



SIR BRANCH 171 September 2020

<http://branch171.sirinc2.org/>

A Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation for Retired Men Devoted to the
Promotion of Independence and Dignity of Retirement



Our next meeting will be Wednesday, Sept. 2 at 10:00am

It will be a Zoom Virtual Meeting

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

We will be having a Branch 171 Zoom Virtual Meeting

Wednesday, Sept. 2 at 10:00am

[We have another excellent speaker lined up !!](#)

BIG SIR MESSAGE: RICK FEND

We had a good turnout for the July 29 membership meeting using the Zoom platform. There were 59 “baby zoomers” at the meeting. They were treated to an excellent talk by Dieter Kurtenbach, sport columnist for the East Times, who received rave reviews!

We have another excellent speaker lined up for our upcoming September 2 meeting. BYOC again (coffee, cake, champagne, or whatever). Read about the Program in the Little SIR Report. And come to see some of the other members on the zoomer screen.

I checked some other branches in the area and our 40+% zoom attendance was slightly above what other branches have had for their zoom membership meetings. Let’s see if we can top that for the next meeting. Unless, of course, your calendar is full.

Here are the names of the 2021 leadership team, as voted on at our July 29 meeting:

- Big Sir – Graig Crossley
- Little Sir – *open*
- Secretary – Mike Donovan
- Asst Sec. – Al Donner
- Treasurer – Bob Krompholz
- Asst Treas. – Hal D’Ambrosia
- Directors – Ed Drasin, Rick Fend, Tim Freeman, Barry Leskin, & Chris Lyne

We are focusing on filling the Little SIR position. Why not contact me with your interest (rickfend@yahoo.com) . It is a very rewarding job, and not difficult. Just ask Graig.

In closing, I’d like to say I’ll see you at the next membership meeting on Sept 2, but I’ll be out of town and Graig will be running the “show”.

Cheers and stay healthy.

Rick Fend, Big SIR



LITTLE SIR REPORT: GRAIG CROSSLEY

Here is the Zoom information you will need to enter the meeting:

Video and audio access -- use the following link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84043581009>

Audio only access

Phone #: 1-669-900- 6833

Meeting ID: 840 4358 1009



No passcode is needed in either case.

Contact Stan Holcenberg if you have any Zoom questions – sholcenb@icloud.com

Tim Freeman, Chair of the Speaker Committee, will be hosting our the speaker at our September 2 meeting. The speaker and topic information follow.

September 2 Program

The speaker will be **Dr. Michael Barrington**, former priest, author, and current Branch 116 Big SIR. He will be talking about his book

“The Bishop Wears No Drawers: A Former Catholic Missionary Priest Remembers Africa”

Dr. Barrington spent ten years in Nigeria and three of those years were during a civil war when he was stood up to be shot.



Dr. Michael Barrington was born in Manchester in the UK. but has lived in the Bay Area for 30+ years. As the president of MJB Consulting, he travels all over the world providing Monitoring and Evaluation Services to humanitarian organizations such as USAID, UNICEF, Oxfam, Save the Children etc. and has worked in more than forty countries.

He is a former Catholic Missionary priest and ministered in Nigeria, Mexico and Brazil. He speaks six languages and academically considers himself to be “over engineered” having three Masters Degrees and a Ph.D.

After living in Africa he spent a year living as a hermit attached to a Trappist monastery in Northern Ireland. He now lives in Concord with his French wife, a crazy Tibetan terrier, and is an avid golfer.

Photo of the Month



Our speaker from the last meeting, Dieter Kurtenbach, very popular local sports columnist.

“Dieter analyzes the amazing and roasts the absurd in the world of sports for the Bay Area News Group.” And he did at our meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & NEWS

Birthdays

A Happy Birthday to our August and September Birthday boys. We had a very large number of members that have had and are having their birthdays during those two months. 17% of the months of the year, but 25% of the birthdays.

We will have two drawings at the September 2 meeting for those months with the winners getting a free lunch, redeemable at a future date when we are all together again. And here they are:

August

Ian Baird – Jorge Berindoague – Roy Cuneo – Al Dessayer – Phil Eyring
Michael Gibbs -- Rich Haddock – John Haffner – Jim Kline – Rich Laufenberg
Tom Lemmer – Tom Marnane -- Bob Meadowcroft – Larry Monin – Joseph Muscat
David Ohlson -- Kenneth Russi -- John Schick – Mitch Tarkoff

September

Ed Beatson – Ralph Blumenthal – Mike Brodsky – David Byrens – Michael Chinn
Robert Church – Al Donner – Ken Haley – Chuck Healy – George Henrich – Bob Krompholz
Lew Lippard – Monte Logan – Frank Mori – Rich Suave – Sal Zammiti

Please reply to this email if your birthday is in August or September and you do not see your name on the list.

