



SIR Branch 176 Windsor Winds Newsletter for August 2023

SIR Mission Statement

The Mission of SIR is to improve the lives of our members through fun activities and events – while making friends for life. Visit our [Branch Webpage](#), [State Webpage](#) and/or attend Tuesday morning coffee.

Windsor Branch 176

Monthly Luncheon Meeting Every 3rd Wednesday
Charlie's Restaurant 130 19th Hole Dr. Windsor CA
Charlie's lunch is \$22.00 (plus \$1 table tip if you wish)
Reminder: Yearly Dues (\$24) can also be paid at lunch.

Windsor Winds Edition

August 2023
Volume 28 Number 08



Big SIR – Chris Roach

We had a nice turnout at the July Lunch Meeting. Our guest speaker, the Sonoma County DA, Carla Rodriguez was very informative and answered many questions by the group. We welcomed 3 new members to our branch: Garry Trojanowski, Tony Rossi and Paco

Montanez. Continued thanks to Gary Jensen and others who helped increase our numbers. In fact, their addition brings our total member number to 61. Three potential new members also attended the lunch as our guests.

If anyone has any experience with publicity, we would be interested in talking with you. This could be another avenue to attract new members.

Invitation to BEC: Anyone interested in finding out what the BEC is and does is invited to join us. Especially new members and those interested in becoming a Director, Committee Chair or Officer. We meet before the lunch meeting, at 10:30.

If you're an early bird (and we have many of them) please be patient with the guys selling lunch and raffle tickets. Since they are BEC members, please allow them to finish our meeting before approaching an empty table. Thank you.

We are still recruiting for a Little SIR to replace Larry Doherty, when he moves on to Big SIR next year. Please contact Larry, Rich Laucks or me if you are interested. We're lightning the workload for the position! The Little SIR's main job is to provide guest speakers for the meetings. We are in the process of forming a 3-member Guest Speaker Committee to help with the process!

SIR celebrated its 65th Anniversary on 7/23/23!

Some of you already know, the Sons in Retirement Foundation, Inc. (SIRF) was established in 2019 to collect and distribute funds for SIR members who suffered significant losses in the Camp Wildfire devastation of Paradise and Magalia. Through the generosity of individual Sir members and SIR Branches, the foundation collected and distributed over \$41,000 to victims of that disaster. Since then,

SIRF has provided annually, Zoom licenses to support “Grants of Use” to SIR Branches wishing to hold meetings and activities online during and after the pandemic. The Foundation has other expenses as well, annual State of California fees and required liability insurance for non-profit organizations. The annual administrative costs total about \$1400.00. A purpose and goal of SIRF is to support the needs of SIR Branches and their members, and be prepared should an occurrence like the Camp Wildfire happen again. We also look to support other organizations for projects that make meaningful improvements to facilities and infrastructure benefitting the applicants’ local communities. The Foundation is soliciting our support by encouraging us to make a donation, no matter how small, to replenish the SIRF coffers that are now essentially empty and allow them to maintain the Foundation and continue their ability to support our members and their branches with appropriate help when needed. Our branch will discuss a donation at the next BEC Meeting. We also encourage any individual who may want to donate, to do so. Attached (*See last page of newsletter*) is the Donation Form. SIRF, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, so your contribution is tax-deductible within the limits prescribed by California law. SIRF is currently managed by a five-member volunteer Board of Directors. They invite an SIR member with fundraising experience to help the Board obtain donations that allows them to continue providing grants where needed or requested.

Chris Roach – Friendship Report

Get Well cards were sent to: Gary Jensen, Maryl Lindahl, Dick Wright and Bill Gillaspay. Happy to report that Gary, Maryl and Dick are recovering well. I'll follow up with Bill.

Little SIR – Larry Doherty



We had a great turn out this month for our monthly luncheon at Charlie's, with nearly 2/3 of our membership in attendance. It was nice to see all of the shirts worn representing something 'cool.' Let's keep the numbers up and have another great turn out next month especially since we are going to learn from Carson Pfosich about the difficulty of being quadriplegic.

Warmest Regards, Larry D.





DON'T MISS OUR LUNCHEON GUEST SPEAKER:



We will be welcoming the the Phoenix rising out of the ashes.

Carson Pforsich was born in 2000 to Andy and Andrea in Sebastopol. He was an athlete from an early age, playing basketball, baseball and football. He excelled in baseball and football at Analy High School and graduated with a 3.6 GPA.

On September 24, 2017, he was with friends at the beach in Bodega Bay. He dove over a wave and struck his head causing damage to his spine, leaving him paralyzed. His friends saw he was in trouble and removed him from the water.

