



Luther Burbank Branch 17

Santa Rosa, CA

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

THE **REDWOOD BARK** NEWSLETTER For **NOV.** 2021

All members are invited to attend our next SIR In-Person Luncheon/ Meeting on Thursday, **November 18, 2021**, at **The Epicenter**, 3225 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, November 13**, to avoid being charged for your meal. 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!

November 18 Lunch/Meeting Schedule

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

Program: Salute to Veterans. Two or more of our members who are veterans will tell us about their experiences while serving in the armed forces.

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

November 18 Lunch Menu.

Caesar salad

Pesto chicken breast, herbed pasta, and Seasoned vegetables,

Bread and butter, Fresh baked cookie,

Water, lemonade, coffee or tea is included.

Other drinks available to purchase at the bar.

BIG Sir George Traverso's Message

geosan@sbcglobal.net 528-6987



For me, November is the month that emphasizes something that is unfortunately taken for granted.

The big holiday of the month is Thanksgiving. The name in itself presents the theme for the month.

The history of this celebration goes back to the year 1621. The Plymouth colonists, arriving in the previous year, and the Wampanoag Native Americans shared an autumn harvest feast that is considered today to be the first Thanksgiving gathering in the New World. Since that time, individual colonies and states celebrated this festive holiday; however, there was no energy to establish a unifying day of thanks on a large scale. Researching this holiday even further, I discovered that in 1637 Massachusetts Colony Governor John Winthrop established a “thanksgiving” to celebrate the “safe return of a band of heavily armed hunters.” *(continued on page 2)*

Little Sir Gordon Boulton's Message

gboulton@aol.com 584-8063



My message this month covers a variety of miscellaneous topics. First, the State SIR has a Leadership Summit November 15-19, 2-4 pm each day. Branch officers and directors for 2022 are urged to attend sessions relevant to their positions and duties. In fact, any member who thinks he might be interested in serving on the BEC at some point in the future is welcome to participate. If you did not get an email invitation from State Vice President Rick Kindle and would like to attend, let me know and I will forward you the email with a link to the invitation and agenda.

Second, I must say I enjoyed our October in-person luncheon. Maybe it was because I thought our guest speaker knocked it out of the ballpark! Maybe because I was a cash raffle prize winner (which I donated to our guest speaker's non-profit organization. Sir Glenn Seime did the same with his raffle winnings). Maybe it *(continued on page 2)*

SIR Branch 17 is Looking for **NEW** Members

Check Out Our Revised Website at: <https://www.sir17.org>

with new information and forms available.

Contact Potential Members Today and Invite Them to the Next Meeting!

**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:
Big Sir: George Traverso	geosan@sbcglobal.net	707-528-6987	Ken Johnson
Little Sir: Gordon Boulton	gboulton@aol.com	707-584-8063	Rich de Lambert
Secretary: Kurt Wehrmeister	kurtwehrmeister@gmail.com .	630-461-2715	Tom Lubas
Asst. Secretary: Terry Freeman	terryfreeman32@yahoo.com	707-235-7066	Chris Nolen
Treasurer: Al Petrie	alpetrie7@aol.com	707-974-9193	Steven Saulsbury
Asst. Treasurer: John Gnam.	musicmed@sonic.net	707-528-0592	Elias Zegarra
Newsletter Editor: Jim Fenstermaker .	sirsrbrn17@gmail.com	707-548-3346	
			WEBMASTERS:
STATE PRESIDENT	AREA 10 GOVERNOR	REGION 3 DIRECTOR	Dennis Mangan
Stu Williams	Robert Reuther	Dennis Pangburn	Jim Fenstermaker

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

President Abraham Lincoln established the "Day of Thanks" in the midst of the Civil War by a proclamation in 1863. Lincoln urged Americans to set aside the last Thursday of November as a day of Thanksgiving. However, at that time, he was unable to influence the States in rebellion and as a result the festive day was incomplete. Continuing to 1941, an Act of Congress established Thanksgiving Day as a "legal annual national" holiday. Today, we celebrate Thanksgiving with TV football games and of course, family gatherings.

