



A non-profit club devoted to the promotion of independence and dignity.

Luther Burbank Branch 17, Santa Rosa, CA,

Website: <https://www.sir17.org>



The REDWOOD BARK Newsletter OCTOBER, 2023

All members are invited to attend our next SIR In-Person Luncheon/Meeting on Thursday, October 19, 2023 at Iron & Vine, 3330 Yulupa Avenue, San Rosa.

Social Hour: 11 am, Lunch/Meeting: 12 noon

If you told the Phone Committee "YES" you plan to attend but find later that you will be unable to attend, you need to contact **Al Petrie** at 707-974-9193 or email alpetrie7@aol.com by noon **Wednesday, October 10th** to help keep our count more accurate. Also of importance is, if you are bringing a guest or if you originally said "NO" but changed your mind and decided to go after all, in either case, then please contact **Al Petrie** per the above! **Notice:** The menu will be posted on our website sir17.org on **October 11th**. To enter the building, please use the entrance to the left.



Big Sir Gary Bondi's Message

gbond@sonic.net 707-539-2445

There are some changes coming for our branch! We have been in ongoing discussions with the leadership of Branch 76, regarding a merging of our branches. As I noted in my September article, many SIR branches are having difficulty recruiting and retaining members, as well as finding members to fill the leadership roles needed for every branch. In addition, they also have difficulty finding meeting locations that will accommodate smaller groups. Branch 76 is experiencing those problems! Therefore, after considering their options, their BEC and the members have asked to merge with our branch. The merger requires approval of both our BEC and general membership. In that regard, our BEC, at the meeting on September 21st, voted to approve the merger. We will now ask the general membership, at our meeting October 19th, to vote on the issue. If approved, the merger will be effective on January 1st 2024. We are fortunate to be in a position to lend a helping hand to a fellow branch and to retain members in SIR. I know many of our members are already acquainted with some of those in Branch 76 and participate in joint activities with them. Their branch also has activities that we do not currently sponsor, such as bowling, bocce, and pickle ball. We expect there

(continued on page 2 top left)



Little Sir Chris Nelle's Message

707-527-0576

As the months go by and 2023 winds to an end I was genuinely excited about finishing out my column writing duties as I only have so many original ideas to express! But then I realized, I've got to continue into next year writing a column as the Big Sir. So I began some analysis on the difference in content between the Big and the Little columns over the past few years to see if I would need to step up my game. The differences are startling! The command and profound authoritarian nature of the Big's commentary has got me deeply concerned about my capability to perform! They actually say meaningful and thoughtful things with intent. My gibberish must cease and I need to bring forth useful content.

If by now you're thinking I'm just rambling to fill my allotted space, then you'd be spot on. But I'm relying on my research from one of my previous columns wherein I offered a suitable prize to the 10th person who replied to me about reading my challenge only to receive four replies! So I'm confident very few of you are reading this.

Well, I can say I'm really looking forward to hearing from John Cregan our Police Chief at this month's lunch. Imagine the challenges he faces in today's world. *(continued on page 2 top right)*

Big Sir Message*(continued from page 1)*

will be approximately 20 to 25 members coming to our branch. The team at Iron & Vine has advised us they can easily comfortably accommodate increased attendance at our luncheons. I am hopeful our members will approve the merger. I know, if approved, we will welcome them to our branch and look forward to our first combined meeting in 2024. In the meantime, keep spreading the word about SIR and bring a guest/potential member. We need to keep this SIR thing going! I look forward to seeing you all at our October 19th meeting.

October Birthdays

Art Appling	Timothy Fawcett
John Grant	Patrick Hurley
Don Malvestiti	Tony Negri
Jim Park	Al Petrie
Kent Richmond	Sal Rosano
Steven Saulsbury	Bradley Smith
Tim Stewart	Bob Zeni

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

The **September** Birthday Boy FREE lunch winner was **Mike Requarth**.

