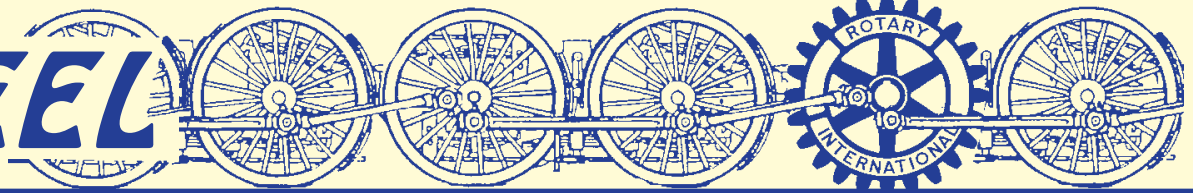


The BIG WHEEL



Rotary Club of Novato

Chartered April 26, 1954

The Golden Nugget of the North Bay

In The Valley of Gentle Seasons



September 1, 2023
Vol. 75, No. 9
Editor:
Anne Teak (Dean H)

In the Beginning...

Prez Phil rang da bell.

Peter Pelavin led the Pledge (of allegiance that is).

Thought for the Day

Jim Bates in memory of our late, dear friend, Jay Wayne provided us with these thoughts: From Mitch Alvin, *"Death ends a life... not a relationship"* and from Dr. Seuss, *"Don't cry because it's over...smile because it happened."* Jim added, *"We can smile because Jay will always be with us"*.

Natal Anniversaries

Prez Phil recognized September birthdays. There were only two at the B'day table: John Reuscher and Al Shirley. Today was Al's actual B'day! We sang to both of 'em.

Visitors and Guests

Before we did B'days, Pres Phil asked for visiting Rotarians... (there were none), then guests of Rotarians. Anne Wade, a Past President, came with Nohemi, Jorg brought his bride Linda and Leslie Weber, aide to Supervisor Eric Lucan was here. Prospective member Barbara Gildea was with Lynn Dawson and Ted Bright was with Rene Prado. The lovely Toni Bramon came with Gary and the lovely Vicki McDill without Bill.

Thoughts for Jay

Prez Phil spoke of the passing of our dear friend Jay Wayne. "We lost a great guy this week. I know we are all heart broken by the loss of our dear friend Jay Wayne. Jay was ailing for quite a while, with trips back and forth to the hospital. But he made a point to join us when he could, despite being uncomfortable and in pain. Sharp-minded, witty and caring. He touched so many lives in the many groups that he was part of. I thought we would take some time to share any remembrances about Jay." Many members stood and shared experiences they had with Jay, including myself. Jay always was our pianist at the debunking. Rene showed photos of Jay. Prez Phil added, "Let's keep Jay in our hearts and Maureen and family in our prayers along with Jay's example of "Service Above Self" in our minds."

Announcements

Mai Tai

Da Prez thank'd all who attended the Mai Tai party at his and Laurie's house. There were over 50 people and they went through two bottles of Trader Vic's Mai Tai mix. Lots of Rum was consumed! Phil thanked Gloria Dunn-Violin, Nohemi Beissmann-Mason and Suzanne Bales along with Ed Ross, Kyle Frazier, Roy Pfeifer and John Reuscher for helping.

Speaker Series

Gary Bramon said the next speaker event is on September 28 (see page 2 for details) and there'll be a guy playing three saxophones before the speaker.



Maggie's Qi Gong

Maggie Shao will be having her Qi Gong (exercise) group right after the meeting in the back of the room (no poker?).

Follow the Non-Yellow Brick Road

Jim Spilman announced that we're going to lay bricks at City Hall on Thursday, September 7, starting at 9:00am.

Holiday Gift Party

Larry Harrison announced their annual Holiday Gift Party will be on Friday, November 10th (that's the Marine Corps birthday!) at he and Chris' house. Entry fee is a minimum \$25 Target store gift card.

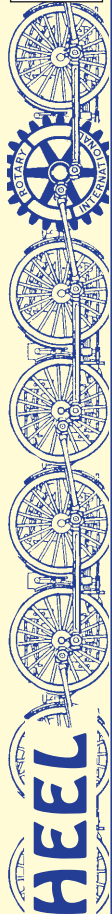


Speaker

Kyle Frazier intro'd Eric Lucan, our County Supervisor (District 5). Eric thanked our Rotary Club for our service. Eric talked about the new causeway to be built on Highway 37 to Novato Creek. Then he recommended we ride the SMART Train whenever we can. He spoke about the importance of early childhood education and child day care. Unfortunately, the cost is about 20% of the annual income of typical families. Those families are often spending about 40% of their income on housing. He told us about the homeless in Marin County, stating that 90% have lost housing and were living in Marin prior to losing housing.

