



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

Luther Burbank Branch 17, Santa Rosa, CA,

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



REDWOOD

The REDWOOD BARK Newsletter For AUG, 2022

All members are invited to attend our next SIR In-Person Luncheon/Meeting on Thursday, Aug 18, 2022 at The Epicenter, 3215 Coffey Lane, Santa Rosa.

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 5:00 pm Saturday, Aug. 13, 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!

Aug 18 Lunch/Meeting Schedule

Social Hour: 11 am Lunch/Meeting: 12 noon

Program: Greg Andersen, the new General Manager of Bennett Valley Golf Course and Restaurant.

Announcements: All indoor activities are in the process of assessing the situations. The chairmen will be contacting you.

Aug 18 Luncheon Menu

Fruit salad

Mini meatloafs with mushroom gravy

Seasonal vegetables and smashed potatoes

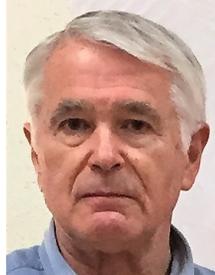
Rolls and butter, chocolate pudding for dessert.

Water, lemonade, coffee or tea is included.

Other drinks available to purchase at the bar.

Big Sir Gordon Boulton's Message

gboulton@aol.com 707-584-8063



I was not able to attend the July luncheon in person but thanks to our audio-visual committee (Neil Wheeler) I attended via Zoom beginning at 12:30 PM. And it was pretty good! I had a good video of Little Sir Gary Bondi running the proceedings, and our guest speaker John Macaulay. I could clearly hear Gary and John at the podium and most of the comments and questions from the audience. So, if you are not able to attend a luncheon for any reason and would like to attend via Zoom, let me or Neil know and we will send you the meeting link. If you haven't downloaded the Zoom app onto your computer or smart phone and aren't sure how to do that, we can assist you with that also.

I attended the July 14 State Board Meeting via Zoom. All Big Sirs are invited guests. The meeting minutes and video recording will be posted on the State website shortly.

(continued on page 2)

Little Sir Gary Bondi's Message

gbondi@sonic.net 707-539-2445



In my article for the July BARK newsletter, I talked about allowing women into our SIR organization and I touched on some points regarding that. Subsequent to that article, we received a letter from State SIR addressing the issue. It clearly states the position of State SIR at this point, and what their position is going forward. Here is copy of what was stated and is being considered at the State.

"There are some misunderstandings among leaders regarding the issue of having women as members in our branches. This summary is meant to help clarify the issue.

Background: SIR since its founding has been an organization of men. In fact, the Articles of Incorporation use the term "retired men," and Bylaw 15 has this wording (bolding added): "**Membership shall be open to any man regardless of age, race, color or religion...**"

In recent years, some branches expressed interest in opening their membership to women.

(continued on page 2)

SIR Luther Burbank Branch 17 is in Area 10 of Region 3.
The following is a list of your **2022** Officers and Directors.

OFFICERS:	EMAIL:	PHONE:	DIRECTORS:
Big Sir: Gordon Boultonbee	gboultonbee@aol.com	707-584-8063	Barry Bialkoski
Little Sir: Gary Bondi	gbondi@sonic.net	707-539-2445	Bill Grafeld
Secretary: Terry Freeman	terryfreeman32@yahoo.com ..	707-235-7066	Ken Johnson
Asst. Secretary: Steven Saulsbury ...	stevensaulsbury@comcast.net .	707-328-4627	Tom Lubas
Treasurer: Al Petrie	alpetrie7@aol.com	707-974-9193	Neil Wheeler
Asst. Treasurer: John Gnam	musicmed@sonic.net	707-528-0592	Elias Zegarra
Newsletter Editor: Jim Fenstermaker .	sirsrbrn17@gmail.com	707-548-3346	WEBMASTERS:
			Dennis Mangan
			Neil Wheeler
			Jim Fenstermaker
STATE PRESIDENT Richard Kindle	AREA 10 GOVERNOR Robert Nadell	REGION 3 DIRECTOR Dennis Pangburn	

