



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

**Luther Burbank Branch 17, Santa Rosa, CA,**

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



## **The REDWOOD BARK Newsletter NOVEMBER, 2023**

**All members are invited to attend our next SIR In-Person Luncheon/Meeting on Thursday, November 16, 2023 at Iron & Vine, 3330 Yulupa Avenue, San Rosa.**

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

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](mailto:alpetrie7@aol.com) by noon **Wednesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>** 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! **Notice:** The menu will be posted on our website [sir17.org](https://www.sir17.org) on **November 8<sup>th</sup>**. To enter the building, please use the entrance to the left.



**Big Sir Gary Bondi's Message**  
[gbond@sonic.net](mailto:gbond@sonic.net) 707-539-2445

Well, it's time for another one of my amazing, informative articles for the BARK. I know all of you have been thrilled, informed and entertained by my previous articles and anxiously await my next bit of wit and wisdom. So here it is: I am happy to inform you that you only have to endure two more of them! I am in the lame duck period of my reign as Big Sir. I am "termed out" as of December 31<sup>st</sup> and the duties will be placed in the capable hands of Chris Nelle and Neil Wheeler, Big Sir and Little Sir respectively. You only have to suffer through two more meetings with me! I am anxiously looking forward to receiving the benefits afforded to the retiring Big Sir. No more penning these amazing articles, which, I know will be greatly missed by all of you. No more preparation of BEC and luncheon agendas, no more conducting meetings. I can now sit back, relax, join the membership for lunch, enjoy the meeting and watch the new guys conduct the business of SIR 17. You will, of course, have one more chance to read these amazing writings in my final article in December. So, hang in there with me, enjoy the upcoming meetings, speakers, and activities. One last item: Please, no gifts on my retirement. I already have a watch! See you all at our November get-together.

(continued on page 2)



**Little Sir Chris Nelle's Message**  
707-527-0576

Well the year is rapidly winding down and we enter that time of year when thankfulness and gratitude take center stage. Shouldn't take a national holiday with a big meal to give us pause to reflect on our many good fortunes. It all started in 1621 when our early colonists celebrated a bountiful harvest and from that day forward it has always been a day to celebrate and remember the good in our lives and to be thankful.

Did you ever consider the coincidence of November being the month we celebrate Thanksgiving shortly after we honor our veterans? In my mind, much of the goodness in our lives and much of the reasons to be thankful come from the many sacrifices that our service men and women gave and continue to give the American people.

One of our very own, Ted Scapeccia, a veteran, will share with us his experiences at this month's lunch meeting about being awarded an Honor Flight. It will be very special to hear him tell of the ways in which the Honor Flight organization demonstrates the gratitude and honor that America has for our veterans for all that they did for us.

(continued on page 2, top right)

## Big Sir Message

(continued from page 1)

I look forward to our Veterans Day celebration, Ted's presentation on The Veterans Honor Flight program and his visit with them to Washington.

Happy Thanksgiving to all and a "Salute" to our Veteran members. Let's all take a moment to appreciate and be grateful that we live in this great country. We do have our share of problems, but where else would you like to be?

## Veterans Month:

(Article by Neil Wheeler)

November is National Veterans and Military Families Month. Recognize veterans in our branch and in our community by attending one or more of these events:

November 4<sup>th</sup>: **The Fallen Flyers Memorial.** In 1942 Sonoma County's fledgling airfield was taken over as a base for advanced combat training. Over the course of three years of intense training, 86 pilots lost their lives in training accidents. At 11:00 am on the Windsor Town Green, at the flagpole, there will be a full military honors dedication to these flyers.

November 11<sup>th</sup>: The annual **Petaluma Veterans' Day Parade** begins at 1:00 pm at D St and Petaluma Blvd. Before and after the parade, musical performances and special acknowledgments will occur at the gazebo located in Walnut Park.

November 16<sup>th</sup>: Sir Ted Scapeccia will talk about the **Honor Flight** Bay Area #29 at the Branch 17 Luncheon. The mission of Honor Flight is to celebrate America's veterans by inviting them to share in a day of honor at our nation's memorials.



## Little Sir Message

(continued from page 1)

With that we head into December and the end of 2023. As soon as I can find some worthy entertainment for our December lunch wherein we'll have the option to bring a date, my duties of finding speakers will end (more thankful-ness)!! Back to the date option.....this is huge guys, a chance to impress that someone special in your life. Show them how much you love them and bring them in to meet your SIR buddies. I just know that they will all feel so much better about how you spend your time away from them when they meet your friends.....hehehehe!!! Book your December lunch date as soon as we start selling tickets.

