



A non-profit club of Social Activities for men devoted to the promotion of independence and dignity.

Luther Burbank Branch 17

Santa Rosa, CA

New Website: www.sir17.org



THE **REDWOOD BARK** NEWSLETTER

For **February 2020**

Meetings are at **LEGENDS** in the Bennett Valley Golf Course, 3328 Yulupa Ave., Santa Rosa.

For **Excused Absences**, **Guests Lunches** or **Alternate Lunch Selection**, please, you must call or email before 10 am on the **Monday preceding** the meeting for an excused absence, otherwise you will be **charged** for a meal.

(Members sometimes forget to notify Jim Gurke that they are bringing a GUEST!)

Contact: Jim Gurke at 1jgurke@gmail.com or call 707-303-0989. Leave a message if no answer.

February 20th Meeting Schedule

Board Meeting: **10:00 am**

Social Hour: **11:00 am**

Lunch: **12:00 noon**

Speaker: **Canine Companions of Santa Rosa**

Adjourn by: **1:30 pm**

Please place your badge into the collection buckets when leaving through the side door to the parking lot.

February 20th Lunch Menu

Caesar salad,

Beef Stroganoff,

Rolls and butter

Carrot cake for dessert

Beverages: Regular or decaf coffee, iced tea or water.

Beer, wine and mixed drinks, and free sodas are available at the bar.

BIG Sir George Traverso's Message

geosan@sbcglobal.net 528-6987

TIME...a measured or measurable period during which an action, process, or condition exists or continues.



What is this elusive concept? On the surface we take it for granted and sometimes we waste it. We "look" at it on our watches with a twist of our wrists. On gravestones we notice dates of a person's birth and death. Surely, the "time" in between that span was a significant part of their existence. Humans have been studying the notion of "time" since the beginning of "time." Here, again, we notice the long ticks of a grandfather clock and marvel at the complicated explanations that scientists postulate on this subject.

I have been researching this topic for quite some "time." I am amazed as to how many word combinations the word "time" is connected to form a new term.

Here are some examples:

Time bill: a bill of exchange payable at a definite future date.

Time capsule: a container holding historical records or objects for presentation at a future date.

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Little Sir Gary Bondi's Message

gbondi@sonic.net 539-2445



As the Little Sir I am tasked with writing an article each month for our great newsletter, the **Bark!** Wouldn't you know it, when it comes time to write this article, "writer's block" kicks in! So, here is my feeble attempt to fill in this section of the **Bark** reserved for the Little Sir.

Here we are, already entering the second month of the new year and decade! I thought it might be interesting to learn a little more about what is February! Aside from being the month when most of us have already forgotten all those resolutions we made awhile back, here are some interesting, facts about February.

In the Southern Hemisphere it is a summer month equivalent of August in the Northern Hemisphere. February is named for the Latin word *Februa* which means feast of purification. Together with January, it was the last of the months added to the Roman calendar. As you all know, we do not pronounce the "r!" So why is it even there? There are also some very interesting special days in the month. The usual ones are obvious: President's Day, Washington's Birthday, Lincoln's Birthday

(continued on page 2)

**SIR Luther Burbank Branch 17 is in Area 10 of Region 3.
The following is a list of your 2020 Officers and Directors.**

OFFICERS:	EMAIL:	PHONE:	DIRECTORS:
Big Sir: .George Traverso	geosan@sbcglobal.net	707-528-6987	Gordon Boulthbee
Little Sir: Gary Bondi	gbondi@sonic.net	707-539-2445	Rich de Lambert
Secretary: Kurt Wehrmeister	kurtwehrmeister@gmail.com	630-461-2715	Ken Johnson
Asset. Secretary: Jim Gurke	1jgurke@gmail.com	707-303-0989	Chris Nolen
Treasurer: Glenn Seime	gseime@sbcglobal.net	707-537-5360	Paul Willihnganz
Asset. Treasurer: Al Petrie	alpetrie7@aol.com	707-545-7208	Elias Zegarra
Newsletter Editor: Jim Fenstermaker .	sirsrbrn17@gmail.com	707-548-3346	WEBMASTERS: Dennis Mangan Jim Fenstermaker

For **Excused absences** or **Guests Lunches**, Contact:

Jim Gurke, 1jgurke@gmail.com or 707-303-0989.

