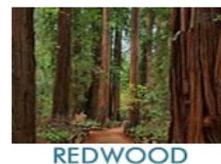




A non-profit club for retired men devoted to the promotion of independence and dignity of retirement

Luther Burbank Branch 17
Santa Rosa, CA



THE REDWOOD BARK NEWSLETTER

For September 2013

Monthly meetings are held on the 3rd Friday of each month at the Scottish Rite Temple, 600 Acacia Ln., Santa Rosa, CA
For **Excused Absences, Guests Lunches** or **Alternate Lunch Selection, Please**, you must call or email before 10:00 am on the Monday preceding the meeting for an excused absence, otherwise you will be charged for a meal.
Contact: **Marv Schouweiler, mschouweiler@att.net 484-3070** or **Lou Funk, loufunk@sbcglobal.net 539-9214**

Meeting Schedule - September 20, 2013

Board Meeting: 10:15 am
Social Hour: 11:00 am
Lunch: 12:00 Noon (Committee Reports, Announcements, & Guest Speaker: Eric Huang)
Adjourn by: 1:30 pm
Greeters: Rich de Lambert and a Board member
Bartenders: Paul Tamboury
Please do **not** leave the meeting while our guest is speaking. Place your badge into the collection bucket as you leave.

September 20, 2013 Lunch Menu

House salad served with fresh baked bread and butter.
Mom's meatloaf made with pork sausage and Angus beef, seasoned, baked and topped with creamy mushroom sauce, served alongside is mashed potatoes and red apple cabbage.
Chef's choice for dessert.
Coffee, iced tea, and ice water.
Alternate Entree:
Pasta Primavera finished with Alfredo sauce.



BIG SIR Fred Rose's

Message

fredricrose@comcast.net

707-548-5797

"Never put off till tomorrow what may be done day after tomorrow just as well." — Mark Twain

Here we are, three quarters of the way through the year.

No one has approached me about starting a beer tasting or drinking club, so I am starting one without you. As I sip on this cool one, some thoughts I am having; you, the members of Branch 17 have done a great job to bring new members to our group. We anticipate two new members to be inducted in September which will bring the total for the year to twenty. For that you deserve congratulations! The nature of the beast is we have also lost nearly that many members. So, again, I am asking you, bring them in, friends, family, neighbors. You know they will love us!

We are going to ask you for your suggestions, ideas, complaints even. I promise to read each one. That is how we will know what to try and improve and what to continue to do that you like. I want to be part of the best branch in SIR. YOU can make that happen.

Thank you ,



LITTLE SIR Steve

Virtue's Message

stephenvirtue@sbcglobal.net

707-578-8638

I am pleased to inform you that the guest speaker at our luncheon meeting will be Eric Huang who will be the presenter of :

Shen Yun--The Renaissance of Traditional Chinese Culture and its Global Impact.

The presentation will cover the essence of Chinese culture; Traditional values and principles: the genuine Chinese culture; The driving forces of the Renaissance: from heart to art; The art forms of the renaissance: Transcending cultural boundaries—how it touches a global audience.

Mr. Huang grew up in Beijing, China. He left China in 1965 with his family, first moving to Hong Kong and then emigrating to the United States of America in 1969. He studied Electronics Engineering at UC Berkeley, and subsequently at the University of Santa Clara for his B.S. and M.S. respectively. He worked in Silicon Valley in various high tech positions for more than 30 years before retiring in 2006. He now serves as volunteer for the largest independent Chinese radio: Sound of Hope Radio Network (SOH) as a producer and talk show host. The mission of SOH is to serve as a bridge between cultures of the East and the West.



August Attendance:

Marv Schouweiler, Assistant to Lou Funk
mschouweiler@att.net 707-484-3070

At the August 16th meeting there were 103 members, 4 guests, 3 inductees and one visitor as a guest speaker.

William Hayes was inactive, returned now to an active member.

119 Ed White has transferred to inactive status.

#7 Art Volkerts has resigned due to health problems.

The 4 guests were: Chuck Aver, Mark Burchill, Dennis Mangan and Woody Pits.

