



## SIR Branch 176 Windsor Winds Newsletter for August 2024

### 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday  
Charlie's Restaurant 130 19<sup>th</sup> Hole Dr. Windsor CA  
Charlie's lunch is \$23.00 (plus \$1 table tip if you wish)

#### ***Windsor Winds Edition***

August 2024  
Volume 29 Number 8

### **Big SIR – Larry Doherty**



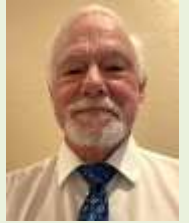
I hope you all are having a wonderful summer. I know it is a time for adventures and travel, but we would still love to see everyone who can make it to the luncheons to come. This month we celebrated those SIRs who have been residents of Sonoma County the longest. While we had a few who have been here well over 60 years, Al Fiori has been here for 86 years. Well done Al as you represent the best of Sonoma County.

Don't forget to invite your friends for lunch as they are always welcome.

I won't see you at the August luncheon as I too will be traveling to Lake Almanor but you will be in good hands as Little Sir Tom Palmer will be running the show. In August our own Bill Gillaspay will be celebrating his becoming a nonagenarian...yeah I had to look it up, someone in the 90s.

I hope you all have a great August and be careful as Covid is raising its evil head again.

## Little SIR – Tom Palmer



I hate to mention it but....State SIR convened a Town Hall Meeting on June 24th to discuss the future of SIR. The state leadership believes that SIR is at risk of failure based on issues including:

- \* Membership has declined from a state high of 30,000 to now 8,800 (Net -4%/yr.);
- \* Member median age is increasing;
- \* An increasing number of members are “aging out” and they are not being replaced by new younger members at an acceptable rate;
- \* Volunteering is declining;
- \* Many branches and the State are having difficulty replacing leaders.

A broad range of actions have been proposed to “save SIR”. Some of the more serious ideas include:

- \* A name and logo change. Take away the word “Retirement” and possibly “Sons”;
- \* Transition to 501(c)3 nonprofit, soliciting donations, and hiring an executive director, a digital marketing firm, and an IT firm.
- \* In order to obtain desired donations, the Inclusion of women.

Our branch along with a few others (like our neighbor branch 17 in Santa Rosa) have been successful and don't realize most of these problems. However, the majority of other branches have not been so blessed, are a cause of SIR's decline, and are in need of revitalization. It follows then that what may be best for one branch, may not necessarily be so for another. Hence, reactions to these ideas have been mixed and discussions will continue; and I will do my best to keep you informed.

Meanwhile in our branch, volunteers have been coming forward to ensure continuation of our success (specific names to be announced later). To those who have or will be stepping up, a big “Thank You”. To those who have been working/inviting folks so that we might gain more members.... again “Thank You”.

## Chris Roach – Friendship Report



*Get Well cards to:  
Terry Taylor  
Tom Hasco*



**When you see him, please welcome our newest member Gary Good:**



Gary lives in Windsor and has done so for about ten years. He heard about SIRS from the Senior Center and decided to join us for coffee. After having coffee a couple of times, he decided that this is a club he can enjoy. He is currently retired and was a technology writer & PR Agent with 10 Fold Communications.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS AUGUST TO:**

Bill Gillaspay \*; Dave Harrison, Gary Jensen, Rich Laucks, Don McCorquodale, Pat McDermott, Larry Thompson, Ward Thompson, Jim Tubb, John Young.

\*Happy 80<sup>th</sup>

## Golf: Jerry Culver & Frank Treanor



Golf continues to move along, 12 to 14 players most Wednesdays. New players can contact Jerry [sodone56@yahoo.com](mailto:sodone56@yahoo.com) , Or Frank , [bcft11@comcast.net](mailto:bcft11@comcast.net) to sign up.

Please arrive at about 0730 for a start at 0800.

Frank

## DON'T MISS OUR LUNCHEON GUEST SPEAKER ON 8/21:



Marriane McBride

Join Marriane McBride, President and CEO of the Council on Aging will be speaking about the state of aging in Sonoma County, Marriane will be covering the following topics:

- **Demographics**
- **Concerns and Challenges of the Aging Population**
- **The Master Plan for Aging**
- **Future Solutions**
- **Local Resources**

Please attend the luncheon and let's warmly welcome her.

## THANKS TO OUR JULY LUNCHEON GUEST SPEAKER:



**Ellie Muelrath**

Sonoma County Regional Parks Community Outreach Supervisor Ellie brought maps and pamphlets and shared opportunities for us to get out and enjoy our parks. If you missed it, a copy of her power point presentation is on our web page. <https://windsorsirs.org/>

## Bocce Ball - Stewart Morgan



**Bocce Ball at the Senior's Center Thursdays at 10:00am. All are welcome.**

The game is played with eight *bocce* (larger balls) and one *pallino* (smaller target ball). The object is simple: toss the balls closest to the *pallino*.