It has been a long journey back from that accident. That journey included love and support from family and his girlfriend Desi, who he first met in kindergarten and who is a big part of his life now.

Carson has displayed determination and grit from the day of that accident. With the help of family, friends, dedicated doctors, physical therapists and three trips to Thailand for stem cell treatments, which have helped him greatly with strength and upper body function, he continues to improve every day and has a positive outlook that inspires all who meet him.

Today Carson is coaching football at Analy High School and working toward an accounting degree at an online college.



Golf-Mike Berry

The hot weather has occasionally taken its toll of weekly turnout numbers but the core group continues to lead the way. We remain hopeful that we will soon see new members joining us, each Wednesday, except luncheon Wednesday. Start times are 8 to 8.45. It's a fun group, most handicaps are over 25, so most will feel quite at home! We usually begin arriving at 7:45.

Prior to Wednesday, use the signup sheet at the golf course or call the golf course at 707-838-7888 to sign up for SIRS golf. The starter usually gets us out by 8:00. ***if you are new*** to the golf group, please show up on time (7:45-8:00) and look for us. Since we look forward to playing with new members, we will certainly make adjustments to get you in.

EDITOR'S NOTICE:

I receive very positive feedback concerning our "Profile" section. For it to continue folks must step up and be willing to share. *I really need someone for the September newsletter.* If you are so inclined, please contact me at palmer.ts@gmail.com.



Our Newest Members:



Paco Montanez

Paco was in the Army and worked at Safeway before beginning working for AT&T, from where he retired just this past December. He is very good friends with Jerry Culver.

Our other two new members who were featured last month have been officially voted in as members. An official welcome to Tony Rossi and Garry Troganowski.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS AUGUST TO:

RICK DE LAMBERT; BILL GALLASPY; DAVE HARRISON; GARY JENSEN

DON McCORQUODALE; PAT McDERMOTT; WARD THOMPSON;

RICH LAUCKS; JOHN YOUNG

Dave Harrison –Bowling

Our 2023 Summer 2023 No Tap Bowling league is winding down. Our final playoff rounds will be on August 17th. Branch 176 SIR members are doing very well. On August 10th SIR Don McCorquodale bowled a perfect no tap game. A week later, on August 17th SIR Jerry Culver bowled two perfect no tap games. Teams with SIR members remain competitive. Our Winter Bowling league will begin on September 14th.

If you are interested in joining our Winter Bowling league, please contact me at 707-292-2300, and I will forward your name and contact information to our league secretary. Now is a good time to sign up.

Dave Harrison

Bowling Chair

Couples Dinner (Not an official SIR Activity)



July's Couples Dinner at Betty's Fish & Chips was another success after a kind of chaotic start, after shifting tables around several times, we

ordered and sat down for an enjoyable evening of tasty food and good conversation.

Due to a few late cancellations there were only 10 couples for this event. New to our Couples Dinner were Garry and Jan Trojanowski and Lorenzo Cavallo.

The fish and chips were as good as always and a new dish to us were the fish tacos that got rave reviews. The only disappointment was no lemon cloud pie that night. Another reason for a return trip.

THANKS TO LAST MONTHS GUEST SPEAKER:



DA Carla Rodriguez

DA Carla Rodriguez, who has worked for the County in the DA's office for 24 years, enlightened us with the difficulty of trying to convict gang members due to the State's concern that it might be done because of race. She also discussed how she doesn't want Sonoma County turning into a San Francisco (i.e., the thefts) so she will prosecute those who shop for free...steal. Also that the State is trying to pass a law that it would be illegal for employees to try and stop the thieves from exiting a store with ill-gotten gains. It is apparent that Carla has the same ideals we all share.

My Profile:

PAT McDERMITT



I was raised in Beverly Hills with my three siblings. I graduated from Beverly Hills High in 1954. After High School I went to USC and graduated from there in 1958. I went into the Army Reserves and drove tanks in Fort Knox Kentucky. Professionally I became a Manufacture's marketing representative in New York. My specialty was Woman's apparel. My customers were Macy's and others. I eventually moved to San Francisco where I opened a showroom on Market Street.

My Wife Bebe and I have four grown children, lots of grandkids and 5 great grandkids...so far. I currently live in San Rafael and I'm able to attend the SIR events because I take the train and/or John Young picks me up for golf and lunches. One of my greatest accomplishments was getting a hole in one with SIRS on 7/9/97, 11th hole.

For fun, I enjoy Giant Games, 49ers Games, travel, cards, having a few beers and of course, golf.

Gary Jensen – Recruitment and Coffee



Coffee at the senior center

Recruitment is going well. We brought in three new members at the July meeting. We should have one or two more next month. Coffee is going very well at the Senior Center. About 20 members or more every Tuesday morning.

