



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 SEPTEMBER, 2023

All members are invited to attend our next SIR In-Person Luncheon/Meeting on Thursday, September 21, 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 by noon **Wednesday, September 12th** 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 **September 13th**. To enter the building, please use the entrance to the left.



Big Sir Gary Bondi's Message

gbond@sonic.net 707-539-2445

SIR is celebrating its 65th anniversary and I thought it would be a good chance to pass along some of the history of SIR, where we have been and where we are today. The late Damien L. Reynolds conceived the idea of Sons in Retirement in the spring of 1958. From time to time, he would meet with three friends, all retired, for a friendly luncheon. He suggested they join him in his idea of a monthly luncheon club for retired men for the purpose of maintaining friendships, making new acquaintances, and avoiding boredom in retirement. They continued to meet and as the group grew larger word spread to other areas and SIR grew to a statewide organization. The name Sons In Retirement was unanimously adopted by 18 members of the club at a second meeting in August of 1958. Before settling on SIR, consideration was given to several other names, such as: Ancient & Honorable Sons of Rest, Faithful Old Fellows, The Honey Dews, League of Ancient Fellows (L.O.A.F.). Thankfully, they settled on our current name, although I kind of like the L.O.A.F. SIR eventually grew to about 176 branches, stretching north from Bakersfield to Redding and east to Tahoe/Reno area. Currently, most branches are in the greater Bay Area and Sacramento area.

(continued on page 2 top left)



Little Sir Chris Nelle's Message

707-527-0576

Well, my experiment proved useful in that only four of you notified me of seeing my give-away offer, so that tells me I've got to improve my content to attract more readers..... or, increase the value of my monetary prize!!

As for our last speaker, Bob Sonnenberg from the Earle Baum Center for the Blind. Imagine for a moment the challenges that man has endured. Wow, and we think we have tough days. And as a dog lover, I was very amazed to meet Chester his guide dog. When I asked permission, Bob politely asked that I not engage with Chester until he was "out of uniform." He promised that that would happen after lunch and when he did remove Chester's harness the quiet, somber, serious dog became a wiggling, tail-wagging puppy looking to play. But as soon as he put his harness back on to leave, Chester's personality took a turn and he was back "on the job" and ignored me completely. Reminding me, if you want to experience a real "heart tug" look to attend one of the graduation ceremonies at either Guide Dogs for the Blind or Canine Companions, what a moving experience.....bring plenty of tissue!!

OK, coming up I've had to make some last minute adjustments (why I'm paid the BIG money)

(continued on page 2 top right)

Big Sir Message

(continued from page 1)

The statewide membership seemed to peak around 1990, when there were about 32,068 members. Fast forward to today! In 2015, the statewide membership was down to 15,748. As of 5/1/23, the membership stands at about 8,800 spread over about 89 branches. The reasons for declining membership, in all social, fraternal, civic organizations, are many! I'm sure one of the leading causes is the failure of efforts to recruit new members and make communities aware of who they are and what they do. I am pleased to say, our branch is not in that category! Thanks to the excellent efforts of our recruiting and publicity team and our members, we are bucking the trend! Our membership continues to increase! We have welcomed many new members as well as the return of many existing ones. At one time, there were upwards of 275 members in our branch. In fact, it got so large we had to break it up and form another branch. Branch 76 was created at that time. In May of 2015 we had 112 members. That hit a low of 78 in February of 2021, largely due to the pandemic and suspension of in-person meetings. As of this writing, we are back up to 107 members plus the five BEC-approved applicants and have erased the deficit. Thanks again, for the efforts of all our members, to help us continue to grow and thrive. Let's keep the ball rolling and enjoying the many benefits of SIR for a long time to come. Remember to tell a friend about SIR, bring a guest to our luncheon or to any other activity and continue to promote SIR. See all of you at our next luncheon and bring a friend! In the meantime, stay healthy, mentally, physically and socially!

Poem for September Summer Begins To Fade

Poet: Catherine Pulsifer

As summer's haze begins to fade away,
September emerges in subtle grace.
Milder temperatures, a tranquil sway,
Unveiling autumn's splendor in each space.
Cool evenings whisper secrets through the night,
With crispness tingling gently in the air.
In transition, seasons change with might,
Serious tones remind us life is fair.

