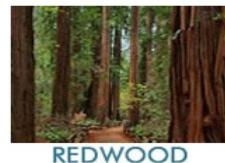




A non-profit club for retired men devoted to the promotion of independence and dignity of retirement

## Luther Burbank Branch 17 Santa Rosa, CA



### THE REDWOOD BARK NEWSLETTER      For DEC. 20, 2018 Lunch

**NEW LOCATION:** meeting at **LEGENDS** in the Bennett Valley Golf Course, 33258 Yulupa Ave., 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: John French, [sonomaink@yahoo.com](mailto:sonomaink@yahoo.com) 707-280-4120 or Marv Schouweiler, [mschouweiler@att.net](mailto:mschouweiler@att.net) 707-484-3070

#### NO Meeting

**Social Hour: 11:00 am**

**Lunch: 12:00 noon**

**Entertainment By: The Chordsmen**

**Adjourn by: 1:30 pm**

#### Holiday Lunch Menu

**Classic spinach salad**

**Roasted prime rib of beef OR salmon**

**Either with mashed potatoes & vegetables**

**Cheesecake**

**Beverages;** Regular or decaf coffee, iced tea or water. Sodas are free but must be picked up at the bar.



#### **BIG SIR** Robert Reuther's Message

[rareuther@yahoo.com](mailto:rareuther@yahoo.com) 707-343-1134

"I found out retirement means playing golf, or I don't know what the hell it means. But to me, retirement means doing what you have fun doing."

Dick Van Dyke

It was my pleasure to serve as Big SIR the past year. I had the opportunity to meet and get to know a lot of SIR members that I didn't know previously. I found out that we had a lot of members working behind the scenes who are dedicated and do a gigantic amount of work. A number of us including myself were unaware of this and I am amazed that these members do not care to seek the recognition that they deserve. To begin with, we have the **BARK** editor who publishes the newsletter before the monthly group meeting, the recruitment, activities, membership, publicity chairs, better known as RAMP, those keeping track of funds, the picnic committee and the December party planners. It never ends. These members are the mortar that keeps us together and alive as a Branch.

My contributions as Big SIR this year are small in comparison to the dedicated SIRs who have served through the years. I am always reminded that our mission is simple:

(continued on page 2)



#### **LITTLE SIR** Dennis Mangan's Message

[dfmangan@gmail.com](mailto:dfmangan@gmail.com) 301-717-6234

"Music can change the world because it can change people."

—Bono

Music has always been a part of our lives. When we were young, did you march to Mitch Miller, drive your parents crazy listening to the Rolling Stones, and then give a little piece of your heart to Janis Joplin? Music and songs can inspire us ("Imagine"), make us change ("Man In the Mirror"), get us dancing ("Twist and Shout"), and even make us cry ("Hallelujah"). Remember when Elton John sang a special version of "Candle in the Wind" at Princess Diana's funeral. Powerful!

Songs can bring us together... and even make us wonder why Billie Joe McAllister jumped off the Tallahatchie Bridge? Have you ever wondered why music and songs have such a powerful effect on us? Recent studies give insight into the mysterious ways those tunes grab us.

Turns out people appear to listen to music for three major reasons: music offers 1) a valued companion and self-awareness, 2) a comfortable level of activation/arousal and a

(continued on page 2)

**Luther Burbank Branch 17 is in Area 10 of Region 3.**  
**The following is a list of your 2018 Officers and Directors.**

**OFFICERS:****BIG SIR:** Robert Reuther .....**LITTLE SIR:** Dennis Mangan .....**SECRETARY:** Jim MacMillan .....**ASST. SECRETARY:** Jim Gurke .....**TREASURER:** Glenn Seime .....**ASST. TREASURER:** (*Vacant*) .....**IMD. PAST BIG SIR:** Ted Scapeccia .**Email:**[rareuther@yahoo.com](mailto:rareuther@yahoo.com) ..[dfmangan@gmail.com](mailto:dfmangan@gmail.com) ..[jmacmillan@ieee.org](mailto:jmacmillan@ieee.org) ..[1jgurke@gmail.com](mailto:1jgurke@gmail.com) .....[gseime@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gseime@sbcglobal.net) ..

