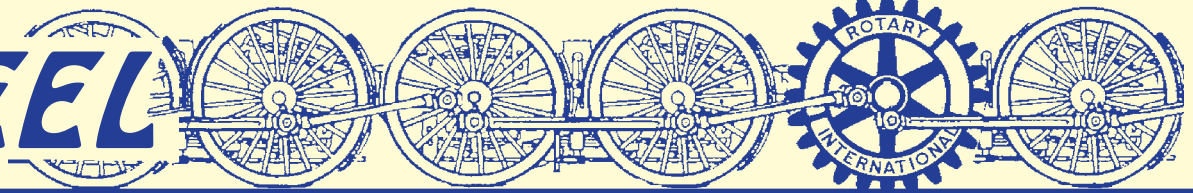


# The BIG WHEEL



Rotary Club of Novato

Chartered April 26, 1954

The Golden Nugget of the North Bay

In The Valley of Gentle Seasons



**June 16, 2023**  
**Vol. 74, No. 36**  
**Editor:**  
**Bill Vespa**

## In the Beginning...

**Past President Phil Brown** led us in the Pledge.

Instead of a "Thought for the Day", **President Peian** led us in a sing along of the **Frank Sinatra** hit "My Way". A very touching moment and a fun way to start her last meeting.

## Visitors and Guests

**Marisa Remak** brought daughter **Sadie**, **John Ringgenberg** introduced Ringgenberg Scholarship Award winner **Ronin Tanihara** and his mother. **Ronin** is unable to attend our Scholarship Presentation meeting, so **John** handed him the microphone. **Ronin** gave our Club a very heartfelt, THANK YOU! **Ronin** will attend Cal State San Marcos. Congratulations **Ronin!** **Marty Wickenheiser** had three guests, **Prof. Marti Cate**, **Ranya** and **Seiun** (your editor missed last names). **Bill McDill** brought his wife **Vicki**. **Bill Vespa** was accompanied by his son, **Tony**, who will be starting his Senior year at San Marin in the fall. **Gloria Dunn-Violin** introduced our speaker **Lisa Clarke**. **Al Shirley** was visiting for the last time from the Rotary Club of San Rafael Evening, soon he will be inducted as a new member. Visiting from the Rotary Club of Millbrae was **Rick** and **Carrie Chinn**. **Rick** is the District 5150 Stewardship Chair and **Carrie** is the District 5150 EREY Coordinator and Paul Harris Society Chair. Their guest was **Lia Heath**, from Novato Charter School.

## Sunshine

**Gary Bramon** says that he is doing well, recovering from

a stroke. Fortunately, the stroke occurred while he was at the hospital, so treatment was immediate. **Past President Bill McDill** was called on by **President Peian** to explain what looked like a brace around his torso. **Bill** claims it is a GPS locator antenna, **Peian** said she wants to know where to get one for **Ron**.

## Announcements

**Penny Hansen** announced that she will have eye surgery and asked for members to take photos of the Debunking and other events during her recovery.

**Gary Bramon** suggested an impromptu Rotarian gathering to hear **Andre Thierry** perform accordion music tonight (6/16) on "The Green" near City Hall from 6pm-8pm.

**Craig Anderson** announced the upcoming Relay for Life on July 29 & 30 at Loma Verde School.

**Larry Harrison** announced that the 17 Marin County Rotary Clubs raised over \$50,000 to support Homeward Bound's 24 unit apartment complex to help end Veteran Homelessness in Marin. There will be a check presentation and celebration at the Homeward Bound Key Room, 10am on Saturday June 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Bill Vespa** asked for more writers on the Big Wheel Committee. There are only about a half dozen writers so far and many of those have served on the committee for decades. The only thing required is to be able to type an email recounting what happened in the meeting, no design skills needed! Please contact **Bill** at [zip@sonic.net](mailto:zip@sonic.net).

**President Peian** reminded us that the Debunking is next Friday and to please RSVP to **Marsha Molloy**. No tickets will be sold at the door. **Peian** also announced a new program to become a Big Wheel sponsor for \$50 per month. Details to follow.

