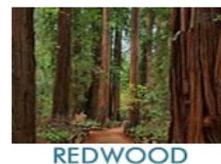




A non-profit club for retired men devoted to the promotion of independence and dignity of retirement

Luther Burbank Branch 17  
Santa Rosa, CA



## THE REDWOOD BARK NEWSLETTER

For **December 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](mailto:mschouweiler@att.net) 484-3070 or **Lou Funk**, [loufunk@sbcglobal.net](mailto:loufunk@sbcglobal.net) 539-9214

### Meeting Schedule - December 20, 2013

NO Board Meeting—**Christmas Party**  
Social Hour: 11:00 A.M.  
Lunch: 12:00 Noon  
Bartenders: Bob Gaggero and Frank Moreda  
Come and enjoy a special **Christmas** lunch along with listening to the sounds of the Redwood Chordsmen singing.  
If you have NOT made your reservation as yet, then do so very quickly. See last month's newsletter for more information.

### December 20, 2013 Lunch Menu

Cream of mushroom soup  
served with fresh baked bread and butter.  
**Aged angus NY steak OR poached salmon filet**  
with side dishes of scallop potatoes,  
citrus baby carrots and green beans.  
**J.M. Rosen cranberry cheese cake for dessert.**  
**Coffee, iced tea, and ice water.**



### BIG SIR Fred Rose's Message

[fredricrose@comcast.net](mailto:fredricrose@comcast.net)  
707-548-5797

We are here to laugh at the odds and live our lives so well that Death will tremble to take us."  
-- Charles Bukowski,  
German-born American writer

#1 Resolution for next year: Become more active in our organization.

21 members added to the active roster this year. Unfortunately, for various reasons, we have lost 29. So you can see our concern for membership growth. If we don't actively recruit, one of these days it will be just you and me, and you know how boring I can be! So, get with the program, keep us in good company.

Thanks to all of you, for your help, and your support this year. A toast to all, "'tis a special time of year for family and friends, may your holidays be merry and full of joy, and the new year, full of promise, be fulfilled. Cheers!"



### LITTLE SIR Steve Virtue's Message

[stephenvirtue@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stephenvirtue@sbcglobal.net)  
707-578-8638

"Friends are God's way of taking care of us."  
"Some people come into our lives and quickly go. Some stay for awhile and leave footprints on our hearts. And we are never, ever the same."

To me, SIRS, on the whole, epitomizes those two quotes.

Thanks to all of you SIRS that have been so kind and helpful...friends all!

It has been a special pleasure and so enjoyable getting to know you, getting to like you and getting to hope you like me.

Please have fun at our Christmas Party!

I look forward to serving you next year as Big Sir and wish you and yours all the very best!



## November Attendance

**Marv Schouweiler**, Ass't to Lou Funk  
[mschouweiler@att.net](mailto:mschouweiler@att.net) 707-484-3070

At the November 15th meeting there were: 92 members, 2 guests, 2 visitors and 1 inductee.

11 members failed to notify Marv that they would not be in attendance.

Brad Bryon and Bill House have been removed from the inactive status and have been dropped.

#121 Charles Pexton has resigned.

#89 Lou Funk (the 101 year youngster) was the winner of the "Birthday Boy" free lunch for the next meeting in Jan. Total active membership is still at 122 members.

## Guest Speakers:

The speakers for our special Veterans Day program were 5 of our very own members as they told of some of their many "war stories".



**Lloyd Douglas**



**Bill Fulwider**



**Jim Lamar**



**Al Pisenti**



**Fred Reich**



## November Membership

**Doug Weber**, Chairman

[zzzweber@aol.com](mailto:zzzweber@aol.com) 707-545-3188

**Jerry Peterson** sponsored by Richard Scudero was approved for membership by the BEC in September and will be inducted at the January 17th general meeting

No new prospective members were approved.

#88 **Mark Burchill** sponsored by Al Odabashian was inducted into SIR as our newest member.

Don Martin was a guest of Jim Jones.

Richard Lyon was a guest of Fred Reich.



**New  
Member**

#88 **Mark Burchill** is the November 2013 new SIR member of Santa Rosa Branch #17.