.....

[tescape@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tescape@sbcglobal.net) ..**Phone:**

707-343-1134

301-717-6234

707-969-9830

707-843-3464

707-537-5360

.....

707-539-5049

**DIRECTORS FOR ONE YEAR**

Barry Balkoski

Mark Burchill

Bill Traverso

**DIRECTORS FOR TWO YEARS**

Gary Bondi

Rich Scudero

George Traverso

**WEB MASTER**

James MacMillan

**BARK EDITOR**

Jim Fenstermaker

Branch 17 website: [www.branch17.sirinc2.org](http://www.branch17.sirinc2.org)  
or email: [sirsrbn17@gmail.com](mailto:sirsrbn17@gmail.com)

AREA 10 GOVERNOR  
Robert Reuther

REGION 3 DIRECTOR  
Dean Faris

PRESIDENT OF SIRinc.  
Derek Southern

**BIG SIR Message**

(continued from page 1)

**The mission of SIR is to improve the lives of our members through fun activities and events-while making friends for life.** I truly believe that friendship and fun activities are what keeps membership in SIR afloat. This friendship can be seen in our individual activities such as golf, Boys' Night Out, or Couples' Night Out just to mention a few. The best news is that in 2019 the membership fee will be **\$20, reduced 50 percent from 2018, which was \$40.**

Our number one challenge is new membership, which is unfortunate. Since we were formed in September 1966, we reached a membership high in November 1993 of 275 members. Since that time membership has decreased until now where we are 88 members. We are approaching the final stage in what is called the Business Life Cycle. That stage is total decline of membership due to the inability to adapt to the changing environment and as a result, not to extend our Branch's life. Our BEC has taken note of this in the fact that 62-or 65-year-old men stepping down from full active employment today have not lived the same kind of life through troubled times as our current members. Our only known solution is to explore and find out what the younger members want in our general monthly meetings.

**List of the December Birthdays**

Gary Bondi	James Gurke	Ken Johnson
Ralph Lassa	J.T. Rose	
Romie Schneider	Lloyd Von Der Mehden	

**LITTLE SIR Message** (continued from page 1)

positive mood, and 3) a basis for social relatedness. Music is good for our health. It can boost cognitive performance, reduce stress, sooth jangled nerves, prevent falls by building muscle and improving balance, help the brain recover from a stroke, and improve your heart and lungs. For anyone who has attended a live concert, you know the extraordinary power music has to build a social bond with others in attendance.

We have a tradition of singing a song at the beginning of each SIR monthly luncheon. During the holidays we tend to sing songs that tell stories. Music and songs are part of us and part of our club. So next time we get together, let's really crank up the volume and jingle those vocal chords.

**Happy holidays!**

**Calendar of SIR Events for DEC. 2018**Any Monday **Golf** at BVGCAny Monday **Bowling**, Double Decker Lanes, R/P, 10 am

Dec. \_ NO BNO

Dec. \_ NO CNO

Dec. 3 **Poker Fest**, Legends, BVGC, 12:30 pm

Dec. 7 Pearl Harbor Day

Dec. 11 **Bridge Club**, Legends, BVGC, 10:00 am

Dec. 12 Gingerbread House Day

Dec. 14 **Global Forum**, Marvin Mai's place, 9:30 amDec. 20 **SIR Holiday Luncheon with the Ladies**, 11 am

Dec. 21 Winter begins

Dec. 24 Eggnog Day

Dec. 28 Card Playing Day

Dec. 31 New Years Eve--Party time!