We all know how stressful the holidays can sometimes be, since most people eat while being under stress. Remember, "stressed" spelled backwards is **DESSERTS!**

## Three New Members Inducted Oct.

Three new members were inducted by Big Sir Gary Bondi at the October 19<sup>th</sup> luncheon. They are **Len Grosso**, sponsored by Chris Nelle; **Ed Montenegro**, sponsored by Bill Grafeld; and **Ed Morrison**, sponsored by Tony Negri.

(Article by Gordon Boulton)



L/R: Ed Montenegro, Len Grosso, Ed Morrison.  
(Photo by Neil Wheeler)

## 2023 Member Survey:

The survey results are in and are being posted in the Member and BEC (Login) area. There were 62 members who response to the survey and 95% of them said they were satisfied (71%) or mostly satisfied (24%). Three members (5%) said the were unsatisfied. We also asked 12 other questions, and those results have been summarized. In addition, numerous comments, suggestions, and complaints were provided by our members.

So, what is your Branch Executive Committee (BEC) going to do with these results? Well, we are going to do several things:

1. Some suggestions for improvement have or are already being implemented. These are the "the low hanging fruit" improvements.
2. Some suggestions, such as "better food" at our meetings. We will need to be more specific, so we will be reaching out to you to get those specifics before we talk to the restaurant.
3. I will be using my Little Sir articles in 2024 to report on what can and is being done to address issues, and if we can't do something, explain why we can't.

If you have any further questions about the survey, please feel free to contact me by email at [njmwheeler@science-one.org](mailto:njmwheeler@science-one.org) or in person.

*(Article by Neil Wheeler)*



Part of the lunch group at the meeting on October 19, 2023. *(photo by Neil Wheeler)*

## Changes to *The Redwood BARK* in 2024

Beginning with the January 2024 issue the new publisher/editor of *The Redwood BARK* will be Bob Conover, currently of SIR Branch 76. SIR Branch 76 will merge with our SIR Branch 17 in January also.

Bob is eminently qualified to replace retiring *The BARK* publisher Jim Fenstermaker, as he is the current editor/publisher of SIR Branch 76's newsletter and uses the same Microsoft Publisher app that Jim uses. Bob will publish "practice" versions of the November and December *The BARK* and compare his results and techniques with Jim's.

Submitters of articles will see little, if any, change. Continue to email your articles to Gordon Boulton at [gboulton@aol.com](mailto:gboulton@aol.com). Gordon proofreads and formats them as required before forwarding them to Jim and Bob to place into *The BARK* Publisher template.

Jim has been the editor/publisher of *The BARK* for 12 years! He is looking forward to and more than deserving of a break! Under his leadership our newsletter has been recognized by us and SIR State for its quality and informative content. Thank you, Jim, for your service to SIR Branch 17 over so many years and in so many ways!

*(Article by Gordon Boulton)*

The November edition of the

# SIR HAPPENINGS

newsletter is due out in early November.

To read this edition, go to our SIR Branch 17 website, click on Newsletters, then scroll down almost to the bottom of the screen, then click on the November edition if it is posted. It usually contains lots of interesting articles from many of the other SIR branches from Bakersfield north to the Oregon boarder.



Group at Coffee Club in Howarth Park



# BRANCH 17 HOLIDAY PARTY December 21, 2023

Iron & Vine Restaurant at BV Golf Course

11 am Social Hour

12 noon Lunch Served

We will have a SIT-DOWN PLATED LUNCH with a special menu as noted below, and *significant others are invited*.

There are **two** entrée selections for **\$55** per person  
**Prime Rib or Salmon.**

You choose which one when paying for your lunch. Either entrée comes with mashed potatoes and green beans, rolls and butter, and brownies for dessert.

Included beverages are coffee, iced tea, lemonade, and water. Fountain sodas are available at the bar at no cost. No-host drinks are also available at the bar.

Advance purchases are required. Complete the form below, detach it, and then bring it with you to the NOV 16<sup>th</sup> LUNCH/ MEETING and pay there (easiest)

**OR**

MAIL the form and check made out to SIR Branch 17 to Al Petrie, 2188 Francisco Ave, Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Call 707-974-9193 or email [alpetrie7@aol.com](mailto:alpetrie7@aol.com)

Deadline for all purchases is December 8<sup>th</sup>,  
and NO purchases on the day of the Event.

