Rotary Service years in January, including **Ben Borok** (again!) 49 years, **Jim White** 41 years, and **Bill Vespa** 29 years, **Holly** and **Keith Axtel** "many years".

Community Care Report

No members were reported ill. However, there was some sad news, **Tiffany Fischer** announced **Robert Marshall's** mother passed away. Our thoughts are with you **Robert**.

Announcements

Western BBQ and Dance

The Western BBQ is February 8th right here at the Jonas Center. **Jorg** showed us how to lasso the "saw horse" cow, the horned one. Please sign up it'll be lots of fun!

Brick Laying

Spilman announced some brick laying at city hall. Call him for the date and time. It's for veterans.

Speaker Series

Here Ye! Here Ye! Remember the next speaker series performance is January 23rd 2025, right here at the Jonas Center.

Retirement Announcement

Another Visitor- Long time member, Optometrist **Dr. Craig McCurdy** made a rare visit to announce his retirement.

Rotary International Convention

Lynn Dawson reminded us the next Rotary International Convention is in Calgary, Canada. Sign up now!

District Conference

Prez Tommy announced the District Conference is May 16 -18 in Santa Rosa at the Hyatt Regency. Sign up!

Upcoming Speaker

Embrace the future with respecting the past. **Gloria Dunn-Violin** announced to us that our speaker on January 17 is **Steve Bender**, a noted Rotary leader

Continued on page 3

30th Annual
Proceeds Support Community and International Service Projects

Rotary Club of Novato

Western BBQ & Dance

LIVE MUSIC
Featuring Dennis Haggerty and Blind Date

BIG SKY AUCTION

Bill & Adele Jonas Center
IVC Campus
1800 Ignacio Blvd, Novato

Saturday, February 8, 2025

5:30 - 6:30 - BELLY-UP to the Bar
6:30 - Dinner
Auctions through the Evening

Gold Rush Ticket Package
Purchase one \$200 event ticket package and get a single entry in a drawing for one week at the Playa Grande Resort in Cabo!
Additional event tickets may be purchased for \$75 each, subject to availability.
Tickets are Available From Novato Rotary Club Members
Last day to purchase tickets is January 31, 2024!
Please make checks payable to:
Novato Rotary Endowment
P.O. Box 657 • Novato, CA 94948

NO Tickets at the Door!

The BIG WHEEL

P.O. Box 657
Novato, CA 94948

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?"

Prof. Alex Filippenko, PhD Exciting Results from NASA's James Webb Space Telescope!



**The Bill and Adele Jonas Center
Thursday, January 23 • 7 pm to 8:30 pm**

Alex Filippenko is an elected member of both the National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, is one of the world's most highly cited astrophysicists. His scientific accomplishments, documented in nearly 1200 research papers, have been recognized with numerous prizes. He was the only person to have been a member of both teams that revealed the accelerating expansion of the Universe, a discovery that was honored with the 2011 Nobel Prize in Physics to the teams' leaders. He is a frequent user of the Hubble Space Telescope and JWST. Winner of the highest teaching awards at UC Berkeley and voted the "Best Professor" on campus a record 9 times, in 2006 he was named the Case/Carnegie National Professor of the Year among doctoral institutions. He has produced 5 video courses with The Great Courses, coauthored an award-winning astronomy textbook, and appears in more than 120 television documentaries.

Tickets: Adults \$30 • Students \$15

Rotary Big Wheel Sponsor



Empathy
ESTATE PLANNING

www.empathyestateplanning.com

Upcoming Programs & Events

January 2024

Jan. 8	Board Meeting at Jonas Center
Jan. 10	S. Edgerton: SEE's Candy, A Taste of history
Jan. 17	Steve Bender: Embracing the Future While Respecting the Past
Jan. 23	Novato Speaker's Series: Prof. Alex Filippenko, Ph.D. - Exciting Results with NASA's James Webb Space Telescope
Jan. 24	Social event
Jan. 31	Meeting

February

Feb. 7	Meeting
Feb. 8	Western BBQ & Dance
Feb. 12	Board Meeting at Jonas Center
Feb. 14	Social Event
Feb. 21	Fire Marshall L Osgood: Wildfire Prevention
Feb. 28	NPD Canine Program

ROTARY CLUB OF NOVATO 2024/2025 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

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Peian Harness
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Roy Pfeifer & Gloria Dunn-Violin
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Holly Axtell
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The Rotary Foundation (TRF)

Eliza Roesler
Youth Service

Patty Dougherty
Membership

Sonia Seeman
Jonas Center Liaison

Dean Heffelfinger
President, Nova-Ro Corp.