Email addresses

Each month we hear from one or more persons that their email address is incorrect on our distribution list and directory and could we please update our records.

A request – when you have any change that needs to be made in our records (i.e. email address, home address, contact phone number, or marital information), please send that change to John Schick (jschick@att.net). Thanks.

Activities

John Schick, Chair of the Senior Strollers Walking Group (a component of the 171/174 Walking Group), submitted an application to the Board for SIR approval to open the group. The application covered the necessary health safety measures and was approved. The Group will meet on Wednesdays. Contact John (jschick@att.net) to get included on the group list and to determine the meeting location and the time for the walks.

BRANCH REPORTS

ATTENDANCE REPORT: FRANCIS WONG

59 attended the September 29 Branch Meeting. Not a luncheon meeting. No formal report.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: ED DRASIN (Chair)

MEMBERSHIP					
Prior Month:	141				
Inductees	0				
Deductions	0				
Total, This Month:	141				
APPROVALS THIS MONTH	0				
APPLICANTS AWAITING INDUCTION	0				
APPLICANT LIST	None				
NOTES:	Total number of members in AR category is 11.				

Membership Application Forms are available from Ed Drasin, or on the Club website (<http://www.sirinc2.org/branch171/>). For the website, select "Application: from within the "Members" selection"

ROSTER CORRECTIONS: John Schick.

NOTE: Please contact John Schick whenever your personal information changes (i.e. email address, home address, and/or phone number) or whenever you wish a membership status change (i.e. to request status change or to resign). John Schick will in turn update the Master Roster.

TREASURER'S REPORT: BOB KROMPHOLZ

JULY 2020

Beginning	5,119
Receipts	0
Disbursements	249
Ending	4,870

Please contact Bob if you would like additional details.

KNOW YOUR SIRs: RICH BELLOWS

No new bios this month.

Know Your SIR is edited by Rich Bellows. Rich captures bios from new members and they are published in a future newsletter. If you have been a member for awhile, did not have your bio published, and wish to have it published, please contact Rich (rich.bellows@gmail.com). Please write down the salient points of your life (1/2 page).

WELLNESS REPORT: ERIC CHO

It is sad to report the passing of former **SIR George Fisher** on June 10th at the age of 93. George was a member of SIR 171 until he and family moved to The Villages, Florida in 2014. He was a member of our SIR Barber Shop Harmony and lived in Moraga for 50 years. George was involved in every aspect of Moraga, including the incorporation of the Town in 1974 and the purchase of the Hacienda. George and his wife Julie were named Moraga Citizens of the Year in 2006. George's obituary was in the July 22 edition of the Lamorinda Weekly and may be found via the following link -- <http://bit.ly/SIRGeorgeFisher>

It is sad to report the passing of **SIR John Van De Poel** on July 30 at the age of 88. John joined SIR 171 in 2005 and transferred to the new SIR 174 in 2009. John was a lawyer, was a managing partner in his law firm, and served 10 years on the CC Superior Court. And he was a very active bridge player with SIR. John's obituary appeared in the SF Chronicle and East Bay Times and is available via the following link -- <https://legacy.co/2QerHWu>

I'd also like to continue to remind members to stay healthy and positive.

••• Please try to contact SIR's with illnesses to offer your support and encouragement and keep them in our thoughts and prayers. A friendly call is welcome. Cards and letters are always appreciated.

*** Please contact Eric Cho by e-mail or phone if you are aware of a passing, or major illness of a member.

BRANCH ACTIVITIES (BRANCHES 171 & 174)

ACTIVITY LIST

Apple Users Group	Astronomy
Barbershop Harmony	Bocce Ball
Book Club	Bowling
Bridge – Social	Bridge – ACBL Duplicate
Computers & Technology	Couples Dining Out
Dominos	Fishing
Golf – 18 Holes	Golf – 9 Holer
Historical Adventures	Investment Group
Pinochle	Poker
Stamp Club	Table Pool
Tennis	Travel
Walking – Original Group	Walking – Senior Strollers
Walking – Big Hikers	Wine Tasting

There is a formal process SIR leadership has put in place for the re-opening of activities.

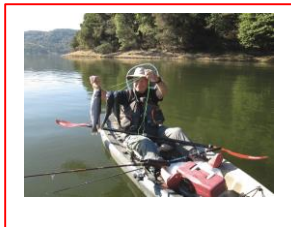
1. Some activities have re-opened
2. Some activities are meeting via Zoom
3. Some activity re-openings are in process
4. Some activities have not yet initiated the paperwork to get the formal approvals, many because there is no practical way for the group to meet at this time

If you are a member of an activity that has not yet re-opened in some form, please contact your Activity Chair with suggestions and encouragement or for a way for the group to meet.