In my opinion, the second important event in November's calendar is Veterans Day. This day was originally designated as Armistice Day by President Woodrow Wilson at the end of World War I in 1919. At the time, only thirty states made it a state holiday. On June 1, 1954, the name of the event was renamed to Veterans Day. As opposed to Memorial Day, which is observed in May, Veterans Day celebrates the living service members whereas the former recognizes the memory of the veterans who have served in past wars and conflicts.

Recognizing these two important November holidays is important in that each complements one another with a common thread. Their similarity lies in the fact that both have the spirit of thankfulness. On that special Thursday we, as a nation, reflect on the bounty, freedom and the liberty that are gifted to Americans. On Veterans Day we extend that sense of "thank you" to the many men and women who have served in the armed forces. These two November events give us moments to reflect on the true meaning of two words...a simple "thank you."

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

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

was the happy faces on the attendees and the sense we are on the cusp of getting our Branch fully back on track. And I certainly appreciated the efforts of our volunteers who confirmed tax and waiver status, collected the lunch money, ran the raffle, helped set everything up and take things down, and coordinated with the Epicenter management and kitchen staff.

The path through the buffet line starts from our luncheon room back out to the lobby where you first came in, snakes around the bowling alley shoe desk to the private bowling lanes where the food line is, and then back into our luncheon room. Going forward we will tweak the food table so that the salad will be first, the dressings and/or gravy will be labeled, and the cookies will be at the end of the line, not off to one side. Epicenter has been extremely responsive to every request and suggestion we have made. We are fortunate to have such a great venue and easy to work with personnel.

Last, I am very optimistic about our Branch going into 2022. Before the end of this year, COVID booster shots should be available to most, if not all, of our members. Our grandkids in the 5-11 years age group will be able to be fully vaccinated by the end of this year or early next year. Merck has applied to the FDA for emergency use authorization of a pill to treat infections, which might be approved in a matter of weeks. Approximately 80 percent of county residents 12+ years of age are fully vaccinated and the number has been increasing about one percent per week. If the trend continues, 90 percent of our eligible residents could be vaccinated by Christmas! Here's hoping! Taken together, this all means that in 2022 our members should be able to resume our many activities with fewer concerns about the possibility of a breakthrough infection and/or its consequences. And our RAMP committee is about to kick off activities to help us all recruit new members!

November 18, 2021 Guest Speakers

For our annual November Salute to Veterans we will have some of our newer members who are veterans tell us about their experiences while serving in the armed forces.

Sir Bill Grafeld was a captain in the Marine Corps and served from 1972-1978, including in Vietnam.

Sir Neil Wheeler was a captain in the Air Force, served from 1973-1978, and was a meteorologist at NORAD Cheyenne Mountain.

We may have a couple of other veterans speak. Show up and be surprised! *(Article by Gordon Boulton)*

Upcoming Speakers

December 16: At the present time, we are not planning to have a guest speaker or other entertainment at the December luncheon. Instead we are planning for a members-only luncheon with a more upscale menu than our usual fare, at a slight increase in price.

January 20: TBD

(Article by Gordon Boulton)

Looking for NEW SIR Branch 17 Members!

It was great to see many of you at our last in-person meeting at the Epicenter. It is a new and exciting time for our club.

Big SIR George, Little SIR Gordon and the RAMP committee members composed of Rich de Lambert, Fred Rose, Tom Johnson and Neil Wheeler, have worked hard to bring all this new information and programs to our club. So now it is your turn to help in finding new members to join.

Remember our club is driven by bringing in new members. Membership is also open to members who are not retired. We all have neighbors, wives, other clubs, golf buddies, old friends, bridge groups and traveling friends. Call them and introduce them to SIR. We need them and they need us!

Our website has been updated together with the information and application forms for new members. Check it out at: <https://www.sir17.org>.

Our State SIR Organization has developed a new website just for new potential members to look at and get a better understanding of what SIR is about. Check it out at: <https://wearesir.com>

You are always welcome to call me, Rich de Lambert, at **707-545-3490** with any questions or comments. I will be waiting to hear from you.

CALL POTENTIAL MEMBERS TODAY!

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Recap of Speaker for October 21, 2021

Susan Farren is a retired paramedic, supervisor, operations manager, counselor and EMS educator. She related her own tumultuous life experiences to illustrate the physical and mental toll that the stress of being a first responder can take. First responders have higher rates of alcoholism, drug use, suicide, divorce (a 70% rate), and a greater chance of dying by stroke, heart attack and cancer than the general population.

