



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

## Luther Burbank Branch 17

Santa Rosa, CA



# THE REDWOOD BARK NEWSLETTER      For JAN. 20, 2017 Meeting

Monthly meetings are held on the **3rd Friday** of each month at the Scottish Rite Center, 600 Acacia Ln., Santa Rosa, CA

For **Excused Absences, Guests Lunches or Alternate Lunch Selection**, please, you must call or email before 10:00 am on the **Monday preceding** the meeting for an excused absence, otherwise you will be charged for a meal.

Contact: John French, [sonomaink@yahoo.com](mailto:sonomaink@yahoo.com) 707-280-4120 or Marv Schouweiler, [mschouweiler@att.net](mailto:mschouweiler@att.net) 707-484-3070

### Meeting Schedule

**Board Meeting: 10:15 am**

**Social Hour: 11:00 am**

**Garden Club Meeting: 11:15 am**

**Lunch: 12:00 noon**

**Speaker: Rosemary Robles from the DMV'S**

Senior Ombudsman Program

**Adjourn by: 1:30 pm**

Please place your badges into the collection buckets when leaving.

### Lunch Menu

**1<sup>st</sup> Course:** Cream of **broccoli soup** with cheddar cheese.

**Main course:** Choose from either:

Grandmother's **pot roast**, braised carrots and potatoes along with cauliflower with asiago gratin.

**OR**

Cheese **ravioli** with pesto sauce along with cauliflower with asiago gratin.

**Dessert:** Berry cobbler with whipped cream.

Either entrée served with: Local Sourdough bread, butter, coffee, iced tea and water.



### BIG SIR Ted Scapeccia's Message

[tescape@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tescape@sbcglobal.net) 707-539-5049

Welcome to 2017!

The BEC and I wish you and yours a **Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.**

As your newly elected Big SIR I am honored and excited to serve you this coming year.

As we look forward into the New Year, we will continue to emphasize recruiting new members and holding on to our current members. Your leadership team is interested in hearing your ideas on how we might make progress in these areas. As you know, we want to exit 2017 with **102** members, which represents an increase of 6 over November's exit level. If our attrition continues to be 15%, we will have to bring in 21 new members in 2017! Seems like a daunting goal but like the man said, "you can't eat an elephant in one bite". We need to focus on this on a month by month basis and bring in 3 guests each month.

Don't forget, if you invite a guest to one of our monthly meetings, your **guest's** lunch is "on the house". If your guest chooses to join our Branch, **you** get a lunch "on the house". Sounds like a win win situation to me.



### LITTLE SIR Robert Reuther's Message

[rareuther@yahoo.com](mailto:rareuther@yahoo.com) 707-588-8954

You're probably wondering who the Little Sir Robert (Bob) Reuther is. So here is a short synopsis of my journey through life.

I grew up in Grosse Pointe, Michigan, and lived in the Detroit Area until I was 49. After spending 21 years as a trial attorney in the Wayne County Prosecutor's office in Detroit, I retired from that office and then spent 11 years as the Chief Assistant Prosecutor in Northern Michigan in Alpena County, located on Lake Huron. When I retired the second time at 60, I became a full time Assistant Professor at Spring Arbor University, a liberal arts university, teaching adult completion degrees in law, management, research, and statistics. My career as a college professor gave my wife and I an opportunity to teach English in Wuhan, China, at Wuhan University of Technology in Hubei Province for one year. Upon our return to the States in 2006, our son and daughter had moved to the Bay area, so we changed our retirement plans and decided to locate near them and move to Santa Rosa.

