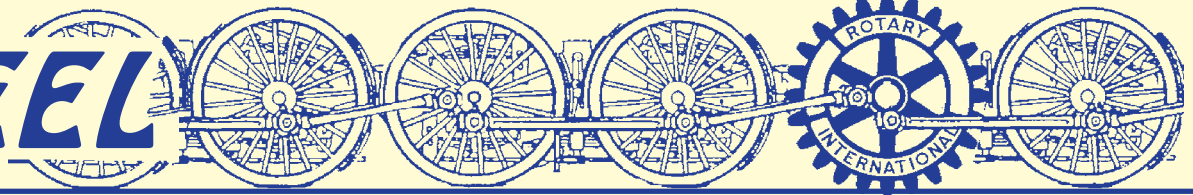


The BIG WHEEL



Rotary Club of Novato

Chartered April 26, 1954

The Golden Nugget of the North Bay

In The Valley of Gentle Seasons



July 22, 2022
Vol. 74, No. 3
Editor:
Marty Wickenheiser

In the Beginning...

The meeting was called to order at 12:15 and the Pledge of Allegiance and "Thought for the Day" were given by **Debbie Brusatori**.

Guests and Visitors

Guests for the day: **Jim Botko** brought **Rebecca Botko** from Vienna; **Jorg Puhr-Westerheide** brought **Torsten Jacobssen** of Clayton Rotary Club.

Visitors for the day: **Jay Dicker** and **Michael Spaulding** from the Rotary Club of Ignacio.

Announcements

Fundraiser

Michael Spaulding of the Rotary Club of Ignacio announced a late September Fundraiser at the Jonas Center from 6-9 p.m. with "\$100 Hamburgers and Comedy."



Relay for Life

The Relay for Life of Marin will be taking place at Hamilton School. The event starts on Saturday, August 6th



BIG WHEEL EDITORS NEEDED

Contact **Bill Vespa**

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Help share the meeting with family, friends and members unable to attend.



at Noon, and finishes August 7th at 10 a.m. Come out to walk laps in honor of your loved ones. There will be food, entertainment, games, prizes, activities and a silent auction. You can make donations payable to the American Cancer Society.

Parachuting for Polio

We watched a video of **Rob Marshall** participating in the Parachuting for Polio fundraiser on June 25th in Davis, CA. The goal was to raise \$250,000. They are almost there at \$238,000.



Bocce Ball Tournament

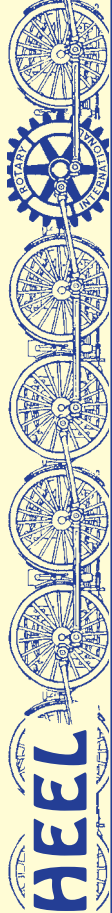
There will be a Bocce Ball Tournament on Saturday, August 28, 2022 at 9 a.m. at the San Rafael Bocce Ball Court. The cost is \$45 per person. RSVP to **Peter Lagarias** at 415-460-0100.

The Speaker

John Geoghegan (editor, journalist, and author) was our speaker of the day. His recent book "When Giants Ruled the Sky" is an account of the Navy's history with the short lived dirigible program. He told us about the "Macon", a 785 ft. long (2.5 football fields and 14 stories high.) It was 140 times bigger than the Goodyear Blimp. Built from 1931 - 1933 in Akron, OH, it was operated by the Navy. It held 80 crew members and flew 4 days at a time, with a mess hall that was open 24 hours and served 2 hot meals a day. It was capable of carrying 4 airplanes at a time. A huge hanger was built in October 15, 1933 at Moffitt Field in Sunnyvale specifically to house the Macon. In service for less than two years, the 1935 the Macon was damaged in a storm and lost off California's Big Sur coast, though most of the crew were saved.



Editor's Note: Due to supply chain issues, The Big Wheel will be printed on ivory paper until yellow is available.



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**

for the
Month of July and Beyond
Contact Bill Vespa

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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
Rotary Club Meetings
Bill & Adele Jonas Center**

July 29
Club Board of Directors:
Club Assembly

Upcoming Programs

July 2022

July 22 **John Geoghegan:** Flying Dirigibles
July 29 **Club Board of Directors:** Club Assembly

August 2022

Aug. 5 **Norm Gershenz** from SaveNature.org: Youth Exploring Nature, Hands-on Insect Discovery Lab
Aug. 12 **Lori Frugoli & Shelly Scott**
Aug. 19 **Jack Gedney** from Wild Birds Unlimited: Natural History of Notable Novato Backyard Birds
Aug. 26 **Dora Zuñiga** - Donor Director from Project Amigo: Project Amigo Yesterday and Today

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 Pühr-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>

August

SPECIAL DATES

- 8-6 Tommy Lee
- 8-7 Lowell Smith
- 8-9 George Estes
- 8-9 Peter Rubens
- 8-12 Laurie & Phil Dougherty
- 8-13 Nohemi Beissmann-Mason
- 8-13 Maureen Wayne
- 8-13 Jim White
- 8-15 Bev Pool
- 8-16 Chuck Hildebrand
- 8-24 Marilu & Larry Mazzotta
- 8-24 Greg Molloy
- 8-25 Larry Harrison
- 8-29 Peian Harness



Update on Ecuador Business Development and Microcredit Project

In Rotary year 2020-21, the Rotary Club of Novato provided \$4,135 to a Global Grant being sponsored by Marin Evening and a Rotary Club in Salinas, Ecuador. Global Grants are long term projects both in the preparation and the operation. They can take several years for approval and more years for completion.

Despite the complications of COVID, this project has proceeded and provided a step up for a number of very low-income people.

*Here is an update from **Keith Axtell** of Marin Evening Rotary:*

I am pleased to provide you with this latest progress report on Marin Evening Rotary Club's Global Grant project in the Santa Elena Province of Ecuador. Training for this business development project has now been totally completed, with 229 people participating in Phase I of the training program. Phase 2, which provided information on taxation and legal requirements for businesses was completed by 116 people.

In total, 179 people participated in technical workshop training as well. They received training in such things as gastronomy, sewing, shoe making, and arts and crafts such as making dolls and purses. Photos showing some of participants with completion certificates are attached.

According to the most recent report, 85 people have received microcredit loans in the total amount of \$35,500. These loans were made to 74 women and 11 men.





Moses Jacob introduces speaker John Geoghegan with a video history of building 1930's dirigibles for military surveillance.

Russ Ketron describes the history of campaign raising money for conquering Polio world-wide with doubling of funds by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.



The Rotary Community Service Committee that meets the third Wednesday of every month at Mary's Pizza Shack.



Speaker John Geoghegan told us that before radar, helium filled cow-hide sacks floated 80-100 crew and carried planes for trapeze drop and retrieval.