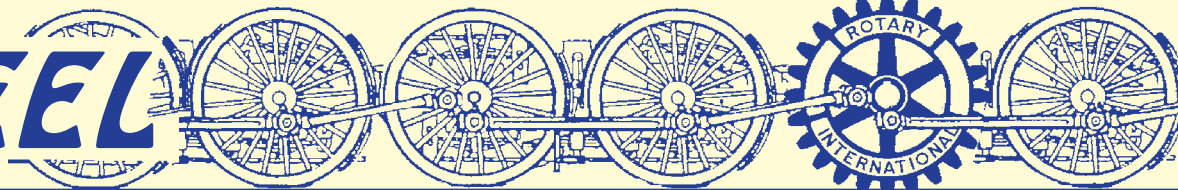


The BIG WHEEL

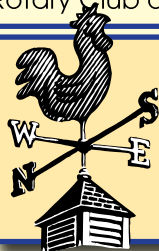


Rotary Club of Novato

Chartered April 26, 1954

The Golden Nugget of the North Bay

In The Valley of Gentle Seasons



May 5, 2023
Vol. 74, No. 31
Editor:
Maggie Shao

In the Beginning

Celebrating Cinco de Mayo - **Sam** prepared a Mexican lunch of pork or chicken soft tacos, rice and beans, and fresh fruit. **President Peian** led us in the Pledge, and **President Elect Phil Dougherty** gave us several short "Thoughts for the Day" all about weather. "*Climate is what you expect, weather is what you get*", "*There is no such thing as bad weather, just inappropriate clothing*", and a tongue twister that went something like "*We'll weather the weather, Whatever the weather, Whether we like it or not! YOUR Experiences Will Weather the Weather*".

Guests and Visitors

We had many visitors today. Four year old **Cyrus** came with his grandmother **Reggie Winner**; eldest daughter **Ashby** came with mom **Marisa Remak**. Nice to see **Dennis Hagerty** from Wet Mountain Valley Rotary in Colorado who is President Elect of that Club. **Terry Carillo** from San Rafael Evening joined us, and **Jorg Puhr-Westerheide** introduced a member from his former club, Clayton Valley Concord Sunrise Rotary, **Torsten Jacobsen**

Sunshine Report

Holly Axtell joined us via Zoom, as she has had hip surgery and is at home recovering.

Announcements

Al Angulo, proud great grand dad, announced the birth of his one day old great grand daughter born in SF.

Marty Wickenheiser shared several thank you letters from the third grader who received dictionaries.

District Conference

Russ Ketron recognized the many awards our Club received at the District Conference. He also urged members to register for the multi-district conference that will be held in Reno in May 2024.

Rene Prado asked for members to speak into the microphone for the benefit for those members joining the meeting via Zoom.

President Peian wanted to acknowledge and thank **Rene** for managing the Zoom meetings for this last year.

District Conference attendees shared their memories. **Marty Wickenheiser** was glad to see old friends and former District Governors and commended **Christina Stroeh** for leading Sunday's portion of the Conference (aside - food was not good at the conference).

Marisa Remak enjoyed going and met someone there who said our Club Zoom meetings are awesome. **Ron Harness** appealed to older members to attend future conferences.

Arch Klumph Society Award

A photo was shown of **Russ** and **Kathy Ketron** at the Arch Klumph Society awards in Chicago, this is the highest tier of donors at the \$250,000 level. **Russ** mentioned according to Charity Navigator, Rotary Foundation is rated among the top ten due to Foundation Chairs who serve without fees and excellent staff.

Upcoming events

Rotary Day of Service - May 13 from 8:30am to 2pm at the Marin County Civic Center, please register to help volunteer for the Earth Day cleanup and free lunch, E-car exhibits and other environmental vendors will be there.

Our June 9th meeting will be at NovaRo II, 1130 7th Street. Come and get familiar with this great Club project and lunch will be provided.

Debunking - June 23 will be catered by Debbie Ghiringelli and Debunking flyers will soon be mailed out.

