



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

Luther Burbank Branch 17

Santa Rosa, CA

New Website: [www.sir17.org](http://www.sir17.org)



THE **REDWOOD BARK** NEWSLETTER

For **March 2020**

Meetings are at **LEGENDS** in the Bennett Valley Golf Course, 3328 Yulupa Ave., Santa Rosa.

For **Excused Absences**, **Guests Lunches** or **Alternate Lunch Selection**, please, you must call or email before 10 am on the **Monday preceding** the meeting for an excused absence, otherwise you will be **charged** for a meal.

*(Members sometimes forget to notify Jim Gurke that they are bringing a GUEST!)*

Contact: Jim Gurke at [1jgurke@gmail.com](mailto:1jgurke@gmail.com) or call 707-303-0989, leave a message if no answer.

**March 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting Schedule**

Board Meeting: 10:00 am

Social Hour: 11:00 am

Lunch: 12:00 noon

Speaker: **Bill Hodges, U.S.S. Potomac: FDR's Presidential Yacht, "Floating White House."**

Adjourn by: 1:30 pm

Please place your badge into the collection buckets when leaving through the side door to the parking lot.

**March 19<sup>th</sup> Lunch Menu**

**Fresh garden salad with honey poppy seed vinaigrette dressing,**

**Tilapia, penne pasta sun dried tomato pesto, Rolls and butter**

**Chocolate mousse cake for dessert**

**Beverages:** Regular or decaf coffee, iced tea or water.

Beer, wine and mixed drinks, and free sodas are available at the bar.

**BIG Sir George Traverso's Message**

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



I realize that you, gentlemen, know that I am a history buff. My majors at the University of San Francisco were the studies of Economics and Marketing. These two programs perfectly fitted me to enter a career in the grocery business in which I participated for almost forty-five years. Now, as a retired person with those subjects in my past life, I am returning to discuss my love of history. I am applying this topic to its importance to this special month...March.

As we approach the month of March, I discovered some very interesting insights about this spring month. Because of its association with the first day of Spring, March, in the Roman calendar, was considered the first month of the year. Rebirth and fresh beginnings to the new season are the themes for this month. The dormant winter season preceding March makes a significant effect on the historical aspect of the month. Before 150 BC March was considered to be the first month of the year. Old Roman calendars presented one year in ten months beginning in March and ending in December. For example, we can still notice the "root" Latin words for the "seven" in September,

*(continued on page 2)*

**Little Sir Gary Bondi's Message**

[gbondi@sonic.net](mailto:gbondi@sonic.net) 539-2445



As we begin the month of March I would like to take a moment to remind everyone of the current new member recruiting drive. Recruiting new members, as well

as retaining existing members is vital to the survival of all SIR branches. In the latter part of last year, Rich de Lambert took on the task of developing a program for recruiting members. He challenged all of us to bring a guest/potential new member to one of our meetings. He then offered an incentive for those that did. Rich requested and the BEC approved the following.

**Every member** who brings a guest, who becomes a member, will be entered in a drawing for a \$50 gift certificate to Franchettis' Restaurant in Santa Rosa. There will be two certificates awarded. In addition, everyone entered in the contest will receive a bottle of wine. You will receive an entry for each guest that becomes a member. The program runs through March 31, 2020.

We don't want to end it there! At our last meeting, Marvin Mai took up the challenge and offered a contest that will run through the end of 2020 and could reward one of our

*(continued on page 2)*

**SIR Luther Burbank Branch 17 is in Area 10 of Region 3.  
The following is a list of your 2020 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	Gordon Boultonbee
<b>Little Sir:</b> Gary Bondi . . . . .	<a href="mailto:gbondi@sonic.net">gbondi@sonic.net</a> . . . . .	707-539-2445	Rich de Lambert
<b>Secretary:</b> Kurt Wehrmeister . . . . .	<a href="mailto:kurtwehrmeister@gmail.com">kurtwehrmeister@gmail.com</a>	630-461-2715	Ken Johnson
<b>Asset. Secretary:</b> Jim Gurke . . . . .	<a href="mailto:1jgurke@gmail.com">1jgurke@gmail.com</a> . . . . .	707-303-0989	Chris Nolen
<b>Treasurer:</b> Glenn Seime . . . . .	<a href="mailto:gseime@sbcglobal.net">gseime@sbcglobal.net</a> . . . . .	707-537-5360	Paul Willihnganz
<b>Asset. Treasurer:</b> Al Petrie . . . . .	<a href="mailto:alpetrie7@aol.com">alpetrie7@aol.com</a> . . . . .	707-545-7208	Elias Zegarra
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b> Jim Fenstermaker .	<a href="mailto:sirsbrn17@gmail.com">sirsbrn17@gmail.com</a> . . . . .	707-548-3346	<b>WEBMASTERS:</b>
			Dennis Mangan
			Jim Fenstermaker

