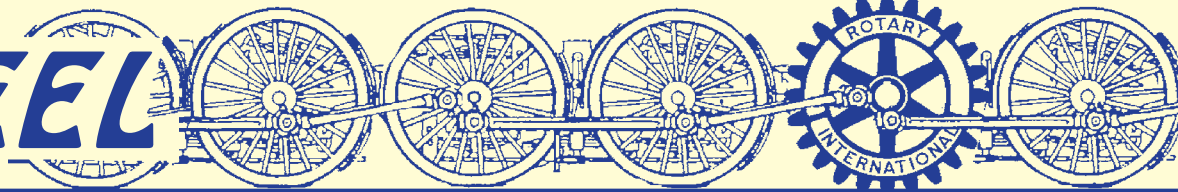


The BIG WHEEL

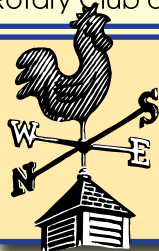


Rotary Club of Novato

Chartered April 26, 1954

The Golden Nugget of the North Bay

In The Valley of Gentle Seasons



June 7, 2024
Vol. 75, No. 41
Editor:
Bill Vespa

Call to Order

Since **Past President Phil** was out of town, he asked **Past-President Peter Oser** and **Past-President Christina Stroeh** to fill in for him, so “Tag Team” was the theme of the day. Team Past-President called us to order at 12:15.

Non-Pledge

Past-President Peter stated there would be no Pledge today, instead, we would do a traditional Rotarian sing-a-long of “My Country ‘Tis of Thee”, led by **Christina Stroeh**.

Thought for the Day

PP Peter gave us a D-Day thought, noting that **President Phil’s** Dad was on the beaches of Normandy that day. The quote comes from **Theodore Roosevelt, Jr**, who at 56 years of age was the oldest and highest ranking soldier in the invasion. **Teddy Jr.** was wounded in WWI and remained a Reservist. He was very experienced as a business and government leader. By June 6, 1944 was a one star general, but in poor health. He repeatedly asked to be part if the invasion, eventually making a request in writing to the 4th Infantry Division, which was granted. Like many of the allied troops arriving by air and sea, **Roosevelt Jr.’s** landing

In Memoriam
Paul Scheller

July 21, 1931 – June 4, 2024

craft landed far from where they planned. With his seasoned leadership, he quickly came up with plan and repeatedly led troops from the beach and over a sea wall. As other debated in the chaos, **Roosevelt Jr.** gave his famous command, “We’ll start the war from right here!”

Visitors and Guests

We had **Paul Simmons** visiting from the Rotary Club of Mission San Rafael. Guests included former member **Tommie Whitener**, with **Gary Bramon**; **Jim Botko** brought his daughter **Rebecca**; **Lynn Dawson** had a table full of guests, today’s speakers **Matt O’Brien** and **Rick Wells**, as well as **David Gabriel** and **Mark Bosch** who are soon to be inducted to our Club. **Bill McDill** brought his current wife, **Vicki** and **Tom Frazier** was accompanied by **Suzanne** (good to see you back **Tom!**).

Community Update

Keeping with the “Tag Team” theme, **Reggie Winner** and **Marty Wickenheiser** announced the passing of long time member **Paul Scheller**. There is no date for a service yet. The Club will have a tribute to **Paul**, where members can share thoughts and memories of his contributions to our Club and Novato Community. **Marty** also mentioned that **Michael Morrissey** recorded a “**Marty’s Moment**” interview with **Paul**, which can be viewed on **Mike’s** YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pmeIhJ0DXmU>. **Burt Hoffmann** also referenced a video **Mike** made for Nova-Ro, which includes interviews with **Paul** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ShqcSwzg1k>

Announcements

PP Christina announced the upcoming Debunking of **President Phil** on June 28th at the Jonas Center. Invitations are in the mail. She also reminded us of the District 5150 PURL’s training sessions coming up on July 20th.

Sonia Seeman announced the Grand Opening of the Homeward Bound Housing on June 13th, from 4pm-6pm.

Craig Anderson said that Relay for Life 2024 starts on July 20 at noon and runs until 10am on July 21 at Olive School.

Jim Spilman thanked the numerous Rotarians that helped stock shelves at Homeward Bound over two days.

Incoming President, **Tom Rickey** said member questionnaires will be on their way soon. He also gave a report on the RI Convention in Singapore. About 14,000 Rotarians (1% of the worldwide members) attended. **Tom** he enjoyed talking to Rotarians from Clubs around the world and sharing programs and ideas. Some new focuses shared are Mental Health, Autism, UNICEF and Trauma Centers. On Polio, there were 12 cases reported from Afghanistan and Pakistan. Overall, it is estimated 20 million lives have been save through Rotary’s campaign to end Polio. He said Singapore was safe and very clean. In fact, you would be arrested (not fined) for dropping chewing gum on the ground! Singapore is located 1 degree above the equator, which made for very hot and humid conditions. But, all in all, a great experience.

Roy Pfeifer and a couple of actors will perform “Show Shenanigans”, an improve show at **Christina Stroeh’s** backyard stage on Saturday June 8th at 4pm. **Christina** led us in singing the “Happy Birthday Song” to the only person at the Birthday table celebrating a birthday, **Tiff Fischer**. The rest of us were late arrivals and crashed the party table.

