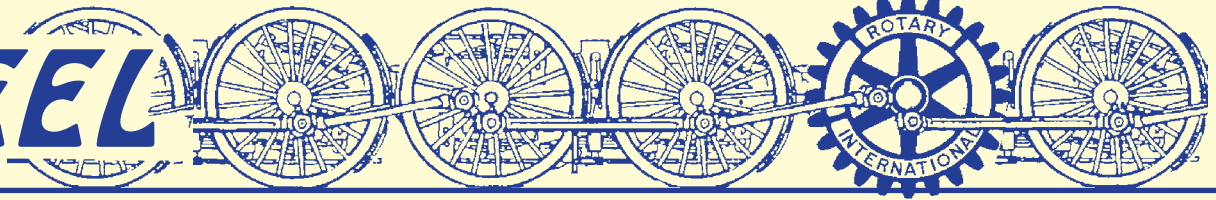


The BIG WHEEL

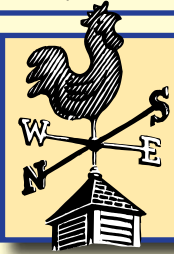


Rotary Club of Novato

Chartered April 26, 1954

The Golden Nugget of the North Bay

In The Valley of Gentle Seasons



December 11, 2020

Vol. 72, No. 22

Editor:

The Jolly Ol' Elf

In the Beginning...

President Chris rang the Rotary bell at 5:30 and Zoom station KRCN was on the air once again. Our first evening meeting in a long time began with **Lynn Dawson** leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance. **Larry Harrison** inspired us with the thought that there are two ways of spreading light in the world: We can be the candle that creates the light or we can be a mirror that reflects that light to others.

Guests & Visitors

President Chris welcomed guests who joined us today: **Roberta Dunham, Frances Borok, Edna Scheller, Chris Harrison, Diane Spilman, Kathy Ketron, Linda Westerheide** and our First Lady, **Joni DeGabriele**. If I missed any other guests, my apologies.

Sunshine

The bright light of sunshine to report was seeing Past President **George Estes** in the Zoom Gallery. His chemo treatment has gone well and is completed. He will begin radiation treatment in January. It was great to see **George** again. Best wishes to you, **George**, you're in our prayers.

Announcements

Rotary Work Party

Jim Spilman reported another successful work party last week with **Larry Mazzotta, Larry Harrison, Alan Dunham** and **Jim Botko** joining him in building a gazebo

at the VFW facility. Once again, **Jim** and the Community Services team made a difference for folks in Novato.

Non-Polenta Feed

Captain Polenta (AKA **Craig McCurdy**) reminded us that the Non-Polenta Feed (not to be confused with the almost-annual non-Spaghetti Feed) will take place on February 6, 2021. This event is the primary fundraiser for our Club's Endowment Fund from which we are able to finance our many service projects throughout the year — from building that gazebo for the Veterans of Foreign Affairs to providing clean water in Central America to providing dictionaries to third graders in Novato or helping to support an orphanage and school in Mexico. We will have a chance to donate money to the Endowment and paying forward the many service projects through which we make this world a little better place to live. Stay tuned — there will be more information coming soon about how you can support the Non-Polenta Feed. And knowing **Craig** and his team, they will come up with some interesting ways to donate.

Marty's Moments

President Chris introduced another episode of Marty's Moments, this time showcasing long-standing member and Past President, **Paul Scheller**, a Novato Rotarian for 54 years. **Paul** grew up in Novato which he called truly wonderful years of his life. He attended high school in San Rafael and became a building contractor, forming Scheller Construction. He was Club President in Rotary Year 1981-82. **Paul** says becoming a Rotarian has had a big influence on his life, allowing him to reach out to help people around the world and not just in Novato or in Marin County. It was a pleasure to recognize **Paul** and get to know him a little better. He is a fine example of Rotary's motto: Service Above Self.

2021-2022 Rotary Officers

Paul Scheller then took the Zoom microphone to announce a slate of officers nominated for Rotary Club of Novato's 2021-2022 Rotary Year. Those nominees were:

Christina Stroeh, Club President; **Phil Dougherty**, Club Secretary; **Reggie Winner**, Club Treasurer; and, as President-Elect for 2022-2023, **Peian Harness**. There were no other nominations offered from the floor so the vote was taken and this slate of officers was unanimously elected to lead us for the next Rotary Year, 2021-2022. Congratulations to **Christina, Phil, Reggie** and **Peian**.

Holiday Memories

Moses Jacob gave us a brief introduction to the Jewish holiday of Hanukkah, an eight-day festival commemorating the re-dedication of the Temple in Jerusalem by the Maccabees after its desecration by the Syrians. **George Estes** followed with a brief talk on the meaning of Christmas and some of his fondest memories of celebrating Christmas, as a young man on a mission trip to North Dakota. Regardless of our obstacles in life, **George** reminds us to be grateful for all of the good in this world.

