March 2017

Branch 35 Trail Tips

-- NEXT MEETING --
3rd Wednesday, March 15, 2017
Elks Lodge, 4249 El Camino Real, Palo Alto
Social Hour 11 a.m. – Lunch 11:55 a.m.
Please, IF BRINGING A GUEST OR NOT ATTENDING!
CALL 650-823-0702
or E-MAIL sir35notify(at)gmail.com
by SATURDAY, March 11th (Leave name and badge #)

PROGRAM

Speaker: Stephen Tremulis
Topic: Yesterday's Tomorrows or “Where’s My Dream Car?”

Steve Tremulis is the nephew of Alex Tremulis, designer of the Tucker Torpedo, the Ford X-2000 concept car, and the Gyronaut X1 which set the land-speed record for motorcycles. Alex Tremulis, without any formal design training and only a brief aerodynamics course under his belt, started his career in 1933 at age 19 when he joined the design team at Auburn-Cord-Duesenberg in Chicago. There he worked on the classic Cord 810 and 812 series, and created a custom Duesenberg roadster. At coachbuilder Briggs-Le Baron, he helped design the Packard Clipper and the 1941 Chrysler “Thunderbolt” concept car -- a pair of vehicles that influenced postwar design. He joined the Army Air Force during World War II for which he designed advanced rockets and airplanes. After the war he landed a position as stylist for Tucker and came up with the Tucker 48, sometimes called the Tucker Torpedo. He joined Ford as a designer and created some of the most inspired concept cars including the two-wheeled Gyron. The Automotive Hall of Fame honored Tremulis with its Distinguished Service Citation in 1982, and inducted him into the Hall in 2014.

Steve is a designer in his own right. He designed and patented a line of moldable/shape memory golf club grips to improve consistency; developed technology for heart valve repair through less invasive surgery, and co-designed and patented a non-surgical permanent birth control device. Steve is a sought-after speaker who tells a great story in a very informative and enjoyable manner.

The Big Sir Says . . .

Last month, Fritz Trapnell gave a fascinating and impressive talk about the WWII battle of Guadalcanal. Within months of their attack on Pearl Harbor, Japan had made great strides through SE Asia. By mid-1942 they were invading island chains north of Australia, threatening that country and New Zealand. In response, the U.S. launched our first offensive operation of the war, invading part of the island of Guadalcanal against light opposition. Japan retaliated, however, and for six months a relatively small contingent of Marines held off the empire’s forces, often without air support and with low Navy support. These brave Americans fought remarkably effectively in the dense jungle, resulting in lopsided Japanese losses. Eventually, Japan left the island chain, marking a turning point in the Pacific Theater.

We have a new activity in SIR Branch 35 — Dining In, wherein couples host other couples for dinner at their houses. What a nice couple’s activity! Chair of this new activity is Alan Gaudie; call him and sign up! Also, Skip Ross reminds us that his McIntosh Group is still up and running, for those interested in such technical exchange.

Be sure to bring your $25 dues check to the March meeting if you have not yet done so. And while you’re there, don’t forget to pick up your very own 2017 roster of chapter members.

Keep up your recruiting efforts, everyone! We are inducting several new members each month, which is just what we need. The key is for all of us to invite friends to luncheons as our guests. Then, if your friend joins our chapter, our Treasurer will reimburse your $23.

Finally, I urge you to join one of our 14 activities. There’s bound to be one that appeals to you. You will find that it greatly enhances your SIR experience. Look the activities over in our website or in the new printed roster.

That’s it for this month. See you at the March 15 luncheon!

Duncan

$23 MARCH HOT-PLATE MENU
Spinach Salad
Chicken Piccata with White Caper Sauce (on side)
Rice Pilaf and Seasonal Vegetables
Brownies
To reserve a vegetarian meal, contact Terry Barnhart at 408-960-6674 or terry.b2007@sbcglobal.net

$23 MARCH COLD-PLATE MENU
Salad of the Month
Turkey, Ham, Roast Beef, or Vegetarian Sandwich
Assorted Chips and Dessert
To reserve this meal, you must call 650-823-0702 or e-mail sir35notify@gmail.com by SUNDAY, March 12th
You may also make a permanent reservation for cold plates.
Bring a few and take a few – During the social hour before every luncheon, 11:00 a.m.