Dave Mink was the winner of the "Birthday Boy" lunch.

Total active membership is now at 125 members.

Guest Speaker:

Little SIR Steve Virtue with speaker, retired Dr. Nicholas Anton, M.D. Dr. Anton's presentation of Healthcare Reform—ACA vs. Improved Medicare for all, generated lots of questions.



Beach Blanket

Babylon:

SIR Branch 17 is planning for your enjoyment a trip to the infamous Beach Blanket Babylon theatre experience in San Francisco. The date is November 10th. It's a Sunday matinee



starting at 2:00 pm. The cost is \$65.00 per ticket, an approximate at this time because we do **not** have a full bus yet. The bus fare per person is still unknown. Tickets are still available, contact Bob Vidalin at rosbo5@sbcglobal.net or 545-7460.



August Membership:

Doug Weber, Chairman
zzzweber@aol.com 707-545-3188

The three new members inducted on August 16th were: #47 Jack Bass sponsored by Fran Helm, #356 James Gurke sponsored by Jim Jones and #117 Mike James sponsored by Jim La Mar.

#105 Dennis Mangan sponsored by John French and #127 James Dale sponsored by Kent Richmond were approved for membership by the BEC and will be inducted at the September 20th general meeting.



New Members

All photos by:
 Al Odabashian

New Member

Jack Bass is married to Charlene and was an officer in a mortgage company. He enjoys golf and pool.



New Member

James Gurke was a director for public housing in Alaska. He enjoys golf, baseball, biking and wine.



New Member

Mike James is married to Lisa and was a teacher. He enjoys golf, hiking, bowling, travel and wine.



ACTIVITIES:

Boys Night Out: Kirin Restaurant in Bennett Valley was our August "Boys Night Out". A very nice menu selection, from spicy to mild, exotic to simple. Very good service, very clean, reasonably priced, and plenty to eat. Although they were busy it was easy to carry on a conversation. Some of us have eaten here often and we were not disappointed.

This month we are going Latin, the Old Mexico Restaurant on the NE corner of Mission Blvd. and Montgomery Drive. If you would like to join us, the date is Wednesday September 18th, time is 6 PM. Contact Fred Rose (707) 548-5797 or send an email fredricrose@comcast.net for reservations.



Bicycling: Gary Erickson & the S/Rosa Cycling Club

Friendly Friday is the name of the regularly scheduled ride that the SRCC hosts every week. The ride accommodates the skills and pace of a diverse group of riders where the Start/Finish rotates between Cotati, Santa Rosa, Sebastopol, and Healdsburg. The "A" group that Gary rides with is comprised of retirees whose pace is 12-16 mph over a course that's typically around 30 miles long. The group stops to rest and regroup often along the way.

If you are an avid rider and would like to join other SIR members for a sociable ride through Sonoma County's beauty, please contact Gary Erickson at (707) 478-7860 or gbe@yahoo.com for details.

Club membership, helmet, as well as a liability release are required.



Book Club:

If you enjoy good company and book discussions, then the Book Club may be just what you're looking for. Contact Adu Ebrahim at (707) 566-4786 for more information.

Bowling:

When was the last time you went bowling? Has it been too long? SIR bowling happens every Monday morning at Double Decker Lanes in Rohnert Park, adjacent to the golf course. We start at 10 A.M. and finish before Noon.



Don't think you are good enough? Wrong!! This is casual bowling, no teams, but we maintain handicaps and have a very small prize fund each week. We have good bowlers, and not so good bowlers, but we have fun and we get a little exercise. Try it. No reservations. Bring a friend or two and just show up a bit early and get your names in.

Bowling Activities Co-Chairs are Jim Armstrong at (707) 322-7403 or George Hurley at (707) 545-6180.

Bridge:

Bob Bennett of Branch 76 has restarted the SIR Couples Bridge Activity involving members and their wives from Branch 76 and Branch 17.

Each month couples are paired up with one couple designated to host the game in their home. Eleven couples have signed on and Bob has generated scheduling and rules regarding the play.

Each month 5 games are expected to be played with one couple having a bye. The season will end in August 2013 with a potluck luncheon, award of prizes and an afternoon free-for-all bridge session.