MUSIC:*(Article by Rich de Lambert)*

Our own in-house music leader is waiting for your call. Maestro Sir Jim Richards and Sir Rich de Lambert would like to know if you have some musical talent and would like to support their efforts in forming a small group (to play prior to our regular meeting). Your special sound needs to be heard.

Give Rich a call today at 707-545-3490 and Let's Start Dancing!!

A Superb Play on Words!
Why were the Indians here first?
They had RESERVATIONS!

Little Sir Message*(continued from page 1)*

Then I look forward to hearing fellow member Ted Scapeccia share his experiences with participating in Honor Flight. The year will wrap up with some delightful entertainment at our Christmas lunch from some youthful voices who really know how to sing!

Go forth and prosper and remember the admonishment painted on the exterior of a wall at Santa Rosa Middle School...

JUST BE NICE!!**Leaves**

by Elsie N. Brady

How silently they tumble down
And come to rest upon the ground
To lay a carpet, rich and rare,
Beneath the trees without a care,
Content to sleep, their work well done,
Colors gleaming in the sun.

At other times, they wildly fly
Until they nearly reach the sky.
Twisting, turning through the air
Till all the trees stand stark and bare.
Exhausted, drop to earth below
To wait, like children, for the snow.

Oktoberfest:*(Article by Neil Wheeler)*

Branch 17 will host an **Oktoberfest** event on Tuesday, October 10th at 1:00 pm.

Bratwurst, Sauerkraut, Pretzels, German Potato Salad, German Beer, water and soft drinks, and traditional Oktoberfest music will be provided for this festive occasion! A \$3.00 donation is requested.

We'll meet at Upper Oak Picnic Area in Howarth Park.

If you plan to attend, please let me know so you won't go hungry or thirsty. Please contact me at

nimwheeler@science-one.org or 707-291-0271



New Members Inducted on 9-21-2023

(Article by Gordon Boulton)

Six new members were inducted by Big Sir Gary Bondi at the September luncheon. They are **Charlie Verzosa**, **Sal Rosano**, and **Frank Gironimi**, sponsored by Rich de Lambert; **Richard Brannon Jr.**, sponsored by Dan Sullivan; **Fred Walsh**, sponsored by David Harris; and **Alan Johnson**, sponsored by Bill Grafeld. In addition, the BEC approved Len Grosso and Ed Montenegro for membership but they were not present, so will be inducted at a later luncheon.

ATTENTION: AREA 10 LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITY!

The SIR association provides many leadership opportunities within its organizational structure. The State central leadership lays the groundwork for the Area and Branch functions. I have served at both the Branch and Area levels in my eight-year history with SIR and I felt prepared for the Area 10 position serving a large portion of Sonoma County. In my two years as the Area Representative, I have focused my time on guiding seven branches to maintain, improve and grow. Attending lunch meetings, hosting Zoom meetings and frequent emails with Big Sirs was my primary method of maintaining contact. Even an occasional phone call was helpful. I have spent considerable time communicating with State Officers to better understand the organization. In this way I brought the most current advice to the Area 10 Branch Executive Committees (BECs) and provided Branch feedback to State Officers. It is time for me to turn over the reins on Area 10 to another volunteer leader. I have completed my commitment and am ready to make the transition back to my local branch.

It is time for another local member to lead Area 10. I believe the best prepared leader for our area would be one who has served in the leadership of the local branch. If those characteristics fit you, please consider adding your name to the nomination list. The Area 10 Representative will be selected by the Big Sirs of our area soon. I am asking each Big Sir to announce this need to its membership. Please provide the name and contact information to me, Bob Nadell (714-595-3627, nadellb@sbcglobal.net) to all those wishing to be considered for the 2024-26 Area 10 Representative position. An election will be held prior to the end of the year. Please talk with your Big Sir if you would like to serve the Area 10 SIRs or contact me directly for further information.

Thank you for allowing me to serve Area 10. I found my time on the job very rewarding.