Please leave a message if no answer.

AREA 10 GOVERNOR

Robert Reuther

REGION 3 DIRECTOR

Dennis Pangburn

Big Sir Message *(continued from page 1)*

Time card: a card used with a time clock to record an employee's starting and quitting times.

Time chart: a chart showing the standard times in various parts of the world.

Time deposit: a bank deposit payable in a specific number of days.

Time exposure: the exposure of a photographic film for a definite time.

Time honored: honored because of age or long usage.

Time keeper: a person appointed to mark the time in an athletic game or contest.

Time killer: a person with time on his hands.

Time lock: a lock controlled by clockwork to prevent its being opened before a set time.

Time sheet: a sheet for recording the time of arrival and departure of workers in a pay period.

Time table: a list of arrival and departure times for trains, buses, or airplanes.

Time zone: a geographical region within which the same standard time is used.

There are many more examples of time-related words; however, due to a "timely" conclusion to my thoughts, I must end my monthly message. In the meantime, I believe that we all look forward to warmer days, the bounty of springtime and the romance of February All-the-Time!

Little Sir Message *(continued from page 1)*

and Valentine's Day. I bet you don't know about these following days in this month of February.

Kite flying day, maybe a new activity for our SIR branch, would anyone like to chair this one?

Read in the bathtub day, definitely not a Sir activity!

Make a Friend day and bring them to our next Sir meeting.

Random acts of kindness day.

Do a grouch a favor day, of course we have none in our branch, so you have to find your own.

Love your pet day. There are too many others to list here, but I thought you should at least be aware of these.

How lucky are we to be a member of this great SIR Branch 17! You can only get this kind of information here! Why not bring a friend/new member to share in this great knowledge. Referring back to the New Year's resolutions, it is not too late to make one. Here are a few suggested ones:

I will attend as many meetings as possible.

I will try to learn more about my fellow Sir members, we definitely have an interesting group!

I will bring a potential new member to share our Sir fellowship.

I will participate in an activity or perhaps start a new one.

Feel free to create your own and maybe we can check back around August to see if we remember any of them. Well, that's it for this one. Hope I haven't bored you with my rambling on. With that, I will end this bit of blabbering and look forward to seeing all my fellow Sir members at our next get-together, perhaps with a potential new Sir!

**HAVE YOU INVITED A
GUEST TO ATTEND THE
NEXT SIR LUNCHEON/
MEETING?**

A New Monthly Feature, **Member Profiles:**

(Article by Dennis Mangan)

Badge #34 Tom Sparrowe

It's 1996. Tom Sparrowe's marriage has fallen apart and he has custody of his six-year-old daughter, Leah. Imagine the heartaches from a divorce made worse by the sadness written all over Leah's face. How to stop the hurt, both his and hers?



Raising a kid by yourself is a daunting task. It requires commitment and hundreds of adjustments, both big and small. Things that used to be shared with a partner such as cooking, laundry, cleaning the house, shopping and getting the child to/from school or the doctors, are now your responsibility. It's like a daily circus...on steroids.

There are 13.6 million single parents in the USA, but only 16% of them are fathers. Even more rare is a single dad raising a daughter. Men are often seen as incapable parents, especially for girls. Guys are typically not good with hair styling, cosmetics and feminine hygiene. People look at you like you're some kind of pervert. Your daughter invites her girlfriends over, but their parents don't trust an unmarried, divorced guy to supervise their little girls, especially for sleep overs.

What kind of support did Leah need? She needed a dad who could be a trusted adult in a world changing way too fast for a young girl. Tom provided parental guidance and was there to root for her when Leah pitched softball after school and numerous travel softball tournaments. Tom also had to make sacrifices. For instance, he didn't accept jobs elsewhere so that Leah could stay with her friends and remain in the same school system. Tom's support helped Leah adjust to a new family situation and with time she even made peace with her mother. Leah and her dad are close today...perhaps closer than most kids raised in a two-parent family.