Peter Oser
Chair, Novato Rotary Endowment

Phil Dougherty
Past President

who has presented to many Rotary clubs and District Conferences. His talk should attract younger members as well as others.

Who Dat?

Prez Tommy invited us to name that Rotarian. This Rotarian has visited 30 countries. This Rotarian was born with three kidneys. This Rotarian has been paid NOT to sing. Nobody guessed who it was. It was **Eliza**.

The Speaker

Speaker **Moses Jacob** introduced **Svetlana Whitner**, wife of former member **Tommie**. **Svetlana** told us her bio including that she's Russian by birth and American by choice. **Svetlana** is involved in Psychology and has written a book about it. She told us to: "Discover our guiding light" with EI (Emotional Intelligence) Coaching. Her talk was interesting.

Upcoming Social

Prez Tommy advised us we have a social on January 24th at the VFW Hall. The Club provides drinks and we provide the pot luck.

Raffle

Moses Jacob won both the main raffle and the back table! A "Daily Double".



E-MAIL or SNAIL MAIL?

If you would prefer to receive only the emailed version of the Big Wheel, please email Bill Vespa at zip@sonic.net. By going to delivery by email only, you will also lower our Club expenses.

Rotary District 5150
CELEBRATE HOPE IN ACTION
Hyatt Regency Sonoma Wine Country
May 15-18, 2025
District Conference 2025

THE MAGIC OF ROTARY
HOPE IN ACTION

Rotary
Club of Novato

**BIG WHEEL EDITORS
NEEDED**

Contact Bill Vespa at
zip@sonic.net

*Support the most interesting
Rotary Club ever!*

*Help share the meeting
with family, friends
and members unable to attend.*

**AROUND THE WORLD:
Flight to End Polio**

An inspirational presentation by
Pilots Peter Teahen and John Ockenfels

PLEASE JOIN US!

6:00 pm. February 5, 2025
Arrive: 5:30 p.m., for snacks and socializing

**Rotary Terrace
310 Miller Avenue
South San Francisco, CA**
Parking garage located directly across street

All donations go directly to PolioPlus

To donate, please visit:
FlightToEndPolio.com

The Gates Foundation
generously matches all
donations two-to-one!

**END
POLIO
NOW**

Rotary 
Club for Global Action


RCGA Club meeting

**Tuesday, January 21st
9 AM PT**

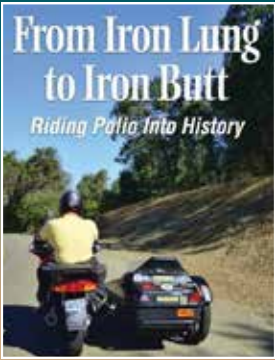
via Zoom
www.rotaryglobalaction.org/calendar



Robbie Gaines
will be our guest to share about
his experience on deployment in Asheville
and discuss how disaster relief organizations
can best work together to ensure
a smooth recovery process
for the impacted community



 **END POLIO NOW**


D5150 PolioPlus Event
featuring
Bob Mutchler of RC Arden-Arcade



Hear the adventure of a polio survivor
who rode his motorcycle across two continents
to promote the fight to end polio

Saturday, Feb. 22, 2025
Bay Model, Sausalito (10am)
Rotary Terrace, South San Francisco (4pm)

Rotary District 5150  Register at
www.Rotary5150.org 

Rotary  



MAGIC ALL AROUND
21-25 JUNE 2025 • CALGARY, CANADA

 Register today at
convention.rotary.org

TGIF
Friday January 24th
from 5-7pm

★

Novato Veterans of Foreign Wars
844 Sweetser Ave Novato

★

*No host bar and bartender provided by VFW.
Recommend having cash for drinks and tipping
the bartender*

Some appetizers will be provided

Bring something for the Pot Luck!

★

Great time to mingle and mix with Rotarians!
*See you there and thanks to Tiffany Fischer
for assisting in setting this up!*