Robert Marshall spoke about a new program in Guatamala to provide knit hats for infants, called “Beanies for Babies”. It is a joint project with Friendship Bridge, a 501C3 in Colorado. They need about 160 hats per month and will pay a person in Guatemala \$3 to knit each hat. So, this program not only supplies need beanies, it employs a person in Guatamala. **Robert** is looking to raise several thousand dollars. Please contact him to participate.

Induction

Chris DeGabriele came up to introduce and induct **Mark Bosch**, sponsored by **Lynn Dawson** and **David Gabriele**, sponsored by **Peter Oser**. **Chris** gave an overview of what it means to be one of the 1.4 million Rotarians worldwide

The BIG WHEEL

P.O. Box 657
Novato, CA 94948

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 Big Wheel Sponsor



Empathy
ESTATE PLANNING

www.empathyestateplanning.com

Upcoming Programs & Events

June

- June 14 **Ody Andrianos, Alchemical Healing**
- June 21 **Phil's last regular meeting**
- June 28 **Installation Dinner & Debunking**

ROTARY CLUB OF NOVATO 2023/2024 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

Phil Dougherty
President

Tom Rickey
Vice President

Sonia Seeman
Jim White
Co-Secretaries

Chris DeGabriele
Treasurer

Gordon R. McNally
R.I. President

Laine Hendricks
District Governor

Stacie Vance
*Assistant
District Governor*

DIRECTORS

Roy Pfeifer & John Reuscher
Club Administration

Kyle Frazier
Public Image

Peter Pelavin
Community Service

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

Holly Axtell
International Service

Jorg Puhr-Westerheide
The Rotary Foundation (TRF)

Marisa Remak
Youth Service

Lynn Dawson
Membership

Sonia Seeman
Jonas Center Liaison

Peter Oser
President, Nova-Ro Corp.

Craig Anderson
Chair, Novato Rotary Endowment

Peian Harness
Past President

and how to get the most from being a member. The new inductees were pinned by their respective sponsors and each presented with a RCN Polo shirt. The new members were then given a welcoming standing ovation by the Club.

Program

The main “Tag Team” event on the card was introduced by **Christina Stroeh**. Our speakers today are Novato resident **Rick Wells** from the Marin Builders Association and **Matt O’Brien** from the North Bay Construction Corps. **Rick** has an MBA and numerous certifications. **Matt** is a retired Firefighter.

Rick led off by describing the need for construction workers. There are currently 500k open construction jobs across the country. For every one hire, four leave or retire. There are 10,400 people working construction in Marin. The Marin Builders Association has 500 members and they need

workers. There are three feeders of employable people. ROP program at Redwood High, e2c (Education to Career) Canal Alliance at COM, IVC campus and the North Bay Construction Corps at Terra Linda High. NBCC has a unique approach by skill training, providing job fairs, helping with resumes, etc. These services are provided free of charge to people of any age from any area, provided that they are legally employable.

Rick “tapped out” and **Matt** came in to talk about North Bay Construction Corps Marin. NBCC trains people to work in the construction trades and helps those graduates make connections with contractors. 19 classes are offered from Fall through Spring, ranging from Framing, Electrical, Plumbing, Welding, Windows and Roofing to Heavy Equipment Operating and Concrete. With **Matt’s** background as a firefighter safety is a top priority. Students are trained in First Aid and CPR, as well as OSHA 10 classes. NBCC is able to share resources and space with the ROP programs at Terra Linda High.

Rick returned to the podium to answer a few questions. And the answers were....They need more students. About 75% of students will go to non-union work. The training usually does not satisfy the Union Apprentice prerequisites. There is about 80% retention of those hired. Teaching English to the students is part of the training.

In closing, **Rick** thanked everyone for inviting **Matt** and him to speak. If you know of any people looking to get into construction, contact MBA or NBCC.

Peter took the gavel and presented **Alan Dunham’s** water colored note cards as speaker gifts. **Peter** also thanked our visitors, guests and newly inducted members. We then had a moment of silence in memory of **Paul Scheller**.

The Winner

The 25'er was drawn and **Rene Prado** was the lucky winner.

Rotary Photo Album



Rob Marshall noticed diapers wrapped around newborns heads for warm and Beanies for Babies Project was created.



Chris De Gabrielle inducts 2 new members supported by mentors with Membership Chair Lynn Dawson.

Homeward Bound Furnishing Apartments for Homeless Veterans

May31, 2024

By Penny Hansen

From a winter shelter at the National Guard Armory to a 5,000 square foot tent 1987. A 50 year journey to support and guide individuals to self confidence and self-sufficiency welcomes a 24 Homeless Veteran Apts are furnished by volunteers.



Today many Rotarians from 17 Marin Rotary Clubs helped furnished 12 Apts on the first floor with the second floor Apts the next day. No elevator will require lifting many boxes of kitchen, bedroom and bathroom supplies.

Donations from the communities of churches, schools, organizations led by Co-Chief Executive Officers Mary Kay Sweeney and Paul Fordham and a 15 member Board of Directors.

As a long term Board of Director member Secretary Sonia Seeman describes Homeward Bound of Marin is a community-based, non-profit organization providing homeless individuals and families with housing and job training. Life skills education and services are provided in a supportive atmosphere leading toward a self-sustainable life with dignity. As a member of the Board of Directors for many years I am grateful to have witnessed real life-changing outcomes for those we serve through our collaborative efforts.



TGIF Social Event