(Article continued on page 2 right side)

## Luther Burbank Branch 17 is in Area 13 of Region 10 The following is a list of your **2017** Officers and Directors

<b>OFFICERS:</b>	<b>Email:</b>	<b>Phone:</b>	<b>DIRECTORS FOR ONE YEAR</b>
<b>BIG SIR:</b> Ted Scapeccia .....	<a href="mailto:tescape@sbcglobal.net">tescape@sbcglobal.net</a> ..	707-539-5049	John French Lance Thompson .....
<b>LITTLE SIR:</b> Robert Reuther .....	<a href="mailto:rareuther@yahoo.com">rareuther@yahoo.com</a> ..	707-588-8954	<b>DIRECTORS FOR TWO YEARS</b> Barry Bialkoski Dennis Mangan .....
<b>SECRETARY:</b> Jim MacMillan .....	<a href="mailto:jmacmillan@ieee.org">jmacmillan@ieee.org</a> ..	707-569-1680	<b>WEB MASTER</b> James MacMillan
<b>ASST. SECRETARY:</b> (Vacant) .....	.....	.....	<b>BARK EDITOR</b> Jim Fenstermaker
<b>TREASURER:</b> Stan Borges .....	<a href="mailto:stanborges@comcast.net">stanborges@comcast.net</a>	707-545-0699	<b>AREA 13 GOVERNOR</b> .....
<b>ASST. TREASURER:</b> Glenn Seime ..	<a href="mailto:gseime@sbcglobal.net">gseime@sbcglobal.net</a> ..	707-571-7976	<b>REGION 10 DIRECTOR</b> James Filippo
<b>IMD. PAST BIG SIR:</b> Jim Gurke ....	<a href="mailto:1jgurke@gmail.com">1jgurke@gmail.com</a> ....	707-843-3464	<b>PRESIDENT OF SIRinc.</b> Jerry Strain

Contact Branch 17 at our website: [www.branch17.sirinc2.org](http://www.branch17.sirinc2.org)  
or email: [sirsrbrn17@gmail.com](mailto:sirsrbrn17@gmail.com)



### December Attendance

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

There were 37 members & 29 guests that attended our Annual Christmas Luncheon. Please be sure to notify me by **Monday before** the Friday meeting if you aren't going to attend.



### December Membership

**Doug Weber**, Chairman  
[zzzweber@aol.com](mailto:zzzweber@aol.com) 707-545-3188

Due to no General meeting in December there will be no new applications nor inductions to process. We now have **96** active members and 5 inactive members.

### Chaplains' Corner (by Herb Percy)

*Minds are like parachutes, they only function when they are open.*  
James Dewar

Fellow SIR's, it is hard to believe Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukkah, & New Years is over, and here we are in a new year of 2017.

This is a good time to renew your body, mind and spirit and emotions. By saying this, 2017 gives us another chance to do things we have been putting off. We have another chance to better ourselves where we have missed opportunities to serve us and our fellow man. The good thing about God is he does not keep score when we slip up or fail. We constantly have the opportunity to do a "U" turn. It is my prayer that whatever we have missed in the past year and want to better ourselves "what ever it is", that 2017 will give us the bravery to do it!

**Let this be the year we really make a lasting "friend" relationship and not just a acquaintance where there is no relationship.**

Contact Herb Percy, email [dadpercy@yahoo.com](mailto:dadpercy@yahoo.com) or call 707-575-7787 OR assistant chaplain Mike Heinzelman email [mdheinz2@gmail.com](mailto:mdheinz2@gmail.com) or call 707-579-6615.



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

Since being in California, my activities include chairing the Volunteer Council for Annadel, Sugarloaf, and Jack London Historic State Parks; a docent at Jack London Park; Past District Governor activities in the Lions Club; Board Secretary of the Redwood Lions Memorial Foundation; District Coordinator of the Lions Club International Foundation; current First Vice President of the Santa Rosa Host Lions Club; Captain of the Accessibility Team for Broadway Under the Stars in Jack London Historic State Park; and a Venue Manager for the Sonoma International Film Festival.

I look forward to the challenge of being a Little Sir in an organization that provides a real service to the retirement community of the Santa Rosa area.

**If walking is good for your health,  
then the postman would be immortal.**

## Program for January 20, 2017 Meeting

Rosemary Robles will be our guest speaker from the DMV's Senior Ombudsman Program which provides continuing effort to keep seniors driving for as long as they can do so safely.