ROSTER CHANGES

Active Members: 367  Net Monthly Change: - 4

In Memoriam
Fenton Foster, HLM
John Hannigan
Bob Hansen

NEW MEMBERS

Bill Baker Jr. (Laureen)  650-329-1774
950 Palo Alto Avenue  bdad59(at)hotmail.com
Palo Alto, CA  94301  IBM

Tom Gregory  408-245-0356
536 Cascade Drive  tomgrego(at)gmail.com
Sunnyvale, CA  94087

Rich Pattisson (Marsha)  650-941-7273
4378 Miller Court  pattisson(at)yahoo.com
Palo Alto, CA  94306

Travel, Hiking, Bicycling, Music, Reading

Computers, Mathematica Computer Program

March Anniversaries: 10+ Years

Don Holmes  20  Ian Band  15
Skip Ross  20  Bob Lewis  15
Bob DeGrasse  17  Bill Worthington  13
Ben Director  17  Arden Anderson  12
Victor Jeworski  17  Jim Commendatore  12
Gary Larson  17  Jim Holman  12
Don Lintz  17  Les Fisher  10
Larry Wright  17  Jim Harvey  10
Robert Pittman  16  Carl Plescia  10
Bob Willwerth  16

March Birthdays

Terry Barnhart  Rick McColloch  Ray Taylor
Hank Brook  Joe Miller  Ian Thomson
Leonard Chan  Roy Mize  Phil Vanderwerf
Ken Clifford  Dick Morris  Tony Vankessel
John Daines  Gene Opine  Milt Wehrman
John Eldor  Bob Pearson  Pat Wong
Don Gladstone  Ray Peck  Bill Worthington
Ron Grace  Pete Peterson  Garry Wride
Nev Griffin  Paul Schutz  Eugene Young
Jim Holman  Bob Steinberg

Book Swap

John Geric  650-969-6679
jgerich(at)juno.com

During the social hour before every luncheon, 11:00 a.m.

Bring a few and take a few – FREE! After the meeting, residuals go to Friends of the Library of Los Altos. March is Mystery month. Share some great books that you don't think you will read again.

To use email addresses, replace (at) with @
**Member Profile**

**ANDY DANVER**

Andy's life experience is representative of the consummate energetic and ambitious “Baby Boomer” generation. He is the 11th generation of independent New England ancestors who made major contributions to society including; founding Hartford, CT; appointed Supreme Court Justice; laying the first Atlantic cable; travelling west, George Morell society including; founding Hartford, CT; appointed Supreme Court

Some of Andy Danver's own life experiences include:

1. Fifty-four years ago he set the Darien High School 100- and 220-yard dash records, which still stand today. Unbelievably they were run on cinder tracks, not the faster rubberized tracks used today.

2. As a junior in high school, he helped sail a 72-foot schooner from Bermuda to Rhode Island through the leading edge of a hurricane. “Waves high above our masts kept rolling towards us. The boat would 'pop' to the top of the wave and we could look down the other side into the deep ‘valley’ before the next wave hit us.”

3. In 1982 he was part of a small group of Caucasians from America to ride colorful 10-speed bicycles on local roads along the Yangtze River in eastern China. Every time they stopped they were swarmed by Chinese youth who wanted to touch their colorful bikes and practice English.

4. In 1984 his wife Jean organized a trip to Nepal and spent a month climbing in the beautiful Annapurna Mountains. His highlight was going over the Thorong La Pass at 17,769 feet. They broke camp at 4am in freezing temperatures at about 12,000 feet with headlamps to light the way and reached the top in time for lunch in the clean white snow. After lunch they literally skipped down the other side singing all the way!

