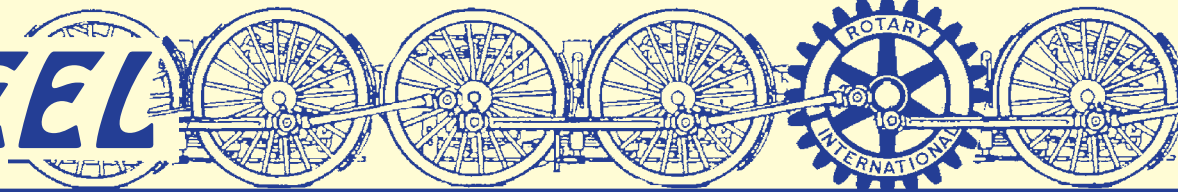


# The BIG WHEEL

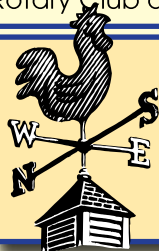


Rotary Club of Novato

Chartered April 26, 1954

The Golden Nugget of the North Bay

In The Valley of Gentle Seasons



**April 21, 2023**  
**Vol. 74, No. 29**  
**Editor:**  
**Bill Luga**

12:30 and all was well so **Prez Peian** rang da bell.

**Don Violin** led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The “Thought for the Day” was provided by new member **Rebekah Gonzalez** who reminded us *“This is spring, a time for rebirth, and the world is always changing and we should not remain constant: Here’s to Living!”*

## Guests & Visitors

We had no visiting Rotarians today, but were blessed with the presence of **Roberta Dunham**, wife of **Alan**, along with **Bill McDill’s** first and only wife, **Vicki**.

## Yay for Jay!

Yes, **Jay Wayne** finally returned to us from the land of the ill. **Jay** has a hard time standing (on his own two feet!) but he’s got a fancy wheel chair. He’s been gone six weeks and thanked us all for our cards, calls and thoughts. Welcome back, **Jay!**

## Sunshine?

**Rob Haff’s** mother, **Beverly Haff** passed away at 95 years of age. Our thoughts are with you **Rob**.

**Prez Peian** announced **Diana Tomasini** whose daughter was also visiting **Diana**. She would love some calls.

## Announcements

### Volunteers Needed

**Marty Wickenheiser** announced that she needs volunteers to help clean up at Los Robles Mobile Home Park.

### Project Novato K9 Foundation

It was announced that the Project Novato K9 Foundation has changed since the State of California has made a new law that Patrol Dogs are now illegal but we will be providing vet care for the retired Patrol Dogs. We can go to the last graduation on May 10, 2023.

## Speaker

**Laura Gill** from the Marine Mammal Center was our speaker. **Laura** told us that the Center is a global leader in Marine Mammal Health. The Center is a non-profit organization, a 501(c)3, with a staff of 130 and a volunteer group of 1,150.

The Center is not only in Marin County but also in Hawaii. Their objective is to rehabilitate sick and injured sea mammals and return them to the ocean.

The Center does scientific research and was the first to discover cancer, cataracts and tooth decay in sea mammals.

Their primary care is for California sea lions, and Northern elephant seals. They also take care of sea otters. In Hawaii they primarily take care of monk seals. Good presentation!

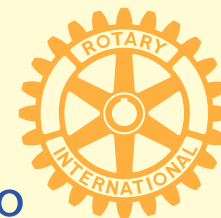
## Next Friday...

**Prez Peian** announced she would be at the District Conference next Friday and **Past Prez Peter Oser** would take charge so it would be a good time to pull off anything crazy!

## Raffle

I don’t know who won the \$25 raffle, but I won the back table pot of \$16!

**Rotary**  
Club of Novato



Continued on page 3



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/](http://Rotary5150.org/clubs/rotary-club-directory/)

**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*

**April 2023**


Apr. 28 **Tony Williams:**  
North Marin Water District Update

**May 2023**


May 5 **Ryan Yerkey:** Ocean Voyages Institute  
May 12 **Teacher's Recognition Luncheon**  
May 19 **Leonard Weingarten / VP of ESCOM Council:** ESCOM Presentation  
May 26 **NO MEETING**

**ROTARY CLUB OF NOVATO**  
2022/2023 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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



**Rotary**  
District 5150



**Marin  
San Francisco  
San Mateo**

**Rotary Day of Service  
Protecting The Environment**  
May 13, 2023



A multi-county Service and Learning event  
to help protect our environment

★ **Hands on Environmental Projects** ★  
★ **Protecting The Environment Fair** ★  
(EV Car Show and Environmental Related Exhibits &  
Lithium-ion (Li-ion) Battery Recycling)

Registration coming soon

**Imagine Rotary**  
Serve to Change Lives

Contact: Sylvia Barry at [Sylvia@SylviaBarryRE.com](mailto:Sylvia@SylviaBarryRE.com)

*May*  
SPECIAL DATES



|      |                               |
|------|-------------------------------|
| 5-5  | Veronica Pietras              |
| 5-8  | David Hernandez               |
| 5-13 | Phil Brown                    |
| 5-15 | Kathy & Dennis Baldwin        |
| 5-18 | Linda & Jorg Puhr-Westerheide |
| 5-18 | Edna & Paul Scheller          |
| 5-21 | Marilyn Smith                 |
| 5-22 | Camille & Robert Marshall     |
| 5-25 | Linda & Darrell Scott         |
| 5-27 | Robin & Frank Bruno           |
| 5-27 | Katie Chase                   |
| 5-27 | Raye-Lee & George Estes       |
| 5-27 | Reggie Winner                 |
| 5-31 | Frank Bruno                   |



*Peter Pelavin did the heavy legal lifting for non-profit status for Novato Police Canine Foundation.*



*Marty Wickenheiser describes yard work at Los Robles Senior Mobile Homes.*



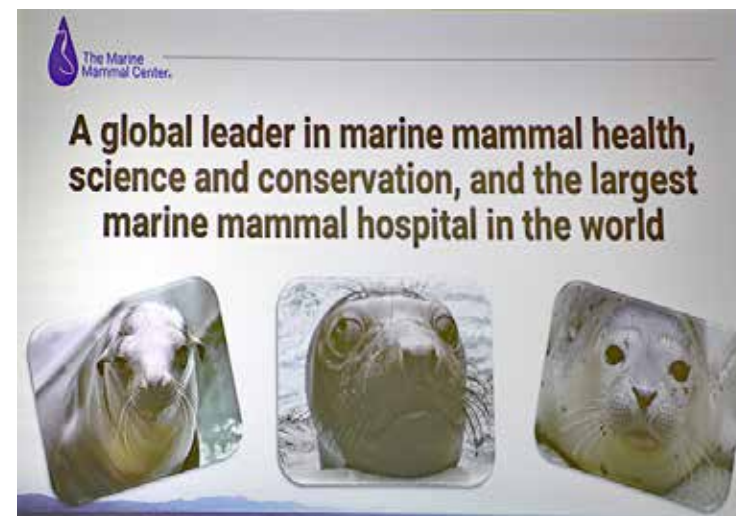
*Ron Harness of the Environmental Committee introduces Laura Gill of the Marine Mammal Center.*



*District 5150 Monterey Conference*



*Marine Mammal Center Program Director Laura Gill.*



*The Marine Mammal Center rescues, provides care, and releases thousands of marine mammals.*