



## SIR In-Person Luncheon Meeting on Thursday, July 15, 2021

**NEW LOCATION:** meeting at the **Epicenter**, 3225 Coffey Lane, Santa Rosa. See map on page three

**New arrangements:** for gathering attendance information on whether you plan to attend or not.

A member of the "Phone Committee" will call you to verify if you plan to attend the luncheon.

If you say "Yes" but find later that you will be unable to attend you need to contact **Ken Johnson** at **408-466-6764** or email [kenthetraveler@gmail.com](mailto:kenthetraveler@gmail.com) by **5:00 pm Sunday, July 11**, to avoid being charged for your meal. Also of importance is, if you are bringing a guest please notify the above Ken Johnson.

### July 15 Meeting Schedule In-Person!

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

**Program:** Allan Bernstein, MD. He will be telling us about his research on memory and how it can go wrong.

**Announcements:** New meeting location. New rules to abide by. What activities are resuming?

### July 15 Lunch Menu \$25.00 includes tax & tip

Caesar salad

Fried chicken with house made sausage gravy

Herbed pasta Seasoned vegetables

Bread and butter Fresh baked cookie

Water, coffee or tea, included.

Other drinks available to purchase at the bar.

### BIG Sir George Traverso's Message

[geosan@sbcglobal.net](mailto:geosan@sbcglobal.net) 528-6987



Music has always fascinated me. Just as my message in the June **BARK** that focused on reading, the appreciation of listening and participating in music is just as important.

At age ten I began taking formal music lessons on the accordion. I ended the lessons at age fourteen. Homework, sports, friends and part-time jobs were my reasons for ending my music lessons.

However, I continued to play the instrument with my "accordion friends" and at family gatherings. Today, when I do practice, I must admit that the windows and doors are tightly closed. On a side note, my grandfather purchased my new accordion with five hundred silver dollars. Could you imagine the value of those silvers today? To respect his memory as I play the accordion today, I feel my grandfather is looking down at me and giving extra support.

Enough of my personal musical experience. The genre of the music world is wide and varied. I grew up with rock & roll...this style of music first stirred my interest in the love of music. I can still see Elvis on the Ed Sullivan show and recall the melodies of Frankie Valli.

(continued on page 2)

### Little Sir Gordon Boulton's Message

[gboulton@aol.com](mailto:gboulton@aol.com) 584-8063



As you have probably heard *ad nauseam* by now, to attend any outside SIR event, such as golf, bocce, or a picnic you must have on file with me a signed SIR Event Waiver and Release of Liability. To attend any inside event, such as our monthly luncheon, BNO, CNO, Global Forum, or Poker, you must also have on file with me proof of COVID-19 vaccination or a negative test result within three days of the event.

As the state and nation begin to relax COVID-19 restrictions, such as mask and occupancy limit mandates, we have been asked whether SIR Inc. will be dropping its proof of vaccination and waiver requirements. The answer is no, because these are not health-related requirements they are insurance/liability requirements.

If you are having any difficulty in providing me copies of your documents, give me a call. My cell-phone is 707-217-5709. There are plenty of options we can discuss. Heck, bring your proof of vaccination to me at the Yulupa Starbucks and I'll take a photo of it, hand you a paper copy of the waiver to sign and buy you a cup of coffee to boot!

(continued on page 2)

**SIR Luther Burbank Branch 17 is in Area 10 of Region 3.  
The following is a list of your 2021 Officers and Directors.**