Tom was blessed with aid from a network of friends, family and trained professionals. Even his supervisors at work helped with workload and scheduling. "It takes a village to raise a child" is an African proverb meaning the villagers look out for all the children. Tom made sure that Leah was in a safe and healthy environment surrounded by nice people. We are proud to have Tom part of SIR17, and thank Fred Rose for bringing him into our village.

Membership Attendance in January

At the January 16th lunch meeting, there were 56 members in attendance, along with two guests, Dean Lundgren sponsored by #95 Jim Park and Chris Nelle sponsored by #49 Mike Rogalski, both of whom have completed their application forms which will be presented to the BEC during the February meeting.

There were fourteen members who were excused and only five this month that were unexcused.

One new member was inducted: #183 Bob Zie, sponsored by #136 Chris Nolen.

We now have a total of **85** members.



New Member

#183 Bob Zie

Bob is originally from Michigan. Later while attending Washington State University he met and married his first love, Mary Alice. They have one daughter.

He retired from a distribution center and then took a job working at the county jail for fourteen years. Bob is also a Lions Club member and it just happens that he is the current *Lion of the Year* for the district. His interests include dining out, beer and wine, traveling and being involved in veterans affairs. Bob joined the Navy in 1964, rose to the rank of QM 2 Class, had a tour of duty in Vietnam aboard the USS Coral Sea from 1966 to 1968 after which he was then discharged.

When you meet Bob at the next Sir meeting, talk to him and find out more items that we do not already know about him!

Program for **February 20, 2020**

Our program for the next meeting will be presented by Canine Companions for Independence. Barbara Bachner, a volunteer with them and Stan Pawlak a recent graduate of the program, along with

his service dog, Ming, will give us an overall view of the organization and the services they offer. This is a timely program. If you happened to see the front page of the Press Democrat on Sat., Jan. 25th, you saw how this organization serves the community. You don't want to miss this interesting program!



(Article by Gary Bondi)

ACTIVITIES:

Bocce:

(Article by Chuck Stark)



By next month, I am planning to have a luncheon for all interested members to attend and decide how much time and commitment each has to our Sir Bocce activity. I'll research some options in the meantime to discuss at our organizational lunch, hopefully to be announced here in the **BARK** next month.

If you have any ideas, suggestions or questions in between time, then please contact: **Chuck Stark** at: cstark@sonic.net

Bowling:

(Article by Mike Heinzelman)



If you have an interest in joining the SIR bowling league, or just want to see how Mike is progressing, come-on-down to Double Decker Lanes in Rohnert Park any **Monday at 10:00 am**.

Ask for the SIR bowling group. (Remember, it's not a weekly commitment--just come when you can.) Whether you are a good bowler or a beginner, you are welcome.



For more information call Mike Heinzelman at 579-6615 or email to: mdheinz2@gmail.com.

Boys' Night Out:

(Article by Don Malvestiti)



All restaurants this year will be picked from the "Best of Sonoma County"

Here are my selections:

Feb - Mexican, Mar - Asian

Apr - Best overall restaurant (Gravenstein Grill)

May - Latin Jun - Sushi Jul - Outdoor dining

Aug - Burgers Sep - Indian Oct - Craft beer

Nov - Seafood Dec - Nothing at this time.

For **Wednesday, February 12th** we will be going to

Mi Pueblo Mexican restaurant, 7384 Commerce Blvd., Cotati.

Come at 5:30 pm for social, order dinner at 6:00 pm and enjoy!.



Reservations are a must!

If you are planning to go, then contact Don by **February 9th** at malvestitidon485@gmail.com or call him at 539-0677. Leave a message if no answer.

