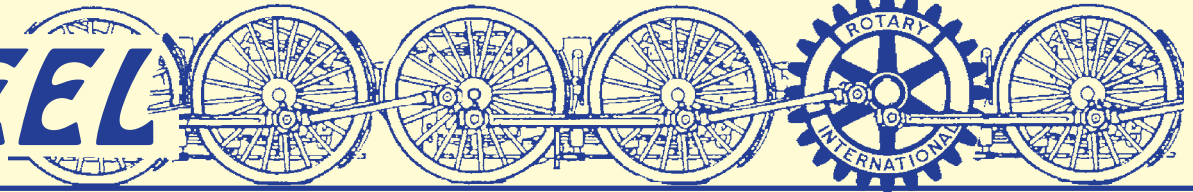


# The BIG WHEEL



Rotary Club of Novato

Chartered April 26, 1954

The Golden Nugget of the North Bay

In The Valley of Gentle Seasons



**September 6, 2024**  
**Vol. 76, No. 8**  
**Editor:**  
**Poor Richard (Dean H.)**

## Call to Order

Prez Tommy called the meeting to order when he rang da bell.

## Pledge and Thought

Past Prez Dean Heffelfinger led us in the pledge and gave us a thought for the day. Dean quoted Benjamin Franklin, who invented electricity with quotes from Poor Richard's Almanac and other sources: "Haste makes waste.", "There never was a good war or a bad peace.", "Well done is better than well said.", "A true friend is the best possession.", "When you're good to others, you're best to yourself.", "In wine theris wisdom, in beer there is freedom, in water there is bacteria."

## Guests and Visiting Rotarians

Jim Spilman brought two guests, the love of his life, Diane and Ross Millerick. Christina Stroeh brought Randy Baker. Lowell Smith brought his lovely bride, Marilyn. Our speaker, Andy Pansini brought his daughter, whose name I could not get.

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

Prez Tommy announced September birthdays and anniversaries. Birthdays: Al Shirley, John Ruescher, Dave Kapranos, Jim Botko. Anniversaries: Lucia and Christopher Mychajluk (17 yrs), Kathy and Jim Botko (24 yrs), Rafelina and Anthony Maglio (49 yrs), Chris and Larry Harrison (51 yrs).

## Announcements

### With Much Sorrow

Da Prez informed us that former member Dick Steinbach passed away on July 25th. There will be a memorial service for Dick on October 19th at Our Lady of Loretto Church, followed by a reception at Hop Monk Restaurant. Dick left \$2,000 to our Rotary Club in his will.

### Congrats!

Da Prez thanked John Cutrufelli for the wonderful picnic we had at Miwok Park last Friday. He also thanked Jim Bates, Marsha Molloy and Matea for their help.

### T-Shirts

Will be handed out after the meeting.

### Rise Against Hunger

Larry Harrison is looking for volunteers to go to the Druids Hall on the morning of Saturday, September 14 to bag up thousands of meals for the less fortunate. Contact Larry or Prez Tom, you can recruit a couple of friends.

### Work Party at Bahia Lagoon

Peter Pelavin needs 12 volunteers to work at Bahia Park on the same day, September 14, but in the afternoon.

### Mental Illness Walk

On October 5th at McInnis Park from 9am to 12pm the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) walk will happen. Rotary has a team, contact Jeff Slavitz.

### District Foundation Event

The Rotary District Foundation event will be on October 12th from 8am to 5pm we can see the Blue Angels from the USS Hornet aircraft carrier flight deck. Great Event!

### Joke Bank

It was bankrupt!

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Rotary Social at Trek Winery**  
**1026 Machin Ave. • Novato**  
**September 20<sup>th</sup> • 4:30-6 pm**

No Host Bar *(some appetizers will be provided)*

We will gather out in the patio  
A bit of bonus – our own Dennis Hagerty and his band are playing at 7:30 pm  
Feel free to bring friends, spouses, and significant others  
Suzanne Bales • Cell 415 250 4859

### TGIF

On Friday September 20th we'll be at Trek Winery from 4:30 to 6:30. You can stick around and see past member Dennis Hagerty and his band play.