Big Sir Gordon Boultonbee's Message *(continued)*

There was some discussion of a committee's work to possibly make the articles of incorporation and other documents gender-neutral, in the event some branches decide to admit women in the future. Little Sir Gary Bondi's Message has more information on that. Of more immediate impact was a report that the Training and Development Committee is working on an enhanced training program for State and branch officers, directors, and committee chairs. It will be rolled out this fall. There also was a report on the possibility of establishing a State Marketing/Communications Chair to help branches grow and prosper. This may need to be a paid position because of the scope of work involved, which would necessitate a modest increase in branch assessments.

The State annual meeting is scheduled for August 25th via Zoom. The agenda appears to be similar to the recent Board meeting but also includes the election of 2023 State officers.

Our branch Nominating Committee presented a proposed slate of 2023 branch officers and directors to the current BEC at its July 21st meeting. It was unanimously approved by the BEC and will be voted on by the members in attendance at the August 18th luncheon. I think it is a fine slate with a good mix of seasoned BEC veterans and new willing volunteers. The slate can be found on page-3 in this edition of the **BARK**.

Little Sir Gary Bondi's Message *(continued)*

This was not possible due to the governing documents noted above. However, two branches were authorized to induct women as members in a pilot program, to find what success if any there would be.

One of the branches is closed, although several women had joined and the members were comfortable with the change. The other branch had been dying before allowing women; it is now turning around, gaining growth and new vitality.

Current Situation: *Initial feedback from leaders is that most branches show no interest in having women as members. However, most if not all those leaders believe branches that want women members should be allowed to have them. Currently no Branch has the latitude, within our Articles and Governing Documents, to decide for themselves. The State Board is exploring the possibility of restating the governing documents, to have a gender-neutral restatement, so Branches can decide for themselves how to best run their Branch. To revise these documents, it requires a vote of the Members of the Corporation including Big Sirs, planned for no earlier than 2023.*

Therefore, in the next few months, branches will be asked for their input on this issue. Status reports will be presented at the State Board Meeting on July 14 and at the Annual Meeting on August 25."

I trust this helps answer the questions that many of our members have.

Thank you,
Gary Bondi.

Recap of Meeting on July 21, 2022

Dr. John Macaulay presented a very interesting/entertaining program at our July meeting. He shared some of his experiences as a professional football player with the 49ers, along with some great stories of fellow players on that team. He also spoke of some of the people who influenced and guided him, both as a young man and later in life. Among them were such notables as his Great Uncle General Matthew B. Ridgeway and Bill Walsh, former Stanford and 49er coach. If you were unable to attend and would like to watch his presentation just go to our website: www.sir17.org then click on the link at the bottom of the first page to visit our YouTube site.



Shown above is Dr. John Macaulay receiving a Certificate of Appreciation from Gorge Traverso. Picture is a video clip by Neil Wheeler.

Future Programs/Speakers

August 18, 2022: Greg Andersen, the General Manager of Bennett Valley Golf Course and Restaurant. He will oversee the operation of both entities. He will discuss the future operations, contract with the City of Santa Rosa and answer the many questions some of us have.

September 15, 2022 Our speaker will be John Stout, the manager of Charles Schulz Sonoma County Airport. He last spoke with us in 2017 and there have been considerable changes in the operation since then. He will bring us up to date on the airlines serving the airport, changes in parking, the terminal, the number of passengers passing through, etc.

October 20, 2022 Our program for October will be presented by Jean-Marie (Jerry) Heskett and her son, Michael McCoy. As a young child in the Philippines during WW2, Jean and her family, were imprisoned in a Japanese internment camp. She and her son, Michael, co-authored a book, "Through My Mother's Eyes," chronicling her experience during that time. She has an amazing story of survival to tell us.