Bocce Ball - Stewart Morgan

Bocce Ball at Lakewood Meadows Park Thursdays at 10:00am



STEWART MORGAN –TRAVEL

If you are interested or have questions please contact Stewart

at stwrmorgan@gmail.com



SIR Branch Travel Chair Trips and News

Milt Smith State Travel Chair miltsmith549@gmail.com 925-285-2897c

July 2023

Disney's Aladdin Wed. Aug. 9, 2023 1pm at the Orpheum Theatre. Branch 7 & 8. Cost \$110 pp. Includes Lunch at Max's Opera Café, luxury motorcoach transportation, driver gratuity. Contact Ted Pullen, 415-499-4610 tedpullen@comcast.net

Majestic Princess Denali Explorer Aug. 23 – Sept. 2, 2023. Branch 147 this trip cancelled. Contact Bill Johns if you have questions. 707-971-7639. billjohns121@gmail.com

Colorado Rockies, Rails & Western National Parks Sept. 10 – 18 2023. Branch 32. Cost \$3,649pp. Includes r/t air, 11 meals 8 breakfasts, tour director, motorcoach transportation, all admissions, baggage handling. **Highlights: 3 train experiences**, Durango, Pikes Peak & Royal Gorge. **4 National Parks**, Mesa Verde, Arches, Canyon Lands & Great Sand Dunes. Contact John Pletsch, 408-504-1255 jeplet@sbcglobal.net

Croatia and Its Islands. Sept. 24 – Oct. 7, 2023. Branch 101. Cost \$6,714 – 7,214pp depending on cabin. Highlights: Dubrovnik, 7-night Adriatic Cruise, Slano, Mljet National Park, Korcula, Vis, Bisevo, Blue Cave, Hvar, Bol, Trogir, Slit. Choice on tour; Sibenik, Cathedral of St. James, Krka National Park, Zagreb, Stone Gate. The price includes round trip flights from SFO, Travel Insurance and tips. 3 cabins still available (6 people max.) Contact Bill Britton 925-200-1062. bill.britton@comcast.net

Autumn Colors Oct. 13 – 22, 2023. Branch 143. Cost \$4,330pp. Boston to Boston. Includes air & bus transportation. **Highlights:** Boston, Mohawk Trail, Mount Washington. Contact Bill Stires 209-544-2684. bstires46@gmail.com

The Lion King, Matinee Wednesday December 13 Branches 7, 47 & 22. "The Musical of a lifetime!" Orpheum Theater SF. Departs San Rafael 10am returns 5:30pm \$125pp. Includes luxury motorcoach, gratuity, hosted lunch at Max's Opera Café and rear orchestra seating. Contact Ted Pullen 415-499-4610 tedpullen@comcast.net

Rose Parade & New Year's Eve Dec. 30, 2023 – Jan. 4, 2024. Cost \$3,375pp. Includes air fare, lodging, New Year's Eve party, Rose Parade, Nixon Library, coastal cities, luxury bus, lodging, 9 meals. Contact Joe Salamida 408-767-2838. ascreenman756@gmail.com

Best of Spain and Portugal April 27 – May 12, 2024. Branch 146. Cost \$7,895pp. Madrid, Segovia, Porto, Lisbon, Seville, Gibraltar, Costa Del Sol, Alhambra, Valencia, Barcelona, round trip airfare, 15-day guided tour with Travel Director, 14 nights at centrally located 4star hotels, 5 dinners and 2 lunches including wine, all tips, transfers and baggage handling. Contact Glenn Breslin 925 -288-6520 glennbreslin@gmail.com

Memorials of WWII Tour Sept. 6 – 15, 2024 Cost \$4,972pp dbl.Occ. London, Portsmouth, Paris, D-Day Museum, Landing R/T air, motor coach, ferry from England to France. 8 brkfst. 4 dinner. Contact Glenn Breslin 925-288-6520 glennbreslin@gmail.com

OTHER COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS: (Not official SIR Activities)

Keep an Eye Out for more notices from Len Schwer about Margarita Monday and other community events. For additional information contact Len Schwer at: Len@schwer.net

Every Saturday morning (8:30-10AM) Jose Castaneda hosts a FREE breakfast for veterans at Castaneda Marketplace; 8465 Old Redwood Highway. This “Castañeda’s Breakfast Brigade,” provides veterans a place for connections, camaraderie & friendship

<https://www.facebook.com/CastanedasMarket>



The third Thursday of the month, August 17th, Jose Castaneda offers a free coffee and concha (Mexican pastry) to all seniors. An opportunity to meet other Windsor residents for socializing between 9 and 11AM.