Little Sir Message

(continued from page 1)

and find a filler when the Santa Rosa City Manager Maraskeshia Smith asked to reschedule to February 2024 from her original September 2023 date. So plan on being dazzled with a presentation at September's lunch from Anita Migliore, Waste Zero Specialist from Recology. It'll be sort of a homecoming for me because over 45 years ago as a green pea rookie banker for Wells Fargo in San Francisco I had Sunset Scavenger as a client. They had the waste collection contract for San Francisco and Daly City. They then went on a merger/acquisition binge which led to them becoming NorCal Waste and then ultimately Recology.

We'll close out the year with our Police Chief John Cregan in October, Ted Scapeccia in November and our Holiday singing (provided by real singers) in December.

The following is the slate of your new **2024** Officers and Directors for SIR Luther Burbank Branch 17:

Big Sir	Chris Nelle
Little Sir	Neil Wheeler
Secretary	Terry Freeman
Assistant Secretary	Steve Saulsbury
Treasurer	John Gnam
Assistant Treasurer	Mike Rogalski
Director 1	Wynn Bailey
Director 2	Barry Bialkoski
Director 3	Rich de Lambert
Director 4	Bill Grafeld
Director 5	David Harris
Director 6	Marc Perl
Director 7	Kurt Wehrmeister

The above list of members were unanimously voted and approved by those members in attendance at the August 17th luncheon.

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.

New Members Inducted on 8-17-2023

Six new members were inducted by Big Sir Gary Bondi at the August luncheon. They are **Jon Drew**, sponsored by Steve Edelstein; **Jim Berger** and **Joe Olson**, sponsored by Rich de Lambert; **Jack Tolin**, sponsored by Dave Harris; **Chuck Josephs**, sponsored by Mike Rogalski; and **Blaise Cirelli**, sponsored by Tony Negri. In addition, the BEC approved Rick Brannon Jr. and Frank Gironimi for membership but they were not present, so will be inducted at a later luncheon.

(Article by Gordon Boulton)



L/R: Jack Tolin, Joe Olson, Rich de Lambert (S), Jim Berger, Chuck Josephs, Mike Rogalski (S), Blaise Cirelli, Steve Edelstein (S), Big Sir Gary Bondi, Jon Drew, David Harris (S).

(Photo by Neil Wheeler)

New Policy & Procedures for Applications and Inductions

At its August meeting the BEC approved a new policy and procedures for processing applications for membership and inducting new members. Historically new members have started as guests of existing members. But thanks to our publicity and recruiting efforts and updated website we now also receive applications for membership from men who might not be known or barely known to any of us. Such applicants are assigned a sponsor by the Big Sir.

Then what? The BEC concluded that the role and responsibilities of sponsors was not well understood by our membership, so the BEC formed a subcommittee to develop a policy statement; a checklist to be used as a guide by sponsors both before and after a new member is inducted; and a matrix of responsibilities for all of us involved in receiving, processing and approving applications and inducting new members. A copy of the resulting document will be given to recent and future sponsors, and will be available to all members on the Branch website.

(Article by Gordon Boulton)

September Birthdays

David August	Stan Borges
Rick Brannon	Ron Clark
Thomas Johnson	Richard Lundblad
Frank Panza	Marc Perl
Mike Requarth	James Richards
Mike Rogalski	Fred Rose
Ted Scapeccia	Marv Schouweiler
John Sommerville	Neil Wheeler

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

The **June** Birthday Boy FREE lunch winner was **Glenn Seime**.

The **August** Birthday Boy FREE lunch winner was **Bill Traverso**.

Publicity:

(Article by Neil Wheeler)

The Publicity and Image Committee needs your help to raise public awareness of SIR. We are still looking for volunteers to do one of two things:

Display a SIR Branch 17 **Yard Sign** in their front yard for **one month**.

Display a SIR Branch 17 **Magnetic Sign** on their car for **two weeks**.



Please contact me, Neil Wheeler, by email at njmwheeler@science-one.org or phone (707) 291-0271 to volunteer.

HELP WANTED!

Luncheon Audio Visual Person:

We need a volunteer to manage our audio visual equipment at our luncheons: set it up, project speaker presentation slides when applicable, and project slides of various branch activities, etc.