## NOVEMBER

### Membership Relations:

**John French**, Chairman  
[sonomaink@yahoo.com](mailto:sonomaink@yahoo.com)  
 707-280-4120

At our last meeting, 59 members attended, along with one guest, John Grant, sponsored by #10 Jerry Peterson, to become a potential new member. Our speaker, Jack Tibbets, brought along a friend of his as a guest.

New members inducted were: #18 Davis Bullwinkle, sponsored by #127 Jim Dale and #145 Steven Saulsbury, sponsored by #115 Gordon Boultbee. The following members have resigned: #6 Lee Kennedy, #34 James Mitchell, #40 Herb Percy and #185 Ken Prouty. We now have 88 members. There were 25 members excused from attending the last meeting but six member forgot to call John to be excused. It is getting better.



### New Members

#### #167 Ken Johnson

Ken is sponsored by #42 Romie Schneider.

Ken has been married to Dayle, since July, 2010.

Ken has many interests such as: playing bridge and poker, dining out, fishing, gardening, traveling, wine tasting and many more. He should find many of our activities ready to join and participate in.

Ken retired in late 1971 after 20 years of service in the USAF, many of those years as a pilot refueling tankers in the air.



#### #173 Ron Schultz

Ron is from the Napa area, has been married to Jo since June 1978 and they have two grown daughters.

....Ron served as an Officer many years in the Air Force, graduated from Duke University with a masters degree, retired from being an instructor from Chesapeake College, Maryland and then returned to the Santa Rosa area to live and enjoy his retirement years.



#### #166 Ken Tran

Ken and Lan got married back in July 1978.

Ken really likes to hike, as he spent about three months this summer hiking many miles of trails. He likes to bicycle ride in many areas and enjoys a backgammon game. We also know he and Lan like to attend Couples' Night Out dinners. Ken has retired from the property management business.



#### #922 Kurt Wehrmeister

Kurt just recently married his high school prom date, Paige, in March 2015. They now have five children and 2 granddaughters between them.

He is sponsored by Fred Rose and as you might guess his greatest interest is in playing golf, along with watching football and attending the Santa Rosa Symphony.

Kurt retired in February 2017 from Moose International, Inc., in corporate communication and media relations.

He was born and raised in northern Illinois and moved to the Santa Rosa area about six years ago.



#### #18 Davis Bullwinkle

Davis is sponsored by Jim Dale.

Davis is married to Judy and he is interested in playing bridge along with collecting stamps.

He retired as a research librarian at the University of Arkansas in 2008. He was born in California and about eight years ago moved back to Santa Rosa.



#### #145 Steven Saulsbury

Steven is sponsored by #115 Gordon Boultbee.

Steve has been married to Linda since 1988. They have one child and one grandchild.

He likes playing bocce and golf. He and Linda would like to learn how to play bridge.

Steve retired from OCLI back in 2014.

## Perfect Attendance at SIR lunch meetings.

The following members attended all ten SIR lunch meetings during 2018:

- #023 John French
- #044 Marv Schouweiler
- #057 Jim Fenstermaker
- #058 Lance Thompson
- #062 Ted Scapeccia
- #112 Robert Reuther
- #119 Ed White
- #128 Bob Zeni



Do they all deserve a big gold star?

## NOTICE

### 2019 Membership DUES will be due in January.

Our annual dues for 2019 have been set at **only \$20.00, DOWN** from \$40.00 in 2018!

This was made possible by our move to Legends where we pay **no rent** *versus* the \$3,600 per year we paid at the Scottish Rite Center. That savings will be partially offset by no longer making a profit on lunch (\$1,200/year), and no bar profit (\$200/year), putting our net **savings** at \$2,200 per year, average.

Dues bills will **NOT** be mailed this year! Instead, make your check **payable to SIR Branch 17**, and mail it to: Glenn Seime, 2970 Tuxedo Place, Santa Rosa, CA 95405-8566, or if you prefer to save the price of a stamp, then bring your check with you and pay Glenn at the January 17<sup>th</sup> lunch meeting.