(Article by Area 10 Representative Bob Nadell)

2023 Member Survey:

(Article by Neil Wheeler)

The Mission of SIR is to enhance the lives of our members through fun activities, luncheons and events while making Friends for Life. Branch 17 exists for the benefit of its members, and we would like to know if it's meeting your needs.

We request that you complete a short survey so we understand where we need to improve and what activities we should offer. This survey is anonymous, and your name and email are not collected. If you are logged in to a Google account, your email will be shown but it is not used. If that concerns you, log out of your Google account and then begin the survey.

The last question in the survey is open-ended and you can use it to provide additional comments, clarifications, and opinions.

To take the survey, click on the following link: <https://forms.gle/8arRUPGQq5i2fb6F9>

The survey will only be open for responses through October 13th so please respond as soon as possible. We will provide members with a summary of the responses once the survey is complete.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact me at njmwheeler@science-one.org

SIR Branch 17, Member Profiles:

Duane Jensen Badge #094

One of the best rewards of talking to Duane Jensen and other “senior” members is to get a glimpse of the history of SIR17. For example, did you know that our branch once had 275 members and met at the former Los Robles Lodge in the Coddington Mall area? You had to be on a waiting list to get in. Duane Jensen hurried to get on that list before he retired as he was eager to play SIRs golf with Bud Hill, George Beck, Jim LaMar, and other great guys in the club who played golf and socialized regularly.

Duane was raised in Cedar Falls, Iowa and played football and basketball in high school. Although a very good athlete, he said “You didn’t need to be great there to be on the team...it was a small school...and my sister’s husband was the basketball coach!” Duane went away to college in Nebraska and hoped to play football. That did not work out, so he joined the “semi-pro” team sponsored by a farm equipment manufacturer in that town and got \$5.00 together with a spaghetti dinner and a beer after each game. He was fast and could throw a football, but his “professional” football career stopped after the season ended.

Duane joined the Marine Corps Reserves and was at Summer Camp in Quantico, VA. in 1950 when the Korean War broke out. They were “frozen-in” and sent to Camp Pendleton to form replacement drafts. His ability to use a typewriter and a calculator were valued enough to keep him from being sent overseas. Following his military stint, Duane headed back to the University of Iowa and graduated with a degree in economics. He went to work for a stock and commodity brokerage firm with offices around the Midwest. Being handsome (*see his photo as evidence*), an athlete, and having a good job,



(Continued on top right)

Member Profiles:

(continued)

he had no problem meeting girls and met Shirley, a lovely student at the University of Nebraska, at a local coffee shop. This led to a long courtship and marriage that additionally turned out to be useful. Duane had switched careers and took over a State Farm Agency in Fort Dodge, Iowa. The agency management at that time, said “to be a respectable agent, the expectation was that you would be married.” So, he and Shirley said, “No problem!” and got married.

Duane’s career in insurance moved him on to CA and into State Farm auto claims and then into State Farm Fire & Casualty claims. Completing law school by correspondence led to management positions in claims administration and ending with litigation management over a portion of the Bay Area.

Duane still has his 1994 application for membership in SIR17. He received a polite letter telling him to wait for an opening as they were currently full. He would be allowed to attend luncheons with his host, but it would cost him \$9.00. The letter also spelled out the requirements of membership that included mandatory attendance at luncheons, either at SIR17 or other SIR clubs. Duane is the second longest serving member in SIR17 (29 years) with Bob Zeni being our longest (30 years, see his July 2021 BARK profile).

Duane was an avid golfer until his shoulder needed four operations. He now walks daily, watches “way too much” TV and enjoys NFL and college games. Duane and Shirley have traveled and cruised the world extensively and have two children. He continues to enjoy the companionship of the SIR17 club and like many of us, is delighted at the “new blood” coming into the club. He looks forward to talking with all of you and hearing your stories.