OFFICERS:	EMAIL:	PHONE:	DIRECTORS:
<b>Big Sir:</b> George Traverso . . . . .	<a href="mailto:geosan@sbcglobal.net">geosan@sbcglobal.net</a> . . . . .	707-528-6987	Ken Johnson
<b>Little Sir:</b> Gordon Boulton . . . . .	<a href="mailto:gboulton@aol.com">gboulton@aol.com</a> . . . . .	707-584-8063	Rich de Lambert
<b>Secretary:</b> Kurt Wehrmeister . . . . .	<a href="mailto:kurtwehrmeister@gmail.com">kurtwehrmeister@gmail.com</a>	630-461-2715	Tom Lubas
<b>Asst. Secretary:</b> Jim Gurke . . . . .	<a href="mailto:1jgurke@gmail.com">1jgurke@gmail.com</a> . . . . .	707-303-0989	Chris Nolen
<b>Treasurer:</b> Al Petrie . . . . .	<a href="mailto:alpetrie7@aol.com">alpetrie7@aol.com</a> . . . . .	707-974-9193	Paul Willihnganz
<b>Asst. Treasurer:</b> John Gnam . . . . .	<a href="mailto:musicmed@sonic.net">musicmed@sonic.net</a> . . . . .	707-528-0592	Elias Zegarra
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b> Jim Fenstermaker .	<a href="mailto:sirsbrn17@gmail.com">sirsbrn17@gmail.com</a> . . . . .	707-548-3346	
			<b>WEBMASTERS:</b>
<b>STATE PRESIDENT</b>	<b>AREA 10 GOVERNOR</b>	<b>REGION 3 DIRECTOR</b>	Dennis Mangan
Stu Williams	Robert Reuther	Dennis Pangburn	Jim Fenstermaker

**BIG Sir George Traverso's Message** *(continued)*

We are of an age that can recall the American Bandstand and Dick Clark. Remember the scandal of Payola and certain disk jockeys? Rhythm and blues, Motown and Soul soon entered my musical curiosity. I marvel at the seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth century composers who wrote the symphonies and operas that are truly works of art. The Beatles and the many bands of the British Invasion of the sixties made an impression on my increasing musical appetite. Speaking of the appetite, for my constant search to "keep active mentally and socially" (and this is the fundamental reason to join the camaraderie of SIR) and to combine my reason with music, I have been participating in a Zoom music class at Sonoma State University through the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. The course was a very interesting and informative one for many reasons. "Turn, Turn, Turn...A Road Trip Through the Golden Age of Rock and Roll, 1965-1975" was detailed and most interesting. The course was chronologically and geographically presented emphasizing the main American musical movements from Los Angeles, the San Francisco Bay Area, Texas and the South to New York City. The great songwriters from these areas performed their various musical styles and were objectively studied by listening to each artist. My favorite was interpreting and critiquing the classic song "American Pie" by Don McLean. An entertaining study of the "one hit wonder groups" of the sixties rounded out the six weekly classes. The instructor, Pete Elman, a talented musician himself, completed the classes with several in-person stories.

We, as humans, possess the five senses: sight, hearing, touch, smell, and taste. These are truly gifts that I take for granted. Appreciating and listening to music is a treat that I enjoy. I believe we all enjoy a favorite song and the memories that it gives us.

Oh!... it's time for me to practice the accordion...I better close the doors and windows!

**Little Sir Gordon Boulton's Message** *(continued)*

Can't find the waiver form that was emailed or snail mailed to you on May 14? Call or email me and I'll get you a new one. You can also download it from the Branch website, [www.sir17.org](http://www.sir17.org).

Planning on having your significant other participate with you at activities for couples? Send me their proof of vaccination and signed waiver too! My spreadsheet awaits!

Planning to bring a guest to a luncheon or other activity? Let them know they will have to bring their proof of vaccination with them and sign the waiver form when they arrive.

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To (finally) change the subject, we are looking for volunteers to run the luncheon raffle beginning in August. There is already a written instruction on how to do this, so you won't be on your own. We are hoping for multiple volunteers to work as two-man teams on a rotating basis.

We are also looking for members who could offer rides to luncheons to other members and/or serve on a phone committee as the need arises.

If you can volunteer for any of these activities, contact Big Sir George Traverso. Remember, when you joined SIR, you agreed to volunteer!

**Sunshine Report:**

We need your help to tell us before the monthly meeting if any of our members are sick or if some member has died.