Enter your **names** and **circle** entrée selection in the form below:  
Name & Badge# \_\_\_\_\_ Prime Rib....Salmon  
Sig Other Name \_\_\_\_\_ Prime Rib....Salmon  
Cost \$55 per person x \_\_\_\_ = Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Any Questions? Contact Glenn Seime 707-537-5360 or [gseime@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gseime@sbcglobal.net)

## SIR Branch 17, Member Profiles:

**Jim Park** Badge #095

From Hollywood (where he was born) to Santa Rosa (where he lives now), James C. Park has had an amazing journey over the past 85 years. He grew up in Southern California but his most memorable summers as a kid were spent with his mother and two sisters in the northern panhandle of Michigan at a small lake appropriately named Little Lake. In addition to swimming, he learned to drive a 1929 stick shift Model A Ford at the age of 11. When he was 13, he took a train all by himself from Pasadena to Muskegon MI to work on his aunt and uncle's ranch. For the next four summers, he learned to be a cowboy, herding cattle from field to field, stacking hay, and mowing alfalfa. His experiences led to a lifetime interest in agriculture and outdoor activities.

After high school, he enrolled at Cal Poly University and took courses in agricultural sciences at the San Dimas and Pomona campuses. At the end of his sophomore year and with the encouragement of one of his teachers, he took a summer job with the Agricultural Research Station in Brawley CA, a small town near the Mexican border noted for its blistering heat in summer. His supervisors in Brawley urged him to dive deeper into his ag education and Jim transferred to UC Davis, majoring in Soils and Plant Nutrition.

Nearing the end of his time at Davis, he volunteered to be drafted into the Army and was sent to Fort Bliss in El Paso TX. He was assigned to the Hawk Missile Unit and obtained security clearance, allowing him to transport superior officers and hear classified information. Jim was discharged shortly before his unit was sent over to Vietnam, and he returned to Davis to finish his degree and graduate.

The next few months must have been a roller coaster of emotions for Jim. Through some common friends,



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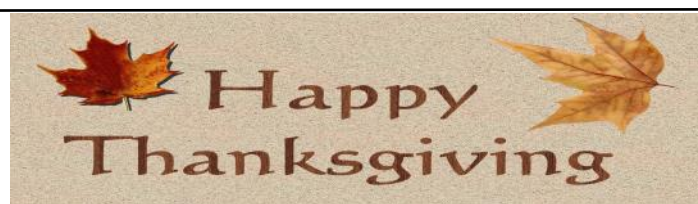
## Member Profiles:

*(continued)*

he met Jeannine, a sweet girl who gave him a wink that resulted in him eventually giving her a ring, and they set off to live a life together. Searching for jobs was priority number one and when they heard PG&E had openings in Marysville CA, they headed there on their honeymoon. His first job was testing agriculture water pumps, and later, with an ongoing building boom in Sonoma County, he moved to Santa Rosa to handle gas and electric service hookups at new construction sites. Subsequent PG&E jobs included converting streetlights to mercury vapor bulbs, managing projects in Guerneville, serving as a PG&E representative at county and city supervisor meetings, and dealing with large projects with the US military and commercial developers in San Francisco. In 1993, Jim retired after 28 years with PG&E.

Jim and Jeannine enjoy playing bridge. After playing with a member of SIR Branch 76, Jim decided to join that branch and get involved in their bridge and golf clubs. Jim chaired the 17/76 golf club for many years and organized state golf outings at Silverado. Eye surgery to repair detached retinas in both eyes sidelined Jim for many years and he became an inactive member of SIR 76. However, wanting to continue his participation in SIR, Jim joined SIR 17 in 2012, and (re)established long friendships with Duane Jensen, Jim Fenstermaker, and many others, some who are no longer with us. Jim is currently the Chair of our Bridge Club, continuing to play the game using card decks with large print. The club plays at Oakmont, and he encourages anyone, especially our new members, to contact him if they want to play. They will find Jim a friendly, interesting guy who will share advice on bidding strategies in bridge, branding cattle, and the best practices for cleaning up horse poop during the Santa Rosa Rose Parade! He is a man of many talents

*(Article by Dennis Mangan)*



# Activities:

Use this link below to view the latest online Calendar of Events

<https://www.sir17.org/calendar-of-events.html>

## Bocce:

Has been discontinued as a Branch 17 Activity. Those still interested, check Fred's weekly calendar and join Branch 76 as their guests.