(Article by *Dennis Mangan*)

A special **Thank You** to members Gordon Boulton and the many others for helping us by spotting all the errors in grammar, punctuation, spelling and any other boo-boos that have been made before this final edition goes to press and you see it. *Jim-the Editor*

Activities:

Use this link below to view the latest online Calendar of Events

<https://www.sir17.org/calendar-of-events.html>

Bocce:

Has been discontinued as a Branch 17 Activity. Those still interested, check Fred's weekly calendar and join Branch 76 as their guests.

Bowling:

(article by Fred Rose)

If you have an interest in helping to get this activity going again so you also could enjoy it then contact our Activities Chair, Fred Rose at:

707-548-5797 or fredricrose@comcast.net



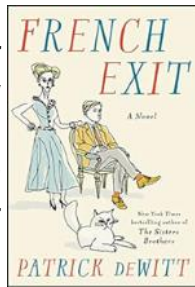
Book Club:

(Article by Neil Wheeler)



The Book Club selection for October is **French Exit** by Patrick deWitt. 256 pages. We plan to meet in Howarth Park at the Cypress Point Picnic Area on Wednesday, October 27th at 2:00 pm to discuss the book, subject to weather conditions. We will let you know if the location changes.

If you have any questions or would like to be on (or off) our email list, send an email to: njmwheeler@science-one.org



Boys' Night Out:

(Article by Don Malvestiti)



For this month we will be going to **Ca'Bianca**, 835 Second St. S/R on Wednesday **October 18th**.
5:30 pm social, 6:00 pm dinner.

SPACE IS VERY LIMITED!

Notify Don by **Thursday, October 11th**, to be included in the group.

Email Don at: malvestitidon485@gmail.com or call 707-539-0677 and please leave a message if no answer.



Bridge:

Eight of us met in the Valley of the Moon Oak Club for bridge and lunch. If you have an interest in Bridge, contact:



Dean Lundgren 707-544-8088

mdlungren@msn.com

James Park 707-578-4255

jcpark38@sbcglobal.net

Coffee Club:

(article by Rich de Lambert)



The Coffee Club meets in Howarth Park the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 9:00 am. That's Oct 12th and 26th.

We will be at the Cypress Point picnic area in Howarth Park if the weather permits. If not, we will send out a notice in advance explaining where we will meet

Come enjoy a cup of coffee, some baked goods, maybe some fruit, and conversation with your fellow SIR members. If we are meeting in the park, we ask for a \$1 donation to offset the cost of the coffee and treats. Bring a lawn chair if you want to sit down. Guests and Partners are welcome so bring a friend!

If you have questions, contact, Rich de Lambert, at richdelambert@gmail.com or call 707-545-3490

Community Involvement Program:

We will be at the Redwood Empire Food Bank, 3990 Brickway Blvd. in Santa Rosa on **Thursday, October 5th**, from 10 am until noon. Fourteen of us made food containers or packaged plums and potatoes at the last outing. We bagged 725 lbs. of plums and 859 lbs. of potatoes; in total, 1,530 lbs. of produce. The Food Bank calculated that we provided produce for 1,319 meals.

The Volunteer Coordinator Liz Berry sent an email to us saying:

"Good morning, Barry, and Bob,

Thank you all so much for your time and energy last week in the warehouse. (continued on page 6)

Community Involvement (continued)

It was wonderful to see Sons in Retirement having such a good time while working to help the Redwood Empire Food Bank end hunger in our community. What a great team you have!"

Our name is becoming better known in the community as a group that helps others, as well as working together, and making friends for life. We hope that you can join us in our next volunteer activity at the REFB and experience the good feeling of helping others. Wear your SIR apparel so our Branch 17 is identified. Chairs are available for those who prefer not to stand.

Let one of the committee members, George, Rich, Barry, or Bob, know that you are planning to come so we can inform the REFB in advance.

You can find us on the www.sir17.org website under the first Thursday of each month. All the information related to time and place is on that site.