Calendar of SIR Events for Aug, 2022

- Any Monday Golf at BVGC
- Aug 2, 3, & 4 SIR Travel Golf to the Monterey area
- Aug 8 Last day to reserve for BNO
- Aug 10 Boys' Night Out, Osake Japanese Restaurant, 5:30 pm for social and 6:00 pm for dinner
- Aug 11 Coffee Club, Cypress Point area in Howarth Park, 9:00 to 10:00 am
- Aug 11 Poker, Epicenter Trophy Room, 12 noon
- Aug 12 Global Forum **in-person** meeting, 10:00 am at the home of Rich de Lambert
- Aug 12 Senior Day at the Sonoma County Fair with a SIR information Booth
- Aug 18 SIR BEC** meeting, Epicenter, 9:45 am
- Aug 18 SIR Luncheon/Meeting**, Epicenter, 11: am
- Aug 22 Last day to reserve for CNO
- Aug 25 For golfers, Regional 3 Individual Qualifier, Blue Rock Springs West Golf Course, Vallejo
- Aug 25 Coffee Club, Cypress Point area in Howarth Park, 9:00 to 10:00 am
- Aug 25 Couples' Night Out, at Central Market Restaurant, Petaluma. 7: 00 pm Social, 7:30 pm Dinner, eat inside
- Aug 26 Global Forum **Zoom** meeting, 10:00 am

2023 BEC Officer Candidates

The Nominating Committee has produced a list of SIR Branch 17 members who are interested in serving on the Branch Executive Committee beginning in January 2023. The BEC works as a team to provide the resources to keep the club functioning and meet the desires of our members.

The voting will take place at the August 18th luncheon meeting for the following:

Big Sir	Gary Bondi
Little Sir	Chris Nelle
Treasurer	Al Petrie
Asst. Treasurer	John Gnam
Secretary	Terry Freeman
Asst. Secretary	Steve Saulsbury
Directors:	Wynn Bailey
	Barry Bialkoski
	Bill Grafeld
	Davis Harris
	Tom Lubas
	Neil Wheeler

SIR Branch 17, Member Profiles:

Bill Grafeld, Badge #015

Ever talk with someone who is so eager to get to the next thought, some sentences never have an ending? Bill Grafeld is energetic and a true joy to talk with. His background is diverse, and he has lived and worked with people from around the world. He owns a home in La Quinta but particularly likes being here in Santa Rosa.

Bill spent his younger days with a brother and sister on Long Island in Rockville Center, NY, about 10 miles east of JFK airport. His dad was a star basketball player at Michigan State, and a Marine Corps vet who served in Korea. At the age of 10, Bill's family moved to Argentina where his dad worked for General Motors. Bill entered an American school and was introduced to a student body from all over the world. He even dated a girl from Israel whose father was in the Mossad. (Mossad, the national intelligence agency of Israel, is responsible for intelligence collection, covert operations, and counterterrorism. Its director answers directly and only to the Prime Minister.) I suspect Bill had her home by curfew! Bill had no problem making friends and getting involved in school activities, including baseball, track, soccer, and golf. He admitted he was "not good at anything but did everything!" Bill began living a "fast and furious lifestyle" in high school, and his parents were concerned when he started dating a 21-year-old woman. (She didn't last long.) His entrepreneurial instincts kicked in and he found he could make some good cash by bringing American sailors home for dinner (would your mother allowed this?) and taking them on tours of Buenos Aires.

Bill's dad was able to bring the family back to the USA periodically so that they could stay connected with relatives and American culture.

(continued above right)



Member Profiles:

(continued)

After graduating school in Argentina, Bill attended John Carroll University, a small liberal arts school located just on the outskirts of Cleveland, and close to his aunt and uncle. JCU stresses learning, leadership, and service, and on weekends Bill worked with groups to serve as a father figure to kids, playing ball and just hanging out with them. Being a parent was a natural for Bill. When he fell in love with Maureen in college, they got married and had a baby boy in his junior year and a girl a few years later. Bill and Maureen have been married for 52 years!