For **Excused absences** or **Guests Lunches**, Contact:

**Jim Gurke**, [1jgurke@gmail.com](mailto:1jgurke@gmail.com) or 707-303-0989

Please leave a message if no answer.

**AREA 10 GOVERNOR**

**Robert Reuther**

**REGION 3 DIRECTOR**

**Dennis Pangburn**

**Big Sir Message** *(continued from page 1)*

“eight” in October, “nine” in November and “ten” in December. Records have been revealed to confirm that during the month of March various factions resumed their warring activities, hence this month is associated with Mars, the god of war. The planet Mars received this distinction for its foreboding characteristics.

Robin Williams once stated “Spring is Nature’s Way of Saying ‘Let’s Party.’” Yes, Robin, after a long cold Winter, the arrival of the vernal equinox is a major reason to celebrate. The amount of sunlight is an important factor in human moods and psyche...in short, how people act.

The word “equinox” is derived from the Latin word “aequus” meaning equal and “nox” meaning night. Twice a year our sun shines directly over the equator. This incident causes day and night to last about the same amount of time. The spring equinox or vernal equinox occurs around March 21. This event is when the sun moves north across the celestial equator. The autumnal equinox occurs around September 21 when the sun crosses the celestial equator going south...but that’s for another story.

**Call for 2021 BEC Officer Candidates**

The 2021 Nomination Committee is currently accepting names of SIR Branch 17 members who are interested in serving on the Branch Executive Committee beginning in January 2021. 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, please contact Dennis Mangan, Ted Scapeccia or Bob Reuther.

*(Submitted by: Dennis Mangan)*

[Return to Page 1](#)

**Little Sir Message** *(continued from page 1)*

members with several hundred dollars He then generously contributed \$100 to kickoff an ongoing fund that will grow throughout the year. Marvin will have more details at our March 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The good news is, we have inducted **ten** new members since the program began. The not so good news is, for various reasons, we have lost six. For the record, during the calendar year 2019, we have brought in thirteen members and lost seventeen. As you can see, membership retention is equally important. In that regard, let's all do our part to help in retention. At our meetings, take a moment to introduce yourself and talk with a new member. You may find you have common interests or they may be interested in a common activity. We have a social hour before every meeting. take that time to be "social" and talk with members other than your usual group of “buddies.” Get to better know a little more about other members in our Branch. We all joined SIR Branch 17 to promote social activity and interaction with our peers. Lets continue in that direction and help our branch grow and survive!

**HAVE YOU INVITED A  
GUEST TO ATTEND THE  
NEXT SIR LUNCHEON/  
MEETING?**

Do you need a new member application form? If so, just go to our new website [www.sir17.org](http://www.sir17.org) then scroll down near the bottom of the screen and click on “Contact Us” then click on which ever format you would prefer to use. If you have problems, just give Jim a call at 707-548-3346.

## A New Monthly Feature, Member Profiles:

(Article by Dennis Mangan)

Badge #123 Steve Carey



Thanks to people like Steve Carey we rarely think about whether the food at Branch 17 luncheons, BNO, CNO, wine tastings, and coffee club breakfasts is safe to eat. Before joining our club in July 2018, Steve worked for the Sonoma County Environmental Health Department for 22 years as an Environmental Health Specialist (aka, Health Inspector), making sure we were buying food prepared and served under sanitary conditions. The Food Safety Program focuses on retail food sale in restaurants, delis, bars, food trucks, special events such as the Apple Blossom Festival, and fairs. All require permits. All are inspected regularly, and all have to comply with state laws concerning the safe service of food. These laws include food storage temperatures, pest control, food handling and preparation, surface sanitation, cooking temperatures, approved food sources, and garbage handling.