Neil Wheeler, our present BEC director and Publicity Chair, has been handling all these duties for some time, but he will be our incoming Little Sir in 2024. He will then be responsible for scheduling and hosting guest speakers, and it will be impossible for him to continue to be responsible for our A/V needs.

For more detailed information on what this volunteer opportunity entails, contact Neil at 707-291-0271. or email him at njmwheeler@science-one.org. The winner will get to go to the buffet table with Table1!

Photo Album Custodian:

The Branch has an album of members' photos and various branch activities but it has not been maintained since before the pandemic. In the past, the album was placed on a table at our luncheons so that, for example, members could refresh their memories on who was who before engaging others they did not know in conversation. If this is of interest to you and you would like to volunteer to resurrect this branch asset and keep it updated, then contact Jim Fenstermaker at 707-548-3346, or email him at sirsbrn17@gmail.com. Jim and others will help you figure out the best way to go about this important opportunity to help Branch 17 to keep up with the current times!

The Redwood BARK Newsletter Editor and Publisher:

Jim Fenstermaker has been the **BARK** editor and publisher for more than a dozen years but due to several health issues, he needs to pass the baton to the "next generation." Jim accepts various articles from branch officers and activity chairs that have already been formatted for content and proofread for grammar and spelling issues. He then places these articles along with photos into the newsletter template using Microsoft Publisher. Experience with Microsoft Publisher or other publishing applications is preferred, but Microsoft Word or Constant Contact are other options. Please contact Jim (*see above*) for more information on how he goes about producing this critical communication tool of our branch. Of course, Jim will be available for extended support during the transition period.

(Article by Gordon Boulton)

The **August** 2023 edition of  Newsletter
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 pages 21-23 which are reprints of some articles from our Branch 17. On page 51 is an interesting article "A Little Humor." It has a lot of "Short Cut Codes" for we seniors. Page 58 has an interesting article about Costco. In all the 66 pages, there are all kinds of consumer tips on various subjects that I am sure you will learn something. Most are reprints from various sources.

To view this free newsletter go to www.sir17.org under the Home tab, click on the "Newsletter" tab, now scroll down to near the bottom of the page. Click on the SIR Happenings State SIR Newsletter, the underlined area. This should now open to the SIRinc website where you can choose the most current edition. Highlight and click on your choice and your PDF program should open the file for you to look at. Read and enjoy!

SIR Branch 17, Member Profiles:

Mike Mouat Badge #141

SIR17 members are kind, generous men, willing to help others. (Monday SIR golfers are very generous on gimmes around the hole!) Mike Mouat especially stands out as someone who has made it a point to help others as a high school teacher and a former volunteer in the US Peace Corps.

Mike's dad was a professor of speech and communication at San Jose State University and the Mouats lived in the Silicon Valley "when homes were affordable there." Despite having two uncles who were priests, Mike didn't go to Catholic school, and instead attended Los Gatos High School where his French teacher inspired a lifetime love for the French language. Mike was not involved in sports but did enjoy playing cello in the orchestra, music being another passion that has lasted a lifetime.

Mike double-majored in French and English at SJSU, and then did graduate training to get his teaching credentials. His student teaching assignments included both academic and remedial students. With this teaching experience, Mike realized he could pursue a goal he had since his junior year in high school, namely, to go into the Peace Corps and help kids in developing countries.

Mike's application to the Peace Corps in 1965 started an extensive series of interviews and background checks to assure that he would be a suitable candidate. Family members, roommates, and neighbors who didn't even know Mike were contacted. Mike passed these interrogations and was assigned to Sierra Leone to teach French and English. Prior to leaving for Africa, Mike attended a 10-week training program at Roosevelt University in Chicago to get an introduction to the language, culture, and region-specific health/hygiene issues of West Africa. Chicago was meant to put him in an environment that would approximate the climate of Sierra Leone.

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Member Profiles:

(continued)

However, as he soon learned, it's hotter and more humid in Chicago than in Sierra Leone. Following numerous physical examinations, shots of gamma globulin for hepatitis, and regimens for preventing malaria, Mike was flown to Freetown, the Sierra Leone capital. The Peace Corps does not allow their volunteers to return home or go to Europe for the entire two-year assignment. That was fine with Mike and he stayed on for a 3rd year.

