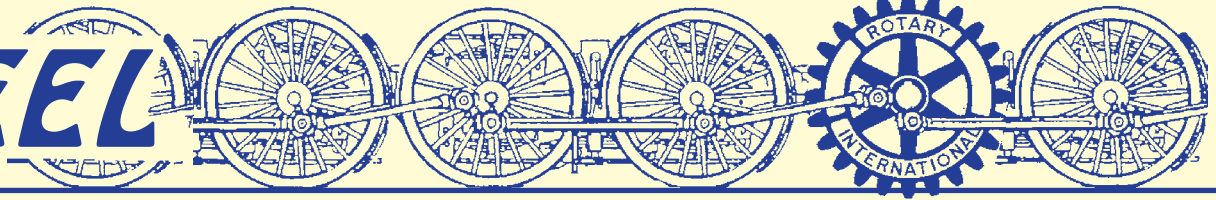


The BIG WHEEL



Rotary Club of Novato

Chartered April 26, 1954

The Golden Nugget of the North Bay

In The Valley of Gentle Seasons



September 18, 2020

Vol. 72, No. 10

Editor:

Jerry Rigid

Check your email for links to our upcoming Zoom meetings!

Announcements



Polio Plus Society

Russ Ketron told us about the new Polio Plus Society. Join by giving an annual contribution of \$100 or more per year.

Pop Quiz

Prez Chris gave us a quiz on membership... We all passed. No one walks the plank.

Walk the Fire Path...

Yes an induction. **Past Prez Gary Bramon** inducted new member **Roy Pfeifer** into the Club. **Gary** told us about **Roy**. **Roy** is married to **Brenda** and they have two sons. **Roy** joined the air force at seventeen and got out nine years later as a Staff Sergeant (Hey, that's the rank I was in the air force). He then went to Fresno State, stayed in the reserves and became an Officer. I don't know what **Roy** does, but **Phil Dougherty** is his mentor. Welcome, **Roy**!

Recognitions

Cindy Milano celebrated her b'day on Wednesday. For his b'day, **Craig Anderson** cut down booze but is playing a lot of golf.

Program – Excellent!

Speaker Chairman (who is **Moses Jacob**) introduced our Speaker (who is **Leslie Frates**) who was a big game show (what is Jeopardy) where she won over (how much is \$100,000). **Leslie** reminded us that Jeopardy started back in 1964 as a daytime show. **Leslie** was always interested in adult game shows and was always reading dictionaries (and encyclopedias) to improve her game show knowledge. In

1984, a new Jeopardy host (who is **Alex Trebek**) took over, and in July 1990 one of **Leslie's** former students signed her up to take the Jeopardy contestant test. She passed the test. There were eighty test takers and only six passed. **Leslie** said the test questions were hard, the \$1,000 level. The six players then played a pretend game onstage. She thought she did lousy on the game, but was told they'd call her between fall of 1990 and mid 1991.

Jeopardy called her that September to ask her to appear on the October 16 show. Believe it or not, Jeopardy pays for nothing for the contestants. **Leslie** paid her air fair, hotel, ground transport, meals, etc. She was told to bring three changes of clothes with her because they shoot multiple shows in one day. The first thing she had to do was fill out tax forms. There were rules that included no waving to the audience and no talking to crew members. In additions, the contestants were followed around everywhere they went. If contestants went to the restrooms, they were cleared out first and "Guards" would wait by sinks. On the actual show there's a guy in a booth who after **Alex** finished a question would give 2/5 of a second to answer the question. **Leslie** said at least one of the three contestants knew the answer to every single question. You had to be good on the buzzer. On her first show, **Leslie** had trouble hitting the buzzer. After **Alex** came around and talked to her, she relaxed and got much better, more at ease, in hitting the buzzer. the champion on **Leslie's** first show was a four time champ. no one got the final Jeopardy question right and Leslie won because she had more money left. The final question was "How many rows of stars are on the flag." She asked us and we got it wrong. The answer is nine. There are five rows with six stars, and four rows with five stars. **Leslie** won her next four shows which made her a five time champ. You may remember in those days when you won five shows, that

In the Beginning...

Prez Chris opened the meeting with the Club bell! Ding (look sharp, feel sharp, be sharp)... Just like Friday Night Fights. The lovely **Cindy Milano** led the Pledge.

Craig Anderson gave four "Thoughts for the Day," quoting **Winston Churchill**: Diplomacy "Go to Hell", "Ask for directions", "Never throw stones at dogs", and "The past has no future."