## Bowling:

(article by Fred Rose)

If you have an interest in helping to get this activity going again so you also could enjoy it then contact our Activities Chair, Fred Rose at:

707-548-5797 or [fredricrose@comcast.net](mailto:fredricrose@comcast.net)



## Book Club:

(Article by Neil Wheeler)



The Book Club selection for November is **Founding Brothers: The Revolutionary Generation** by Joseph J. Ellis, 304 pages. Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday we plan to meet a week later this month on Wednesday, **November 29<sup>th</sup>** at 2:00 pm to discuss the book. The location is still to be determined but we plan to meet inside.

If you have any questions or would like to be on (or off) our email list, send an email to: [njmwheeler@science-one.org](mailto:njmwheeler@science-one.org)

## Boys' Night Out:

(Article by Don Malvestiti)



IT'S TIME FOR TURKEY!

At **The Bird**, 4776 Sonoma Hwy 12. on Wednesday **November 15<sup>th</sup>**. 5:30 pm social, 6:00 pm dinner. Notify Don by **Thursday, Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>**, to be included in the group.

Email Don at: [malvestitidon485@gmail.com](mailto:malvestitidon485@gmail.com) or call 707-539-0677 and please leave a message if no answer.

I was told we will have individual checks.

DO NOT SHOW UP FOR DINNER IF YOU HAVE **NOT** EMAILED ME THAT YOU WILL BE ATTENDING !!!

## Bridge:

Eight of us met in the Valley of the Moon Oak Club for bridge and lunch. If you have an interest in Bridge, contact:



Dean Lundgren 707-544-8088  
[mdlundgren@msn.com](mailto:mdlundgren@msn.com)

James Park 707-578-4255  
[jcpark38@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jcpark38@sbcglobal.net)

## Coffee Club:

(article by Rich de Lambert)



The Coffee Club is moving indoors in November, so there will be no \$1 coffee and treats. We will meet at **9:00 am on November 9<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>**. No, we are not meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday because that is Thanksgiving Day.

On the **9<sup>th</sup>** we will meet at **Mac's Deli & Café**, 630 4th St, Santa Rosa. On the **30<sup>th</sup>** we will meet at **Café Frida Gallery**, 300 South A St, Santa Rosa.

Come join us for coffee, conversation, and something to eat!

Guests and Partners are welcome so bring a friend! If you have questions, contact, Rich de Lambert, at [richdelambert@gmail.com](mailto:richdelambert@gmail.com) or call 707-545-3490.

## Community Involvement Program:

We will be at the Redwood Empire Food Bank, 3990 Brickway Blvd. in Santa Rosa on **Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>**, from 10 am until noon. Fifteen of us made 6,000 food containers and packaged carrots at the last outing.

The following was sent to us in an email we received from the Food Bank Volunteer Coordinator Liz Berry.

"Thank you all so much for your time and energy last week in the warehouse. It was wonderful to see Sons in Retirement having such a good time while working to help the Redwood Empire Food Bank end hunger in our community. What a great team you have!

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## Community Involvement (continued)

Here is a breakdown of what your team helped accomplish during your shift: Your group packed 1,352 lbs. of carrots, equivalent to 1,331 meals for our neighbors in need!"

Let one of the committee members, George, Rich, Barry, or Bob, know that you are planning to come so we can inform the REFB in advance.

You can find us on the [www.sir17.org](http://www.sir17.org) website under the first Thursday of each month. All the information related to time and place is on that site.

*"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."* -Mahatma Gandhi



Barry Bialkoski and Bob Reuther,  
Co-Chairs

Rich de Lambert and George  
Traverso, Co-Vice Chairs

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

### HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



I hope you had an opportunity to join us for Couples' Night Out during 2023. October is traditionally the **last event of the year**. We will be **return in January**.

If you haven't joined us in the past, please do so in 2024! It is a great opportunity to socialize with members and their wives or partners. If you have a favorite place you would like to share with us please let me know. I like to keep the location within an easy hour's drive of Santa Rosa, so Tahoe and Monterey are out!

If you have any questions or suggestions contact me at: [fredricrose@comcast.net](mailto:fredricrose@comcast.net) or 707-548-5797.

## GLOBAL FORUM: (Article by Marvin Mai)



With the news focused on what has been happening in Israel and Gaza and of course, Ukraine and Russia. It's hard not to be appalled. We all remember many conflicts in which our country has been involved and

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## GLOBAL FORUM: (continued)

can hope that there will soon be a peaceful resolution before these current conflicts escalate.

With Global Forum, we attempt to understand the background of these conflicts but also attempt to look at the rest of the world looking at Africa and the Sahel and also Central and South America and the impact they're having on the migration in America.