## New State SIRinc Officers for 2019

### State President: Ed Benson

EBENSONBWA@AOL.COM

### Region #3 Director: Dennis Pangburn

PANG1@COMCAST.NET

For areas: 7, 8, 9 & 10

### Area #10 Governor: Robert Reuther

RAREUTHER@YAHOO.COM

For Branches: 17, 53, 76, 92, 132 & 158

Since the beginning of SIR in 1958 there have been **179** branches established. As of November 2018 there are still **117** active branches but **48** branches have dissolved and **14** are now inactive but not yet dissolved.

## Rule changes by SIRinc State Board.

At the State Board meeting on October 30, 2018, the following Rules passed with immediate effect.

### Changes in the rules about retirement:

**Rule 2 (q)** now reads: "Retired" means the status of a man who has ceased full-time employment, is working only part time, is contemplating leaving full-time employment in the near future, or has reached the point in his career when he has discretionary time to engage in social networks, meetings, events and luncheons. (New 6/21/18)

**Rule 50** has also been rewritten and approved. It now reads: Membership shall be open to any man retired from full time gainful occupation or only working part-time regardless of age, race, color or religion that will participate in SIR activities and events, can reasonably attend luncheon meetings, and will also be willing to volunteer and bring guests for the purpose of perpetuating the organization. (Revised 1/1/93) (Revised 11/8/11) (Revised 7/7/18)

### Dual Membership:

**Rule 80:** Membership in more than one Branch at the same time is **now** permissible. The member is required to pay dues to both Branches.

### Inactive Members:

**Rules 90-94:** The "Inactive Member" status has been deleted as it has been established that they were never a "guest" and therefore NOT an "insured" person covered by our General Liability insurance. A "guest" is a "potential member" and covered as "insureds" at authorized SIR activities.

An "inactive member" may be a one-time guest at a regular monthly luncheon meeting or an in lieu function such as a special luncheon, dinner or picnic, but cannot be a guest in any other SIR activity.

Removing the "inactive" status means that a man is now either a "Member," or not, so we no longer need to define a member as an "Active Member."

(It sounds like our six "inactive members" are now "no longer" a member. We will have to see how our BEC handles this one in their January meeting!)

### Monthly Meeting Attendance:

**Rule 100:** A member shall be required to attend one-half of the regular Branch monthly luncheon meetings within the previous 12 month period unless the Branch BEC has approved a different attendance requirement(s). A member shall be notified in writing, e-mail, and/or telephone by his Branch if he is in violation of the Attendance Rule 100 and is subject to the termination of his Branch membership. See Rule 107 regarding termination procedures,

There are several other changes but most do not apply to Branch 17.

# ACTIVITIES:

## Bocce:

(Article by Mark Burchill)

We are on hiatus for December and January. We are still working to settle on a schedule. We plan to try some different bocce courts in Sonoma County this coming spring.



Anyone interested in getting on the mailing list then contact Mark Burchill, email at: [SIRMarkB@sonic.net](mailto:SIRMarkB@sonic.net) or call 707-542-2529

## 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](mailto:mdheinz2@gmail.com).

## Boys' Night Out:

(Article by Don Malvestiti)

Chevy's was the destination for our little group of eleven SIR members for our November dinner.



It did not take long for all of us to talk about where we would meet in January. I guess I was attending to other matters (bathroom break) because when I returned I was informed I was selected to be the lead person for BNO in 2019! I will step up to the plate and take on this big responsibility.

We now have January planned for **Tipp Thai Cuisine** in Santa Rosa, but along the way we will be enjoying food at the

(continued top right)

## Boys' Night Out:

(continued )

Washoe House and other fine dining restaurants in our wonderful county. Check the January **BARK** for more details

**Due to the busy Holiday schedule there will NOT be a BNO event in the month of December.**

Contact: Don Malvestiti: call 707-539-0677 or email to [malvestitidon@gmail.com](mailto:malvestitidon@gmail.com).