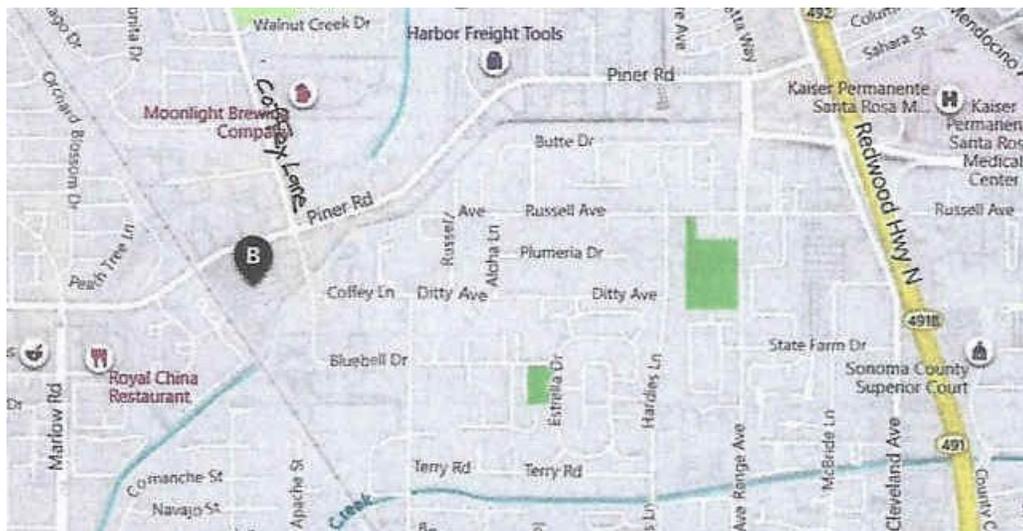
All you need to do is call Kurt Wehrmeister, our Secretary at **630-461-2715** or send him an email to: [kurtwehrmeister@gmail.com](mailto:kurtwehrmeister@gmail.com).

## Map and directions to the



Epicenter (see B on map), 3225 Coffey Lane - intersection of Coffey Lane and Piner Road. The lunch room (Club 300) is on your immediate right as you enter the northeast door of the Epicenter.

Poker players - Poker will be played in the Trophy Room...turn left when you enter the northeast door of the Epicenter.



The above is the northeast entrance area to use for entering this complex.

There is a handicap ramp to the right of the entrance steps for those who do not navigate the steps very well.

There are plenty of parking spaces. The parking can be entered off of Piner Road, just to the east of the railroad tracks, OR from just a half block south of Piner Road, on the west side of Coffey Lane. Watch for the big signs about Epicenter.



As Big Sir George Traverso said in his earlier message, there have been a lot of changes since our last monthly in-person lunch in February 2020...a new facility with an enhanced sound system for our luncheon/meetings, many new requirements just to be able to attend (Proof of Vaccination and Event Waivers), an improved menu and service of our meals along with a new way to estimate our lunch count that involves everyone. A lot of members are working hard to minimize the impact of these changes, and we are sure you won't be disappointed with the results.

Hoping to see you at the July 15 luncheon/meeting with an interesting program about our memory, "how it works and what can go wrong." Hope we can learn something to help **improve** our memory!

We will be voting for our new Officers and Directors during our August 19 meeting. You will be introduced to those who are candidates during this July meeting. You can even "throw your hat into the ring."

If you have any questions, comments, suggestions, please feel free to contact any of our Officers. Their email addresses and phone numbers are listed on the top of page two.

## July 15, 2021 Guest Speaker

Allan Bernstein, M.D, is a neurologist currently involved in research, teaching, writing and telemedicine. A native of Brooklyn, he trained in Upstate New York, Los Angeles and Boston, prior to moving to the Bay Area where he joined Kaiser as a neurologist and research specialist. After retiring from Kaiser he taught classes for Life Long Learning at Sonoma State, organized the Stroke Centers at Healdsburg and Palm Drive Hospitals, while continuing research and teaching programs. The focus of his research is memory, how it works and what can go wrong. He's also conducting clinical trials in Santa Rosa on potential new treatments for Alzheimer's Disease. An author of more than fifty publications, he is Professor of Clinical Medicine at UCSF and an avid fruit gardener in West Sonoma County.