## **Couples Dinner (Not an official SIR Activity)**

### **Couples Dinner- Wayne Lindahl & Jim Neal**

Our July Couples Dinner at Windsor's Himalayan Restaurant was another successful event. After a cancellation, which we filled from the waiting list, we had twelve couples, including a few new faces, to enjoy the dinner.

It's always a good idea to sign up for the waiting list just in case of a cancellation. We had one half of the restaurant and all seemed to have a good time getting better acquainted with other members and spouses and enjoying outstanding food.

I usually order more than I plan to eat, in order to bring home my next day's lunch. The chicken tikka masala, fried noodles and ribs all got good reviews.

We are very fortunate to have such a variety of excellent restaurants here in Windsor and such a choice of various cuisines from which to choose.



## CRIBBAGE



Cribbage is a weekly event every Wednesday afternoon from 2pm until 4:30. This is run through the Windsor Senior Center, so anyone and everyone is welcome. Just come for a game or two or stay the entire time, your choice. New players welcome.

## Gary Jensen – Recruitment

Recruitment: We still have a goal of at least 80 members by years end, five more to go, so let's keep inviting friends.

For Coffee (John Fineren): Interest in the Tuesday Morning 9am coffee session has taken off again. Good to see so many folks attending. Don't forget to invite a friend.



Coffee at the senior center

## Dave Harrison: Bowling Report for SIR Branch 176

As of writing this report, we have only three Summer No-Tap League bowling sessions left. The summer season has been fun, with scores elevated by the “nine-pin-down=strike” rule of No-Tap. Sir Don McCorquodale added to his list of perfect games by bowling another perfect game on Monday July 26<sup>th</sup>.

The Fall-Winter Senior Monday Morning Mixed couples bowling league will begin on September 9<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in joining our Fall-Winter league, please let me know at [harrisod@sonic.net](mailto:harrisod@sonic.net). I'll transfer your contact information to our league secretary who is managing the sign-ups for this league.

## DID YOU KNOW?



**When Franklin Roosevelt started a foundation to fight polio, Comedian Eddie Cantor came up with the "March of Dimes", asking people to mail a dime to the White House. They were soon overwhelmed with 2,680,000 dimes mailed to them, literally truckloads, mostly from children. These dimes went directly to research that resulted in the Polio vaccine. This is why Roosevelt is on the U.S. dime.**



## MEMBER PROFILE:



**Don McCorquodale**

I was born on August 7, 1941, as a twin brother, in Sacramento, Ca. We moved to Spring Gap, Ca. when I was just one year old. My father was a powerhouse operator for PG&E. About two years later, the family relocated to Salinas, Ca and two years and after that to King City. Then in 1946 my family was involved in an auto accident that took the life of my twin brother. A while after that, my father was promoted to Electrical Supervisor causing us to move yet again, this time to Willits, Ca.

When I was 13 years old our family relocated one last time to Santa Rosa. I attended Slater Middle School and then Santa Rosa High School. While I was in high school, Montgomery High School was being built. I went there in 1959 for my senior year, making me a member of the first graduating class of Montgomery.

After graduation I went into the Sheet Metal trade where I worked for 4 years before becoming a journeyman. While still working in this trade I decided to join the Army Reserves. After 6 months of training, my service consisted of summer camp two weeks every year and meetings every month for the first four years. For the following four years I remained with the Army as inactive, only required to serve if there was a war. I retired from the Army in 1968. During these years I continued to work in the sheet metal trade; but most importantly, it was the time I meet the love of my life, Rogene Vartanian. We married in April 1965 at St. Eugene's Catholic Church and nine months later became proud parents to our son, Doug.

I retired from the Sheet Metal Trade and joined PG&E in 1967. In 1968 we had our first daughter Heather, and then our second daughter, Stacy in 1971. We all moved to our dream home in Northeast Windsor in early 1978.

While continuing to work, I attended Santa Rosa JC in the evenings to earn my AA in Industrial Arts, graduating in 1969. Having worked my way up to a "Gas Technician", I retired from PG&E in 2001. By retirement my family had grown to include 4 wonderful grandchildren. Doug & his wife Zobida have a daughter and a son; while Heather with husband Paul having twin daughters. Stacy provided them with furry grand babes to love on.

After my retirement, for 20 years, I stayed busy running my own handyman business from which I retired in 2021. Life was not always work, work, work Rogene and I went on many cruises to see different parts of the world and also joined an RV Club to explore closer areas of the country. We really enjoyed our leisurely time together. I also liked to stay active by bowling and

playing bocce ball. When at home I enjoy watching a good ball game, whether it's baseball, football or basketball.

Rogene and I spent 58 years together before she passed from Alzheimer's complications in February of 2023. Currently, I like to be active by RVing with son Doug, bowling in his league, playing bocce ball, SIRS meetings and PG&E Retiree luncheons.