### Five Minute Talk

Mark Bosch moved to Blue Badge by telling us all about himself. Mark told us he was from Nevada, his father was a watchmaker and his mother was a dance teacher, both supported the local community. Mark did theatrical set design and technical lighting for several casinos in Nevada. He was a Big Sir for Carl

# 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?"



## BIG WHEEL EDITORS NEEDED

Contact Bill Vespa at  
[zip@sonic.net](mailto:zip@sonic.net)

*Support the most interesting  
Rotary Club ever!*

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

## Rotary Big Wheel Sponsor



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## Upcoming Programs & Events

### September

- Sept. 11 **Board Meeting**  
Sept. 13 **Jeff Saperstein and Dick Spotswood: Israel**  
Sept. 20 **Social at Trek Winery**  
Sept. 27 **Julie Cohne: Sustaining Arts - Rain Forest**

### October

- Oct. 4 **Danica Remy: President Asteroid Institute**  
Oct. 9 **Board Meeting**  
Oct. 11 **No Meeting**  
Oct. 18 **US Marines Colonel Kearny: On Ukraine**  
Oct. 25 **No Meeting**

### November

- Nov. 1 **Frank Falzon: Lighter Side of Homicide**  
Nov. 8 **Emeritus Students College of Marin (ESCOM)**  
Nov. 13 **Board Meeting**  
Nov. 15 **Meeting**  
Nov. 22 **Jay Alexander: Magician**

## ROTARY CLUB OF NOVATO 2024/2025 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

### OFFICERS

**Tom Rickey**  
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**Lynn Dawson**  
*Vice President*

**Peian Harness**  
*Secretary*

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**Steve Wright**  
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**Stacie Vance**  
*Assistant  
District Governor*

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**John Reuscher**  
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**Peter Rubens**  
*Public Image & Awareness*

**Peter Pelavin**  
*Community Service*

**Roy Pfeifer & Gloria Dunn-Violin**  
*Environmental Sustainability  
(NR-CAT)*

**Holly Axtell**  
*International Service*

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

**Eliza Roesler**  
*Youth Service*

**Jeff Slavitz & Patty Dougherty**  
*Membership*

**Sonia Seeman**  
*Jonas Center Liaison*

**Craig Anderson**  
*President, Nova-Ro Corp.*

**Peter Oser**  
*Chair, Novato Rotary Endowment*

**Phil Dougherty**  
*Past President*

**Dawson (Lynn's husband). Mark** is looking forward to giving back to the community.

### Rotary Video

Prez **Tommy** had **Rene** show a short video about a Rotary program to help at risk youth manage anger and correct their life path through music.

### Speaker

**Lynn Dawson** introduced **Andy Pansini**. **Andy's** granddad was in the milk business back East. He moved to California and go in the milk business here, but got the idea to open "pay to park" lots for cars. **Andy's** dad was paralyzed by Polio and told he'd never walk again, but he started walking in a month, never letting Polio get in his way. The **Pansini's** Savoy Company was in the parking lot and parking garage business. They built the Union Square Parking Garage under Union Square in S.F. Later they developed the Pool Sweep. The **Pansini** family was very innovative and **Andy's** dad had many patents.

**Andy** told us the **Pansini's** business success and the vast majority of successful businesses in the U.S. are due to the fact that they are family run businesses. Family run businesses are the backbone of the American economy.

### Raffle

**Burt Hoffmann** went home with the 25 bucks.



## Rotary Photo Album



*Christopher Mychajluk with Jim White.*



*Guest Speaker Andy Pansini and daughter Heather.*



*Celebration Table Fun.*



*Community Chair Jim Spilman reminds us of the Bahia Lagoon Project.*



*Past President Phil and Jeff Slavitz announcing NAMI McLinnis Park Walk.*



### E-MAIL or SNAIL MAIL?

If you would prefer to receive only the emailed version of the Big Wheel, please email Bill Vespa at [zip@sonic.net](mailto:zip@sonic.net). By going to delivery by email only, you will also lower our Club expenses.



*The A.M. Crew*



*Raffle prize from the Cutrufelli Family.*



*Miwok Park Cutrufelli grilled feast plus.*



*Jim and John master the grilling coals.*



*Matea and Jim slice and dice.*



*Enjoying a primal land.*



*Beverage and food shuttle in wagons and truck.*



*A lovely BBQ lunch sheltered in the trees with friends.*



*Beverage Crew with a truck full.*



*Phil and Jean Brown proposed Kotcha authentic rebuild with 100 others.*