According to Steve, "I remember inspecting (Big Sir George) Traverso's Deli many years ago, and it being an example of someone doing everything right." Unfortunately, not all places are as clean as Traverso's. Steve says he has seen his share of rodent and cockroach infestations, poor sanitation, and other situations that required immediate closure. Steve tells a story about three rats that came into a restaurant and up to a table where people were eating, got up on their hind legs, and begged (very adorably) for some food. Steve also tells of ripping a permit off the wall of a restaurant and seeing cockroaches scatter. When problems are found, Health Inspectors educate the restaurants on how to remedy the offenses, and only rarely close the establishment.

Inspectors are charged with making sure food safety laws are followed. Yet, some complain that we are over-regulating our food industry in the USA. For instance, in Europe, meats, cheeses and fish hang from the ceiling of restaurants and delis, allowing them to dry while releasing wonderful aromas that attract customers as well as flies and microbes. Look at where such rules are lacking or disregarded. Open air markets in China and the Middle East bring infected animals into contact with the public, resulting in the spread of deadly viruses, such as SARS, MERS and the recent coronavirus. Improper refrigeration is a classic cause of summertime "food poisoning." And who could forget Mary Mallon, (aka, typhoid Mary), a domestic cook, who just didn't see a need to wash her hands before making dinner.

Steve has lots more information to share about the programs run by the Sonoma County Environmental Health Department (<https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/Health/Environmental-Health-and-Safety/>) and urges us to submit concerns

(continued at top right)

[Return to Page 1](#)

about retail food safety by calling 707-565-6565. To see the most recent health inspection of any restaurant in town (such as our next CNO spot), go to: <http://sonomacounty.ca.gov/Health/Environmental-Health/Food-Program/Inspection/Inspection-Results/>

Steve is a big, tall, lanky guy who swims like a fish. Ask him about competing for the 1968 Olympic trials, swimming next to (and in the wake of) Mark Spitz. Next time we gather to eat, let's raise a toast to thank the Sonoma County Health Inspectors like Steve who help keep us safe and healthy. Bon appétit and bonne santé!

## Membership Attendance in February

At the February 20<sup>th</sup> lunch meeting, there were 60 members in attendance, along with one guest and two speakers.

There were fourteen members who were excused and only five that were unexcused. There were five members that resigned and one that died.

Good news is that we have three new members. Those inducted were: #16 Dean Lundgren, sponsored by #95 James Park; #17 Chris Nelle, sponsored by #49 Mike Rogalski; and #177 Bob Ost, sponsored by #122 Robert Reuther.

We now have a total of **82** members.



### New Member

**Welcome!** #16 Dean Lundgren

Dean is married to Marva and they have lived in the Bennett Valley area for a little over 50 years.

He retired from sales of tow trucks. His interests include BRIDGE and golf.

When you meet Dean at the next Sir meeting, talk to him and find out more items that we do not already know about him!

## Program for March 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting

The program for our next SIR meeting will be presented by the USS Potomac Association. The USS Potomac was FDR's Presidential Yacht and floating White House. It has been restored and is currently berthed at Jack London Square in Oakland.



Our speaker, Bill Hodges, will provide us with the history of the vessel and of the Bay Area during WW2. I'm sure you will enjoy the rich history of the Potomac as well as that of the Bay Area during that time.

## ACTIVITIES:

### Bocce:

(Article by Chuck Stark)



Every member will be receiving a separate email with a short survey regarding how interested you are in participating in our Bocce group. Depending on the number of responses, I will choose a casual lunch spot to hold an organizational meeting. From there we can plan events from April through October, near or far, with or without a meal. If we have members of the Santa Rosa League, I would appreciate a call or email to learn about availability of the Julliard Park courts.

Suggestions or questions please contact: **Chuck Stark** at: [cstark@sonic.net](mailto:cstark@sonic.net) or call 707-571-0207.

### Bowling:

(Article by Mike Heinzelman)



If you have an interest in joining the SIR bowling league, or just want to see how Mike is progressing, come-on-down to Double Decker Lanes in Rohnert Park any **Monday at 10:00 am**. Ask for the SIR bowling group.

(Remember, it's not a weekly commitment--just come when you can.)