Once a month, this month **August 21st**, all SIR and their spouse are welcome to start the “work” week with Margherita Monday – a chance to sample the best frozen margaritas in Windsor. Starts sharply at 4PM Castaneda’s Market Place.

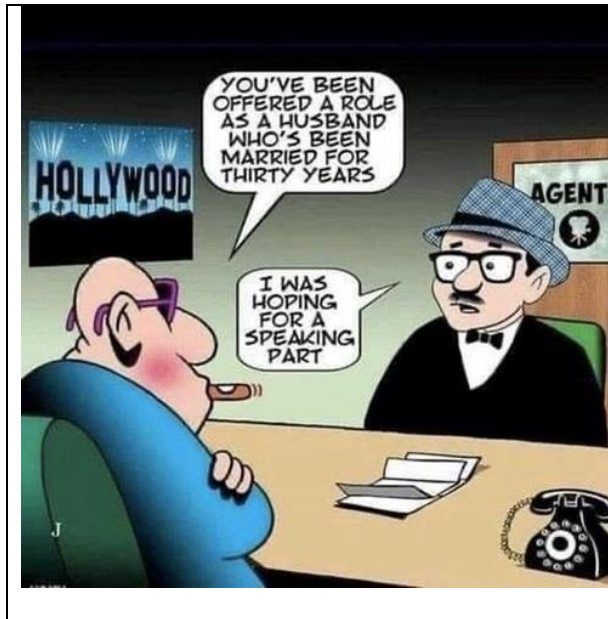


The Pacific Coast Air Museum is once again hosting Hot Dog Thursday on the first Thursday of the month April through October. The next one is **August 3rd**.

<https://pacificcoastairmuseum.org/hot-dog-thursday/>

Hot Dogs are \$8 including a drink, chips and entrance to the museum. The delicious hot dogs are served between 11:30 AM and 1:30 PM. Noon tends to be the most crowded time with limited close in parking; last year they sold out of hot dogs on more than one occasion including a record 600 dogs on just one Thursday. This is not an official SIR activity, so bring your spouse and neighbors.

FOR THE LIGHT HEARTED:





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| 2023 SIR Branch 176 Officers: | | | | | |
| Big SIR Chris Roach (707) 490-8510 Chrisroach@sbcglobal.net | | Little SIR Larry Doherty 707-484-5308 | | Secretary Dave Harrison 707-6388155 harrisod@sonic.net | |
| Assistant Secretary Jerry Culver 707-953-4901 | | Treasurer Ward Thompson 707-539-1377 | | Assistant Treasurer Howard Blethen 707-892-2992 | |
| 2023 Directors | | | | | |
| <i>1 Year Term</i> | | | <i>2 Year Term</i> | | |
| Rich Laucks | Jock Rader | Tim Senkir | Ed Peoples | John Crooker | Gary Jensen |
| 2023 Activity Coordinators | | | | | |
| | ATTENDANCE Ron Nordstrom 707-338-6363 | MEMBERSHIP Larry Doherty 707-484-5308 | FRIENDSHIP Chris Roach (707) 490-8510 | | |
| TRAVEL Stewart Morgan 707-545-4957 | GOLF Mike Berry 707-837-1792 | BOWLING Dave Harrison 707-638-8155 | COFFEE CLUB Gary Jensen 707-377-8380 | | |
| COUPLES DINNER Wayne and Maryl Lindahl 707-837-2816 | BOCCE BALL Stewart Morgan 707-545-4957 | RECRUITMENT Gary Jensen 707-337-8380 | GREETER Gary Jensen 707-337-8380 | | |
| SONG LEADER Tom Hasco 707-544-4445 | NEWSLETTER Tom Palmer 619-920-9175 | WEB PAGE John Crooker 707-328-8748 | | | |
| SIR State President Dave Gonzales yogonzo@wahoo.com | | | SIR Area 13 Governor Bob Nadell 707-836-4123 nadellb@sbcglobal.net | | |

The Sons In Retirement Foundation, Inc.

Donation Form

As a member of SIR, Branch No. _____ I wish to make a donation to The Sons In Retirement Foundation, Inc. (SIRF). I understand my donation and support will enable the Foundation (SIRF) to provide grants to SIR Branches for meaningful projects in support of their local communities, SIR Statewide Programs, as well as individual SIR members and SIR Branches needing assistance.

Donor: _____ Title: _____

Individual Branch State SIR

Mailing Address: _____

Phone No. _____ E-mail Address: _____

Donation Amount: _____

Send Donations to:

SIRF Treasurer
21 Warford Terrace
Orinda, CA 94563

The Sons In Retirement Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit California corporation.
(FEIN # 83-2837207) Your contribution is tax-deductible within the limits prescribed by law.