## Foundation Presentation

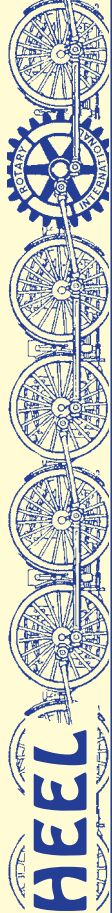
**President Peian** introduced **Carrie Chinn**, Rotary District 5150 "Every Rotarian Every Year" Coordinator and "Paul Harris Society" Chair. **Carrie** gave a history of Paul Harris, Rotary and the **Paul Harris** Fellowship. It may come as a surprise,

**Paul Harris** had a rough childhood. Because of financial difficulties, he and his brother were sent to live with his grandparents, when **Paul** was three years old. **Paul Harris** liked "to play pranks and hooky". He was expelled from multiple schools, even military school. Eventually, he was able to follow through on a promise to his grandmother, to make something of himself. **Paul** apprenticed at a law firm and earned a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Iowa, moving to Chicago to practice law. **Paul** did value friendship and found himself feeling isolated in Chicago. He decided to set up regular meetings with three friends, rotating from office to office learning about each other's business. In 1905 the first Rotary Club was born. Within a couple of years the organization grew and the focus began to turn to Community Service. Shortly afterwards, the second Rotary Club was established in SF, followed by the third in Oakland. Rotary's influence grew globally (Rotary has held a non-voting seat in the UN since its inception). After **Paul Harris** died in 1947, people donated to RI in **Paul's** name, which led to the **Paul Harris** Fellowship.

EREY District 5150 Coordinator, **Carrie** presented **President Peian** with two banners for our Club's participation in EREY, 2021-22. One banner was for 100% member participation in EREY, only 3,900 of 46,000 clubs receive this banner. The other banner was for total funds donated, our District ranked 2nd in the world in total funds donated and our Club was ranked 7<sup>th</sup> in the District. This is a clear indication of how generous and supportive our members are, very well done Rotary Club of Novato! **Peian** was also presented with a certificate of award for her annual donations and becoming a member of the **Paul Harris** Society.

## Program

**Gloria Dunn-Violin** introduced, **Lisa Clarke**. **Lisa** is an Epidemiologist, who specialized in Cancer research for 10 years. As a parent, she sees Climate Change as a significant



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?"

## Rotary Club of Novato Social and Farewell Party for Sam

**Friday, June 30 at 6PM**

**Location:  
Sam's Place Restaurant  
Complimentary Appetizers**

**Members order your own  
food or drinks**

During this event, we will present  
a "Thank You" gift to Sam for his  
service to our Club for the past 7  
years.

All members, family  
and friends are invited.

**Please RSVP  
to Peian Harness.**

### 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

### JUNE 2023

- June 23 **No Meeting**  
(Evening Debunking at Jonas Center)
- June 30 **No Meeting**

### July 2023

- July 7 **President Phil Dougherty:** Plans for the new Rotary year
- July 14 Rotary Club of Novato: High School Scholarship Awards
- July 21 Miwok Park Picnic
- July 28 **No Meeting**