Whether you are a good bowler or a beginner, you are welcome!

For more information call Mike Heinzelman at 579-6615 or email to: [mdheinz2@gmail.com](mailto:mdheinz2@gmail.com)



### Boys' Night Out:

(Article by Don Malvestiti)



All restaurants this year will be picked from the "Best of Sonoma County"

**March** - Asian

**Apr** - Best overall, Gravenstein Grill

**May** - Latin     **Jun** - Sushi

Aside from one member getting sick, another forgetting the date and another going to the wrong restaurant, all who attended agreed why **Mi Pueblo** was voted as one of the **best** Mexican restaurants in Sonoma County.

For **Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>** we will be going to **Royal China Restaurant**, 3080 Marlow Rd., A4.

Usual Social at 5:30pm, order dinner at 6:00pm.

Click on the following to view their menu:

<https://www.allmenus.com/ca/santa-rosa/406475-royal-china-restaurant/menu/> or call 707-545-2911

for more information.

### Reservations are a must!

If you are planning to go, then contact Gary Lazzarini at [glazzarini@comcast.net](mailto:glazzarini@comcast.net) or call 707-843-4006 by Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>.

[Return to Page 1](#)

### Bridge:



Bridge is an important activity with many of our members not only within our own branch but with participation of members from other branches in our area. Bridge activities are now coordinated by **Pete Mc Grath**, at: [pmcgrath@sonic.net](mailto:pmcgrath@sonic.net) or call 579-8133. for the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays, **OR** Jim Park at: [jcpark38@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jcpark38@sbcglobal.net) or call 578-4255 for the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays.

Bridge days scheduled this month for play at Legends Restaurant in Bennett Valley starting at **9:00 am** on **Tuesdays, March 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>**, at **10:00 am** on **10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>**. If in doubt, contact Mike Heinzelman at [mdheinz2@gmail.com](mailto:mdheinz2@gmail.com) or call Mike at 579-6615.

### Camera Club:

(Article by Rich Osborne)



At the February 21<sup>st</sup> meeting our speaker, Lindsay Olsen, treated us to pictures from a recent safari conducted by EF Go Ahead Tours. The closeups of these wild animals were fascinating and the photography was superb. Lindsay's career was in the photography business in Humboldt County. He explained the types of lens he uses, enlightened us on the economics of the photography business where the store owner makes very little money on camera sales and survives on the profits from print and support services and classes. Now that he lives in Santa Rosa, we are fortunate that he will share his skills with us, which I hope will enrich our photographic efforts. He showed us an example of one of his scrapbooks and he encouraged us to keep scrapbooks from our travels. He does not use post-processing software saying that his pictures are as they come from the camera although his wife uses Photoshop. He prefers wide-angle lenses while his wife leans toward telephoto. He uses the picture sharing web site <https://www.slickpic.com/>, which gives him cloud storage and password protection on his pictures as opposed to Facebook where pictures are uncontrolled. He described the perspective control lens as expensive and manual and the alternative of a free app <https://photomyne.com/>. His photo collection was spared devastation from the Tubbs fire but that motivated him to use the scan app on his iPhone to digitize his entire collection (one picture at a time) to keep it safe on the cloud.

Lindsay is working with Gary Cottle of Luther Burbank Elementary using his wildlife pictures where students are working on a project to help endangered wildlife by writing letters from the perspective of the endangered animal.

(continued to page 5)

## Camera Club: *(continued from page 4)*

In our picture sharing time, Jean Fenstermaker treated us to some rare pictures of the now-defunct Georgetown, formerly a “wild west town” near Graton.

Steve Clarey showed us pictures from his Mazatlán trip and demonstrated how he learned to use the post-processing capability in his iPhone.

We have selected Quarryhill Botanical Garden, for our next outing on **Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>** to meet there at 10:30 am to photograph spring flowers followed by a potluck picnic lunch on the grounds. Food items will be discussed when we get closer to the date. Those interested in carpooling will meet at Jim and Jean Fenstermaker’s house at 10:00 am.



For more information about Quarryhill located at 12841 Sonoma Highway 12, near Glen Ellen, visit their website at <https://www.quarryhillbg.org/> or call 707-996-3166.

Everyone is welcome, all men and ladies interested in photography, so please come join us! [richosborne@outlook.com](mailto:richosborne@outlook.com) or 303-304-9262

Please leave a message if he does not answer.