Her research led her to found First Responders Resiliency, Inc. of which she is the Executive Director. FRRRI provides *preventative* education and training to first responders and the military so that they can do their stressful jobs and be *resilient*. Their motto is "Putting PTSD Out of Business." They are developing a Resiliency Center on an 18 acre parcel of land in Cotati. Their website is:

www.resiliency1st.org. *(Article by Gordon Boulton)*



New Member Badge #107

Joseph (Charlie) Bertoli

Charlie Bertoli's family has a long and colorful history in Sonoma County beginning in 1886. Working in the apple industry has been an important part of the Bertoli family since those early years. Charlie continued that passion, raising apples, since 1992. He is a native Santa Rosa and is the youngest son in a family of five boys. Charlie has three grown children and two grandchildren. Although my family's roots in Sonoma County began in 1927, we are "newcomers" to the Bertoli clan. Charlie's brothers all attended St. Rose School and I had the opportunity to attend classes with a few of them. Our grandparents were great friends sharing social events and I have good memories of the Bertoli's in my dad and uncle's market as customers.

Some of Charlie's interests are watching football games, hiking and enjoying crab feeds.

Charlie came to us through his sponsor Sir Glenn Seime. Charlie is a retired butcher for Whole Foods and now we are lucky to have him in SIR Branch 17.

Welcome Charlie! *(Article by George Traverso)*

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.

SIR Branch 17, Member Profiles:

Marvin Mai, Badge #086

You've got to meet Marvin Mai! He's a gentle man with an iconic smile. He served in the Air Force. He reads both fiction and nonfiction books. He plays the trumpet. He has worked all his life, including stints in the newspaper industry (delivering papers,) restaurant business (washing dishes at a five-and-dime soda fountain) and farming (herding cows and cleaning chicken coops.) He travels extensively and has been to 45 countries. He's even been to North Korea! (He can tell you more about that amazing trip.)

Marvin grew up in Kansas as an only child with his mom and grandparents during the early years of WWII while his dad was away fighting the war. They lived on a rented farm and raised wheat, cows, and chickens. He spent the first six years of grade school attending four different schools.



He paints an image of these as quaint one-room country schools with no running water, no electricity, a potbelly stove that kept them warm during brutal Kansas winters, and an outdoor toilet that he jokingly says was "for both girls and boys!" He was the only first grader in the room...yes, it was a small school.

When his dad returned and began working for Safeway stores, they moved often before settling in the town of Russell. (Russell, located about in the middle of KS, boasts that it is the home of former Senators Bob Dole and Arlen Specter.) Russell high school was remarkable for its marching band led by Mr. Bailey, who enlisted Marvin as well as nearly one quarter of the 400 total student body. Marvin didn't play sports but did get a lot of exercise marching at football games and pep rallies. His love of music guided him to Bethany College, a top ranked music school about 90 miles from Russell. Although occasional gigs playing trumpet with the Ted Smith Dance Band did pay well, a career in music did not seem professionally possible, so he switched to majoring in business (economics) in his junior year.

Nearing graduation from college and losing his deferment, he was warned by the head of the local draft board that

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Member Profiles:

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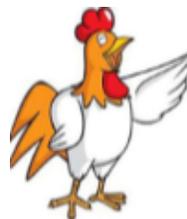
he was going to be drafted into the Army. Preferring the Air Force, Marvin quickly headed to their recruiting office! Although unable to become a pilot or navigator due to issues with his sight and hearing, he passed the exams and was assigned into the radar units as part of the joint Canadian-USA North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD). As in his younger days growing up, Marvin moved many times to a variety of stations around the country and world. While stationed in Reno NV, he met the attractive female organizer of a service club when competing in a chess match. He says, "I came in second in the match but won the girl," and he and Pat have been married for 56 years!

After 22 years in the Air Force, Marvin retired as a major and moved to Santa Rosa (Pat's hometown) in 1984. He went back to college at Sonoma State and earned a master's degree in Organizational Development and took additional business classes. For the next 19 years, he taught bookkeeping at what was to become Empire College.