(Article by Gordon Boulton)

## Upcoming Speakers

**August 19:** Paul Lowenthal, Assistant Fire Marshal, SRFD, will be giving us the latest information on alerts and warnings, evacuation routes, and vegetation management programs.

**September 16:** Jeffrey Ebersole, PhD is the Interim Chair of Biomedical Sciences and Associate Dean for Research, Department of Dental Medicine, at UNLV. He will tell us about an experiment he sent to the International Space Station in June. The project will look at how bacteria grow on a solid surface under weightlessness conditions.

**October 21:** Jean-Marie (Jerry) Heskett and her son, Mike McCoy. As a young girl, Jerry was a prisoner of war at the Japanese Santo Tomas Internment Camp in Manila, Philippines, throughout World War II. Her son Mike wrote a book about her experiences, *Through My Mother's Eyes*.

**November 18:** Salute to Veterans, emceed by Sir Mike O'Neill. (Article by Gordon Boulton)

## 2022 BEC Officer Candidates

The Nomination Committee has produced a list of SIR Branch 17 members who are interested in serving on the Branch Executive Committee beginning in January 2022. The BEC works as a team to provide the resources to keep the club functioning and meet the desires of our members. If you would like more information about specific positions, or want to nominate yourself or someone else, then please contact Dennis Mangan. (continued at top right)

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## 2022 BEC Officer Candidates (continued)

The voting will take place at the August 19 luncheon meeting.

Following is list of 2022 Officers and Directors:

Big Sir	Gordon Boulton
Little Sir	Gary Bondi
Treasurer	Al Petrie
Asst. Treasurer	John Gnam
Secretary	Kurt Wehrmeister
Asst. Secretary	Jim Gurke
Directors:	Rich de Lambert
	Terry Freeman
	Tom Lubas
	Tom Johnson
	Steven Saulsbury
	Elias Zegarra

## Post-Pandemic Restart Songs:

In the April 2020 issue of the BARK, as all SIR activities came to a pandemic-induced halt, then Little Sir Gary Bondi admitted he was suffering from cabin fever and offered us a selection of song titles that seemed to fit the times, such as *Can't Feel My Face* by The Weekend, *Don't Stand So Close to Me* by The Police, and *All By Myself* by Celine Dion.

Now that we are resuming in-person activities in SIR and in our daily lives, Gary and I hereby offer a new set of song titles that seem to fit the times.

Enjoy!

*The Way We Were* - Barbara Streisand  
*Back in the Saddle Again* - Gene Autry  
*New Beginnings* - Day Dreamer  
*Start Again* - Seven Lions  
*Brand New Day* - Dua Lipa  
*Getting Better* - Beatles  
*Ready to Go* - Republica  
*Don't Stop Believing* - Journey  
*Carry On* - Nora Jones  
*Starting Over* - Peg Young  
*Begin Again* - Purity Ring  
*Everything Has Changed* - Taylor Swift  
*New Rules* - Dua Lipa  
*Start Over* - Beyonce  
*Brand New Day* - Sting  
*Start Me Up* - Rolling Stones  
*Together Again* - Emmylou Harris

Courtesy of Sirs Gary Bondi and Gordon Boulton

## SIR Branch 17, Member Profiles:

### Bob Zeni, Badge #128

I bet most of you know what it's like to get called to the principal's office when you were in high school. You get to have that close, one-on-one talk with the big guy. Well, recently I had the opportunity to do that with Bob Zeni, a former high school vice principal. Contrary to stereotypes of school officials, Bob is a friendly guy with lots of stories about his days as a teacher, student counselor, and school administrator. True to his career, schooling is in Bob's blood...he was involved with Santa Rosa schools for 40 years, the last 25 at Piner High School, which he helped start in 1966.



Bob grew up in Oakland and was a standout in high school where he graduated valedictorian of the class of 1946. His favorite classes were history and English, and he was on the debate team, worked on the school newspaper, and studied a couple languages. He wasn't much into playing sports then, claiming "I was a sports fan, not a sports man!" In high school, he recalls saying goodbye to his Japanese American friends being moved away to relocation centers. Sadly, he never saw them again. Bob served in the Korean war for two years overseeing a medical supply depot that distributed materials for international troops stationed there.