Our bridge activities are coordinated by chairman Al Black, 578-3210, e-mail rosaridge@comcast.com.

Fishing **in Sitka Alaska:**

Anyone interested in heading to Sitka, Alaska to do some salmon fishing in 2014?

Kingfisher Charters

offers great accommodations, meals, boats and fishing.

A 3-day, 4-night trip costs \$2,195.00 plus travel in 2013. An added plus is they process the fish on site so when you head to the Sitka Airport your boxes of frozen fish are right there with you!

No date has been set yet, but July - August 2014 would be a good time to go. Visit their web site kingfishercharters.com for more details.

I'll be asking for sign ups later this year. Contact Ted Scapeccia at tescape@sbcglobal.net or (707) 539-5049.



Garden Club:

Are you interested in a trip to the beautiful Arbo-retum in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco? Wives and/or guests are invited. Contact our Garden Club chairman, Vern Calsy, 545-0932, e-mail vecjfc@sbcglobal.net for more information or better yet attend a brief meeting of interested gardeners generally held at 11:15 am in the Board meeting room prior to each regular meeting.

Golf:

Interested in playing? Our current Branch 17 golf chairman is the incomparable Jim Lamar, (707) 539-9064, or email to jlamar@hughes.net.

He states: "Thanks for all the participation on Monday July 29th, 'twas the greatest number of participants' ever since I have done the scores."



A reminder, we have a September "DO" at Solvang, (State) and then if you want Monterey Peninsula, there are open spots usually during the State run Championship at Laguna Seca in October. All can be found by going to <http://www.sirstategolf.com/> and scrolling thru the months (entry forms and all). Check 'em out.

September golf dates at Bennett Valley are on Mondays the 9th, 16th, 23rd and the 30th.

The default play schedule is to begin at 8:30 A.M. Phone Bennett Valley at (707) 528-3673, give them your name and foursome if you have one, and they will give you a tee time. Singles will be assigned where there is an opening. Check in at the Pro Shop. All money will be handled there.

Allow enough time to be there should Bennett Valley have cancellations and be able to advance the tee times.

For those Branch 76 golf outings, contact Frank Morabito, (707) 542-0372, or send an email to dorismorabito@att.net.

Traveling Golfers:

September 12, 9:30 A.M.

Mare Island Golf Club — Vallejo, CA
mareislandgolfclub.com \$41 fee.

October 17 at 10:00 A.M.

Harding Park — San Francisco, CA -- TPC Harding Park
\$160 fee due September 30 (Includes: green fees, shared cart, range balls, hot dog lunch at the turn and prize money.) Travel excluded.

Roy Thuestad is our Group Travel Coordinator working with Frank Morabito from Sonoma SIR and planning other trips of interest for our Branch 17 golfers.

You can contact Roy at (707) 838-7804, or send an email to roymond@comcast.net.

REQUIRED FOR PLAY:

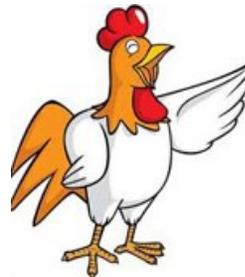
All SIR Branch 17 golfers are required to be members of the NCGA (Northern California Golf Association). Scores submitted to them determine the player's handicap for each golf game. Thus, golfers with high scores can compete with those with lower scores. Cost is \$36 per year with a one-time setup fee of \$10.

TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES:

SIR travel opportunities range from Hawaii to Hong Kong, Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta to Cuba, Christmastime on the Seine to a 13 day trip to Spain, with just about everywhere else in between.

To view the latest quarterly edition of SIR Happenings go to the website: <http://sirinc.org/sirhappenings/> There you can find out what other SIR branches are doing. On page 11 is a new listing of all the future trips that have been planed along with more details about each one. Check it out!

Joke of the day!



"Mr. Clark, I have reviewed this case very carefully," the divorce court judge said, "and I've decided to give your wife \$775.00 a week."

"That's very fair, your honor," the husband said, "and every now and then I'll try to send her a few bucks myself."

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.