Finally ready to retire, but wanting to stay socially active, Marvin joined SIR Branch 76 and later Branch 17 where he knew several of the members. "I wanted to get together with guys I knew and have some comradery." In both branches, he found men with similar interests in global affairs, reading and travel. He enjoyed SIR so much that he brought friends into the club, including George and Bill Traverso. Marvin taps his expertise in bookkeeping and international travel, serving as a key member of the SIR17 audit committee and the chair of the Global Forum club, which he kept going via Zoom during the past year. He also is a strong advocate for helping the hearing-impaired guys in our club fully enjoy all the activities. He looks forward to talking...and listening...to current and new members as we return to in-person meetings.

(Article by Dennis Mangan)

Joke of the Month



Understanding Different Degrees

The graduate with a science degree asks, "Why does it work?"

The graduate with an engineering degree asks, "How does it work?"

The graduate with an accounting degree asks, "How much will it cost?"

The graduate with a liberal arts degree asks, "Do you want fries with your order?"

Opportunity to Participate in Alzheimer's Prevention Research Study

Our July guest speaker was Allan Bernstein, MD, a semi-retired neurologist and medical researcher. His talk was *The Biology of Memory, what could possibly go wrong?* He informed Little Sir Gordon Boultonbee he has a research study on Alzheimer's prevention that will be starting in the near future, and he is looking for volunteer participants. The goal is to identify people who may be 'at risk' for cognitive decline based on a blood test showing a buildup of amyloid and tau, the two markers for Alzheimer's disease in the brain. The criteria to participate include the following:

- Age range 55-80
- Normal cognitive exam on a screening (can be done on a computer)
- Positive blood test as noted above
- Negative MRI for other risk factors, such as strokes. People who cannot get MRIs for any reason are excluded as it is done for screening and safety assessments during the study
- No other serious illnesses
- Has a study partner who can help assess any cognitive changes (spouse, friend, adult children, etc.)

The study will last about three years. All costs for all testing/exams/MRIs are covered by the study sponsor. There are no costs to the individual or their insurance company.

Exclusions:

- Dementia or cognitive impairment
- Abnormal liver function tests on initial screening

The study involves an IV infusion, once a month, for nine months. There is a placebo arm to the study. After the initial nine months, there is tracking for any cognitive decline or side effects for up to three years, using online visits about every six months, including the study partner's assessment of the individual.

The contact person to get more details or to schedule a screening is Lauren Weber, send an email to:

Lauren.Weber@stjoe.org

(Article by Gordon Boultonbee)

"A VETERAN DIED TODAY"

He was getting old and paunchy, his hair was falling fast and he sat around the Legion, telling stories of the past.

Of a war that he once fought in, and the deeds that he had done. In his exploits with his buddies, they were heroes, every one. And 'tho sometimes to his neighbor, his tales became a joke, all his buddies listened quietly, for they knew where of he spoke.

But we'll hear his tales no longer, for ol' Joe has passed away and the world's a little poorer, for **a Veteran died today.**

He won't be mourned by many, just his children and his wife. For he lived an ordinary, very quiet sort of life.

He held a job and raised a family, going quietly on his way, and the world won't note his passing, 'tho **a Veteran died today.**

When politicians leave this earth, their bodies lie in state. While thousands note their passing and proclaim that they were great.

Papers tell of their life stories, from the time that they were young, but the passing of a Veteran goes unnoticed and unsung.

Is the greatest contribution to the welfare of our land, someone who breaks his promise and deceives his fellow man?

Or the ordinary fellow, who in times of war and strife, goes off to serve his country and offers up his life?

The politician's stipend and the style in which he lives, are often disproportionate to the service that he gives.

While the ordinary Veteran, who offered up his all, is paid off with a medal and perhaps a pension, small.

It is not the politicians, with their compromise and ploys, who won for us the freedom, that our country now enjoys.

Should you find yourself in danger, with your enemies at hand, would you really want some cop-out, with his ever-waffling stand?

Or would you want a Veteran, his home, his country, his kin, just a common Veteran, who would fight until the end.

He was just a common Veteran and his ranks are growing thin, but his presence should remind us, we may need his likes again.

For when countries are in conflict, we find the Veteran's part, is to clean up all the troubles, that the politicians start.

If we cannot do him honor, while he's here to hear the praise, then at least let's give him homage, at the ending of his days!

Perhaps just a simple headline in the paper that might say it all:

"OUR COUNTRY IS IN MOURNING, A VETERAN DIED TODAY!"