Bob graduated from Berkeley with teaching and school administration degrees and did his master's degree graduate work at San Francisco State University. He taught math, history, English, and Latin before getting into counseling and administrative work. After retiring from the Santa Rosa schools, Bob taught in the education department at Sonoma State University. Outside schoolwork, Bob was on the planning commission for 14 years and Provident Credit Union board 39 years.

Bob has been married for 67 years. He is proud of his family, and has lots of kids, grandkids, and great grandkids. He enjoys his life and feels "fortunate it turned out pretty well," crediting his wife for much of that. They love to travel and have been to Asia, and North, South, and Central America. When home he likes to garden, read mystery books, and cook. He considers it to be a fine success that he makes homemade Italian sausage without anyone contracting an intestinal illness.

Bob has been in SIR Branch 17 for 28 years, our longest serving member, and was recently awarded Senior Sir status (over 90)! *(continued above right)*

## Member Profiles:

*(continued)*

Keith Parker got him interested in SIR to get him away from the education community, meet and socialize with other men, and participate in interesting activities. Bob looks forward to seeing us again in person at our luncheons. As our honorary principal, Bob will have detention for anyone arriving late or skipping these meeting without a note from their parents.

*(Article by Dennis Mangan)*

### Joke of the Month



### PONDERISMS:

The easiest way to find something that was lost around the house is to buy a replacement.

There are two kinds of pedestrians: the quick and the dead.

Did you ever notice that when you blow in a dog's face, he gets mad at you, but when you take him on a car ride, he sticks his head out the window.

*At our June 2021 meeting there was  
NO free lunch winner!*

### List of the **July** Birthdays

Frank Bastoni  
Dino Boito  
Randy Coleman-Riese  
John Gnam  
Don Salazar  
Kurt Wehrmeister



## ACTIVITIES:

Things are beginning to return to somewhat a new "normal." Before any member can attend any activity you **MUST** have your signed waiver and a copy of your vaccination on file with Gordon Boulbee.

**Bridge Club** is still looking to secure a new location to play. After that is settled they will work on what days and times to play.

**Camera Club** Chairman Rich Osborne is hoping to have something for August, but it could take until September.

**Poker** Chairman Steve Edelstein has a room picked out in the Epicenter. He is now working on dates and times.

All of the above Chairmen will contact you as soon as they have secured their locations, dates and times, so be ready!

## ACTIVITIES:

### Bocce:

(Article by Chuck Stark)



Our bocce group was a newly formed activity before the pandemic. We now need to reorganize and create a new beginning. I have learned that the bible for bocce in the US is Mario Pagnoni's 5th edition of "The Joy of Bocce." It is a wonderful resource for the newcomer or experienced players and is available on Amazon.

Once you have met the new SIR COVID-19 requirements, we can meet again for some friendly games and perhaps a beer or glass of wine. July is a vacation month and I would like to organize a get together around 10:00 am at Huckleberry's on Cleveland Avenue (the former Carrow's site) on the Thursday, August 12, before our August 19 monthly branch meeting. All interested persons, old or new, should attend so they can express their interest for dates and times of our bocce outings and whether they should include lunch as an option, or not. We also need to compare notes on venues. Some venues have short courses and some have regulation courses, so we need to hear from you whether you care about the size of the courts.

RSVP to [estark@sonic.net](mailto:estark@sonic.net) 1) if you can attend August 12<sup>th</sup> at 10 am, or 2) if you are interested in playing but can't attend, please respond and add your scheduling preferences. Thank you,

### Boys' Night Out:

(Article by Don Malvestiti)



Our first BNO event will be at 6:00 pm on Wed., **July 14**, at **Monti's**, 714 Village Court, in Montgomery Village.

Because of seating limitations the first 12 members who respond will have a place at the table. Please let me know by July 3 if you are planning to join our group. Call 707-539-0677, leave a message if no answer, or send an email to [malvestitidon485@gmail.com](mailto:malvestitidon485@gmail.com).