## Coffee Club: *(Article by Rich de Lambert)*



The meetings at Legends for the Coffee Club on every Wednesday, has been temporarily discontinued for the time being, due to health reasons by Rich. If you have questions, contact Rich de Lambert at [richdelambert@gmail.com](mailto:richdelambert@gmail.com) or 707-545-3490.

## Free Comedy! *(Article by Mark Burchill)*



**Kingpins of Comedy** is a free comedy show the second Tuesday of every month. It’s held in the lounge at Double Decker Lanes in Rohnert Park.

There are usually five comedians, in a show lasting about 90 minutes. There is no admission fee, drinks are very inexpensive, but they usually ask for a tip for the comedians.



The **March** show will be on the **10<sup>th</sup>** at 8:30 pm.

If you are interested in joining our Sir group and their partners (*this is a co-ed activity*) at these free comedy shows, please contact Mark Burchill at [SirMarkB@sonic.net](mailto:SirMarkB@sonic.net) for more details.

## Volunteer Opportunity Covia.org Social Call Program

Sometimes a phone call or a visit from a friend can make your day. You may be interested in volunteering in the Covia.org Social Call program (<https://covia.org/services/social-call/>). Covia arranges one-on-one matches between older adults (aged 60+) and a volunteer for weekly friendly visits. In-person matches are made in Sonoma, Marin, San Francisco and Alameda counties. Additionally, they now have Social Call by phone, offered nationwide. They are looking for friendly, caring volunteers to provide support and friendship with an older adult in Sonoma County.

If you're interested in becoming a volunteer, please visit their webpage at [Volunteer Match](#). All volunteers must pass a background check and attend an initial two-hour training program, which they offer regularly. If you or someone you know would benefit from Social Call, please contact Covia at: [coviaconnections@covia.org](mailto:coviaconnections@covia.org) or call 877-797-7299.

*[This is not a formal SIR activity.]*

*(Article approved by Big Sir George & Little Sir Gary)*

## SIR Dues & Lunch Increases in 2020

What was low-cost last year becomes more expensive this year. Prices go up and sometimes priorities change, leading to increased costs. The Branch Executive Committee has determined that to keep the club financially healthy, we have requested dues to be **\$30.00** per member for 2020.

Our Treasurer, Glenn Seime, says that there are 29 members who have yet to pay and he would like to wrap it up by the March meeting. Ideally, he would prefer that you mail your check for \$30.00, made payable to SIR Branch 17. Mail to Glenn at 2970 Tuxedo Place, S/R 95405. Alternatively, you can still pay at the March 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The price of our lunches increased in 2020 to **\$25.00** per member. Legends explained that their costs for food, beverages and the upcoming two increases in minimum wage (\$12 to \$13 in January 2020 and \$13 to \$15 in July 2020) have necessitated this new price.

## List of the **March Birthdays**

Bill Archer	Mark Burchill
Jim Dale	Mike Heinzelman
Marvin Mai	Mike Mouat
Jack Rosetti	Elias Zegarra
Bob Zie	

## Couples' Night Out: (Article by Fred Rose)



The February CNO was a held at **Kirin**. Once 22 members arrived they almost filled half of the restaurant. They came because they wanted to enjoy another fine meal and have lots of time to socialize among their fellow Sir members. By having separate smaller table sizes it certainly helped with hearing of various conversations much better.

For **Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup>** the chosen spot is back to **La Gare French Restaurant**, 208 Wilson Street. Another favorite and a fine selection!

Be sure to feed the parking meters as they will still be working, but now only until 6:00 pm.

Cocktails at **5:00** pm, order dinner at **5:30** pm.

For more information call 707-528-4355 or check out their menu and website :



[www.lagarerestaurant.com](http://www.lagarerestaurant.com)

**Reservations are a must!**

Contact me, by Monday, **March 22<sup>nd</sup>**.  
Email to: [fredricrose@comcast.net](mailto:fredricrose@comcast.net).

Or call 707-548-5797,  
Please leave a message if I don't answer.