(A friend emailed this to me and did not know the author)

ACTIVITIES:

Most indoors activities are now allowed to resume again, at the discretion of the activities chairs, and subject to all safety and health codes. You must have had your vaccinations, a copy of your card along with a signed waiver filed with Little SIR Gordon Boultonbee.

Boys' Night Out:

(Article by Don Malvestiti)



November 10 will be the date for BNO at **The Villa Restaurant**, 1901 Montgomery Dr. in Santa Rosa.

If you don't want to miss out then join us by **5:30 pm** for drinks, order dinner by **6:00 pm**. Hope to see you there! We were last there on May 8, 2019, so it is time to go again!



You **MUST** have your vaccination cards and the signed waiver form to have been recorded by Gordon. You need to contact Don soon as possible to let him know that you will be attending. Attendance will probably fill up **FAST!**

Reservations are a must!

Contact Don by Sunday November 7, at 5:00 pm. malvestitidon485@gmail.com or call him at **707-539-0677**, leave a message if no answer.

Bridge:

Bridge has always been 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 still going to hold off until January 2022 to see how things have settled down.



Jim Park will be accessing the situation then and have more information to share at that time.

If you have any questions contact Jim at jcpark38@sbcglobe.net or call him at **707-578-4255**



It is that time again to set your clocks **BACK** one hour when you go to bed Saturday night, November 6. You will feel so much better on Sunday with that extra hour of sleep you received!

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Camera Club:

(Article by Rich Osborne)



At last, the Sonoma County Health Department has opened things up and we can meet in-person again. The latest ruling is that in groups under 100, people that are not open to the general public, those which are all vaccinated, can now meet without wearing masks.



Normally we meet the Thursday following the lunch meeting but that falls on Nov. 25th—Thanksgiving Day. Waiting for Dec., it falls on the 23rd—the day before Christmas Eve. I am anxious to see your pictures and do not want to wait for January. Let's try to meet on Thursday, **December 2 at 1:30 pm**. I am **not** going to schedule a speaker for this meeting because we need the time to catch up and show those pictures you have been taking during the pandemic. Please limit yourself to 20 or fewer pictures. Bring them on a flash drive. I will bring my laptop and connect it to the large screen TV. The Church has access to Wi-Fi and internet.

Feel free to bring guests, spouses, partners, or friends. Most of us have already shown Proof of Vaccination and have signed the waiver. Any new people who have not will need to be prepared to provide for these requirements.

We meet at the Presbyterian Church of the Roses in the Rose Room, 2500 Patio Ct. If you have any questions email Rich at richosborne@outlook.com or call **303-304-9262**. Thanks, Rich Osborne

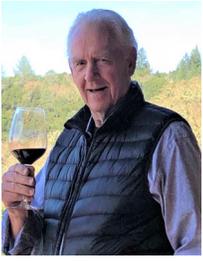
At our October 2021 meeting Al Petrie was the free lunch winner!

List of the November Birthdays



Gordon Boultonbee	Denny Hutton
Duane Jensen	Hank Karow
Chris Nelle	Chris Nolen

Couples' Night Out: (Article by Fred Rose)



With all the holidays and so many other things happening in Nov. and Dec. we feel it is best to wait for 2022. In January we will assess the situation and decide from there. If we get a green light to go, then we will plan to start with the **La Gare Restaurant**, 208 Wilson St., S/R.

So, if you are interested in attending the CNO on **Thursday, January 27**, watch for an email from me with the final information. Do not wait very long after receiving my email. Contact me quickly to reserve your seat at the table!

Reservations are a must!

Contact Fred Rose: fredicrose@comcast.net
or call 707-548-5797

GLOBAL FORUM: (Article by Marvin Mai)



The November Global Forum will be held at the home of Marvin and Pat Mai. This hopefully will restart our in-person meetings which we have all missed.

A reminder, this is a discussion of the multitude of world events and individual topics of interest.



All SIR members who have met the SIR protocols for COVID-19 vaccination are welcome but please let Marvin know if you plan to attend so the proper amount of coffee, etc. is available.

We always try to meet on the **second** Friday of the month. This month's meeting is on **November 12, at 10:00 am**, located at 4743 Woodview Drive, Santa Rosa. *(South on Summerfield RD to the end, turn left up the hill about one-third 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 questions, please contact Marvin at mairmarvin57@gmail.com or give him a call at 707-545-2224.