Raffle

Bill Vespa won the raffle, now he can take me out to lunch!



P.O. Box 657
Novato, CA 94948

“Create Hope in the World”

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?”



featuring Dr. Michael Blodgett, Ph.D.

The Bill and Adele Jonas Center
September 28 • 7 pm to 8:30 pm

Michael Blodgett grew up in Los Angeles and after graduating High School, enlisted in the Army as an Intelligence Analyst. He served with the 9th Infantry Division and Special Operations Command. He received his BA in Political Science from UCLA and went to graduate school at UCSB where he received his Ph.D. in History. He taught history at CSUCI until 2020, when he accepted his current job with the Air Force as an historian for the 349th Air Mobility Wing at Travis Air Force Base.

Introduced to Communism early—his grandfather, interestingly enough, was a Communist. He studied Communism and American diplomatic and military history with a focus on the Cold War and taught these subjects at CSUCI. He has a keen interest in global radicalism and terrorism, and had developed classes on these subjects for CSUCI. In addition to his work with the Air Force, he independently lectures on subjects including American international relations

Tickets: Adults \$25 • Students \$10

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

September 2023

- Sept. 8 **OFF-SITE MEETING:** TBA
- Sept. 15 **Gia Biaggi:** The Magnolia Project
- Sept. 22 **Michael Dybeck:** Talk about the Girl and Boy Scouts - **OFF-SITE MEETING** at Christina Stroeh's Home)

Rotary Big Wheel Sponsor



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Novato Rotary Club Trip

Join your fellow Novato Rotarians for a fabulous trip and work week to Project Amigo.



A great opportunity for fellowship, fun and service. Bring your family if you want. Get to share this experience with your children or grandchildren.

When: April 7-14, 2024

Where: Cofredia de Suchitlan outside of the lovely colonial city of Colima, Mexico **Cost:** The cost for the week is \$1,200, this includes transportation to and from the airport, food, lodging and all activities for the week. Children 10 and under are free and children 11 to 17 are half price—children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

What will the trip be like: Each day will start with a walk, breakfast at La Hacienda—the lovely main headquarters— morning service activity, lunch break and then afternoon service activity or recreational activity. Dinner usually is at La Hacienda and becarios/scholarship recipients may join us. If you are a sponsor your becario will join you for dinner one night. Throughout the week you will spend time with students.

Accommodations: Volunteers will be housed at the various (very nice) Project Amigo homes- Casa Suegras, Casa Mayhew and Casa Johnson. All housing is within an easy 2-minute walk of La Hacienda.



Why Project Amigo: The Novato Rotary Club helped start Project Amigo. Many of our members have been to one of the work weeks. Several of our members have served on the Project Amigo Board. Our club takes great pride in the hundreds of children lifted out of poverty through education by this excellent organization

You do not need to speak Spanish to participate in our Service Weeks.

For more information: Talk to President Phil



Rotary District 5150 Marin Stigma Busters

October 7, 2023

@ McInnis Park
San Rafael, CA



Join us! Walk or donate!

Team page: namiwalks.org/team/59711

Team Captain: [Jeff Slavitz](#), Rotary Club of Novato

Why WE WALK

- To promote awareness of mental health and reduce stigma
- To raise funds for NAMI's free, top-rated mental health programs
- To build community and let people know they are not alone



#Together4MH

Maui Rotary Clubs

CREATE HOPE in the WORLD

Sending our aloha and prayers to our Maui 'ohana!

DONATE TODAY

Rotary District 5000

MAUI FIRE RELIEF FUND



President Phil and Sonia created a special touch gluing emblems to gold banner.



Nohemi matches the new table cloth.



Don Violin and I tried to pull up the banner eventually finding the missing pole in storage.



Community Service Chair Jim Spilman announces sign-up for City Hall patio brick laying.



Larry Harrison gave a report on Rise Project packaging meals dehydrated for preservation for thousands.



Kyle Frazier welcomes speaker Eric Lucan, Marin 5th District Supervisor, Novato's former Mayor 3 times.



Supervisor Eric Lucan, prioritizing lowering the cost of childcare and improving Marin's poor equity State Rating in housing.