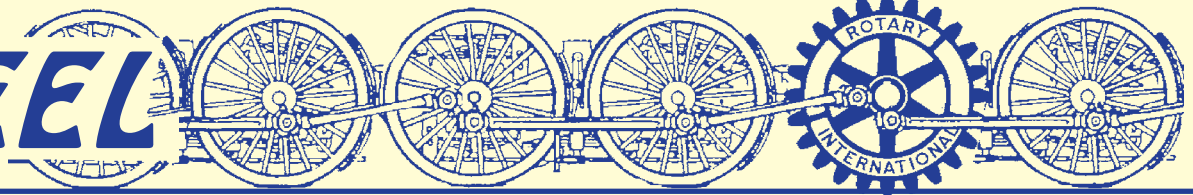


# The BIG WHEEL



Rotary Club of Novato

Chartered April 26, 1954

The Golden Nugget of the North Bay

In The Valley of Gentle Seasons



**April 28, 2023**

**Vol. 74, No. 30**

**Editor:**

**The Dean of Novato Rotary**

## In the Beginning...

**Prez. Peian** was away at the District Conference so **Past Prez Peter Oser** rang da bell and **Penny Hansen** led us in the Pledge.

**P.P. Gary Bramon** was supposed to provide us with a “Thought for the Day” and all he could think of was “Snips and snails and puppy dog tails”... So **Gary** asked **P.P. Al Angulo** to give us a thought. Al looked around the room and said “How happy and blessed we are to have great friends and also wonderful families.” Acting **Prez Peter** reminded **Al** of the Square Dance Convention they attended along with **Dave** and **Bunny Milano** where **Kate Smith** sang “God Bless America.”

But we all hoped **Gary Bramon** was not injured when he stumbled badly over the

“Thought for the Day.” He was at least terribly bruised.

## Surprise!

Next with no warning, **Peter** turned the meeting over to **Prez Elect Phil Dougherty**. **Phil** immediately announced that he was amending the Club By-Laws and proclaiming himself President for life!

## No Visitors

**P.P. Anne** was intro'd as a guest and **P.P. Chris DeGabriele** intro'd our speaker as a guest.

**P.E. Phil** noted there were a number of retired Rotarians in the room and first called on **Nohemi Beissmann-Mason** who had been President of Rodex Pest Control. **Nohemi** was born in Mexico City and studied languages in college. She moved to New York and met her future husband there. They eventually moved to Marin County and started a very successful business here. **Nohemi's** husband died in 1985. She eventually married **Jerry** in 1997.

**P.E. Phil** then recognized birthdays in April including **Moses Jacob**, **Fred Anderson**, **Mike Morrissey**, and **Phil** did not mention his B'day of April 21 until later.

He did not mention my wife **Jo's** B-day of April 20. Happy Birthday, **Jo!**

Then **P.E. Phil** got into some history of **Past Presidents**. He asked which Past Prez served in both the 20th and 21st centuries.

**P.E. Phil** said **Gary Bramon** in 1999 and 2000. WRONG! Google search says:

*“While the period 1900-1999 is of course a century, as is any period of 100 years, it is incorrect to label it the 20th century which began January 1, 1901 and ended on December 31, 2000.”*

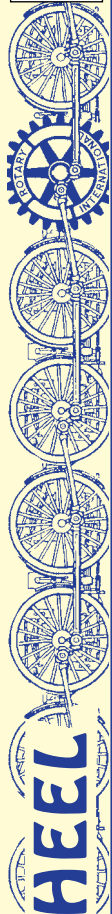
So... This means whoever was President in 2000-2001 served in 2 centuries... That's me! **Dean L. Heffelfinger**.

## Speaker

**P.P. Chris DeGabriele** intro'd the speaker:



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/)

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*Upcoming Programs*

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

**Tony Williams**, manager of the North Marin Water District which Chris used to manage.

**Tony** told us all about the history of the District. **Tony** explained our sources of water:

- Sonoma Water imports      70% - 85%
- (Russian River)              8% - 20%
- Stafford Lake                 7% -10%
- Recycled Water

**Tony** then talked about the cost to increase water flow such as capture storm water.

### Raffle

**Penny Hansen** won the 25 bucks.



A vertical poster for a Rotary event. The background is a blue gradient with a stylized green globe and leaves. At the top left, it says "Rotary District 5150" next to the Rotary International logo. The globe contains the text "Marin San Francisco San Mateo". Below the globe, the main title reads "Rotary Day of Service Protecting The Environment" with the date "May 13, 2023". Underneath, it says "A multi-county Service and Learning event to help protect our environment". Two yellow stars flank the text "Hands on Environmental Projects" and "Protecting The Environment Fair", with a sub-note "(EV Car Show and Environmental Related Exhibits &amp; Lithium-ion (Li-ion) Battery Recycling)". Below that, it says "Registration coming soon". At the bottom, it says "Imagine Rotary Serve to Change Lives" and "Contact: Sylvia Barry at Sylvia@SylviaBarryRE.com". There are logos for "IMAGINE ROTARY" and "SEE THE CHANGE" at the bottom corners.



Rotary Club of Novato

Rotary  

 **Rotary Day of Service:  
Protecting The Environment**

**Marin Civic Center Lagoon Park**  
**May 13 (Saturday) 8:30 AM – 2:00 PM**  
**RSVP at [Rotary5150.Org](http://Rotary5150.Org)**

**Marin Exhibitors**

Ride and Drive Clean Bay Area	Our Water Our World
Shelter Box	Resilient Neighborhood
Marin County Open Space	Save-R-Bay: Wastewater Treatment
Marin County Parks	Transportation of Marin
Marin County Sustainability Team	US Coast Guard Pacific Strike Team
Marin County Wildfire Protection Authority	Zero Waste Marin

*North Marin Water District CEO Tony Williams explains where our water comes from.*