The motto for JCU is "The future will not surprise you. You will surprise the future." Sure enough, although the future turned out to be a surprise (his draft number was selected shortly after graduation), Bill handled it with determination and optimism (he joined the Marine Corps and powered his way through Officer Candidate School.) He chose an assignment as a supply officer, which he considered a less dangerous job for a father and husband. A stint at Camp Pendleton convinced him of the beauty of California... "I'm never going back east."

After the Marines, Bill got a sales job at Continental Can Company in Foster City. Bill loved this "work" which required he hang out at private men's social clubs, such as the Pacific Union Club on Nob Hill, San Francisco, play golf at great courses, and simply entertain the customers. However, four years later, when CCC wanted Bill to move to Wisconsin, Maureen said "no way...too cold!" and it was time to search for another job.

Around this time (pun intended), Bulova, the watch company, was looking to bring in young people. Bill's experience in sales and hobnobbing with people with lots of money was perfect for 28-year-old Andrew Tisch who owned Bulova at the time, and Bill began his next career in the timepiece industry. Although Bulova had headquarters in NYC, Bill was working as the Western Regional Manager and set up home in Santa Rosa. With easy access to airports, Bill later had jobs with Omega, Swatch, and Seiko watch companies.

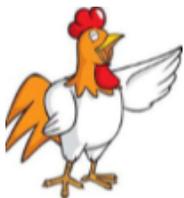
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Member Profiles: *(continued)*

The stress of travel and being away from home four nights a week may have been a physical strain and in 2015 Bill had a heart attack and then was diagnosed with cancer. Recovery was difficult and he suffered through 33 radiation and 7 chemotherapy treatments. He is now past the 5-year point and considered a cancer survivor. In 2018 Bill retired from full time work. Three years later, after seeing an item on social media about our club, Bill joined SIR17 in the middle of the pandemic. Wanting to "be active and not just entertained" in our club, he is a BEC Director, plays golf with us, attends Global Forum and Boys Night Out, and is helping start new activities such as hiking, attending baseball games, and a book club. The motto hanging over the entrance to the Marine Corps OCS is "Ductus Exemplo" which means "Leadership by Example." Bill sees no reason to dwell on a thought just to finish a sentence. Follow him...he's a leader and a man of action!

(Article by Dennis Mangan)

Joke of the Month



What is it about food that causes our brain to misfire?

Once when I was a waitress, a guy asked me for extra mashed potatoes.

I replied, "They are mashed as much as they can mash them."

The "Birthday Boys" winners of a FREE Lunch were:

Glenn Seime for June

John Gnam for July

List of the August Birthdays

Michael Casteel
Rich de Lambert
Dean Lundgren
Richard Lundblad
Bill Traverso



A special Thank You to members Gordon Boultee 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

A New Sir Game

Great News! As you may know our SIR club has been very active advertising our Branch 17. One of our programs is to place SIR signs in places around Santa Rosa and moving the location of most of them every 15-30 days. Your branch has had many comments about the signs, but what we are finding is the members don't seem to see them, so we are going to offer a little competition. Starting on Aug 10th, the first three SIR members who can tell us the exact location of four of the 13 signs that have been placed will receive a wonderful bottle of wine! Good luck gentlemen!!! Contact either of those below:

Rich de Lambert: richdelambert@gmail.com or call him at 707-545-3490

Neil Wheeler: nimwheeler@science-one.org or call him at 707-291-0271



Activities:

Bocce:

(Article by Mark Burchill)



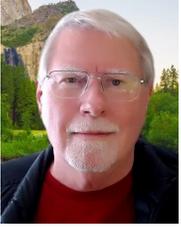
Bocce remains on hiatus until September as Co-chairs Chuck Stark and Mark Burchill have scheduling conflicts thru August, so neither will be able to organize or host a Bocce outing. There will be an announcement in the Sept. **BARK** about Bocce getting back together at a specific date, time, and location.