When back in Los Gatos in the summer of 1968, Mike applied unsuccessfully for various teaching positions in area schools. Then, through a bit of serendipity, he received notice via the SJSU placement services that Santa Rosa High School had an opening for an English teacher. He quickly interviewed and was offered a position. However, although he started teaching right away, he wasn't officially hired until September. Until he was official, the school and his students referred to him as "Teacher A" or "Mister A."

In 1970, Mike returned to West Africa as part of a program to study the cultures of Sierra Leone, Ghana, and Nigeria. In Sierra Leone, he met his future wife Kathy, another teacher from Santa Rosa. They have traveled extensively and have visited six continents. They still travel but have a great fondness for Maui. In 2024 they will make their 31st trip.

Mike has enjoyed the companionship in SIR17. Following an extended medical hiatus, he was delighted by how warmly the club members welcomed him back. He says, "At some point we all become teachers and there is so much we can learn from each other. I've enjoyed my 20 years with SIR and remember fondly the years we were served a catered lunch. However, don't make changes recklessly. There's always room for improvement, but don't mess up what you already have!" Good advice from Teacher A! *(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:

(Article by Chuck Stark)



There are now **NO** planned bocce activities. Turnout has been poor on Friday mornings for any matches with Branch 76. If you are interested in committing to a team for the Sonoma County Bocce League OR just meeting monthly for an outing then contact

Chuck Stark at cstark@sonic.net, or call 707-799-3373

Absent new interest,
all bocce activities are **cancelled!**

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



Book Club:

(Article by Neil Wheeler)



The book selection for September is ***Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI*** by David Grann. 352 pages and published in 2017. From the author of ***The Lost City of Z***, a twisting, haunting true-life murder mystery about one of the most monstrous crimes in American history.

We plan to meet in Howarth Park at the Cypress Point Picnic Area on Wednesday, September 27th at 2:00 pm to discuss the book.

If you have any questions or would like to be on our email list, call me at 707 291-0271. or send an email to: njmwheeler@science-one.org



BNO 8-16-2023 BJ's Brewhouse

Boys' Night Out:

(Article by Don Malvestiti)



BNO HAS MOVED TO THE **3rd** WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

Now on SEPTEMBER 20th.

At Grossman's Noshery & Bar.

Offering informal New York style deli, restaurant, bakery and bar. For more information check out their website:

www.grossmans.com

or call 707-595-7707.

The usual, 5:30 pm social, 6:00 pm dinner.

SPACE IS LIMITED SO NOTIFY DON EARLY by **Thursday, Sept. 7th**, to be included in group.

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



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

James Park 707-578-4255

jcpark38@sbcglobal.net



Coffee Club:

(article by Rich de Lambert)



The Coffee Club meets in Howarth Park the **2nd and 4th Thursdays** at **9:00 am**. That's Sept 14th and 28th.

We will be at the Cypress Point picnic area in Howarth Park. Come enjoy a cup of coffee, some baked goods, and conversation with your fellow SIR members, We only ask for a \$1 donation to offset the cost of the coffee and treats. Bring a lawn chair if you want to sit down. Guests are welcome, bring a friend!

If you have questions, contact, Rich de Lambert, at 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, September 7th**, from 10 am till noon.

Thirteen of us made food containers or packaged apples and onions at the last outing. We bagged 1,484 lbs. of onions and 1,022 lbs. of apples; in total, 2,506 lbs. of produce. The Food Bank calculated that we provided produce for 2,088 meals.

Our name is becoming better known in the community as a group that helps others, as well as working together, and making friends for life. We hope that you can join us in our next volunteer activity at the REFB and experience the good feeling of helping others. Wear your SIR apparel so our Branch 17 is identified. Chairs are available for those who prefer not to stand.

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 web-site under the first Thursday of each month. All the information related to time and place is on that site.

"Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth." Muhammed Ali



Barry Bialkoski and Bob Reuther,
Co-Chairs

Rich de Lambert and George
Traverso, Co-Vice Chairs



Wayne Brigden (Photo by Gordon Boulthbee)

Couples' Night Out:

(Article by Fred Rose)



Fred has been unable to get a firm commitment from the various restaurants he is considering for our September outing. As soon as a decision is made he will send out his special email. Any questions, then contact Fred at: fredricrose@comcast.net or call 707-548-5797.