## 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 coordinated by chairman Al Black, email to [rosaridge@comcast.net](mailto:rosaridge@comcast.net) or call 707-578-3210.



We welcome new and interested members who are thinking of joining the pool of players.

Bridge days scheduled this month for play at Legends Restaurant in Bennett Valley starting at **10:00 am on Tuesday, Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>.**

## Couples' Night Out:

(Article by Fred Rose)

**Due to the busy Holiday schedules there was NOT a CNO event in November, and there will NOT be a CNO in the month of December.**

## GLOBAL FORUM:

(Article by Marvin Mai)

The Global Forum will be back to their regular meetings on **Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am.** All SIR members interested in a discussion on India and China's battle for a strategic edge in the Indian Ocean and exploring our many other global topics, are invited to join this monthly confab at: **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.)*

**PARK IN THE DRIVEWAY OR IN THE BAY ACROSS THE STREET, AS THERE IS NO PARKING ON THE STREET.**

Should you have any questions, please email Marvin at [maimarin57@gmail.com](mailto:maimarin57@gmail.com) or call him at 707-545-2224.

## Golf:

We are fast approaching the end of our sign-up season for membership in our branch 1776 NCGA Golf Club. If you want to be an official card carrying member, ya gotta get your thirty-nine bucks in ASAP, or at least by the end of December - which ever comes first. Snail mail works just fine, address your payment to:

John Weaver, 7425 Witter Road,  
Sebastopol, CA 95472.

**The north wind chills  
the morning air  
the greens are  
brittle with frost.**



**What the heck,  
let's go play some golf.**

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  
707-975-4406  
[roymond@comcast.net](mailto:roymond@comcast.net)

## The Poem of the month!

### Solitude

by Ella Wheeler Wilcox

**Laugh, and the world laughs with you;  
Weep, and you weep alone.**

**For the sad old earth must borrow its mirth,**

**But has trouble enough of its own.**

**Sing, and the hills will answer;  
Sigh, it is lost on the air.**

**The echoes bound to a joyful sound,  
But shrink from voicing care.**

**Rejoice, and men will seek you;  
Grieve, and they turn and go.**

**They want full measure of all your pleasure,  
But they do not need your woe.**

**Be glad, and your friends are many;  
Be sad, and you lose them all.**

**There are none to decline your nectared wine,  
But alone you must drink life's gall.**

**Feast, and your halls are crowded;  
Fast, and the world goes by.**

**Succeed and give, and it helps you live,  
But no man can help you die.**

**There is room in the halls of pleasure  
For a long and lordly train,  
But one by one we must all file on  
Through the narrow aisles of pain.**

## POKER FEST:

(Article by Steve Edelstein)

We are looking to add **four** more players to start a **second** game, possibly on Thursday, December 29<sup>th</sup>. We have three players who are willing to play twice a month. We would be willing to help you learn how to play. It's fun and good way to meet your fellow SIR members.



The new date is Thursday, **December 13<sup>th</sup>** from **12:30 pm to 4:00 pm**, at **Legends** in the Bennett Valley Golf Course. Check with Steve to confirm that the **second date** will happen.

Contact **Steve Edelstein** by email at:

[1hatisland@gmail.com](mailto:1hatisland@gmail.com) or call **707-206-8084**.

Please leave a message, I **will** return your call.

## **BRANCH 17 ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY**

Thursday December 20, 2018 at the Legends, Santa Rosa.

No Host Cocktail Hour starts at 11:00 am in the Legends bar area. Drinks are special priced by showing your SIR name badge. Sodas are free!

**A SIT-DOWN SERVED** Lunch to start around 12:00 noon.

This will **NOT** be a buffet like our regular meeting lunches have been.

The Holiday Committee has planned a great party for our members and their guests. You may choose either: roast prime rib of beef or oven roasted salmon with a creamy Dijon dill sauce. Either entrée comes with: classic spinach salad with egg, bacon, red onions with a raspberry vinaigrette, creamy mashed potatoes, fresh roasted vegetables, along with bread, butter, wine, coffee and water. Dessert will be cheesecake.