For information about Monti's try their website: <https://starkrestaurants.com> or call 707-568-4404.

### Couples' Night Out:

(Article by Fred Rose)



We are back in business! If you desire to attend the first CNO this year, then mark your calendar for 5:30 pm, Thursday, **August 26** to be at the **La Gare Restaurant**, 208 Wilson St., S/R.

### Reservations are a must!

Contact Fred Rose: [fredicrose@comcast.net](mailto:fredicrose@comcast.net) or call 707-548-5797 to make your reservations by **Sunday, August 20** or sooner if possible. Seating is **limited to 24**, so first come will be first served!

## GLOBAL FORUM:

(Article by Marvin Mai)



**Global Forum in-person meetings have been approved by our BEC. Our first in-person meeting will be held on Friday, July 16 at 10 am.**

A lively discussion about global events and forecasts for the remaining year would include: Afghanistan: what happens after U.S. withdrawal? U.S. after the G7 meeting, how has our reputation improved? What's the feeling about Biden and Putin meeting? U.S. Navy worried about China's expanding naval capabilities, now loading anti-ship missiles on subs, what other actions are possible?



All SIR members 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 contact Marvin at [mairmarvin57@gmail.com](mailto:mairmarvin57@gmail.com) or give him a call at **545-2224**.

**In keeping with all of the COVID-19 and SIR protocols we ask that you let Marvin know if you will be attending the in-person meetings to enable him to verify that you have the SIR waiver and vaccination record on file.**

Below is the schedule of dates for SIR Branch 17 in-person Global Forum discussions slated for **monthly**, on the second Friday of the month.

**Fridays: Aug. 13, Sept. 10, Oct. 8**



**GOLF:** *(Article by Jim Gurke)***Hello, fellow golf mates,**

Well, the wheels of progress move slowly but steadily toward a mid-July resumption of our weekly competitions. This, the result of the sad fact that the last SIR 17/76 Monday tournament took place on March 9, 2020, fifteen months ago due to the pandemic.

As with many other things, Covid-19 and its history changed routines like the handling of currency, collection of weekly buy-ins and score cards, and distribution of winnings. It's these things that have kept us from a quick startup while your committee figures out alternatives.

Sometime in the near future, the committee will distribute an email to all the golf members to reignite their interest in playing. We'll also set up a phone-tree to call all the fellows that we've not seen at recent Monday rounds, again to ensure about their continued interest and report recent progress.

At the July 6 golf round (Monday being observed as a holiday) the committee will distribute winnings that date back to the March 9, 2020 tournament: ten golfers having money to collect. If all goes well, we hope to resume tournament completion by either July 12 or 19.

In the meantime, play well, hit 'em long, and sink a lot of one putts.

Your golf committee: Jim Gurke, Bob Nadell, John Weaver and Don Mielke

P.S. For all of you who knew Jim Jones, our former Golf Chairman and truly great guy, it's with heavy heart to report that Jim passed away on June 5 after a sudden, but short battle with cancer. An obituary appeared in the June 20 Press Democrat. A celebration of life will occur on July 29 at 1:00 pm at Charlie's at the Windsor Golf Club.

Jim Gurke 707-303-0989  
[ljgurke@gmail.com](mailto:ljgurke@gmail.com)

**The poem of the month for July  
Remember the Clothesline**

Author unknown

A clothesline was a news forecast,  
to neighbors passing by,  
There were no secrets you could keep,  
when clothes were hung to dry.

It also was a friendly link,  
for neighbors always knew  
If company had stopped on by,  
to spend a night or two.

For then you'd see the "fancy sheets"  
and towels upon the line;  
You'd see the "company table cloths"  
with intricate designs.

The line announced a baby's birth,  
from folks who lived inside,  
As brand new infant clothes were hung,  
so carefully with pride!

The ages of the children could,  
so readily be known.  
By watching how the sizes changed,  
you'd know how much they'd grown!

It also told when illness struck,  
as extra sheets were hung;  
Then night clothes and a bathrobe too,  
haphazardly were strung.