**August 3<sup>rd</sup> is the day for parties and music:  
Two of our Sirs are having a live music party and we are all  
invited:**

## YOU ARE INVITED TO A YARD PARTY

JOIN US FOR A

# BBQ PARTY

Please Bring Your Own Drinks

**AUG 3<sup>RD</sup> | 3P.M.**  
Live music starting at 5

No cost involved - just bring a dish to pass & tip the band.  
*Please bring lawn chairs.*

RSVP Becky 707-849-2349 or Mary 707-480-8397 to coordinate side dishes.

**SATURDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST**  
121 Windsor Palms Dr.  
129 Windsor Palms Dr. &

**SPECIAL GUEST**

**THE FARGO BROTHERS**  
Serving Country #1 Dance Band

Sirs Bob Wallace and John Hancock are throwing a house/yard party and you are invited. These neighbors combine their yards, set up a stage for the band, get out the big grills and fun is to be had by all. Since they are now members of Branch 176, they are hoping to see some of their SIR friends (and spouses/partners).

Time: 8/3 starting at 3pm. Band – [Fargo Brothers](#) at 5.

Place: 129 and 121 Windsor Palms

Plenty of food provided: Jambalaya, Ribs & Beer Can Chicken, Brats and Hot Dogs. If you wish to bring something else to grill, please feel free.  
Limited drinks provided, so feel free to contribute.  
No cost to guests, but please consider tipping the band.

**RSVP:** Mary: 707-480-8397 or Becky: 707-849-2349

**Note:** Parking is limited to the street, Windsor Palms shopping center and the Catholic church.



**Hadden Sayers**

Decka 9 House Concerts (*Via Sir Charles Boyd*) is hosting Hadden Sayers. The donation is \$25 per person, and all monies go directly to the artist. We will have a potluck before (1 hour) the show, (late afternoonish) and at intermission dessert will be served by the host, then a second set of music.

We have had Hadden play here once before, he puts on a great show. This will be a solo performance.

If you'd like to get an idea of what a house concert is like visit our Facebook page Decka 9 House Concerts. The link is below.

To attend please send an RSVP to [barbraboyd12@gmail.com](mailto:barbraboyd12@gmail.com). If you'd like to be on our mailing list for future shows you can send us your email to the same place. We will not share your email with anyone. Once you RSVP we'll send our address and hopefully will have firm times by then.

Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/511338095915502>

Here is Hadden playing

[NCCM: Hadden Sayers Flat Black Automobile](#)

## FOR THE LIGHT HEARTED:

**Them:** What inspires you to get out of bed every morning?

**Me:** My bladder mostly.



### **BENEFITS OF A GOOD VOCABULARY!**

**I RECENTLY CALLED AN OLD ENGINEERING BUDDY OF MINE AND ASKED WHAT HE WAS WORKING ON THESE DAYS.**

**HE REPLIED THAT HE WAS WORKING ON "AQUA-THERMAL TREATMENT OF CERAMICS, ALUMINUM AND STEEL UNDER A CONSTRAINED ENVIRONMENT."**

**I WAS IMPRESSED UNTIL, UPON FURTHER INQUIRY, I LEARNED THAT HE WAS WASHING DISHES WITH HOT WATER UNDER HIS WIFE'S SUPERVISION.**



What happens when Old Car Guys get sent to a nursing home ...

The trouble  
WITH  
RETIREMENT  
IS YOU NEVER  
GET A DAY OFF



# OTHER COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS:

(Non SIR Activities)



***May 30 - August 29***

***Thursday Live Concerts (6-8 pm)***  
**Windsor Town Green**

For additional information and complete schedule visit their webpage at:

<https://www.townofwindsor.com/342/Summer-Nights-on-the-Green>



Youth and seniors can now ride free on SMART trains throughout Sonoma and Marin counties under a new pilot program that started April 1.

According to a recent announcement, the program runs through June 30, 2025, and allows youth 18 and younger and seniors 65 and older to board any SMART train, any day of the week and ride fare-free. Youth and seniors are not required to have a Clipper Card or to use the SMART eTickets app, to reduce any barriers to entering the transit system.

**August 1<sup>st</sup>**– The first Thursday of every month, April through October, is “Hot Dog Thursday” hosted by the Pacific Coast Air Museum at the Sonoma County Airport. **Cost: \$8.00** will get you into the museum, a hot dog, a drink, and chips. Extra hungry? Ask for the Big Dog for \$10 or add an ice cream for \$2.

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



**Every Saturday morning (8:00-10AM)** 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>



**Once a month**, date varies, this month it is **AUGUST 12<sup>th</sup>**. 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.