At the bottom of this page is a form to send to reserve a seat for you and your guests. Simply complete the form, detach it, send it along with your check and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Stan Borges. Make checks payable to: SIR BRANCH #17. Your tickets will then be mailed to you.

**SEND FORM BELOW TO:**

**Stan Borges, 2011 Stone Wood Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95404-2536**

**TO ASSIST STAN WITH THE SEATING ARRANGEMENTS,**

**PLEASE RESERVE A TABLE FOR YOUR GROUP.**

\*\*\*\*\*

Mark your choice of entrée below:

Prime rib \_\_\_\_\_ or Salmon \_\_\_\_\_ at \$35.00 per person = \$\_\_\_\_\_ Ck #\_\_\_\_\_

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Badge # \_\_\_\_\_

Names of persons in group, (tables of eight)

\_\_\_\_\_

**THE CUTOFF DATE FOR TICKET PURCHASE IS DECEMBER 9, 2018**

**ADVANCE RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED!**

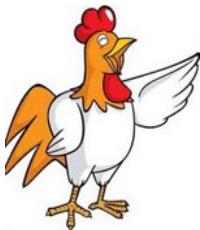
**NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT DOOR.**

Hope to see you all there, Bob Gaggero, Chairman

## **Travel Golf has ended for the season and will resume in March 2019.**

Between now and then, think of courses that you'd like to see included in our line-up and let us know. If you have any feedback as to how the Travel Golf experience can be improved, all ears are open. We look forward to March when we resume our traveling adventures.

(article by Roy Thuestad)



### **Joke of the day!**

#### **ELECTION RESULTS:**

When you rearrange the letters you get:

**LIES - LET'S RECOUNT**

## **The Redwood Chordsmen**

will again entertain SIR members and guests at the Holiday Luncheon on Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup>.



### **Branch 17 Officers & Directors for 2019**

**Co-Big SIR: Dennis Mangan and Mark Burchill**

**Little SIR: George Traverso**

**Secretary: Jim Gurke**

**Assistant Secretary: Jim MacMillan**

**Treasurer: Glenn Seime**

**Assistant Treasurer: Mike O'Neill**

**Directors 1 Year: Gary Bondi and Rich Scudero**

**Directors 2 Years: Paul Willihnganz and Chris Nolan**

A special Thank You to member Gordon Boultbee for helping me by spotting all my errors in grammar, punctuation, spelling and any other boo-boos I have made before the final edition goes to the press and you see it.

Jim, the Editor



## **The State SIRinc Newsletter**

# **SIR HAPPENINGS**

The November edition is now available to on the website: [www.SIRINC.ORG](http://www.SIRINC.ORG), on the left side near the bottom click on the tab "SIR Happenings, next click on the "Happening Nov. 2018 tab. Open the PDF file to: view, download and/or print. Enjoy, as it has several interesting articles with some tips to think about and some jokes to chuckle over. The following is reprinted from page 15 about the proper use of SIR, Sir and Sirs.

### **When to SIR (or Sir)**

When I send the SIR Happenings to my awesome Assistant Editor, Sir Fred Gotthardt, the most common issue is the misuse of the salutation Sir, or reference to our organization, SIR. I am Sir Jerry Sabo and not SIR Jerry Sabo. When a individual member of our organization is referenced, they are Sir John Doe or Sirs members such as; all Sirs in attendance enjoyed the luncheon. When we refer to our organization then we should say SIR Branch 59, but not SIRs branch. (no plural). We can say SIR Branches but not SIRs Branches. Unfortunately, many bowling tournament applications instruct the applicant to write a check to SIRS Branch XYZ or SIRs Branch XYZ—should be SIR Branch XYZ.

Please use the correct form of personal salutation, Sir Joe Smith or organizational form SIR Branch X.

Thanks,  
Sir Jerry Sabo  
Editor of SIR Happenings

### **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.