Mark is a former business owner of an office furniture store where he retired in December of 2012. He is a golfer and also plays bocce ball. He is into computers and tech items. Mark also enjoys dining out, fine wines, traveling, the theatre and listening to old music.

Welcome aboard Mark!

We are opening a "**Suggestion Box**" for you to email your comments/suggestions/new ideas for the good of improvements for Branch 17. Please address your comment to our new Growth Coordinator Fred Rose. Send your email to: [fredricrose@comcast.net](mailto:fredricrose@comcast.net).



## Chaplain's Corner by Herb Percy

What would you like to see covered in the Chaplains Corner? Would you like to be part of a SIRS prayer chain? How that works is email me your concern, whether it be illness, recovery, upcoming surgery, celebration prayer of any kind; birthday, birth of a grandchild, anniversary. The list can go on if this is what you want to see your chaplains undertake. Please call me at 575-7787 or send an email to:

[dadpercy@yahoo.com](mailto:dadpercy@yahoo.com)



## ACTIVITIES

### Boys Night Out

Last month's dinner was at Sweet T's Restaurant & Bar, up in the Fountaingrove area.

There will be NO Boys Night Out for December but we will start again in January at Riccardo's, 2700 Yulupa Ave., near Bethards Dr. in the Bennett Valley Shopping Center. The menu is traditional American fare, prices are reasonable and the food is good.



If you would like to join us, the date is Wednesday January 15th, time is 6:00 P.M.

Contact Fred Rose 707-548-5797 or send an email to: [fredricrose@comcast.net](mailto:fredricrose@comcast.net) for reservations, by January 13th.

### 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](mailto: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. The members meet and pick a book for the following meeting and then members give their views and discuss the style and compare with similar books they may have read. As to the selection of books, it is up to the members to decide: history, literature/thrillers, fiction etc. Contact Adu Ebrahim at (707) 566-4786 or email to [aebra@aol.com](mailto:aebra@aol.com) 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. A new season will be starting soon! Check it out.



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.

The Bowling Activities Chairman is Jim Armstrong; call him at 707-322-7603 or email to [army4344@yahoo.com](mailto:army4344@yahoo.com)

### 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 10 couples are paired up with one couple designated to host the game in their home. Bob has generated scheduling and rules regarding the play. Each month 5 games are expected to be played.

Our bridge activities are coordinated by chairman Al Black, 578-3210 or email to [rosaridge@comcast.com](mailto:rosaridge@comcast.com) and Bob Bennett, 433-4574 or email to [bennett9@aol.com](mailto:bennett9@aol.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 \$2,295.00 plus travel in 2014. 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. For more details visit their web site at [www.kingfishercharters.com](http://www.kingfishercharters.com)

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

## Garden Club

Contact our Garden Club chairman, Vern Calsy, by phone at 707-545-0932, or by email at [vecjfc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:vecjfc@sbcglobal.net) for more information, or better yet attend a brief meeting of interested gardeners generally held at 11:15 A.M. 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](mailto:jlamar@hughes.net).



For more information check out the website at <http://www.sirstategolf.com> and scrolling thru the months (entry forms and all). Check 'em out.

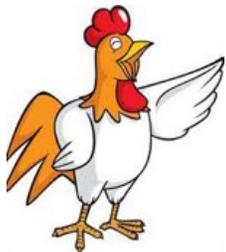
December golf dates at Bennett Valley are on Mondays the 2nd, 9th, 16th and the 23rd.

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 other golf outings, contact Frank Morabito, (707) 542-0372, or send an email to [morabirdies@comcast.net](mailto:morabirdies@comcast.net).

### Joke of the day!



A blonde calls Delta Airlines and asks, "Can you tell me how long it will take to fly from San Francisco to New York City?"

The agent replies, "Just a minute."

"Thank you," the blonde says and she hangs up.

## Traveling Golfers

I do not have anything new to report. I had forwarded out a golf survey a few weeks ago and am now working on the results. I have started to negotiate with a select group of golf courses and will forward out the list when the process is complete.

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

More pictures from Harding Park, October 2013



### 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.