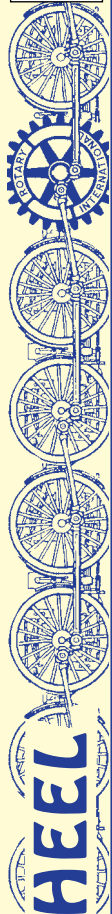
Program

Due to our scheduled speaker unable to join us, **President Peian** used the program time as an opportunity for the different committees to present on their projects.

Robb Haff, Endowment Chair, summarized the committee activities, talked about launching a Lifetime Legacy for those who would like to leave a financial and social legacy through Rotary. The main sources for the growing Endowment are the annual Western BBQ and personal donations. The current level of the Endowment is \$1.25 million, \$550,000 in scholarship funds, and \$800,000 remaining in the Jonas building fund - earmarked for the bridge across the creek - pending many approvals and bureaucracy so don't hold your breath.

Lynn Dawson, Youth Service Chair, shared the reemergence of Interact Club at San Marin High, in large part due to Covid sheltering, as well as the elimination of community service requirement for high

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/

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Upcoming Programs

May 2023

May 12 **Teacher's Recognition Luncheon**
 May 19 **Leonard Weingarten / VP of ESCOM Council: ESCOM Presentation**
 May 26 **NO MEETING**

JUNE 2023

June 2 **Levon Perrott: Aging**
 June 9 **Dean Heffelfinger: NovaRo Senior Housing (Meeting at NovaRo 2: 1130 7th St. Novato)**
 June 16 **Lisa Clarke: Zero Waste in Novato Schools**
 June 23 **No Meeting (Evening Debunking at Jonas Center)**
 June 30 **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>

school students, who are not volunteering as much. She praised our Club as one of the highest compliance for Youth Safety Certification. Interested members are encouraged to attend Zoom meeting Thursday at 10am.

Christina Stroeh, District Youth Chair, is excited for the upcoming RYLA conference with lots of registrations coming in for the May 15 deadline.

Our Community Service Chair superstar, **Jim Spilman** recognized 24 projects that received \$48,000 of funds from Endowment and Foundation DDF. **Jim** recognized several members for their contributions to these community projects: **John Cutrufelli** for his work with the Novato Car Wash, raising funds for our annual teacher recognition next week which is chaired by **Christopher Mychajluk**. **John Ringgenberg**

is chairing the Scholarship committee (separate funds) who are in the midst of vetting and soon interviewing this year's candidates; **Marty Wickenheiser** who heads up the 3rd grade Dictionary distribution, Los Robles clean-ups, and food pantry for elder shut-ins; **Christina Stroeh** for spearheading the Street Piano Project which will result in a piano to be installed on Grant Avenue in front of Marin Music Center; **Penny Hansen** for all the photos of community projects/events; **Peter Pelavin** for his work with Novato Leadership to have a non-profit for K-9 police dogs; **Larry Mazzotta** organizing the Easter Food Distribution with North Marin Community Services; New member **Rebekah Shapiro Gonzalez** working with Lynwood Elementary for several projects including Odyssey of the Mind; **Mike Morrissey** for Honor Flights - **Don Violin** and **Phil Brown** will fly to DC for Veteran's

Day; and **Jeff Slavitz** project to paint and maintain for Voyager.

Torsen Jacobsen wanted to thank Novato Rotary Club International Service committee for \$2000 supporting the Cancer Center in San Felipe serving 100 miles up and down the coast of Baja, a low cost screening and treatment center in Mexico and during Covid, some excellent staff continued working without pay, due to lack of funding. Annual budget for this clinic is \$45,000, the same cost as treating 1 (one) prostate cancer patient in the US. 60,000 screenings, colon, breast and testicular cancers have been performed since opening.

The Winner

John Reuscher won the \$25 Four Way Test Raffle.



Rotary District Conference 2023





Community Service Chair Jim Spilman describes member tasks.



Treasurer Reggie Winner with grandson Cyrus.



Rotary Club Chairs honored.



Kathy and Russ Ketron honored as the highest tier of donors as Arch Klumph donors.



Rene Prado commended for keeping our meeting available on Zoom.



RYLA Chair Christina describes future video documentation by students at next RYLA Camp.



Visiting Rotarian Torsten Jacobsen and Jorg Puh-Westerheide