Cribbage:

(Article by Rich de Lambert)

We know you played cribbage with your grandfather! Now you can come and play Wednesday, **Sept 13th** at 11:00 AM at Rich de Lambert's home at 3710 Evergreen Rd, Santa Rosa, 95405.



No talent, no cards, no board and no money necessary. Last month's winner, Ken Kazezski, is still dancing in the streets.

COME FOR A GOOD TIME!!! RSVP to Ken at 650-930-6748. Snacks will be provided.



L/R: Rich de Lambert, Ken Kazezski, Joe Olson.

(Photo by Joe Olson)

GLOBAL FORUM: (Article by Marvin Mai)



August and September seem to be heavy travel months. We pushed through August with both the in-person and Zoom meetings.

For September we will **NOT** have an in-person meeting, but we **will have** the Zoom meeting on Friday September 22 with host Neil Wheeler.



If you're not a regular recipient of Global Forum emails and would like to attend, please send an email to: njmwheeler@science-one.org to receive the Zoom information needed.

GOLF: Mondays at Bennett Valley

August was a good month for golfers at Bennett Valley Golf Course. The course is in pretty good shape and the grounds crews are doing a great job.

BUT the best news is, after twenty years of waiting, Santa Rosa City Council has *finally* approved a budget of two million dollars for the design and building of a new irrigation system! That cheer you hear in the background is from thankful golfers.

SIRs 17 and 76 have had good turnouts this month and seen some new faces. Great to see you!

To sign up for golf with SIR on Monday you need to signup on the weekly signup sheet or call Bennett Valley Golf Course by the preceding Friday morning and request to be added to the Monday SIR golf list.

See you on the course!

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. He seldom leads us down the wrong path!

If you had a bad day, don't worry. We all have a reset button—it's called tomorrow!

POKER: (Article by Mike O'Neill)



We had a fun game of Poker in August with seven players. Glenn was the "big winner." He won what he lost in July. Ted did not fare so well. He lost what he won in July. I lost a little bit each month. The food and service at Epicenter is very good. Since they do not charge us for the room, we have agreed to have each player buy lunch, a drink and add a 20% tip to their bill. They provide us with individual bills, which makes it nice.

For September, we already have seven players signed up. If you would like to play in the future, contact Mike O'Neill at: Mikeo46@sbcglobal.net. We will get you into the October game for sure. To play, you must have reservations, but if you would just like to drop in, observe the game, and have lunch with us, come by. We usually order lunch about 12:30. Play is from 12:00 to 3:00 PM.

TRAVEL GOLF: (Article by Bill Brooks, Brn 76)

September Travel Golf is at NORTHWOOD GOLF COURSE September 14, 2023. We have secured tee times for 16-20 players, starting at 8:45 AM, 18 holes \$40 walking and \$55 riding.

After golf they have a wonderful restaurant where we can have lunch and sort out the scores.

This will be a really fun event. If you have never played Northwood's beautiful nine-hole course that runs through the redwoods you really owe it to yourself to experience this cathedral-like course. Located at 19400 CA-116, Monte Rio.



Check your calendars and let Travel Golf co-chair Bill Brooks know. Contact him at his email: wilrose@sonic.net

September has several "Special Days"

The 9th is California Admission Day

The 10th is Grandparents Day

The 11th is Patriot Day

The 22nd is Autumnal Equinox—Fall begins!

Walking Group:

(Article by Richard Lundblad)



The walking group meets every **Tuesday morning at 10 am**, that is weather permitting. Exact meeting places to 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

or call me at 707-888-8386

Wine, Beer & Spirits:

(Article by George Traverso)

Our September event is all booked up with reservations that had to be in by September 1st.

Watch for an announcement for the next event in the October edition of the **BARK**.

Pictures below from various past events.



SRJC Shone Farm tour 7-12-2023



Lunch at Vintner's Inn 7-12-2023



Savage & Cooke in Vallejo 1-12-2023

MUSIC:

(Article by Rich de Lambert)

Our own in-house music leader is waiting for your call. Maestro Sir Jim Richards and Sir Rich de Lambert would like to know if you have some musical talent and would like to support their efforts in forming a small group (to play prior to our regular meeting). Your special sound needs to be heard.