## Golf: (Article by Roy Thuestad)

NCGA members receive newsletter emails with current handicap indexes on the 1st and 15th of the month. **By the next day, it's old news.** You need to do a look-up to find your "handicap index du jour" every time you play. Post your score by midnight as it will probably affect tomorrow's handicap. The club roster that you'll find every Monday at BV is posted the morning of play and has a date stamp at the bottom left corner. Check it to be sure that it's indeed current.

## What happens at BV



## Stays at BV

Come join us for a fun day of golf.

The place to be is the Bennett Valley Golf Course. The time to be there is Monday mornings starting at 8:30.

**Hope to see you all out there.**

Until next time, Good Golfing.

Roy Thuestad

[roymond@comcast.net](mailto:roymond@comcast.net)

975-4406

## GLOBAL FORUM: (Article by Marvin Mai)



Possible topics this month include: world-wide pandemic; will the domestic issues in China limit its global expansion; will Turkey, with its increasing intervention in Syria, strain its alliances with NATO and especially the United States.



We explore these and more during our lively Global Forum discussions. We'll meet **Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup>** at 10 am at the home of Marvin and Pat Mai, 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.)*

Should you have any questions, please email

Marvin at: [maimarvin57@gmail.com](mailto:maimarvin57@gmail.com)

or call him at: 545-2224.

**Pictures from Couples Night Out, at Kirin on February 26, 2020**



## The Poem of the month for March

by William Cullen Bryant

The stormy March is come at last,  
With wind, and cloud, and changing skies,  
I hear the rushing of the blast,  
That through the snowy valley flies.

Ah, passing few are they who speak,  
Wild stormy month! in praise of thee;  
Yet, though thy winds are loud and bleak,  
Thou art a welcome month to me.

For thou, to northern lands, again  
The glad and glorious sun dost bring,  
And thou hast joined the gentle train  
And wear'st the gentle name of Spring.  
Thou bring'st the hope of those calm skies,  
And that soft time of sunny showers,  
When the wide bloom, on earth that lies,  
Seems of a brighter world than ours.

## POKER FEST:

(Article by Steve Edelstein)



Come try your hand at a game of poker. It's fun and a good way to meet your fellow Sir members. The date this month is **Thursday, Mar. 12<sup>th</sup>**, from **12:30 pm to 4:00 pm**, at **Legends** in the Bennett Valley Golf Course.

Please call Steve to confirm this date for sure.

Contact **Steve Edelstein** by email at:

[1thatiland@gmail.com](mailto:1thatiland@gmail.com)

or call **206-8084**.

Please leave a message, I will return your call!



## Recap of February 20<sup>th</sup> Program

Our last program was presented by Canine Companions for Independence. We had four presenters: two humans, Barbara Bachner and Stan Pawlak, along with their two furry friends, Ming and Zariah. I hope you all enjoyed the program as they gave an overall view of their organization and made us more aware of the valuable services that they and the service animals provide to the community.

(Article by Gary Bondi)

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.

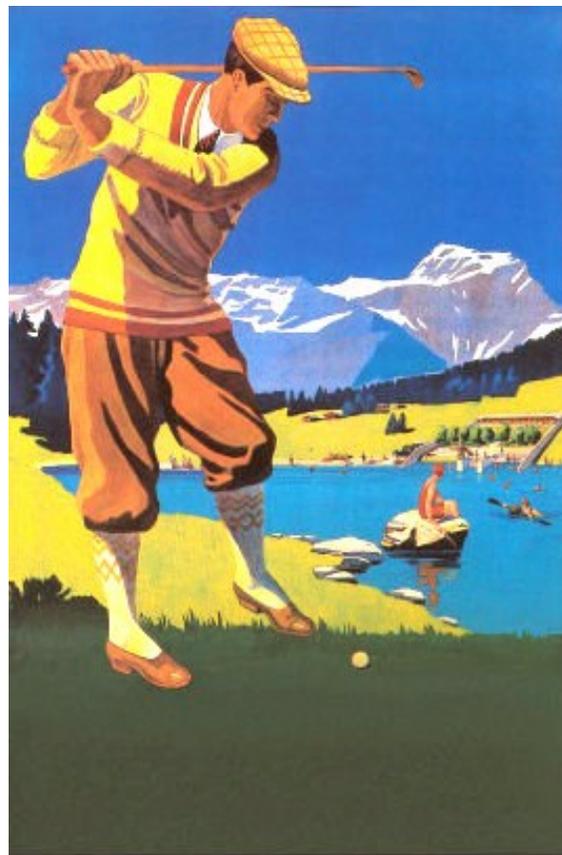
Jim, the Editor

[Back to page 1](#)

## Travel Golf:

(Article by Roy Thuestad)

Travel Golf is now  
in hibernation mode.  
Think of courses that  
you've dreamed of playing



and we'll get you there.  
When the winter frost clears  
be ready to travel.

