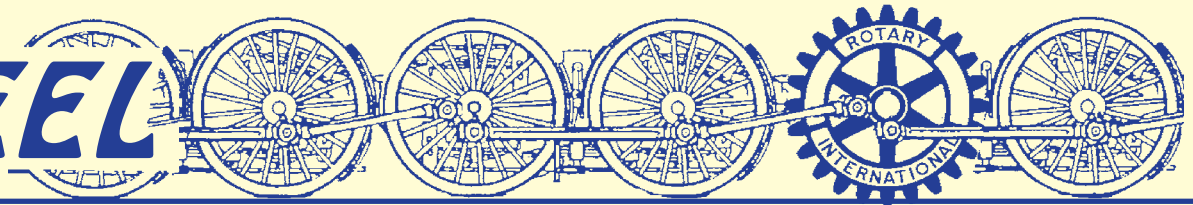


# The BIG WHEEL



Rotary Club of Novato

Chartered April 26, 1954

The Golden Nugget of the North Bay

In The Valley of Gentle Seasons



**November 1, 2024**  
**Vol. 76, No. 14**  
**Editor:**  
**Hal O'wean (Dean H.)**

## Call to Order

Prez Tommy rang da bell and called us to order.

## Pledge & Thought for the Day

Jackie Cormier led us in the pledge.

Jackie also provided us with the thoughts from a long time ago, from U.S. Presidents regarding elections:

*"I never considered a difference of opinion in politics, in religion, in philosophy as cause for withdrawing from a friend."*, **Thomas Jefferson**, 3<sup>rd</sup> Prez, 1801-1809.

*"If it were not for the reporters, I would tell you the truth."*, **Chester Arthur**, 21<sup>st</sup> Prez, 1881-1885.

*"Elections belong to the people. It's their decision. If they decided to turn their back on the fire and burn their behinds, then they will just have to sit on their blisters!"*, **Abraham Lincoln**, 16<sup>th</sup> Prez, 1861-1865.

*"We all know that politics is a contact sport. But let's not forget, it's also a comedy."*, **Bill Clinton**, 42<sup>nd</sup> Prez, 1993-2001.

Now, from the female side:

*"We have too many high sounding words, and too few actions that correspond with them."*, **Abigale Adams**, 1<sup>st</sup> Lady, 1797-1801.

## Visitors and Guests

We had no visiting Rotarians today, but we had Guests of Rotarians. **Past Prez Peian Harness** brought **Delyn**

**Kies** and **Past Prez T.J. Neff** intro'd **Heather Thorpe**. **Past Prez Bill McDill** intro'd his current wife, **Vicki**. **P.P. Frank Falzon** intro'd his bride **Donna** and son **Dan**. **McDill** also brought **Edna Scheller**, while **David Gabriel** intro'd his wife **Sara**. **Sonia Seeman** intro'd her hubby **David Hernandez** and **P.P. Jim Spilman** intro'd future member, **Ross Millerick**. **Sonia** also brought **Melinda Durfee**. And Finally **PDG Russ** intro'd his lovely bride **Kathy**.

## Community Care

**Craig Anderson** is not doing very well. (We just sadly learned Sunday, after our Friday meeting that **Craig** passed away on Saturday night. **Craig** was a great member and really good guy. There will be a memorial service and we'll let you know as soon as we have details.)

## Announcements

### Non-Spaghetti Feed

**Prez Tommy** gave a huge thank you to **Bill** and **Vicki** for hosting the Non-Spaghetti Feed last Friday evening. **Prez Tommy** also thanked **Phil Dougherty**, **Jim Spilman** and **Gary Bramon** for all their work in putting on the Novato Speaker Series.

### Whoops!

Another guest. **Stephanie Botko**, **Jim's** daughter, told us her dad fell getting out of the car and broke his ankle.

### Salute and Come to Attention

**Don Violin** reminded us that next weekend is Veterans Weekend on 11/8, 11/9, 11/10, and 11/11.

### Bingo!

**Peter Pelavin** told us there is Bingo at Trek Winery on Sunday.

## I Want to Take Your Blood!!!

**Spilman** reminded us that the Rotary Blood Drive is coming.

## Paul Harris Awards

**P.P. Jorg** gave out Paul Harris Awards to **Jeff Slavitz**, **Frank Falzon** and **Larry Mazzota**.

## Blue Badge Talk

**David Gabriel** gave his Blue Badge/Red Badge Talk. **David** was born in the City. His family has been in S.F. for 100 years. **David** has lived in Novato for twenty years now and he really likes it here.

## Wheel of Misfortune Trivia

**Prez Tommy** had three trivia questions for three members.

1. Who was the first U.S. President to move onto the White House? **John Adams**.
2. Which foreign car company was the first to open a manufacturing plant in the U.S.A.? Honda on November, 1982.
3. What war did we enter into on November 1st? The Vietnam War. Three members were asked these questions and they all got 'em wrong.