Rosemary has heard every reason why a person shouldn't have to give up a driver's license. There are justifications, explanations and often pleading, as older drivers who should not be driving, argue why they should be able as most, have done, since they were 16 years old.



Robles tries to help. The reality of not being able to drive anymore is a difficult pill to swallow. Sometimes, there are ways to restrict driving to just daytime hours, or along certain routes, or off highways, and adjustments can be made. But, there is a process that must be followed. She is there for assistance through that process.

First of all, anyone with memory loss or impairment, must be reported to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). The law requires that doctors make the report, but many don't. "The doctor doesn't want to be the bad guy, so they don't do anything... or, they send us a report asking the DMV to make the determination," says Robles. "The doctor doesn't want to damage the relationship with the patient."

If any of the following statements is true, it's time to evaluate driving performance.

1. I get lost while driving.
2. My friends and family members say they're worried about my driving.
3. Other cars seem to appear out of nowhere.
4. I have trouble seeing signs in time to respond to them.
5. Other drivers drive too fast.
6. Other drivers honk at me.
7. Driving stresses me out.
8. After driving, I feel tired.
9. I have had more, "near misses," lately.
10. Busy intersections bother me.

## Calendar of SIR Events for January 2017

Any Monday	Golf at BVGC
Any Monday	Bowling, Double Decker Lanes, R/P 10 am
Jan. 1	New Years Day (Football games & parades)
Jan. 11	Bridge Club at Legends, BVGC at 10:00 am
Jan. 11	Boys Night Out, Best of Burma at 6:00 pm
Jan. 13	Global Forum meeting, Adu Ebrahim's, 9:30 am
Jan. 19	Poker Fest at Legends, BVGC, 1:00 to 4:00 pm
Jan. 20	SIR Luncheon, 11:00 am Social Hour
Jan. 24	Bridge Club at Legends, BVGC, 10:00 am
Jan. 25	Couples Night Out, The Pullman Kitchen, 6:00 pm

## ACTIVITIES:

### Bowling

(Article written by Mike Heinzelman)

If you have an interest in joining the SIR bowling league, or just want to see how Bob is progressing, come-on-down to Double Decker Lanes in Rohnert Park any **Monday at 10 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 send an email to him at [mdheinz2@gmail.com](mailto:mdheinz2@gmail.com).



### Boys Night Out

BNO is always a Wednesday evening affair, occurring the week prior to our monthly luncheon.

We have a solid core of attendees, but would love to see other Branch 17 members join the fun. Cocktails at 6:00 pm with dinner at 6:30 pm.

Our first outing for 2017 will be on Wednesday **Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> at Best of Burma, 528 7<sup>th</sup> St., (South side of 7<sup>th</sup> St., west of Mendocino Ave.)**



We bring you authentic Burmese cuisine and unparalleled service. Our menu is filled traditional dishes prepared fresh with nothing but the best ingredients to ensure every dish is top notch and true to its Burmese roots.

For more information and to view a menu go to: [www.bestofburmacuisine/locations/](http://www.bestofburmacuisine/locations/) then click on the "Best of Burma 2" tab for their Santa Rosa location.

As you know, **reservations** are a **MUST**, so get **your** reservation in **NOW** before it's too late!

**RSVP to Jim Gurke by Sunday, January 8th.**

**Email at: 1jgurke@gmail.com or**

**leave a message at: 707-303-0989.**

Hope to see a lot of new SIR members there!

## Bridge

Bridge is an important activity with many of our members not only within our own branch but with participation of members from other branches in our area. Bridge activities are coordinated by chairman Al Black, email to [rosaridge@comcast.net](mailto:rosaridge@comcast.net) or call 707-578-3210.



We welcome new and interested members to think of joining the pool of players.

