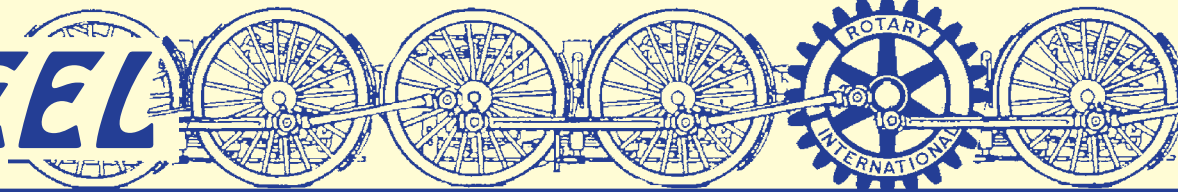


The BIG WHEEL

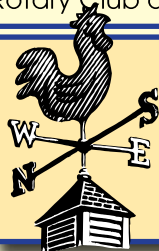


Rotary Club of Novato

Chartered April 26, 1954

The Golden Nugget of the North Bay

In The Valley of Gentle Seasons



December 9, 2022
Vol. 74, No. 17
Editor:
The Jolly Old Elf

*Twos two weeks before Christmas
and all through the place,*

*Every person was seated and stuffing their face.
When all of a sudden, a loud clanging chime*

*Let us all know that now it was Peian Claus time.
We all Pledged Allegiance then Christina Stroeh*

*Read an inspirational poem about times long ago
When "folks seemed less hurried,
were more gentle and kind."*

*We should practice those manners with the
people we find.*

*Then President Peian, in a very good mood,
Gave us fifteen more minutes
to finish eating our food.*

*But soon that bell rang and we knew what to do
As Peian led the last meeting of
Two Thousand Twenty-Two.*

Visitors & Guests

We had no Visiting Rotarians and only one guest: **Kyle Frazier**, listed as the guest of **Gary Bramon** but introduced by **Chris DeGabriele**. I may have misspelled **Kyle's** name but the handwriting was not very legible and my eyesight is fading. Also listed as a Guest was **Anne Wade**, who is not really a Guest but this Club's first female President and always an important member of our Rotary family. Other "guests" we haven't seen for a long time included **Ben Borok**, **Christopher Mychajluk** and **Rafelina Maglio**. It was good to see them again and we hope to see them more often.

Sunshine Report

In terms of the health of our Rotary family, **PP Paul Scheller** is still at Smith Ranch Rehab Center, recovering from a fall.

Susie McCurdy, wife of **Craig**, is recovering from pneumonia at the Kentfield Rehab Center after hospitalization.

Dean Heffelfinger was recuperating at today's meeting from a fall as he was coming down the stairs from the parking lot. Be careful on the stairs — especially when wet. If we can't build a bridge from parking lots to Jonas Center, perhaps we can install an elevator.

We also received news from **Art Crofts** who reported that **Rhonda** sustained a major leg fracture in France, had surgery followed by a mandatory 5 week stay in France. She is now home and slowly recovering.

Announcements

By now it was Announcement Time and the usual suspects lined up. **Marty Wickenheiser** repeated last week's announcement that Dictionaries are here but labels have not arrived so we can't distribute them yet. **Fred Anderson**, the Club's Director of Administration, needs some help with setting up the Jonas Center for our meeting. This has always been an important and valuable job for new members as it gives them an opportunity to get to know our Club members. Please contact **Fred** and offer to help prepare the meeting room for our meetings — especially if you've joined our Club in the past year.

Gloria Dunn-Violin announced work parties were very busy last week planting vegetation in Pacheco Valley to benefit Monarch butterflies. There are still plants which must be planted so one more work party is planned this Tuesday, 9 to noon.

Larry Harrison spoke about our Club's involvement with ShelterBox and its good work supporting victims of disasters.

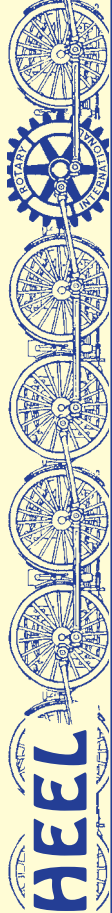
He also mentioned the Toys for Tots party he and **Chris** will be hosting in their home on December 9. By now it's too late but if you'd like to contribute to Toys for Tots, call **Larry** — there's always time to help. And speaking of parties, **President Peian** reminded us the Club's Annual Holiday Party and Brunch is next Sunday, December 18, at the Marin Country Club. It's always a lot of fun socializing and meeting partners and families of other Club members. Call **Marsha Molloy** for more information at 415.328.7745.

Recognitions

Past President Jorg took the microphone to recognize Club members who have increased their commitment to the Paul Harris Foundation: These folks include **Dennis Baldwin**, **Shawn Campas**, **Rafelina Maglio**, **Diana Tomasini**, **Tom Rickey**, **Jim White**, **Christopher Mychajluk**, **Tommy Lee**, **Robert Marshall** (and his son, **Austin Marshall**), **Nohemi Beissmann-Mason** and **Ben Borok**. They were recognized for their contributions and commitment to the goals of Rotary International.