**In Memoriam**  
**Craig Anderson**

1947 ~ 2024

# 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?"

**TGIF**  
at  
**Ron & Peian Harness House**  
  
**Friday, November 15**  
**5:00 p.m.**  
**449 Fieldstone Drive • Novato**  
  
Beverages provided  
please bring an appetizer

## Rotary Big Wheel Sponsor



**Empathy**  
ESTATE PLANNING

[www.empathyestateplanning.com](http://www.empathyestateplanning.com)

## Upcoming Programs & Events

### November

- Nov. 8 **ESCOM:** Gary Gonsner & Leonard Weingartner  
Nov. 13 **Board Meeting at Jonas Center**  
Nov. 15 **TGIF at the Ron & Peian's Home**  
Nov. 22 **Jay Alexander:** Magician  
Nov. 25 **No Meeting-Thanksgiving**

### December

- Dec. 6 **Craft Talks by Club Members**  
Dec. 11 **Board Meeting at Jonas Center**  
Dec. 13 **Tech Education N. United:** Dan Mikola  
Dec. 15 **Christmas Brunch at Marin Country Club**  
Dec. 20 **No Meeting - Christmas Holidays**  
Dec. 27 **No Meeting - Christmas Holidays**

### January 2024

- Jan. 3 **Svetlana Whitener:** Emotional Intelligence  
Jan. 8 **Board Meeting at Jonas Center**  
Jan. 10 **S. Edgerton:** SEE's Candy, A Taste of history

## ROTARY CLUB OF NOVATO 2024/2025 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

### OFFICERS

**Tom Rickey**  
*President*

**Lynn Dawson**  
*Vice President*

**Peian Harness**  
*Secretary*

**Al Shirley**  
*Treasurer*

**Stephanie A. Urchick**  
*R.I. President*

**Steve Wright**  
*District Governor*

**Stacie Vance**  
*Assistant District Governor*

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*Logistics & Facilities*

**Peter Rubens**  
*Public Image & Awareness*

**Peter Pelavin**  
*Community Service*

**Roy Pfeifer & Gloria Dunn-Violin**  
*Environmental Sustainability (NR-CAT)*

**Holly Axtell**  
*International Service*

**Jorg Puhw-Westerheide**  
*The Rotary Foundation (TRF)*

**Eliza Roesler**  
*Youth Service*

**Jeff Slavitz & Patty Dougherty**  
*Membership*

**Sonia Seeman**  
*Jonas Center Liaison*

**Craig Anderson**  
*President, Nova-Ro Corp.*

**Peter Oser**  
*Chair, Novato Rotary Endowment*

**Phil Dougherty**  
*Past President*

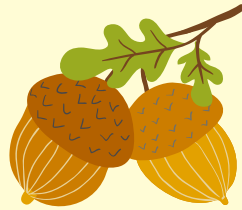
## Speaker

**Prez Tommy** intro'd our speaker, who happens to be our very own member, **Past Prez Frank Falzon**.

**Frank** once again shared "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to a Homicide", some very funny stories from his career. I know myself and many other members have heard the stories. Yet, I always laugh when **Frank** starts telling one of these stories. They're very, very funny.

## Raffle

I don't know who won the raffle, but it wasn't me and I hope they enjoy their 25 bucks.



## ROTARY GLOBAL SCHOLAR

Each year our district sponsors one Global Scholar in the amount of \$31,500 for graduate level academic study in another country. This amount includes an 80% match from the Rotary Foundation.

Our club can nominate people for this scholarship. Their area of study must be in one of Rotary's Areas of Focus: water and sanitation, peace, disease prevention, community development, environment, education and saving mothers and children.



The latest Global Scholar selected is Ian Good.

Ian Good is a lawyer and 2022 graduate of UC Berkeley, School of Law. During his time at law school, Ian studied and worked on a range of human rights issues including child slavery and the death penalty. Currently, after graduating from law school, Ian worked for two years in big law firms. He has received the Rotary Global Grant Scholarship to attend the prestigious Université Paris Pantheon Assas where he will study Public Law and Democracy. The program is a 10-month, seminar-based program taught by renowned French and international professors in the field of democratic practice and political theory. A Bay Area native, Ian enjoys outdoor activities and endurance athletics in his free time.

Later this Rotary year there will be another round of Global Scholar interviews so keep your eyes open for possible candidates.

## November

### SPECIAL DATES

- 11-2 Tom Rickey
- 11-11 Diane Spilman
- 11-11 Bill Vespa
- 11-11 Grace Wong
- 11-12 Laurie Dougherty
- 11-14 Lynn Dawson
- 11-14 Anthony Maglio
- 11-15 Marilu Mazzotta
- 11-15 Brody Stewart-Stroeh
- 11-18 Jean & Phil Brown
- 11-18 Tara Lee
- 11-25 Bill McDill
- 11-26 Frances Borok
- 11-28 Holly Axtell
- 11-28 Rene Prado
- 11-30 Al Angulo
- 11-30 Holly & Keith Axtell





Annual Membership group photo.



Jorg presents Paul Harris recognition.



Presidential Birthday



Member Speaker Frank Falzon.



Jackie Cormier gives historical Presidential humor thoughts



Paul Harris Awards to Frank Falzon, Dr. Larry Mazzotta, Jorg Puhr-Westerheide, and Jeff Slavitz.