"A life isn't significant except for its impact on other lives." Jackie Robinson



Barry Bialkoski and Bob Reuther,
Co-Chairs

Rich de Lambert and George
Traverso, Co-Vice Chairs

Couples' Night Out: (Article by Fred Rose)



The September CNO at Riviera Ristorante, was attended by 13 couples, one of our largest turn-outs of the year. Great food, great service, enjoyed by all.

October's event will be held at **La Gare on Thursday, October 26th**, Social 6:30 pm, Dinner 7 pm. **Reservations are a must!**

Any questions, then contact Fred at: 707-548-5797. or email to : fredricrose@comcast.net



Cribbage:

(Article by Rich de Lambert)

We know you played cribbage with your grandfather! Now you can come and play Wednesday, **Oct. 11th** at 11:00 AM at Rich de Lambert's home at 3710 Evergreen Rd, Santa Rosa, 95405.



No talent, no cards, no board and no money necessary. Last month's winner, Ken Kazezski, is still dancing in the streets.

COME FOR A GOOD TIME!!! RSVP to Ken at 650-930-6748. Snacks will be provided.

GLOBAL FORUM:

(Article by Marvin Mai)



We just returned from 10 days spent cruising up the Mississippi River from St. Louis, MO to Minneapolis, MN with friends from TX and about 350 other new acquaintances.

It seems almost like a trip back in time when I revisit parts of the Midwest. When I talked with many of the other travelers, I was constantly amazed at how disinterested many seemed to be about events happening around the world. One gentleman said, "I probably can't find it on the map, and even if I could it doesn't affect me." I did not try to convince him of the effect that the war has on wheat availability and price, and food scarcity in the African nations.



For me a large part of our Global Forum discussions is learning from others about the impact an event or conflict or regime change is having or will have on us and our world. We're resuming our in-person meetings at Mai house on October 13 at 10 am and still have a limit of eight attendees.

On Friday October 27th, we will have a Zoom meeting at 10 am. If you'd like to attend the Zoom meeting let Marvin know so he can add you to the invite list.

To get on the email list, contact Marvin at:

maimarvin57@gmail.com

GOLF: Mondays at Bennett Valley

Marvin Schouweiler had a **hole in one** on the 15th Hole, Wednesday the 20th at Bennett Valley Golf Course during the Bennett Valley Seniors Weekly golf tournament! His bar tab was more than he won.

State SIR golf tournament in October signups are now **closed**.

For you newer members, signups for Bennett Valley are necessary by the preceding **Friday** of the Monday you want to play. Just call the Pro Shop.

See you on the course!

The 17/76 Golf Committee

(Article by Fred Rose)

HIKING GROUP: (Article by Gordon Boulton)



If you would like to join us, get on the hiking activity email list by contacting Stew Lauterbach, our leader, at stewartlauterbach@gmail.com. He seldom leads us down the wrong path!

POKER: (Article by Mike O'Neill)



Well, Glenn was the “really big winner” at our September game. Fortunately most of us lost small amounts so it wasn't too bad.

Our next game will be on October 12th, the 2nd Thursday of the month. Our games are held at Epicenter on Piner Rd. 12 pm to 3 pm.

We already have seven players signed up. For new folks who might be interested in playing, contact Mike O'Neill at: Mikeo46@sbcglobal.net or call me at 707-479-4158.

We would love to have enough players so we could have 2 games going at the same time.

TRAVEL GOLF: (Article by Fred Rose)

We are trying to arrange a Travel Golf Tournament at Santa Rosa Golf and Country Club in early October.

Details are still being worked out.

We will notify you as soon as it is resolved.

Walking Group: (Article by Richard Lundblad)



The walking group meets every **Tuesday morning at 10 am**, that is weather permitting. Exact meeting places to TBD but we have been leaving from Cypress Point and go for coffee afterwards.