Any questions contact:

Chuck Stark at cstark@sonic.net

Mark Burchill at marknick@sonic.net

Book Club Anyone? (Article by Neil Wheeler)



More than thirty years ago, I was in a book club, and I enjoyed it tremendously! I read books I never thought of reading and made new friends that I keep in contact with to this day.

I love reading books and I enjoy them even more when I can discuss them with others. It's a way to be intellectually and social active...and as we all know, that's what SIR is about.

So...are any of you interested in reading and discussing books? If so, let me know and I will set up a meeting so we can figure out how to make this happen!

Email me, Neil Wheeler,

nimwheeler@gmail.com

call me at: 707-291-0271



Boys' Night Out: (Article by Don Malvestiti)

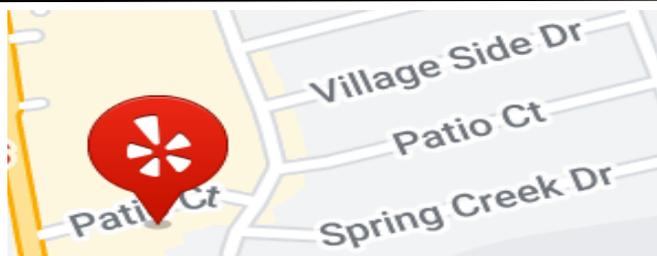


Our July BNO was at Smokehouse Bistro, and, like always, the food was to die for. The entertainment was good, the one side dish that sparked discussion was the collard greens and no one was at a loss for something to say.

For **Wednesday, Aug 10th** we will be at the **Osake Japanese Restaurant**, 2446 Patio Ct. (Montgomery Village across from Lucky) For more information call 707-542-8282.

Arrive by 5:30 pm for social, dinner at 6:00pm.

Any questions, contact Don Malvestiti at malvestitidon485@gmail.com or call him at 707-539-0677, leave a message if no answer.



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Are there any members interested in Bowling?



Before the pandemic came and shut down most of our activities there were several members who enjoyed the occasional game or two. It has been a slow process getting it back going again. If you have an interest in helping to get this activity going so you also could enjoy it then contact our Activities Chair, Fred Rose at fredicrose@comcast.net or call 707-548-5797.

We play at Double Decker Lanes in Rohnert Park any **Friday**. They open at 10:00 am and you can start bowling after checking in with Bob Brown of SIR Branch 76 after 10:15am.

Coffee Club: (Article by Rich de Lambert & Neil Wheeler)



Coffee Club will continue in August on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays from 9:00 am to 10:00 am at Cypress Point picnic area (near the boat docks and trail to Spring Lake) in Howarth Park.

Come enjoy a cup of coffee, some baked goods, and conversation with your fellow SIR members, take in the views, and maybe take a walk up the trail towards Spring Lake before or after having coffee. We ask for a \$1 donation to offset the cost of the coffee and treats. Bring a friend and a lawn chair as we've been "camping out" under the trees.



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

Couples' Night Out: (Article by Fred Rose)



The July CNO was another great success at La Gare, attended by 18 couples while dining outside on another beautiful July evening.

....**Central Market Restaurant**, at 42 Petaluma Blvd. North in Petaluma is the chosen spot for **Thursday, Aug 25th** with the social gathering at **7:00 pm** and dinner to be served at **7:30 pm**.

For more information about Central Market, call 707-778-9900 or check out their website:

centralmarketpetaluma.com

So get your reservations to me as soon as possible. First come, first served!

Reservations are required!

fredicrose@comcast.net or call **707-548-5797**

GLOBAL FORUM: (Article by Marvin Mai)



In the past, we took a summer break but this year we are continuing with our once a month in-person meetings on the 2nd Friday of the month and plan on continuing with the Zoom meetings on the 4th Friday.