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

#### OFFICERS

**Peian Harness**  
*President*

**Phil Dougherty**  
*Vice President*

**Tom Rickey**  
**Phil Dougherty**  
*Co-Secretaries*

**Reggie Winner**  
*Treasurer*

**Jennifer E. Jones**  
*R.I. President*

**Gary Chow**  
*District Governor*

**Terri Carrillo**  
*Assistant District Governor*

#### DIRECTORS

**Fred Anderson**  
*Club Administration*

**Marisa Remak**  
*Public Image*

**Jim Spilman**  
*Community Service*

**Gloria Dunn-Violin**  
*Environmental Sustainability (NR-CAT)*

**Holly Axtell**  
*International Service*

**Jorg Puhr-Westerheide**  
*The Rotary Foundation (TRF)*

**Lynn Dawson**  
*Youth Service*

**Chris DeGabriele/Larry Harrison**  
*Membership*

**Sonia Seeman/Christina Stroeh**  
*Jonas Center Liasons*

**Dean Heffelfinger**  
*President, Nova-Ro Corp.*

**Rob Haff**  
*Chair, Novato Rotary Endowment*

**Christina Stroeh**  
*Past President*

threat to both health and extreme weather. **Lisa** wants to reduce the impacts on future generations. After volunteering at her children's school on waste reduction, she recognized many ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from schools. **Lisa** founded Sustainable Marin Schools, a non-profit, to aid schools in meeting climate action goals from City through State levels. She is partnering with NUSD on a Zero Waste and de-carbonization pilot program, with the goal of making Novato Schools the model for sustainability in the State and beyond and prepare students to advocate for their future and be leaders in the green economy.

Schools produce about 530,000 tons of food waste per year (about 65% from lunch programs). The average elementary produces about 20,000 lbs per year (Novato schools make double that). Food wastes produce 8% of all greenhouse gases, which includes Methane (28 times more potent than CO2). A mandatory state law, SB1383, requires reduction and composting of food waste. According to the EPA, schools waste 25% of their energy, caused by lights left on during recess, poor temperature control, etc.

Leadership in sustainability at the district and county level is needed. The current programs are at the school level, relying on teachers and volunteers, with little funding or expertise to make a significant impact on emissions. Sustainable Marin Schools will provide four Zero-Waste and Energy experts to create and carry out a Climate Action plan at zero cost to schools. The experts will establish Sustainability Committees at the County, district and school levels, monitor energy and water use, and help to get funding for upgrades to reduce greenhouse emissions.

The Rotary Club of Novato Climate Action Committee supported two pilot programs in Novato, one at Rancho Elementary and one at Novato High School. When the pilot program began in November 2022, Rancho Elementary was sending 80% of its recycling and compost to the landfill. As of June 2023, by establishing the proper training, providing the proper supplies, tools, signage and monitoring, Rancho had diverted 85-95% of recycling and compost to the correct waste stream, making it SB1383 compliant. In February 2023, SMS helped NHS establish a Sustainability Club. NHS used only trash cans and recycle bins, both types of receptacles were contaminated with improper waste. With the help of SMS, the Sustainability Club created signage, color coded receptacles, and educated teachers and students. Next year, there will be a broader program, similar to the one used at Rancho. NHS will also offer

training for green jobs in the lunch program, maintenance and operations and demonstrate that sustainable programs can impact the environment, career and future.

City of Novato and Novato Proud nominated SMS for "Sustainability Superstar" for its work with NUSD. SMS plans to expand to more schools in NUSD and work with the NUSD Food and Nutrition Program to reduce waste. SMS will also provide Environmental Literacy and greening of campuses. The CA Climate Action Corps will be providing SMS funding for four Energy and Zero-Waste Experts. **Lisa** concluded by taking a few questions.

**Peian** thanked our speaker for an informative program. **Peian** then thanked the membership for the opportunity to lead our Club this year. She looks forward to seeing others step up and take a turn. Thank you **Peian!**

**The 25'er**  
**Marty W's** guest **Marti Cate** won the pot.

July SPECIAL DATES

**"Grant in A Box" Update**  
Mobile Emergency Clinics -UKRAINE-



**THE PROJECT**

In late 2022, members of the RC of Lviv International, and 2 Rotarians, one in Italy and one in the US, developed a global grant project that could be replicated by interested Rotary clubs and districts.

Ukraine's Ministry of Health had identified a need for medical clinics to be placed along the border of the war zone and provide medical services to towns and villages where medical facilities had been destroyed.



**OUR PROGRESS**

As of mid-June 2023, there are 40 units committed for a total of \$1.6M USD. This total includes 1 disaster grant for 2 units, 6 units from a US charity, and 31 units through TRF global grants program. There are 24 Rotary clubs and districts involved as international sponsors (from 4 counties) and 7 clubs as host sponsors. Service Ukraine is the vendor who is building all the units. To date, there are 15 mobile medical clinics that have been deployed and are in service in Ukraine. There are well over 100 individuals and club donors.