Visiting Rotarians

John Reuscher, Novato Sunrise and **Lynn Dawson** from Colorado.

Guests

Vicki McDill with **Bill**, **Matea** with **John C.**, **Cathy Cheek**, **Joanne Lee Churchill** (with **Winston?**), **Ed Ross**, **Beth Rowlett**, and **Susan Trumbull**.

Sunshine

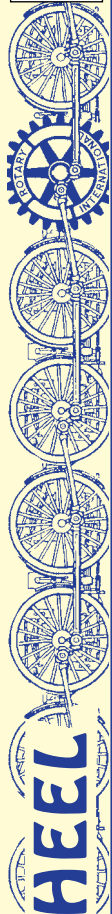
Jay Wayne, just out of the hospital, recuperating at home and **Craig McCurdy**, is also just out of the hospital.

Roberta Dunham's operation when well and she's home.

Donna Falzon took a little tumble, but is ok.

Sad news: Past member, **George Gasperoni** just passed away.

Continued on page 3



P.O. Box 657
Novato, CA 94948

"Rotary Opens Opportunities"

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?"

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/

UPCOMING ZOOM MEETING



"The Economics of Climate Change" with John Haveman, PhD

John Haveman is considered to be one of California's leading experts on the economics of seaports, goods movement and international trade policy. This is part of a two-part series on climate change with David Kunhardt who will be our Speaker on October 9 and will give us the realities of Climate Change. These two talks will allow us to understand a very important subject, so don't miss it!

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Upcoming Programs

September

Sept. 25 **John Haveman**, *The Economics of Climate Change*. Jon is a PHD and is considered to be one of California's leading experts on the economics of seaports, goods movement and international trade policy. He will be part of a two-part series on climate change.

October

Oct. 2 **Julia Flynn Siler**, author and a native of the Bay Area. Julia has written the book "The White Devils Daughters" This is a very well researched book about the human Trafficking in the 18 and 19th Century in the Chinese community in San Francisco. Julie has also written the book many of us have read the "House of Mondavi," The rise and fall of an American wine dynasty among other books.

www.novatorotary.org

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Continued from page 1

was it. She had won \$68,000, a lot of moola in those days.

She came back in '91 to appear on a Tourney of Champion Series which was so different. Jeopardy paid for everything, air, hotel, limo, food, etc. **Leslie** won \$58,000 on five shows. She came in second in the tourney. She then described **Alex** as tall, well dressed and a little aloof. Leslie thinks that's because he knows all the answers and doesn't want to get too close.

In addition to her winnings, she also received products from the show's sponsors, including: A case of Metamucil (Holy Crap!); \$25 of jelly beans (they got them from **Reagan**); \$25 of Tabasco Sauce (but no tortillas);

36 boxes (cases?) of Rice-a-Roni (that S.F. treat); she has appeared in a major movie 'Groundhog' Day - in the scene where **Bill Murray** answers all the questions on Jeopardy. It's one of the shows **Leslie** was on!

I asked her if there were any contestants that irritated her. She immediately said yes, and described these two guys who told her women weren't really that good and she would lose. This was her fifth show and she beat them by a dollar!

Thank you, **Leslies Frates** - Excellent!

Raffle



Peian won the twenty five bucks and is taking us all to lunch.

Rotary Zoom Meeting: September 18, 2020



Guest speaker, *Leslie Frates*.

Dear Gary,
I am overwhelmed and so touched by your kind and thoughtful email. I'm blushing from all the accolades. Being the nerd that I am certainly helped me get on Jeopardy. I wanted to be on the show to see how I stacked up against all those smart people I had seen over the years. The money was not my motivation—I would have done it for peanut butter and crackers—it was the achievement of a dream I'd had for so many years. And I didn't count on it being SO MUCH FUN as well! I was always the kid with my hand up in class ("call on me, call on me!"), and Jeopardy is the ultimate of being called on in class.

Many, many thanks for reaching out to me like this. I had a lot of fun yesterday with Novato Rotary and I'm pleased everyone was so interested in my game show experiences.
Best regards,
Leslie Frates

SUPPORT NOVATO TEACHERS



SAVE THE DATE

Annual Rotary Car Wash

Sunday, November 1st, 2020

Details TBA

Rotary Zoom Meeting: September 18, 2020



53 Zoom Meeting participants filled 3 screens!



Welcome to the newest member to our Club, Roy Pfeifer!