Roy Thuestad

[roymond@comcast.net](mailto:roymond@comcast.net)

## Attention: Any members interested in fishing and/or gardening, please contact Big Sir George Traverso.

We are looking for any and all interested members that would like to share these activities with others. We have seen these interests listed on the applications of several of our new members. So send an email to [geosan@sbcglobal.net](mailto:geosan@sbcglobal.net) or call George at 528-6987 to express your interests.

## Calendar of SIR Events for Mar. 2019

Details and contact information is available on the SIR 17 website: <http://www.sir17.org/calendar-of-events.html>

Every Monday **Golf** at BVGC  
 Every Monday **Bowling**, Double Decker Lanes, R/P, 10 am  
**Mar 3 Bridge Club**, Legends, BVGC, 9:00 am  
**Mar 10 Bridge Club**, Legends, BVGC, 10:00 am  
**Mar 11 BNO, Royal China**, 5:30 pm Social, 6:00 Dinner  
**Mar 12 Poker Feast**, Legends, BVGC 12:30 pm  
**Mar 13 Global Forum**, Marvin Mai's place, 10:00 am  
**Mar 17 Bridge Club**, Legends, BVGC, 9:00 am  
**Mar 19 SIR BEC Meeting**, Legends, BVGC, 10:00 am  
**Mar 19 SIR Meeting/Luncheon**, Legends, BVGC, 11:00 am  
**Mar 24 Bridge Club**, Legends, BVGC, 10:00 am  
**Mar 26 CNO, La Gare** 5:00 pm Social, 5:30 Dinner

## Wine, Beer and Spirits: *(By Gary Bondi)*

Our wine, beer & spirits group has been on hold for awhile. Bill Traverso and I are seeking out new locations, however, we are finding that most wineries are now charging at least \$30 apiece for a tasting. With that in mind, if we bring a partner we are looking at a \$60 tab. We usually follow the tastings with a lunch somewhere. The cost of lunch, added to the tasting, could bring the total to around a \$100. Our thoughts are, that is excessive and would probably reduce the number of members wishing to attend.

We would appreciate any feedback to Bill or myself, as to how you feel about the costs noted. We are also looking to possibly having a wine tasting here at Legends, or another location, followed by a lunch. We could do a tasting of Italian, French, or other foreign wines, presented by a winemaker familiar with those varieties.

Again, we'd appreciate any comments on this matter.

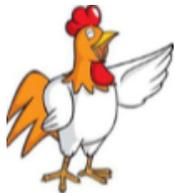
## DO YOU HAVE AN APPLICATION FORM FOR A NEW MEMBER TO COMPLETE AND TURN IN FOR APPROVAL?

If not, click on the following link <http://www.sir17.org/contact.html> then select whether you want to use a M/S Word document or a PDF file. The Word type is fillable on a computer and then can be printed out. The PDF type should be printed out, then filled in by pen.. If you have any problems or questions, call Jim at 707-548-3346.

The February 2020 edition of **SIR HAPPENINGS** is now available to view online.

This a very interesting and informing newsletter produced by **SIRinc** with articles re-published from many of the SIR Branches throughout the state. Look at page 6 of pictures of a few new members from Branch 17. Also check out pages 13 & 14 of article and pictures featuring Branch 17. To view this free newsletter go to [www.sirinc.org/sirhappenings](http://www.sirinc.org/sirhappenings) then click on the Happenings February 2020 tab. This might, or might not, ask you to open or save the PDF file in your favorite PDF program. Best to select "open." You can always "save" it if you want for later reading. Also, you can print just whatever pages that you want or the entire document. Read and enjoy!

### Joke of the day



A television may insult your intelligence, but nothing rubs it in like a computer--so true. A computer did beat me at chess once, but it was no match for me at kick boxing!

### 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 guests 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.