Bridge days scheduled this month for play at Legends Restaurant Bennett Valley starting at 10 AM on **Tuesday January 10<sup>th</sup>** and **January 24<sup>th</sup>**

## Couples Night Out

(Article by Fred Rose)

The Happy Holidays are now over, everyone is resting up, going on diets, trying to figure out how to pay for everything from last month. We are hoping to establish the **1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday after** our luncheon meetings as our **regular** CNO date. This will usually work except in November.

Now, it is time to enjoy our first dining out evening in January at **The Pullman Kitchen**, 205 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Santa Rosa.

(NE corner at Davis St., there is a big metered parking lot across the street which is FREE after 6:00 pm.)



Owner, Darren McDonald and John Trunk, Chef, invite you to come and try some of their many specials. It has been said their roasted chicken is much better than the fried chicken at Sweet T, but that is for you to decide.

For more information call 707-545-4300 or to view their menu and other items, check out their web site at: [www.thepullmankitchensr.com](http://www.thepullmankitchensr.com).

Mark your calendar for the following date:

**Wednesday January 25<sup>th</sup>**

**6:00 pm** cocktails, order dinner at **6:30 pm**.

As always: **Reservations are a MUST!**

Contact Fred Rose at [fredricrose@comcast.net](mailto:fredricrose@comcast.net)

or call 707-548-5797 by **Friday January 20<sup>th</sup>**

to reserve your space.

Hope to see lots of new SIR members there to start the New Year with a good group!

## Fishing

(Article written by Don Salazar)

As your new Fishing Chairman, I would urge ALL you SIR members, not just the outdoorsmen, to put a salmon trip on your "bucket list."



All equipment is furnished and any of the SIR fishermen members will help you. The fishing license costs only \$10.00 and is good for the one day of fishing. You will have the right to catch two salmon per day weighing in from 4 to 40 pounds each fish. The crew will even fillet it for you. (A tip is optional.)

I will be calling to get available dates for the boats and will discuss as to which ones will work for the most of you at the February meeting.

As far as getting there, my truck will accommodate up to 4 people—at no extra charge!

With the rains arriving, the salmon will come to spawn so let's go FISHING!

In the meantime, Don can be reached by calling him at **707-545-0873** for more information.

Remember, tight lines!

PS: This offer is open to ALL SIR members from ALL the Branches in our area, not just Branch 17!!!

## The Poem of the month!

**Auld Lang Syne** by Robert Burns (1759-1796)

Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
And never brought to mind?  
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
And auld Lang Syne!

Chorus:

*For auld lang syne, my dear  
For auld lang syne,  
We'll tak a cup o'kindness yet,  
For auld Lang Syne!*

And surely ye'll be pint-slowp!  
And surely I'll be mine!  
And we'll tak a cup o'kindness yet,  
For auld Lang Syne.

## List of the JANUARY Birthday Boys!

Glenn Andrade

Tom Lubas

Barry Bialkoski

Dennis Mangan

Bill Buhrman

Frank Meagher

Steve Edelstein

Herb Percy

Dick Honzik

Jerry Peterson



Roy Sprague

## Garden Club Announcements

We meet at one of the tables near the door to share our gardening interest at 11:15 am on our next SIR meeting day which will be on **January 20, 2017**.



I am in the process of hibernating for the winter!

If you have suggestions for any outings, please let me know. Also pass on to me your emails and contacts. I would then contact those on the list, if interested in an impromptu outing (preferable during the week).

Any questions, contact **Lance Thompson** at:  
[lance@pon.net](mailto:lance@pon.net) (please put SIRs in the subject heading) or call **707-527-3438**.

(Article by Lance Thompson)

## GLOBAL FORUM

(Article written by Thomas Johnson)

Are you interested in discussing world events? The monthly GLOBAL FORUM provides a place and a group interested in all that is going on around us. Discussions range from the impact of oil prices on the world economy to the impact of history on current and future events. We do not always agree, but we enjoy exploring our diverse information and opinions over coffee and refreshments.



To all SIR members interested in exploring our global environment, you are invited to join the monthly confab. We meet from **9:30 to 11:30 am** on the second **Friday** of the month and the next gathering will be Friday **January 13<sup>th</sup>** at the ADU and Sally EBRAHIM home: 3576 Lake Park Drive, Santa Rosa (just off Bicentennial one block north of the Lucky/Home Depot complex).