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Bridge:



Bridge is an important activity with many of our members not only within our own branch but with participation of members from other branches in our area. Bridge activities are now coordinated by **Pete Mc Grath**, at: pmcgrath@sonic.net or call 579-8133. for the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, **OR** Jim Park at: jcpark38@sbcglobal.net or call 578-4255 for the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays.

Bridge days scheduled this month for play at Legends Restaurant in Bennett Valley starting at **9:00 am** on **Tuesdays, February 4th & 18th**, at **10:00 am** on **11th & 25th**. If in doubt, contact Mike Heinzelman at mdheinz2@gmail.com or call Mike at 579-6615.

Camera Club:

(Article by Rich Osborne & Dennis Mangan)



The club met for about 90 minutes at Dennis Mangan's house where they shared tips and tricks for taking photos/videos with iPhones and other mobile devices. (Hint #1: start by thoroughly cleaning the camera lens!) We then reviewed members' photos of Christmas decorations in Windsor and landscape photos from desert/coastal areas of California. Ways to edit and improve the photos through cropping and adjusting contrast/brightness were offered. Each photo evoked conversation about the visual aesthetics. Even better, every photo had an interesting backstory that told us about the photograph as well as the SIR17 member or his partner/family who took the picture.

The next meeting will be Friday, **February, 21st**, 1:30 pm at Church of the Roses, 2500 Patio Court. Parking is available on the east side of the church by entering from Patio Court, which is off of Hahman Drive. Park and look for the entry door to Bowen Hall. Walk through Bowen Hall to the Rose Room.

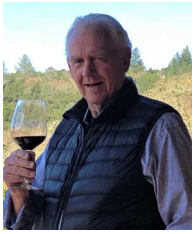
Our speaker will be Lindsay Olsen, the former owner of Spectrum Photographic Supplies of Eureka. He will present wildlife photography from a recent safari and will answer our questions about photography and equipment.



Everyone is welcome, all men and ladies interested in photography, so please come join us!

richosborne@outlook.com or 303-304-9262. Please leave a message if he does not answer.

Couples' Night Out: (Article by Fred Rose)



For Thursday, **February 27th** the chosen spot is the ever popular **Kirin Restaurant** at 2700 Yulupa Avenue. *(in the Bethards shopping center)* They serve Mandarin and Sichuan style Chinese dinners, along with beer and wine. You can choose from mild to

very hot and spicy entrees and as either an individual dish or a combination plate. If you are a Chinese food lover and have never tried Kirin then you owe it to yourself to try this place—you will not be sorry!



For more information check out their menu and website at: www.kirinsr.com or call 525-1957.

Reservations are a must!

Cocktails at **5:00** pm, order dinner at 5:30 pm.

Please contact me if you are interested, by Monday, **Feb. 23rd**. Email to: fredricrose@comcast.net or call 707-548-5797. Please leave a message if I don't answer,

GLOBAL FORUM: (Article by Marvin Mai)



As I write this in mid-January the issues likely making news before our next monthly forum are the international conference on Libya in Berlin and will it

bring about a cease fire? The World Economic Forum holds its annual meeting in Davos, Switzerland from Jan. 21-24. "How to Save the Planet" is main theme, but also the IMF will release its updated world economic outlook. Will the French give in on their plans to tax digital services? As always, Iran and North Korea will always need discussing.



We explore these and more during our lively Global Forum discussions. We'll meet **Friday, February 14th** at 10 am at the home of Marvin and Pat Mai, 4743 Woodview Drive.

(South on Summerfield Rd to the end, turn left up the hill about 1/3 mile, the house is on the left.)

Should you have any questions, please email Marvin at: maimarvin57@gmail.com

or call him at: 545-2224.

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Golf: (Article by Roy Thuestad)

2020...brand new year,



Same old game.

Come join us for a fun day of golf.

The place to be is the Bennett Valley Golf Course. The time to be there is Monday mornings starting at 8:30.

Hope to see you all out there.

Until next time, Good Golfing.

Roy Thuestad

roymond@comcast.net

975-4406

Recap of the January 16th Program

Our Speaker was Benita Mattioli, the author of "Three Nights at the Condor, a Coal Miner's Son." She presented an interesting look back, verbally and visually, at the times in San Francisco's North Beach during the 1960's. Gary afterwards presented her with a certificate and a bottle of wine.