Those activities that fall into categories 1 & 2 are included in the following portion of the newsletter.

1. ACTIVITES THAT HAVE FORMALLY RE-OPENED

FISHING: KARL DROESE (Br. 171) RON LEW (Area 16)



All SIR members and guests are welcome and encouraged to participate in fishing trips as well as attend the monthly meetings. [Our next ZOOM meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 24th, starting at 8:30 am.](#)

Whether you fly fish, spin fish, troll, or bait fish there will be events of interest. If you are new to fishing or are interested in trying a different type of fishing we have experienced and knowledgeable members happy to share their expertise, and even their equipment. With over 100 events scheduled throughout the year, some type of fishing is available almost every week.

Summer Results : We were fortunate to obtain early State and SIR approvals to resume fishing activities subject to COVID 19 mask and distance restrictions. While a couple of our multi-day trips were canceled, and some members were prevented from going on their annual Alaska outings, we have enjoyed excellent local fishing in the ocean, Bay, and Delta. Numerous members reeled in large numbers of halibut and salmon on six-packs, private boats, and party boats. Several were successful on rock fishing trips while others caught black and striped bass in the Delta. Early this summer one of our fly fishermen made several trips to the Yuba River, catching and releasing over 550 shad (WOW!). Overall it has been a very

successful summer with many full freezers and happy fishermen enjoying the great outdoors.

Activities Scheduled for September and October: Several trips on member boats outside the Gate for salmon, rockfish and LingCod; several shark/potluck trips in member boats on the Bay; pier fishing potluck; trout and catfish fishing on San Pablo Reservoir; several striped/black bass trips in member boats on the Delta; a BBQ (conditions permitting) and a guided trip on Lake Almanor and Eagle Lake (conditions permitting). If you would like to join our club or would be interested in going to an event with us, call Karl Droese (cell) 925 - 788 - 0769

GOLF : GENE BELL (Br. 171) ED McBRIDE (Br. 174)



The 18 holer group will play at Tilden Park on August 31, Lake Chabot on Sept. 14 and Rancho Solano on Sept. 28. Please refer to the schedule and other information on the golf group at their website www.sirlamorindagolf.com

Don't forget that Tim Freeman (timfre@comcast.net) heads up a Friday morning 9-hole group at the Diablo Hills course in Walnut Creek. Contact Tim to get on the notification list.

The SIR 171/174 golf website includes the membership application, a list of current members, and other pertinent information for members and prospective members.

WALKING -- SENIOR STROLLERS: JOHN SCHICK (Br. 171)



The group meets on Wednesdays, weather permitting. Contact John Schick (jschick@att.net) to include your name on the group list and to determine the meeting location and meeting time for the walks.

The group is attractive for the walker that likes a casual, slow-paced, short distance, level-land, and typically sidewalk outing.

2. ACTIVITIES THAT ARE MEETING VIA ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETINGS

APPLE USERS GROUP: STAN HOLCENBERG (Br. 171) JOE TRACY (Br. 174)



A Zoom meeting was held on Monday July 27. The group focused on the many product announcements and other topics discussed at the June 22 Apple World Wide Developer's Conference (WWDC20).

The next meeting will be on Monday, September 28, at 10:00am. It will be a Zoom meeting. Please contact Stan Holcenberg at sholcenb@comcast.net to be added the Apple User Group distribution list. The Zoom meeting link will be shared with members approximately one week before the meeting.

This is a facilitated meeting with the members discussing recent announcements; members sharing information and perspective on new Apple toys; and a discussion and general roundtable on rumors and buying decisions, tips, applications, and Issues.

Maybe there will be new iPhones to discuss at the next meeting !!

Novices and advanced users are welcomed. Come and be a part of the group.

COMPUTERS & TECHNOLOGY – AREA 16: NEIL SCHMIDT (Branch 116) ; DICK CURRY (Br. 174)
376-5541



The SIR Area 16 Computer & Technology Meeting met on August 20th

Meetings are on the third Thursday of each month and are currently held via the Zoom platform. The meetings begin at 9:30am.

The Zoom "doors" open at 9:15 AM so members come a little early to chat with other members. A few days before the meeting the members receive a Zoom weblink that is needed to connect.

Information about the group, including current and past presentations, is available on the SIR Area 2 Computes and Technology website -- <https://sirinc2.org/a16cat/> Make sure you are on the CAT mailing list by sending an e-mail request to: sir.area2.cat@gmail.com

INVESTMENT GROUP:

(OPEN) Br. 171
TOM HENRY (Br. 174)
DAVID SUTTON (Br-8)



The Investment Group, \$UMS in Retirement, has been conducting Zoom meetings. The most recent meeting was on June 24.

Information about the group, including past and current presentations, is available on the \$UMS website -- <http://a2sums.sirinc2.org/>