5. In 2008, the Los Altos Mountain View PTA Council awarded Andy with the “Volunteer Parent of the Year Award” for over 16 years of volunteering in local schools. Over that time Andy designed and implemented a computerized system to communicate with parents (still in use today), mentored a robotics team and raised millions of dollars for the local high schools as a 10-year member and officer of the MVLA High School Education Foundation.

Andy was born in the Naval Hospital in Newport, RI where his father taught Seamanship and Navigation at the Naval Officer Training Center at the end of WWII. Earlier in the war his father had been the Executive Officer of a Squadron of PT boats sent from New Orleans to the Aleutian Islands to defend the country from a potential invasion from the north. After the war his family returned to his father's hometown in Darien, CT. Andy remembers "... we were blessed with open fields in which to play sports during the day and hide and seek at night. Across the street was over 60 acres of woodland in which we roamed and built dams, huts and tree houses.”

At Darien High School Andy lettered in football, basketball and track and was Co-Captain of the football team. In his junior year he was awarded the "Harvard Book Award" as the most accomplished academic junior male student-athlete. In his senior year he and his future 'best man' were a 2-man team who won the Connecticut High School Track Championship. At the end of the school year he was awarded the trophy as Darien HS's "Most Accomplished Male Athlete".

Andy was recruited to play football and run track by a number of Ivy League schools. He chose Dartmouth because of their athletic program, and closeness to a family summer home in New Hampshire. He lettered in football, track and rugby at Dartmouth and graduated with honors in economics. He was the starting ‘Free Safety’ on the 1962 undefeated Ivy League Football Champions, which also won the Lambert Trophy as the top team in the East after beating an undefeated Princeton team on TV. Andy arrived at Dartmouth when the school introduced the first on-line campus-wide computer system called the Dartmouth Time Sharing System (DTS). He was an early user. As Andy said, "I have been lucky enough to be involved with leading edge computers and computer networks ever since.”

Andy married Jean Mitchell Harrison in 1968 and they have just celebrated their 48th wedding anniversary. Jean graduated Magna Cum Laude in mathematics from Tufts in 1967 and from Harvard's Graduate School of Education in 1968. She was a competitive sailor at Tufts on a co-ed team which was nationally ranked. In the 1980s she earned a Masters Degree in Computer Engineering from Stanford. Andy was accepted by the Stanford's Graduate School of Business, Class of 1972 and Jean was hired by Hewlett-Packard's newly formed mini-computer division as one of the first professional women to join the firm.

Andy helped put himself through business school by working for professors and the administration. He wrote computer programs to analyze the performance of stocks for a Nobel Prize winning economics professor and developed a computerized administration system to assign students to classes and maintain class lists including grades. He graduated in the top 25% of the class (which he knows because he wrote the program which ranked the students).

The '70s: Kid-Free – Hard Work, Hard Play, and Travel

After graduating from business school, Andy joined Jean at HP as a network product manager and worked to convince customers to share data between computers. Later both he and Jean were early members of the team formed to lead HP into the business-computing marketplace. He marketed the avant-garde concept of “Distributed Computing” working with customers and speaking at conferences (he once co-chaired a computer symposium with Capt. Grace Hopper) about the economics of future computer technology. Jean and Andy's social and recreational lives embraced friends from the GSB and HP with whom they hiked and skied the Sierras, Rockies and Wasatch mountains and rafted the American, Colorado, Klamath, Rogue, Salmon and Tuolume Rivers.

The '80's: Changing Jobs and Evangelizing for Mobile Computing

Andy left HP in 1982 to join a Silicon Valley startup, GRID Systems, to market the first fully functional laptop, which downloaded software and data from a server, ... the advent of mobile computing. Years ahead of its time, Business Week called it “the Porsche of computers and nearly as expensive”.