Mark Your Calendar

Annual Branches 17/176 Picnic

Wednesday, June 17, 2020

**Outdoor Event Area at Windsor Golf Course
1302 19th Hole Drive, Windsor, CA.**

Catered By

Charlie's at Windsor Golf Course

11:00 am Social Hour Lunch served at Noon

**BBQ Chicken, Veggie Pasta, Chili Beans, Corn on the Cob,
Salad, Bread & Butter and Dessert**

Wine, Beer, Soft Drinks included

Raffle, Music, Bingo

All for only \$30.00 Per Person

**Sign up at the April 16 or May21 meetings
OR**

Sign up by mailing payment to:

**Al Petrie, 2188 Francisco Ave., Santa Rosa, CA 95403-8173
707 974 9193 or alpetrie7@aol.com**

Be sure to include name(s) for name tags

Sign up by mail deadline is Monday, June 1st.

NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD THE DAY OF THE EVENT

Questions? Contact Br 17 Picnic Chairman Ted Scapeccia
707 529 0063 or tescape4@gmail.com

The Poem of the month for February

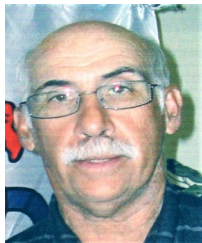
I'm Not Just February

by Annette Wynne

I'm not just February
 With winds that blow
 All day, and piled-up snow;
 I'm Washington and Lincoln, too,
 Who kept our country's flag for you!
 I'm Valentine of airy grace—
 With golden hearts and hearts of lace
 And pretty cards that people send,
 Quite as a secret, to a friend.
 Though I am short of days and small,
 I'm quite a big month, after all!

POKER FEST:

(Article by Steve Edelstein)



Come try your hand at a game of poker. It's fun and a good way to meet your fellow Sir members. The date this month is **Thursday, Feb. 13th** from 12:30 pm to 4:00 pm, at **Legends** in the Bennett Valley Golf Course.

Please call Steve to confirm this date for sure.

Contact **Steve Edelstein**
 by email at:

1hatisland@gmail.com
 or call **206-8084**.

Please leave a message,
 I will return your call!



List of the Feb. Birthdays

Jim Fenstermaker
 Terry Freeman
 Jim Lamar
 Jim MacMillan
 Rich Osborne
 Robert Tuttle



Joke of the day

Questions



How is it that one careless match can start a forest fire, but it takes a whole box to start a campfire?

Do illiterate people get the full effect of alphabet soup?

Why doesn't glue stick to the inside of the bottle?

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Travel Golf:

(Article by Roy Thuestad)

Travel Golf is now
 in hibernation mode.
 Think of courses that
 you've dreamed of playing



and we'll get you there.
 When the winter frost clears
 be ready to travel.

Roy Thuestad

roymond@comcast.net

Attention: Any members interested in fishing and/or gardening, please contact **Big Sir George Traverso**.

We are looking for any and all interested members that would like to share these activities with others. We have seen these interests listed on the applications of several of our new members. So send an email to geosan@sbcglobal.net or call George at 528-6987 to express your interests.

Calendar of SIR Events for FEB. 2020

Details and contact information is available on the SIR 17 website: <http://www.sir17.org/calendar-of-events.html>