**Keep an Eye Out for notices from Len Schwer about Margarita Monday and other community events.** For additional information contact Len Schwer at: [Len@schwer.net](mailto:Len@schwer.net)

## STEWART MORGAN –TRAVEL

If you are interested or have questions please contact Stewart  
at [stwrvmorgan@gmail.com](mailto:stwrvmorgan@gmail.com)



**2024**

**Fall Mexican Riviera Getaway Oct. 15 – 26, '24 11 Days. Branch 98 Cost \$844 - \$944 - \$1074 - \$1424 -**

**\$6083pp. depending on cabin.** Highlights: Departs from and returns to San Francisco, ports of call Cabo San

Lucas, Mazatlán, Puerto Vallarta, Manzanillo. **Contact Katherine Gervais Branch 98. 916-337-1623**

[Kathig@shipsandtrips.com](mailto:Kathig@shipsandtrips.com)

**Prague to Budapest River Trip November Dates: 11/6/24 thru 11/20/24**

Serenade A: \$3995 / Serenade B: \$3895 /Sonata C: \$3795 Sonata D: \$3695/Cantata E: \$3595 /Cantata F:

\$3495/Prelude G: \$3395/Prelude H: \$3195/Air from SFO: \$1100. **Ports and cities:** Prague, Linz, Krems,

Vienna, Bratislava, Budapest. **Pre-trip US departure date: 11/1/24. Post-trip to Budapest return date:**

**11/23/24**

Dresden and Berlin: \$995pp PRE-TRIPM - Warsaw and Krakow: \$1095 PRE-TRIP. Budapest: \$745

POST-TRIP. **Contact Milt Smith 925-258-2897 ASAP for more info. [miltsmith549@gmail.com](mailto:miltsmith549@gmail.com) or book**

**directly Group Code G4-23630 call 1-800-221-2610**

**Panama Canal Cruise San Francisco to Ft. Lauderdale. Jan. 20 – Feb. 5, 2025 17 days. Cost from \$4,185 -**

**\$6,295 depending on cabin choice.** Ports of Call: Puerto Vallarta Mexico, Puerto Quetzal Guatemala,

Puntarenas Costa Rica, Fuerte Amador Panama, Full Transit through the historic locks, and Cartagena

Columbia. Includes transfers from Modesto to Port of San Francisco and airfare from Ft. Lauderdale to

Sacramento. For more information **contact John Cordoza 209-483-7722**

[johncordoza@hotmail.com](mailto:johncordoza@hotmail.com) Branch 143



2024 SIR Branch 176 Officers:					
<b>Big SIR</b> Larry Doherty <a href="mailto:ldohrebl@mindspring.com">ldohrebl@mindspring.com</a> 707-484-5308		<b>Little SIR</b> Thomas Palmer <a href="mailto:Palmer.ts@gmail.com">Palmer.ts@gmail.com</a> 619-920-9175		<b>Secretary</b> Dave Harrison <a href="mailto:harrisod@sonic.net">harrisod@sonic.net</a> 707-638-8155	
<b>Assistant Secretary</b> Jerry Culver so.done56@yahoo.com		<b>Treasurer</b> Garry Trojanowski <a href="mailto:garryski@att.net">garryski@att.net</a> 203-988-5366		<b>Assistant Treasurer</b> Howard Blethen HT552@yahoo.com	
2024 Directors					
<i>1 Year Term</i>			<i>2 Year Term</i>		
Ed Peoples	Tim Senkir	Gary Jensen	Chris Roach	Wayne Lindahl	Ward Thompson
2023 Activity Coordinators					
<b>CRIBBAGE</b> Ron Nordstrom 707-338-6363		<b>ATTENDANCE</b> Ron Nordstrom 707-338-6363		<b>MEMBERSHIP</b> Larry Doherty 707-484-5308	
<b>FRIENDSHIP</b> Chris Roach (707) 490-8510		<b>TRAVEL</b> Stewart Morgan 707-545-4957		<b>GOLF</b> Frank Treanor 707-322-7217	
<b>BOWLING</b> Dave Harrison 707-638-8155		<b>COFFEE CLUB</b> John Fineren 707-838-3686		<b>COUPLES DINNER</b> Wayne and Maryl Lindahl 707-837-2816	
<b>GREETER</b> John Fineren 707-838-3686		<b>BOCCE BALL</b> Stewart Morgan 707-545-4957		<b>RECRUITMENT</b> Gary Jensen 707-337-8380	
<b>COFFEE COORDINATOR</b> John Fineren 707-838-3686		<b>SONG LEADER</b> Tom Hasco 707-544-4445		<b>NEWSLETTER</b> Tom Palmer 619-920-9175	
<b>WEB PAGE</b> Jim Tubbs drdelta91@gmail.com		<b>SIR State President</b> Dale Decker			
<b>SIR Area 13 Governor (temp)</b> Rick Kindle rick@kindleandassoc.com					