The '90's: Settling Down and Family Focused

At age 41 they decided to have kids (Joan – now a 7 year alum of Williams College with a master’s degree in Cell Biology) and a second just a month after the Loma Prieta Earthquake (Jay – an alum of Brown and a computer engineer at Intel). Their focus changed from SELF to FAMILY with vacations to Family Club Med, Hawaii and east to family summer homes on Long Island and in New Hampshire. In the late '90s Andy joined
a newly formed corporate organization working for Carly Fiorina to help HP become more customer focused using a new tool called the Internet. He wrote and taught about the new concept “1:1 Relationship Marketing”. (He says, “It is fun to see how all the issues we discussed in the ‘90s are worse today.”)

The 2000’s: Working harder than ever for Free

In the spring of 2000, Carly Fiorina announced HP’s first “early retirement” program. After awhile Andy found that, for purely financial reasons, he had to accept it. Since retiring he has acted in many capacities supporting his daughters’ nationally ranked soccer team and mentoring and fund raising for Los Altos HS. He also took up golf with SIR at the age of 67

Andy, an individual with a great love for people and the outdoors, lives by two old Native American Proverbs:

- We will be known forever by the tracks we leave… and
- We do not inherit the Earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children…

Meeting Andy with his infectious smile, shock of white hair and friendly demeanor puts one at ease much akin to meeting a teddy bear. At least that is what I think every time I see him. (Epilogue: Andy sent me this comment after his review of the article; “When I left HP in 1982 my team took me to lunch and gave me a ‘teddy bear’ as a going away remembrance which they all had signed. They said that it reminded them of me. I guess some things never change.”)

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Tell us about your travel interests. Next month we will have an opportunity to influence the next cycle of SIR sponsored trips. Please let Ed Pausa or Walter Weber know by email of your travel interests, preferences or disqualifications so that we may better meet your needs.

Bocce Ball
Norm Pass – Schedule/ Cancellations 408-737-7639; normpass(at)sbcglobal.net

Bocce Ball Courts (between second and last wing), Los Altos Senior Center, 97 Hillview Ave. (just off San Antonio Rd.) Parking near baseball fields.

Since the rain has continued and puddles stand on our two crushed oyster shell courts at the Los Altos Senior Center, we have been thinking strategically about what we, the Bocce Ball player team, can do within and outside the Branch to extend this fun activity to more of our members and to expand the options for us to play outside groups. Here is the result of our current thinking:

1. All new members of Branch 35 will be sent a letter on Branch letterhead that outlines our activities, how we operate and its advantages (zero cost, central location, quality social engagement with members, development of proprioception skills transferable to other similar sporting activities, low key physically, strategically challenging, etc.).

2. We will seek out for play, including tournaments, with other Branches in SIR, particularly those in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties. Our team member Bob Roy will spearhead this initiative.

3. Likewise for local Social Clubs that have Bocce Ball courts and would like to link with us for play.

4. Schedule across the year games followed by eating out together at nearby restaurants with wives/guests.

To further the feasibility of these plans, we will define other Bocce Ball courts in Los Altos and surrounding areas that are available for public use so we can accommodate an expansion of the number of four person teams that can play at the same time.

If you have any comments or suggestions regarding our thinking on the above items, please do contact Norm Pass, Fred Schwalbach, John Richardson or Bob Roy.

Dining In

This new activity of DINING IN is being formed. Groups of couples will arrange to meet in rotating houses for dinner on a periodic schedule. If you are interested, please contact Alan.

Macintosh Group

Contact Skip Ross to join this e-mail group where SIR members in all branches can exchange Mac-related news, get answers to questions, and share experiences.

To use email addresses, replace (at) with @
Every Tuesday, 1:00 p.m., at Homestead Lanes, Homestead & Stelling, in Cupertino.

A quarter way through our current session, there is close competition among the top half of the teams.

If you have been thinking about joining the Bowling activity, now is always the perfect time. The cost is only $15 per week.

**BOUNG**

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Prizes: Alan Gaudie

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