- Any Monday **Golf** at BVGC
- Any Monday **Bowling**, Double Decker Lanes, R/P, 10 am
- Feb 4 **Bridge Club**, Legends, BVGC, 9:00 am
- Feb 9 **Poker Fest**, Legends, BVGC, 12:30 to 4:00 pm
- Feb 11 **Bridge Club**, Legends, BVGC, 10:00 am
- Feb 12 **BNO, Mi Pueblo, Cotati**, 5:30 pm Social, 6:00 Dinner
- Feb 13 **Poker Feast**, Legends, BVGC 12:30 pm
- Feb 14 **Global Forum**, Marvin Mai's place, 10:00 am
- Feb 18 **Bridge Club**, Legends, BVGC, 9:00 am
- Feb 20 **SIR BEC Meeting**, Legends, BVGC, 10:00 am
- Feb 20 **SIR Meeting/Luncheon**, Legends, BVGC, 11:00 am
- Feb 21 **Camera Club**, Church of the Roses, 1:30 pm
- Feb 25 **Bridge Club**, Legends, BVGC, 10:00 am
- Feb 27 **CNO**, Kirin, 5:00 pm Social, 5:30 Dinner

SIR Dues & Lunch to Increase in 2020

What was low-cost last year becomes more expensive this year. Prices go up and sometimes priorities change, leading to increased costs. The Branch Executive Committee has determined that to keep the club financially healthy, we will have to request dues be **\$30.00** per member for 2020.

Our Treasurer is waiting for 46 of our members who have **not** paid their dues to please mail them in or bring their check to the February meeting--he will "Thank You!"

The price of our lunches will increase in 2020 to **\$25.00** per member. Legends explained that their costs for food, beverages and the upcoming two increases in minimum wage (\$12 to \$13 in January 2020 and \$13 to \$15 in July 2020) have necessitated this new price. The good news: we will continue to get our same happy hour prices at the bar.

DO YOU HAVE AN APPLICATION FORM FOR A NEW MEMBER TO COMPLETE AND TURN IN FOR APPROVAL?

The **February 2020** edition of **SIR HAPPENINGS** is now available to view online.

This a very interesting and informing newsletter produced by SIRinc with articles re-published from many of the SIR Branches throughout the state. Look at page 6 of pictures of new members from Branch 17, Roy's Golf articles on page 13, CNO article of Beach Blanket Babylon on page 14 and all of the other items, such as stories about the Honey Covered Bridge that was destroyed in the Butte County fire on page 23...all of this among its 34 pages. To view this free newsletter go to www.sirinc.org/sirhappenings. then click on the Happenings February 2020 tab. This will ask you to open or save the PDF file in you favorite PDF program. Best to select "Open," unless you want to save it for later reading. Also, you can print out, just the pages you want or the entire document.

Read and enjoy!

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE: NOW to March 31, 2020.

Where do we find these prospective new members? Try other men's clubs, other women's clubs (ask your partner about this), churches, other social activities, your friends and neighbors.

Bring a prospective new member to Boys Night Out, or to one of our regular luncheon meetings.

Remember, they get a free lunch on their first visit to our meeting and you, our Sir member, will receive a free lunch after your guest signs up and becomes inducted as a new member.

Get those business cards filled out with your name and phone number on them, hand them out to prospective members!

NON-RESPONSIBILITY DECLARATION

All activities arranged for, or by, or sponsored by, SONS IN RETIREMENT, INC., and its Branches, are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their guest who desire to participate. SONS IN RETIREMENT, INC., and its Branches do not assume any responsibility for the well being or safety of the participants or their property, in any matters pertaining to said activities.

Lamplighter Tour, September 18, 2020



Join us on Friday, September 18, 2020 for the annual Lamplighter Tour at the Rural Cemetery, 1600 Franklin Avenue, Santa Rosa. This event features an evening docent-led walk thru the cemetery, stopping at gravesites to learn about interesting people who lived and died in Santa Rosa. Each gravesite's information is presented by a skit, with volunteer actors in period costumes. There are usually 8 skits, and the entire tour takes about 90 minutes. It is a great history lesson, and an enjoyable evening. Spouses are invited for this event.

Why are we announcing this now? We need to sign up in February, as this event usually sells out by March. The cost is \$40 per person. Mark needs to receive your payment no later than the February 20th meeting. Checks can either be made out to "Mark Burchill," or "City of Santa Rosa." Bring them to the meeting or mail them to Mark Burchill at PO Box 10, Santa Rosa, CA 95402-0010.

Call or email Mark for more information: 542-2529 or SirMarkB@sonic.net.