Give Rich a call today at 707-545-3490 and Let's Start Dancing!!



A Car Key Story!

Several days ago as I left a meeting at a hotel, I desperately gave myself a personal TSA pat down. I was looking for my keys and they were not in my pockets. A quick search in the meeting room revealed nothing.

Suddenly I realized I must have left them in the car. Frantically, I headed for the parking lot. My husband has scolded me many times for leaving the keys in the ignition. My theory is the ignition is the best place not to lose them. His theory is that the car will be stolen. As I burst through the door, I came to a terrifying conclusion, his theory was right. The parking lot was empty. I immediately called the police. I gave them my location, confessed that I had left my keys in the car, and that it had been stolen. Then I made the most difficult call of all. "Honey," I stammered; (I always call him "honey" in times like these.) "I left my keys in the car and it's been stolen."

There was a period of silence. I thought the call had been dropped, but then I heard his voice. "Are you kidding me," he barked, "I dropped you off there!"

Now it was my time to be silent. Embarrassed, I said "Well, please come and get me."

He retorted, "I will, as soon as I can convince this cop that I didn't steal your car!"

Yep, it's the golden years.....



New Member Badge # 100
Jon Drew

My name is Jon Drew. I am happy to be a new SIR member.

I was born in San Jose, the middle child of seven, but spent most of my time growing up in the farming area around Lodi, in California's great Central Valley.

I worked in various agricultural jobs in the farmland and then in the peach/tomato cannery in Lodi.

I graduated from Sonoma State U. in 1974 with a biology major and chemistry minor.



I was trained as a CLS (Clinical Laboratory Scientist) at Kaiser SF and hired in 1975. In 1980 I opened the Kaiser Laboratory in Santa Rosa when Kaiser started their operations in Santa Rosa. I continued with Kaiser in Laboratory Medicine, opening the Medical Offices Laboratory and the Hospital Laboratory in 1990 and stayed with Kaiser until I retired after 40 years in 2014.

Since retirement I took up golf and enjoy playing at Bennett Valley two or three times a week. I am also very interested in gardening and keeping up with our household landscape, which is a joy (not a chore) to me. I also have decades of unfinished projects I would like to complete but have put off until I "have time"; my garage is a mess.

I am married to Laurie and our January anniversary will be our 49th. I like to do activities with her and have concerns that the SIR may impede with this. We have two daughters and three grandchildren, two girls and a boy.

I am very interested in the current political situation and our less than functional system of governance.

Climate change and our ability to do something about it is very important to me. I will do what I can to get us away from fossil fuels. The opportunity is present to provide energy through the sun, wind, water and batteries to address this issue and I support these activities with all my efforts.

This is my brief but spectacular statement about who I am and what I would like to do in my final years.

I look forward to learning the stories of others in this group.

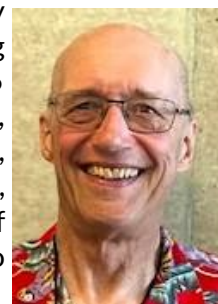
[Return to Page 1](#)



New Member Badge #142
Jack Tolin

Fellas: I have not ventured far from home, having been born and raised in Richmond CA. Santa Rosa and the Russian River were the vacation spots in my youth. I met my wife Cheryl in high school and we were married 54 years ago. Cheryl and I have two children.

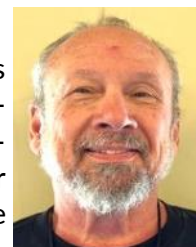
After college at USF I ventured South and went to dental school at UCLA in the "Lew Alcindor" Kareem Abdul Jabar, Bill Walton days, and then did my oral surgery residency at UCLA/Harbor General Hospital in Torrance CA. After training, we came North to Santa Rosa where I practiced oral surgery for 40 years. I did not know anyone in Santa Rosa when I arrived and have since met many lifelong friends through work, church, the Active 20-30 Club and Rotary. I keep quite busy volunteering, gardening, reading and toying around in my 1956 Chevy. I enjoy lunch with friends, following the Giants, Warriors, Forty-Niners, UCLA and Oregon, while staying in touch with out of town friends. I look forward to many new friendships in SIR.