Above: Medical staff receive MECs from D5110. Both units deployed to Kherson region and have been busy treating victims of flooding from the destroyed dam.



Above: clinics are fully stocked when delivered to recipient. Consumables are replaced by the regional hospital thru Ministry of Health, as needed.

**OUR IMPACT**

The Mobile emergency clinics that have been deployed are busily treating 30-100 patients per day! Visits are typically for cuts, contusions, chronic heart conditions, infections, and breathing conditions. Recently, the flooding in Kherson has increased the number of patients seen due to effects of contaminated water and cholera.  
**Thank you to ALL OUR DONORS for making a positive impact!**

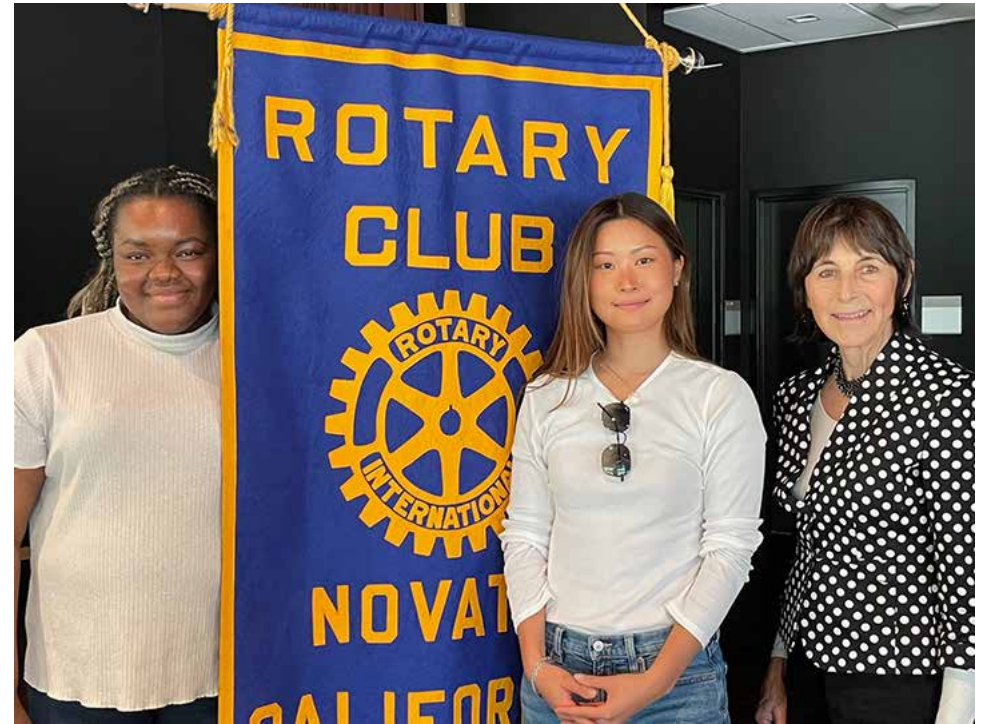


Above: destroyed medical clinic in Kherson region.

- 7-3 Kathy Delahunty
- 7-9 Jacqueline Janssen
- 7-11 T.J. Neff
- 7-12 Burt Hoffmann
- 7-17 Rich Nave
- 7-19 Jacqueline Janssen & Mike Morrissey
- 7-21 Paul Scheller
- 7-25 Karen & Bruce Palmer
- 7-25 Peter Pelavin
- 7-27 Brody Stewart-Stroeh & Christina Stroeh
- 7-29 Marsha Molloy



*Homeward Bound Event.*



*Ranya from Ivory Coast and Sieun from South Korea, both students at Dominican University, with Prof. Marti Cate.*



*Peian sings her finale as President.*



*Transferred Rotary member, Al Shirley, prefers lunch meetings.*

*Lisa Clarke describes her Sustainable Marin Zero Waste Schools.*



*Homeward Bound Event.*