Western BBQ & Dance

And, speaking of goals, our own Mr. BBQ, **Chris DeGabriele**, rose to remind us of the importance of the Western BBQ fundraiser for our Club's Endowment. Throughout today's meeting, we heard stories of the many projects we have sponsored: supporting Project Amigo, capping water wells in the Philippines, providing clean water for hospitals in South America, ShelterBox support for folks in disaster areas, relief for Ukraine refugees, micro-loans for small businesses in Ecuador, the Gazebo in Pioneer Park, dictionaries for third graders in Novato, support of men and women in our armed forces, the Nova-Ro apartments for senior citizens, medical supplies for small villages in the Copper Canyon of Mexico, relief



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**

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/

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Upcoming Programs

December 2022	
Dec. 16	NO MEETING (12/18 Holiday Brunch)
Dec. 23	NO MEETING
Dec. 30	NO MEETING
January 2023 - Happy New Year!	
Jan. 6	Jan Lynn & Andy Dudnuck: Performing Jazz, Standards, and Pop Tunes
Jan. 13	NO MEETING
Jan. 20	John Reuscher: John's Reel
Jan. 27	Lori Frugoli & Shelly Scott: General Presentation
February 2023	
Feb. 3	Alan Goldhammer: Discussion about COVID
Feb. 20	NO MEETING

ROTARY CLUB OF NOVATO
 2022/2023 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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

from wildfire devastation in Northern California, and the list goes on and on.

That's why we're asking each member of our Club to help sponsor the BBQ fundraiser. This how we get funds to help those less fortunate people of our community and the world. So far we've received sponsorship pledges from over 20 Novato Rotarians, including **Frank Bruno, Rob Haff, Jim Botko, John Reuscher, Jay Wayne, Marty Wickenheiser, Reggie Winner, Jorg Westerheide, Debbie Brusatori, Peian Harness, Jim Spilman, Jim Bates, Bill McDill, Rob Marshall, Tom Rickey, Peter Pelavin, Ron Harness** and others. We're receiving checks now from many of those who would like to claim the charitable deduction on their 2022 tax return. Contact **Jay Wayne** at 415-320-4412, for more information.

In one of the most important items of business during our Rotary year, **Past President Phil Brown** took the microphone to open the floor for nominations for future Club officers. The Past Presidents of RCN have met and nominated the following slate of candidates for the next Rotary Year, 2023-24:

- Club Treasurer - **Chris DeGabriele,**
- Club Secretary - **Sonia Seeman,**
- Club President - **Phil Dougherty,** and
- Club Vice President - **Tom Rickey.**

The floor was opened for additional nominations. It was moved (**Dean Heffelfinger**) and seconded (**Jay Wayne**) to close nominations, and the Club welcomed our new President Elect-Elect, **Tom Rickey,** with a standing ovation. Congratulations, **Tom,** we look forward to your year as President.

The program for today featured Past President (and Captain) **Marty Wickenheiser,** leading a panel of NRC Past Presidents in a discussion of being the Club President. Past Presidents **Frank Bruno, Dean Heffelfinger, Bill McDill** and **Larry Harrison** all agreed that they put a lot of time into the job of leading this dynamic club. They also agreed that the year was a lot of fun and it changed their lives and their perspective of being a Rotarian. The bottom line, if you're ever invited to take the gavel as President of this Club, take the opportunity and enjoy the

experience — you'll be glad you did.

President Peian took back the microphone to thank everyone for attending this important meeting, and she thanked **Chef Sam** for a great lunch. The winner of the 25-er drawing was **Maggie Shao.**

Peian Claus reminded us again of the Holiday Brunch, "A Winter Wonderland," at Marin CC next Sunday, December 18, beginning at 11:00AM — please call **Marsha Molloy** at 415-328-7745, to RSVP.

Then we heard her exclaim as we filed out the door,

"Come back in January, I still have 6 months more."

It's been a fun first half of Prez Peian's Year,

and we closed out December with lots of good cheer.

So have a joyful holiday, stay as safe as you can,

With lots of Rotary love from this Jolly Old Man.



NEW MEMBER NOTICE

The application for membership of the following was (were) approved by the Board of Directors and the membership:

Kyle Frazier / Real Estate Agent
if there are no objections by:

Thursday, December 29
he/she/they will be inducted on or about:
Friday, December 30

Phil Dougherty
Secretary

Rotary Club of Novato



A Winter Wonderland

BRUNCH & ENTERTAINMENT



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18
11:00 A.M. SOCIAL • 11:30 A.M. BRUNCH

MARIN COUNTRY CLUB
500 Country Club Drive, Novato
\$55 PER PERSON • KIDS under 12 EAT FREE

NO HOST BAR



RSVP to: Marsha Molloy
mjmolloy@pacbell.net or 415-328-7745

Mail check payable to: **Rotary Club of Novato**
Mail checks to:
Marsha Molloy, 308 Becky Court, Novato, CA 94949
RSVPS and checks due by December 10th



With a life time of service, Past President Marty conducts a counsel of Past Presidents.



President Elect for 2024-25, Tom Rickey.



Environmental Sustainability Chair, Gloria Dunn-Violin asks for help planting milk weed for Monarch butterflies.



Sonia Seeman will be Treasurer, and Past President Chris DeGabriele will be Secretary.



President Elect for 2024-25, Tom Rickey and Rotary Foundation Director Jorg honoring Paul Harris contributors.



Community Service and Scholarship Chairman Jim Spilman managing the Zoom version of the meeting.