Come join us and bring a friend! If you have any questions or would like to be on our email list,

contact me at richardlundblad@gmail.com

or call me at 707-888-8386

Wine, Beer & Spirits: (Article by George Traverso)

Our next tasting will be at the **Golden State Cider Taproom** at the Barlow Shopping District in Sebastopol on **Wednesday November 1st**. The address of the Taproom is 180 Morris Street #150. We will start the day with Lunch at the **Farmer's Wife Restaurant** in the Barlow located at 6750 McKinley Street #120. The eatery accepts separate checks for lunch and the menu is very affordable with a variety of sandwiches and salads. Each guest can purchase their own lunch from the extensive offerings at the Farmer's Wife. As a reminder, this day is a co-ed event so wives, significant others and guests are welcome. For those who are unfamiliar as to the location of The Barlow, it is on the right side of Highway 12 as you enter Sebastopol from Santa Rosa.

Due to hours of operation, we will enjoy our lunch first and then proceed to the cider event.

LUNCH WILL BEGIN AT NOON AND THE TASTINGS WILL FOLLOW AROUND 1:30pm.

The cost of the tastings is \$15 plus tax/tip. Like at the luncheon, each attendee can pay for the cider tasting separately. A maximum of 24 attendees will be allowed to enjoy both events.

Please contact Bill Traverso at 707-443-3777 or email yinselr2@pacbell.net before the deadline of **Wednesday October 25th** for notifying the event locations of your attendance.

With the combination of a nice lunch and tasty ciders, we look forward to a wonderful day and hope to see you there!



New Member Badge # 122

Jim Berger

I was born and raised in Oakland, graduating from Oakland High School in January, 1950. I went then to U.C. Berkeley and in 1956 graduated from dental school at UCSF.

There followed two years in the Navy, which I was able to join because an admiral intervened after I was told I was a quarter-inch too short to serve as an officer. I became a Navy dentist.

For six months I served at the Marine base at Camp Pendleton, then for 18 months aboard the aircraft carrier Yorktown in the Pacific.

Following discharge, a friend got me a job as a dentist on the Army base in Orleans, France. I spent a year there and took some wonderful travels—even got to Pamplona, Spain, twice to run with the bulls!

From Europe I returned to Oakland, where I practiced for two years before enrolling at the University of Michigan to earn a master's degree in Children's Dentistry.



From Ann Arbor, my wife and two daughters and I traveled to Copenhagen, Denmark, where I taught at a dental school. Denmark was a great place to live for a year. The low point came when I learned while in Scandinavia that President John F. Kennedy had been assassinated.

The following year, 1964, we decided it was time to settle down. We moved to Santa Rosa, where the city limits sign told of a population of 43,000. We had a son, growing our family to five.

I was lucky to join the 20-30 Club and make lifelong friendships. Santa Rosa was a great, friendly place to be in business and to become active in volunteering. I was on the boards of the YMCA, Volunteer Center, the local chapter of Canine Companions for Independence, Community Health Centers and the Redwood Empire Food Bank.

Socially, we have long been members of the Wild Oak Saddle Club.

To live and be active in Santa Rosa was the greatest choice my family could have made.



New Member Badge #138

Joe Olson

Hi, my name is Joe Olson. I was born in Southern California in a city called Lynwood and was raised as a child in Lakewood, a city just south of Long Beach. I liked and played a lot of sports as a child such as baseball and basketball in Catholic school at Saint Maria Goretti until the sixth grade. The family moved to Santa Rosa in September of 1967. In Santa Rosa the schools attended were Matanzas Elementary, Herbert Slater, Montgomery High, and Santa Rosa Junior College. A graduate from SRJC in Natural Sciences in 1978, I took a lot of chemistry and math courses. The summer of 1978 was the beginning of my main career in the casino business and I started a summer job in the entertainment world as a 21-blackjack dealer at Harrah's Hotel and Casino Resort. The summer was great, so they let me stay on as a full-time dealer to pursue that direction as my starting career.