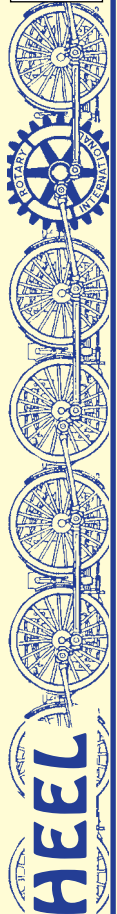
Zoom Happy Hour!

With that, we enjoyed some Zoom socializing — a virtual Happy Hour. This was probably as close as the Rotary Club of Novato will get to its annual Christmas party in 2020. We missed a lot of spouses and families but it was nice to visit with our Rotarian friends again, if only via the Internet. It was fun to relax and visit with each other — a good time enjoyed by all.

The Winner

At the appointed time, **President Chris** regained control of the meeting. It must be nice to have the power to simply "mute" everyone with the push of a button, including the ones at the "Leper Table." We said "goodbyes," **Jim Spilman** spun the roulette wheel to come up with the winning number and the 25-er was won by **Camie Studley**. Hope to see you all at Zoom radio station KRCN again next Friday, December 18, for our final meeting of 2020.

Continued on page 3



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?"

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/



UPCOMING ZOOM MEETING
December 18
Club Member
5 Minute Talks

5 Minute Talks: Club Members **Maggie Shao, Al Angulo, Dennis Baldwin** and **Rene Prado** will each have five minutes to tell of their lives so that we can get to know each other just a little bit better. During that 20 minutes the four will have a chance to review with you what is important to them. After that the members may ask a specific question of the four. Please be prepared to ask a question.

The Big Wheel (USPS 417-510), Published three times a month, for The Rotary Club of Novato, by Zenith Instant Printing, Inc., 1419 Grant Ave., Novato, CA 94945. Subscription price \$50.00 per year. Periodical postage paid at Novato, CA 94947. **POSTMASTER:** Please send address changes to The Rotary Club of Novato, P.O. Box 657, Novato, CA 94948-0657

Upcoming Programs

December	
Dec.18	5 Minute Talks: Club Members Maggie Shao, Al Angulo, Dennis Baldwin and Rene Prado will each have five minutes to tell of their lives so that we can get to know each other just a little bit better.
Dec.25	Merry Christmas
January - Happy New Year!	
Jan. 1	Happy New Year
Jan. 8	Gary Green M.D. , an infectious disease specialist will be presenting the latest on the pandemic, the latest on the vaccine and what we should expect. This should be up-to-date information and we do expect a number of Sutter employees from the state sitting in, so this is an opportunity to get the latest. Ryan Pockock and Shannon Thomas will be our moderators.

www.novatorotary.org

ROTARY CLUB OF NOVATO
2020/2021 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

OFFICERS	DIRECTORS
Chris DeGabriele <i>President</i>	Craig Anderson <i>Club Administration</i>
Christina Stroeh <i>Vice President</i>	Michael Morrissey <i>Public Image</i>
Reggie Winner <i>Secretary</i>	Jim Spilman <i>Community Service</i>
Jim Bates	Phil Dougherty <i>International Service</i>
Debbie Brusatori <i>Treasurer</i>	Jorg Puh-Westerheide <i>The Rotary Foundation (TRF)</i>
Holger Knaack <i>R.I.President</i>	Shawn Campas
Mary Bates <i>District Governor</i>	Katie Chase <i>Youth Service</i>
Carola Detrick <i>Assistant District Governor</i>	Christina Stroeh <i>Membership</i>
	Burt Hoffmann <i>President, Nova-Ro Corp.</i>
	Bill Vespa <i>Chair, Novato Rotary Endowment</i>
	Ron Harness <i>Past President</i>



Rotary Work Party at the Novato VFW

The solitary Marin County Veterans Hall in Novato receives helping hands from The Rotary Club of Novato. Participants included the Veteran's Chaplin **Joe Brumbaugh**, Rotary Community Service Chairman **Jim Spilman** and fellow Rotarians **Dr. Larry Mazzotta**, Architect **Alan Dunham**, **Jim Botko** and **Larry Harrison** former Rotary President.

Story by Penny Hansen; photos by Penny Hansen and Jim Spilman.



Rotary Photo Album - December 11, 2020



December 11 Zoom Meeting.



We saw an episode of Marty's Moments with Paul Scheller. Pictured here Paul, Edna and family.



Chris' grand niece singing Good Tidings.

OUR DECEMBER 11TH
ZOOM MEETING
Election of Officers
and "Evening Virtual
Happy Hour"



December 11 Zoom Meeting.