Should you have any questions, please email Adu at [aebra@aol.com](mailto:aebra@aol.com) or if you do get lost, then call him at 707-566-4786 for more directions.

We hope to see more new SIR members there for our discussions!

## Golf

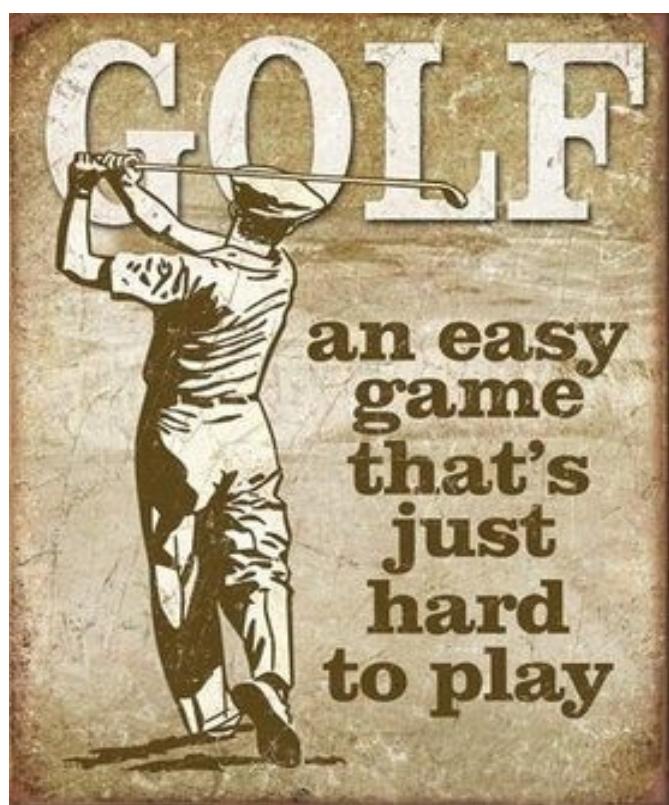
For the past season Fred Rose has been standing in as our interim branch 17 golf chairman. He's now stepping down to enjoy golf as it should be – without having to provide golf reports and club score keeping. I want to thank him for his efforts and willingness to help out when help was really needed. Jim Gurke will be joining our "Golf Chairman Foursome" in the coming months as he finishes up his duties as branch 17 Big SIR.

I want to remind everyone that the work that goes on behind the scenes which keeps our club afloat, is a duty to be shared by all. When the call goes out for assistance, please stand up and lend a hand as best you can.

Until next time, Good Golfing.

Roy Thuestad

email at: [roymond@comcast.net](mailto:roymond@comcast.net) or call 975-4406



## Joke of the day!



A young girl attending her first wedding carefully observed the entire ceremony. When it ended, she asked, "Why did the lady change her mind?" Her mother asked what she meant, and the girl explained, "Well she went down the aisle with one man and came back with another one."

## POKER FEST

(Article written by Steve Edelstein)

This new activity has gained quite a popularity since its start in Sept. which has prompted a moving and scheduling of future Poker Fests now to be held in **Legends** at the Bennett Valley Golf Course area.



The new date is Thursday **January 19<sup>th</sup>** from **1:00 to 4:00 pm**. If you would like to join this exciting new group in a rousing game of Poker, then contact Steve Edelstein by email at:

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

## Traveling Golf

(Article by Jim Jones, Branch 76)

There will be **NO** Travel Golf activity for the months of December, January and February, so I'll pick it up again in March 2017.

## A few pictures of Our Great Christmas Luncheon



## A few pictures of Our Great Christmas Luncheon



Photos by Bob Gaggero and Robert Reuther

Thanks to Bob Gaggero and his helpers, to Stan Borges and his helpers plus all other members that helped make this Christmas Party such a great successful event!

## 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.