For November we are having only **one** meeting of the Global Forum. **We will hold our in-person meeting on November 17 starting at 10 a.m.** at the home of Marvin and Pat Mai, 4743 Woodview Drive. Still a limit of eight so email Marvin at: [Maimarvin57@gmail.com](mailto:Maimarvin57@gmail.com) if you would like to attend.

There will **NOT** be a meeting on Friday after Thanksgiving.

## GOLF: Mondays at Bennett Valley

SIR Golf for October was pretty ho-hum. Only great weather and the Bennett Valley course continuing improvements. Cooler weather is on the way so enjoy it while you can!

If you have any SIR golf questions, contact:

Jim Gurke ([1jgurke@gmail.com](mailto:1jgurke@gmail.com)), or

Bill Brooks ([wilrose@sonic.net](mailto:wilrose@sonic.net)), or

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

and we will try to answer them for you.

Sign-ups for SIR Monday tournaments are **mandatory**. You can sign up at the SIR desk in the Pro Shop or call Bennett Valley Golf Course at 707-528-3673 by 9 am the Friday preceding the Monday you want to play.

The following message is from Bill Brooks, our golf committee chairperson from Branch 76:

"Gentlemen, I have to provide NCGA with a roster for our club for next season and I need your help. The new dues have gone up to \$46, only the second time they have ever gone up. I only need to hear from those of you who **DO NOT** wish to continue your golf membership."

Please reply to Bill Brooks at:

[wilrose@sonic.net](mailto:wilrose@sonic.net)"

The 17/76 Golf Committee

*(Article by Fred Rose)*



## HIKING GROUP: (Article by Gordon Boulton)



If you would like to join us, get on the hiking activity email list by contacting Stew Lauterbach, our leader, at [stewartlauterbach@gmail.com](mailto:stewartlauterbach@gmail.com). He seldom leads us down the wrong path! The following is a list for Nov.

**Friday November 3:** Taylor Mountain hike. Meet at 8:30, Kawana Terrace parking lot, to explore more of the park "not yet opened to the public."

**Friday November 10:** Meet at the River Road Park & Ride at 8:30 for a trip to Lake Sonoma where we will pick out a loop trail. It's about a half hour drive from the Park & Ride.

**Friday November 17:** Let's head back to Sonoma Valley Regional Park for a hike around the perimeter trail.

**Friday November 24:** The day after turkey day, let's head down to the Laguna de Santa Rosa Trail at 6303 Highway 12, Santa Rosa. A leisurely mostly level trail to hike.

## TRAVEL GOLF: (Article by Fred Rose)

Eight of us endured the beautiful Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> day and played golf at the Santa Rosa Country Club.

Gary Bondi, Bob Nadell, Clay Nesbitt, Jim Dale, Charlie Bertoli, David August, Bill Brooks and our host Terry Freeman.

Jim Dale took two CTP, while David August and Clay Nesbitt each had one for \$10 each.



L/R: Gary Bondi, Bob Nadell, Jim Dale, Terry Freeman, Bill Brooks, David August.

*(photo by a passerby)*

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



We had a good game in October. Seven Players. Good food and service. Our next game is scheduled for Nov. 9, at Epicenter, 12:00 to 3:00 pm. We have seven players signed up already. Our goal is to increase the number of players, so we could have two games going at the same time. There is a poker group in SIR Branch 76, so hopefully they will join us.

Here's some info on the game:

- \* \$15 buy-in.
- \* Betting is dime, quarter, half dollar and dollar. Can only bet a dollar on final bet.
- \* Dealer ante is a dollar, and calls the game. Most games are split pot.
- \* Each player has to buy lunch and a beverage from Epicenter, plus a 20% tip. We do this since they do not charge us to use the room, and rooms are hard to find.

That's it. If you are interested contact Mike O'Neill at [Mikeo46@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Mikeo46@sbcglobal.net) or call him 707-479-4158. You can always drop by, watch the game and have lunch with us.

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## Walking Group: (Article by Richard Lundblad)



The walking group meets every **Tuesday morning at 10 am**, that is weather permitting. Exact meeting places to are TBD but we have been leaving from Cypress Point and go for coffee afterwards.