In Tahoe in my second year, I got married which lasted two years. I decided to go back to school at California State University Sacramento where I got my BS degree in Management Information Systems (MIS). I was still working part time at Harrah's Tahoe on weekends twice a month. After graduation at CSUS I became a supervisor in the gaming department and learned the game of Craps. Craps was the game to learn then, before California Indian gambling began.

In 2013 the decision to move back to Santa Rosa was a grave one because my father needed me but never asked me to help him. I sold my home knowing it was a chance to open the door to go back to college and go into the Radiology Tech Program offered at SRJC at age 58. It was a lottery gamble, but my good grades didn't count after two years studying to get into the program. I tried four times, once every year, without the luck of the draw. When my father died it closed that door and opened the



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New Member Joe Olson #138 *(continued)*

opportunity to stay in Santa Rosa to continue working for Home Depot. Last year in December the decision was clear to retire and stay in Santa Rosa. Here I will market the book on the casino game of craps that I had written and published way back in 1993. So here I am in Santa Rosa, *my hometown!*



Eat & Explore, Sept. 12, 2023, at Gott's Roadside, St. Helena.
L/R: Barbara Eastes, Marv Schouweiler, Kurt & Paige Wehrmeister, Jamie Gallagher, Fred Rose, Joyce & Art Appling.

Photo Gallery



Book Club, Sept. 27, 2023 in Howarth Park.
L/R: Hap Culp, Les Brodie, Bill Grafeld.



Community Involvement, Sept. 7, 2023 at REFB.
L/R: Bob Reuther, Gordon Boulton, & Wayne Brigden.



New Members & Sponsors, 9-21-2023.

L/R: Bill Grafeld. Alan Johnson, Dan Sullivan, Rick Brannon Jr., Frank Gironimi, Rich de Lambert, Fred Walsh, David Harris, Charlie Verzosa, Sal Rosano.

HELP WANTED!**Photo Album Custodian:**

The Branch has an album of members' photos and various branch activities but it has not been maintained since before the pandemic. In the past, the album was placed on a table at our luncheons so that, for example, members could refresh their memories on who was who before engaging others they did not know in conversation. If this is of interest to you and you would like to volunteer to resurrect this branch asset and keep it updated, then contact Jim Fenstermaker at 707-548-3346, or email him at sirsbrn17@gmail.com. Jim and others will help you figure out the best way to go about this important opportunity to help Branch 17 to keep up with the current times!

The Redwood BARK Newsletter Editor and Publisher:

Jim Fenstermaker has been the **BARK** editor and publisher for more than a dozen years but due to several health issues, he needs to pass the baton to the "next generation." Jim accepts various articles from branch officers and activity chairs that have already been formatted for content and proofread for grammar and spelling issues. He then places these articles along with photos into the newsletter template using Microsoft Publisher. Experience with Microsoft Publisher or other publishing applications is preferred, but Microsoft Word or Constant Contact are other options. Please contact Jim (*see above*) for more information on how he goes about producing this critical communication tool of our branch. Of course, Jim will be available for extended support during the transition period.

(Article by Gordon Boulton)

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.

The **August** 2023 edition of  Newsletter is now available to view online.

This is an informative newsletter produced by SIRinc with articles re-published from many of the SIR Branches throughout the state. There are lots of very interesting articles to browse. Look especially at pages 21-23 which are reprints of some articles from our Branch 17. On page 51 is an interesting article "A Little Humor." It has a lot of "Short Cut Codes" for we seniors. Page 58 has an interesting article about Costco. In all the 66 pages, there are all kinds of consumer tips on various subjects that I am sure you will learn something. Most are reprints from various sources.

To view this free newsletter go to www.sir17.org under the Home tab, click on the "Newsletter" tab, now scroll down to near the bottom of the page. Click on the SIR Happenings **State SIR Newsletter**, the underlined area. This should now open to the SIRinc website where you can choose the most current edition. Highlight and click on your choice and your PDF program should open the file for you to look at. Read and enjoy!