In August, we will have a change in venue and meet at the home of **Rich de Lambert**, 3710 Evergreen Rd, Santa Rosa. The **in-person** meeting will be on Friday, **August 12th** at 10 am. If you need directions, call Rich at: 707-545-3490.

We continue to share our views and discuss so many issues that are affecting our daily lives and how enjoyable it is to share and learn from each other. Tom Johnson found an interesting article for you to check out and to have for our discussion. The article is called, "China's Containment Policy Against America" by Denny Roy. Contact Tom Johnson at twj@sonic.net for more information and a link to the article. The **Zoom** meeting is on Friday, **August 26th** at 10 am. If you are not currently receiving the email notices and wish to be included, contact Marvin at:

mairmarvin57@gmail.com 707-545-2224.

Hiking/Walking: (Article by Stew Lauterbach)

The Hiking/Walking group met on Thursday, July, 28th to organize as an SIR 17 activity group.

Stew Lauterbach has taken the lead in organizing this group. He will be sending out a survey to gather as much information as we can to make this a successful effort. We anticipate different levels of activity. Please respond so we can get this rolling!

GOLF:

Barely one month into the management transition that occurred July 1 and we're seeing many changes taking place. There are now beverage and snacks available for sale in the club house. New merchandise is slowly arriving and there's new staff to meet and get acquainted with. Greg Anderson is the new general manager. He's made it a point that we speak with him about suggestions concerning the course, amenities, etc.

You might also notice a lot of work is occurring around the former Legend's restaurant. Touchstone Golf LLC put up \$50,000 of its own money to make improvements outside and in. They're now advertising for positions necessary to make the restaurant a successful enterprise as well. Hopefully we'll see an opening date sometime within the next month.

At the state level, I've emailed our club members with the announcement for the Region 3 Individual Qualifier. The qualifier round will be held on Thursday, August 25th at Blue Rock Springs West Golf Course in Vallejo.

The format is individual stroke play with seven flights based on the number of entrants. All SIR members with a verifiable index are eligible to play using your July 1st index. The Championship will be held on October 12th at the Rancho Solano golf Course in Fairfield.

The cost for entry is \$59 and the deadline for applications is August 12, 2022. If you need an application, please contact me by phone or email: 707-303-0989 or 1jgurke@gmail.com

Come out and join the fun at the weekly 17/76 tourney, with tee times beginning bright and early at 8:30 AM each Monday.

Your Golf Committee

Jim Gurke 707-303-0989

1jgurke@gmail.com



POKER:*(Article by Mike O'Neill)*

Our poker game for August is scheduled for Aug 11th beginning at 12pm in the Trophy Room at Epicenter. We had our first "post pandemic" game in July with five players. We all had fun along with good food and service from Epicenter. I was the "big" winner followed by Glenn Seime. It's a \$15 buy in and dealer calls the game. If interested in joining our group, you can contact Mike O'Neill at mikeo46@sbcglobal.net
No drop-ins, since we limit the game to 7 players.

SIR TRAVEL GOLF:

We have put together a 3-day travel golf event to Monterey, **August 2nd through August 4th**.

Tuesday, August 2nd—playing Half Moon Bay, Old Course. Then drive to Carmel for dinner at the Rio Grill.

Wednesday, August 3rd—play Poppy Hills.

Dinner at [Clint Eastwood's Mission Ranch Restaurant, Carmel](#) By the Sea.

Thursday, August 4th—play Black Horse, then drive home.

Transportation and rooms are left to each player to arrange for themselves.

We plan on making this an annual event so put it on your calendar for August 2023!

For more information contact Fred Rose at: fredricrose@comcast.net or call **707-548-5797**

(Article by Art Appling)

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, at **630-461-2715** or send him an email to:

kurtwehrmeister@gmail.com.