New Member Badge #089
Ken Kazezski

I was born in April 1957 in Palo Alto, where my dad was a salesman and my mother was a secretary. I have two sisters. I graduated from Live Oak High School in Morgan Hill. I served on active duty in the Air Force from 1975-1979 and was stationed in England, Germany and Italy. I attended Gavilan Junior College in Gilroy, Lake Tahoe Community College, and received my BS in Business Administration in 2003 from San Francisco State University.

I have had a very varied business career, including as a licensed realtor, primarily in Lake Tahoe; a mortgage loan officer; and casino worker and supervisor for Harrah's in Lake Tahoe and Joliet IL.



I have enjoyed many forms of outdoor recreation including sailboat racing, golf, skiing, SCUBA diving, skydiving and motorcycle riding (and unfortunately crashing, with the thick medical file to prove it).



New Member Badge # 177

Chuck Josephs

Although I was born in Kensington, Minnesota, in 1940, I feel more like a Californian, as I have lived here most of my life. My family, with me and five sisters, moved to Washington State when I was six, and then to Berkeley when I was thirteen.

I played many sports, but my passion was basketball. Our Berkeley High School team was second to McClymonds in the Tournament of Champions, a big deal in 1958. I was fortunate to be recruited to play at UC Berkeley under coach Pete Newell. An ankle injury ended my career in basketball, and my new passion became golf, which has continued all my life. Needing to earn my keep, I then managed the Roos Atkins store in Berkeley and finished my college degree taking classes at night.

Although I knew Linda at Berkeley High School, we began dating later, after she returned from the first UC Education Abroad program in France. Wanting to return to France, she applied for a part-time job at Roos Atkins, but instead of hiring her, I asked for a date. We married a year later and have two children and six grandchildren, and 59 years together so far.

In 1966 I began working for 3M in the Bay Area. We started our family in Santa Clara, and in 1974, we moved to St. Paul, Minnesota, to the 3M Corporate Headquarters. During that time, I held several sales and marketing management positions with the Visual Products and Medical Imaging Systems Divisions. We lived on a small lake where we swam and fished in the summer, skated and played hockey in the winter. Our wonderful Minnesota neighbors were very active; we celebrated anything and everything we could think of: the Vikings, the Twins in the World Series, the big storms, volleyball, 40-year-old birthdays. Linda taught French at the junior high school, and I coached every sport in which



(Continued on top right)

New Member #177 (continued from left)

our children participated: soccer, basketball, baseball, hockey (from the bench).

In 1988 we moved to Brussels, Belgium, as I became European Group Director for the Imaging Systems Group. We took one daughter, three cats, a dog, a piano, and everything for a four bedroom house with us. Based in Brussels for four years, I traveled extensively to 3M Operations in Europe and Africa. Our daughter went to the International School of Brussels and then the American University of Paris, and our son visited us twice a year while being a student at UC Berkeley. He now works in the travel industry as a result.

We returned to Minnesota in 1992, where I had global sales and marketing responsibility for the Industrial Tape and Bonding Systems Division. I retired in 1999, and we moved to Wild Oak in Santa Rosa. Both of our children's families live nearby, in Sonoma and in San Anselmo at present. I learned how to be a grandfather. Of course, I play golf, both at Oakmont and at Fountaingrove, which I joined in 2004. I have been an active member ever since. During a round at Fountaingrove with Mike Rogalski, he invited me to join SIR. I am pleased to become a member, and I look forward to meeting you all.

Clever Wordings:

At an Optometrist's Office:

"If you don't see what you are looking for, you have come to the right place."

At a car dealership:

"The best way to get back on your feet is to miss a car payment."

Outside a muffler shop:

"No appointment necessary as we hear you coming."

In a Veterinarian's Waiting Room:

"Be back in 5 minutes. Sit! Stay!"

A special **Thank You** to members Gordon Boulton 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*

SIR Luther Burbank Branch 17

The following is a list of your **2023** Officers and Directors.

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Do We Have Your Correct Contact Info? If you have had a recent change in your address, phone number or partner status check the roster on the branch website, ask to see a paper copy at the monthly luncheon, or contact Membership Chair Gordon Boulton at: gboulton@aol.com or call him at 707-584-8063, to see if we have it. We use the information to send you the **BARK** newsletter, send out dues notices, to find out if you are coming to the luncheon, etc.