Below are the tentative dates for our upcoming discussions, for the second Friday of each month.

Fridays: Dec. 10 Jan. 14 Feb. 11

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GOLF:



Welcome rains arrived, with gusto, these past few weeks suspending play at some of our local courses. Good news is that our Bennett Valley seems to have absorbed most of the water leaving the course in very playable condition; damp with little roll out, but overall in good shape.

A reminder that according to the Northern California Golf Association November 30 is an important deadline for all recognized clubs. As a SIRs club, we must receive member payment of your annual \$39 membership fee (an extra \$10 for new members or transfers from another club). Checks are most welcome paid to SIRs 17/76 Golf. You can drop payment off to any of the club officers.

Finally, as in past communications, your golf committee needs help in any way you can contribute. **With only four golf committee members, we are just able, by one, to fulfill NCGA requirements for club recognition. An additional score keeper is also needed as there are only three of us willing to manage this essential task.** If we are to remain a viable club, we need your help. Please contact either Jim Gurke, or Bob Nadell and John Weaver from Branch 76, to offer your assistance.

Play well, hit 'em straight, and enjoy the company of Branch 17/76 club members.

POKER FEST: (Article by Steve Edelstein)



Poker group playing is still in a holding pattern. In January 2022 we will see how things are looking then and make decisions of when and where to play.

If you have an questions, please contact **Steve Edelstein** by email at: 1hatisland@gmail.com or call him at **707-206-8084**. If no answer, please leave a message, I will return your call!

SIRinc has established a new website for attracting new members to join SIR. This will be a good tool to use to show a prospective member!

Check it out at: www.WeAreSIR.com

Wine, Beer and Spirits

(by Gary Bondi)

As you are aware, that due to COVID-19 and SIR protocol, our WBS activity along with all several other activities, has been on hold for almost two years now. The State SIR organization has recently authorized local branches to resume activities as approved by the BEC. We expect to be able to resume WBS sometime in the first part of 2022, assuming COVID-19 is more under control by then. I have done some research and find it may be a little more difficult to arrange tastings and lunch outings. Wineries are requiring reservations, limiting the number of attendees and charging upwards of \$25 or more for tastings. In addition, restaurants are also limiting the number of people they will accommodate. I will try to keep you updated.

Just a reminder, there are no restrictions on your consumption of WBS! So, keep on tasting your favorite beverages so you will be in shape when we resume our get togethers.

Remember, There is never a time when you can't enjoy a little wine!

A Message from Gary Bondi

Greetings fellow SIR's! It has been a while since I have been active in our great Branch 17. I am now ready to restart my participation. That said, on January 1, 2022, I will assume the duties of the Little Sir position. It is sort of a restart as I was in that position on January 1, 2020. As you know, a few things happened in 2020 that drastically changed our SIR activities, our personal lives and in my case my health situation. Hopefully, we are seeing the light at the end of the proverbial tunnel, and we can all get back on track soon. Part of my duties as Little Sir is to arrange for speakers and programs for our luncheon meetings.

In that regard, I welcome suggestions from any of you for potential speakers, topics that may be of interest to us, programs you may have seen or heard at other functions.

I am looking forward to resuming my duties that were cut short in 2020. Most of all, I look forward to seeing everyone at our luncheons and the resuming our many social activities!

The November 2021 edition of  is now available to view 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 13 and 14 which are reprints of some articles from our Branch 17. Pages 56 to 65, there are all kinds of consumer tips on various subjects that I am sure you will learn something. Most are reprints from various Branches and other sources.

To view this free newsletter go to www.sir17.org then click on the "News" tab, now scroll down to near the bottom of the page. Click on the **SIR Happenings Nov-2021** underlined area. This should now open the article in your PDF file program 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!



Mandatory Telephone 10-Digit Dialing

What is the new dialing procedure?

To complete all local or long distance calls, now you need to dial either the area code + telephone number or 1 + area code + telephone number. This applies to all calls within your area code that are currently dialed with only the 7-digits.

It was supposed to have become effective on October 24, 2021. So far, some calls I have made have went through with just the 7-digits while some others required the area code. All this extra dialing, just so we will be able to call the Suicide Prevention Lifeline using on a 3-digit number?

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.