**Wine, Beer and Spirits:**

On Friday July 8th, several of our members and their partners enjoyed a tasting of some fine wines with our member, Stewart Lauterbach and his wife Barbara. They were gracious hosts and Stew gave us a great presentation on their wine making process, the history of their winery, along with some great stories about their winery known as Lauterbach Cellars. Following the tasting, several of us gathered for lunch at the River Vine restaurant in the Vintners Inn resort. A great day was enjoyed by all in Wine Country.



We do not have any events planned for the near future, but are working on some new locations. In addition to wine tasting, we are also exploring other venues, such as distilleries and breweries, so stay tuned!

Fellow Golfers,

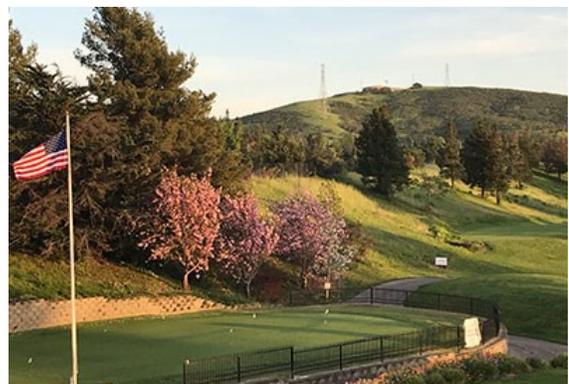
Attached is the announcement for the final State golf event of the year, "**THE FALL CLASSIC**", to be held at the Blue Rock Springs golf courses in Vallejo. This event will be held on Wednesday September 14th and Thursday 15th. This is a 2 day event but if a golfer wants, he can play either of the days or both. Members can also make up their own team for either day.

I ask that for additional information check out the State golf website at: www.sirgolf.org This event is open to all SIR members, their wives and invited guests.

Many Thanks,

Mark Stuart,

2022 SIR State Golf Committee Chair





New Member Badge # 133
Wayne Brigden

Wayne was born and raised in Martinez, CA but while growing up worked three summers on a Sonoma County farm and came to enjoy this area.

He joined the Navy before graduating from high school and became an electronic technician on an LST for two years, sailing to Korea, Japan and above the Arctic Circle on the north coast of Alaska.

After being discharged from the Navy Wayne alternated between attending college and working in the aerospace industry. He graduated from Cal Poly with a degree in electrical engineering and continued to work in the aerospace industry for seven years, six of which were as a NASA contractor at Edwards Air Force Base. During this time he married his wife Sylvia and they were happily married for 50 years before her passing in 2013.



In 1969 he joined Electro Vector, a small electronics company in Forestville, developing power supplies for the Xerox Corporation. In 1977 he joined National Controls, a Santa Rosa company making electronic scales. In 1980 Wayne rejoined Electro Vector as general manager. After ten years he decided to go into business for himself, whereupon Electro Vector's owner closed the business and several of its experienced and dependable employees came to work for Wayne at his new company, XZEL.

Wayne sold the business in 2002 to a cash buyer and retired.

August is known for many things, including the **dog days of summer**, **National Watermelon Day (Aug. 3)** and **National Smile Week (Aug. 5-11)**. But there are many other fun facts associated with summer's last full month.



New Member Badge #124
Harold Minkin

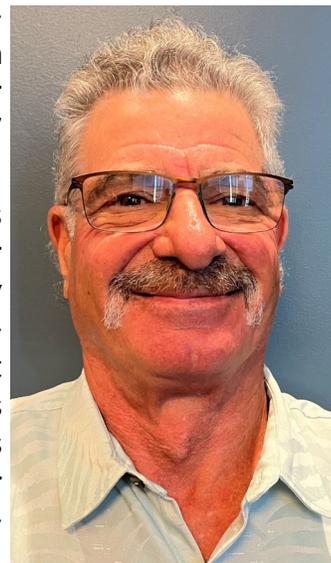
Harold was born in Oakland and grew up in Daly City. His wife of 40 years, Stephanie, was born in San Francisco.