It also said, "On vacation now"  
when lines hung limp and bare.  
It told, "We're back!" when full lines sagged,  
with not an inch to spare!

New folks in town were scorned upon, if wash  
was dingy and gray,  
As neighbors carefully raised their brows  
and looked the other way.

But clotheslines now are of the past,  
for dryers make work much less.  
Now what goes on inside a home,  
is anybody's guess!

I really miss that way of life,  
it was a friendly sign,  
When neighbors knew each other best  
by what hung on the "line."

**James Jones May 3, 1946 - June 5, 2021**

Jim was born to James and Dorothy Jones on May 3, 1946 in Great Falls, Montana. He met his wife, Rebecca, after a high school football game, picking her up in his souped-up '57 Chevy Belair. It was the beginning of a love affair that lasted over 56 years. They married in 1965 and have two beautiful children, Kelly and Kristina. Jim graduated from the College of Great Falls with a degree in Mathematics and Chemistry. After college, Jim joined the Marine Corps in 1971. After he left active duty as a Captain, the family moved to Sonoma County in 1979.

During the early years the family spent nearly every weekend boating at nearby lakes with cherished friends and later continued their adventures that included grandchildren to the beautiful island of Kauai.

In 2019 Jim and Rebecca moved from Sonoma County to Nevada City, CA and began yet another chapter in a life filled with precious memories.

### Recap of speaker Rich Osborne for June 17

Our own Sir Rich Osborne, Vice President of the North Bay of California Chapter of the Hearing Loss Association of America, HLAA, gave a very informative presentation on the trials and tribulations of hearing loss sufferers; what we can all do to be more helpful and empathetic to those with hearing loss; and various technologies to aid those with hearing loss.

In our age group, at least 50% of us have some degree of hearing loss. If you are a veteran who served in a line environment (as opposed to a staff position) the odds are even higher. Hearing loss is the third most common physical condition after arthritis and heart disease.

Hearing loss causes fatigue because we hear with our brain. Translating sound signals from our ears to “meaning” is hard work for our brains and consumes a lot of energy. *(continued on right)*

### Recap of speaker Rich Osborne *(continued)*

What can we do to accommodate people with hearing loss? Face the person you are talking to so they can see your mouth. Speak slowly. Allow the person time to process what you are saying. Reduce background noise, e.g., TV or music. Be aware that hearing aids have an effectiveness range of only six feet. If you are speaking at one of our luncheon meetings, always use the microphone.

When seeking professional help for hearing loss, consult an audiologist. They have seven years of specialized training in diagnosing and treating hearing loss.

For more information, visit the HLAA website [www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org) and contact Sir Rich.

*(Article by Gordon Boulton)*

A special Thank You to members Gordon Boulton and others 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 press and you see it.

Jim, the Editor

### 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.



### Welcome New Member to SIR Branch 17

Neil Wheeler, Badge #24 *(Sponsored by Dennis Mangan)*

Neil was born and grew up in the San Francisco Bay Area and graduated from Napa Senior High and UC Berkeley (Physical Science) before starting his career as an Air Force Weather Officer working at NORAD inside Cheyenne Mountain, Colorado. He has additional degrees in Meteorology, Curriculum & Instruction, and Natural Science (Physics and Science Education).

He met Barbara while working for the Air Resources Board in Sacramento where she was a Lobbyist for the California Trucking Association. They married 31 years ago and have one daughter. Neil has two sons from a previous marriage, seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

One of his past hobbies was chasing severe thunder storms and tornadoes. Neil also worked at the North Carolina Supercomputing Center (where he developed the AIRNOW program for EPA), Sonoma Technology, Inc. in Petaluma, Santa Rosa Junior College, and his own company, Atmospheric Sciences International.

He retired in 2018 after working 45 years in the atmospheric sciences. Neil and Barbara have lived in Santa Rosa for 20 years and enjoy travel, reading, camping and hiking, theater, cooking/BBQ, and hosting get togethers for family and friends.

Say Hi to Neil at our July meeting and find out more about some of his many other hobbies!



**HOME  
OF THE  
FREE  
BECAUSE  
OF THE  
BRAVE**