Come join us and bring a friend! If you have any questions or would like to be on our email list,

contact me at [richardlundblad@gmail.com](mailto:richardlundblad@gmail.com)

or call me at 707-888-8386

## Wine, Beer & Spirits: (Article by George Traverso)

The tasting at the Golden State Cider Taproom at the Barlow Shopping District in Sebastopol for November 1<sup>st</sup> has been

**CANCELED!**



**Tuesday,  
November 7<sup>th</sup>**





**New Member** Badge # 052  
**Sal Rosano**

Hi, I am Salvatore Vincent Rosano, known for most of my life as Sal. I was born in Brooklyn to Italian immigrants from Sicily. My father died when I was six years old after which my mother moved me and my sister to San Francisco where other family members had settled. I attended elementary school in San Francisco until my mother remarried and the family moved to Monterey for five years before returning to San Francisco where I graduated from Galileo High School and San Francisco City College before completing my education at San Francisco State.



While attending college, I began my law enforcement career at the age of 19 when I went to work as a Correctional Officer at San Quentin prison. When I turned 20 I was already married and had one of what would be four children over the next five years. I left San Quentin to accept a position as a police dispatcher with the South San Francisco police department. Shortly after my 21<sup>st</sup> birthday I was appointed as a police officer for that department and spent the next fifteen years there, moving up the ranks of that department until I was appointed the police chief of that city at age 31, the youngest police chief of a medium sized city in the state of California.

I served as police chief for that city until I was recruited by the city of Santa Rosa and in 1974 became the police chief for that city where I remained for 22 years until my retirement in 1996 after 38 years as a law enforcement officer. During my career as a police chief, I was active in a number of organizations. I served as president of the California Peace Officers Association, as the longest serving member and honorary past president of the California Police Chiefs Association, past president of both the San Mateo and Sonoma County Law Enforcement Chiefs Associations, and on a number of statewide committees appointed by successive California Attorneys General.

Following my retirement from active law enforcement, I was offered a position as the Law Enforcement Liaison for the Western Region of the United States representing the United States Department of Transportation.

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**New Member** Badge #125  
**Rick Brannon, Jr.**

I was born November 30, 1948, in Billings Montana. I lived there until I was about four years old. We moved to Sacramento and lived with my grandparents in East Sacramento. I have a sister who lives in Rancho Cordova CA and sadly my brother Billy passed 11 years ago.

I have two grown children. My daughter and son-in-law live in Sacramento and my son and his wife live in Elk Grove CA.

I lived in Sacramento and attended Luther Burbank High School, graduated in 1966 and attended Sacramento City College for two years. In December of 1968 I got a job with PG&E where I worked for 37 years, retiring as a customer records supervisor. After being lazy for six months, I got a part-time job with the Elk Grove Unified School District working as a Campus Supervisor at Elk Grove High School and coached the Boys and Girls golf teams. I worked for the district for 15 years and decided it was time to retire after 52 years of working.



Three years ago, I moved to Santa Rosa with my amazing girlfriend K.C.

I enjoy playing golf, fishing every year with my buddies at Eagle Lake CA, working in our beautiful yard and tasting all the delicious food and wine that Sonoma County has to offer.

I'm looking forward to being a member of SIR Branch 17.



A special **Thank You** to members Gordon Boultee and the many others for helping us by spotting all the errors in grammar, punctuation, spelling and any other boo-boos that have been made before this final edition goes to press and you see it. *Jim-the Editor*

## November Birthdays

Gordon Boulton  
Denny Hutton  
Alan Johnson  
Chris Nelle  
Charles Verzosa

John Castro  
Duane Jensen  
Fredrick McMane  
Chris Nolen  
Fred Walsh

★ **HAPPY** ★  
**BIRTHDAY!**

The **October** Birthday Boy FREE  
lunch winner was Al Petrie.



**CNO on 10-26-23, at La Gare Restaurant,**  
L/R: Tom & Annalee Sparrowe, Chris & Roy Thuestad,  
Marv Schouweiler & Lynn ( photo by Neil Wheeler)



## Poem for November

by Helen Hunt Jackson

This is the treacherous month when autumn days  
With summer's voice come bearing summer's gifts.

Beguiled, the pale down-trodden aster lifts  
Her head and blooms again. The soft, warm haze  
Makes moist once more the sere and dusty ways,  
And, creeping through where dead leaves lie in drifts,

The violet returns. Snow noiseless sifts  
Ere night, an icy shroud, which morning's rays

Will idly shine upon and slowly melt,  
Too late to bid the violet live again.

The treachery, at last, too late, is plain;  
Bare are the places where the sweet flowers dwelt.

What joy sufficient hath November felt?  
What profit from the violet's day of pain?

## Very unusual flowers found on the internet.



## 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.