His hobbies include golf, wine, cooking, reading, hiking, swimming and bike riding.

He worked in the computer industry for over 30 years, first as an engineer and later in sales at Oracle Corporation. When he and his wife retired, they moved from Belmont to Cloverdale in 2004.

Harold decided to get into the wine business and worked special events at Coppola winery. He also joined the Red Cross and was a member of the National Disaster Team and head of Disaster Education. He co-managed a site in Staten Island for Hurricane Sandy for 17 days.

Several years later he volunteered for Habitat for Humanity and joined their development team. They put on golf tournaments and breakfast events and he helped repair donated items at Re-Store.



After 18 years in Cloverdale, they moved to Brooks Creek in Windsor. He began playing golf with Tom Sparrowe and Dennis Mangan. They invited him to golf on Wednesday mornings at Bennett Valley GC where he met Fred Rose, Marv Schouweiler, and others. Tom and Dennis told him about SIR Branch 17 so he checked out Branch 17 online, read the newsletter and decided he wanted to join!



Poem for August

August by Ed Blair

The August sun is pouring on the land,
His scorching rays, and vegetation stands
Beseeching to the skies for showers again
And being answered like the prayers of men.

Along the creeks the white rocks heat and glow,
As it some one had built great fires below,
And cattle stand in stagnant pools to fight
The pestering flies that trouble day and night.

In vain we look for those refreshing showers
That come so oft in Spring at call of flowers,
But clouds come to our view, then pass away,
And leave us in despair at close of day.

Come to the **Sonoma County Fair Senior Day** on Friday, August 12th and help Branch 17 staff an information table to attract new members and increase our presence in the community. Wear your SIR hats and shirts! Bring the wife. It will be a fun afternoon!

Time: 12 noon to 4 pm.

Location: Senior Info at Fair Shade Park.

All Members Welcome

—Wives Welcome—
Horse Race Wagering Party.

\$1.00 Fair Entrance.

Car Pooling available.
For arrangements call
Bill Grafeld 707-953-6462.

**\$5 TASTE
OF THE FAIR
FRIDAYS**

AUG 5 & 12 12-5 P.M.

As a special treat on Fridays (Aug. 5 & 12), all Fair food vendors will be whipping up special \$5 items for hungry fairgoers from noon to 5 p.m. This is a chance to try some new things for only \$5!

For a list of \$5 Taste of the Fair items visit
SonomaCountyFair.com

NON-RESPONSIBILITY DECLARATION

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The **August** 2022
available to view

**SIR
HAPPENINGS**

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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 page 19 and 21 which are reprints of some articles from our Branch 17. Pages 64 to 69, 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 “**BARK News**” 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. Click on your choice and your PDF program should open the file for you to look at. You might be asked to open or save this PDF file. It is best to select “Open.” You can always save if you want, for later reading. Read and enjoy!

How to keep raspberries from molding:

Raspberries seem like they can mold before you even get them home from the market. There is nothing more tragic than paying \$5 for a pint of local raspberries, only to look in the fridge the next day and find that fuzzy mold growing on their insides Here is a tip on how to prevent them from getting there in the first place: **Wash them with vinegar.**

When you get your berries home, prepare a mixture of one part vinegar (white or apple cider probably work best) and ten parts water. Dump the berries into the mixture and swirl around. Drain, rinse if you want (though the mixture is so diluted you cannot taste the vinegar,) and pop in the fridge. The vinegar kills any mold spores and other bacteria that might be on the surface of the fruit and voila! Raspberries will last a week or more and strawberries go almost two weeks without getting moldy and soft. So, go forth and stock up on those pricey little gems, knowing they will stay fresh as long as it takes you to eat them.