



SIR BRANCH 171 **June 2021**

<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, June 9, at 9:30am

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Branch 171/174 Zoom Virtual Meeting

Wednesday, June 9 at 9:30am

**NOTE: This is not on the first Wednesday of the month
and not at our regular 10:00am start time !!**

BIG SIR MESSAGE: GRAIG CROSSLEY

Hello Fellow Sirs,

Our next general meeting will be June 9th with Branch 174 for what looks like an excellent program. You will receive another notice, along with the Zoom link, as we get closer.

Join the BEC !! We will be completing the slate for the 2022 BEC soon. Please see the Announcements section of the newsletter (page 3) for further information.

During our next BEC meeting, held on June 2nd at 8:30, I hope to see that most of you will have responded to the request for a 'waiver' and 'shot verification' for in person meetings. Please remember that we are still the primary demographic for the COVID virus. Shots and precautions do count for our health. Keep up the good work keeping our incidents of the virus way down.

I believe we must each make decisions about our own best interests when it comes to in person Branch activities.

Graig Crossley
Big SIR - Branch 171

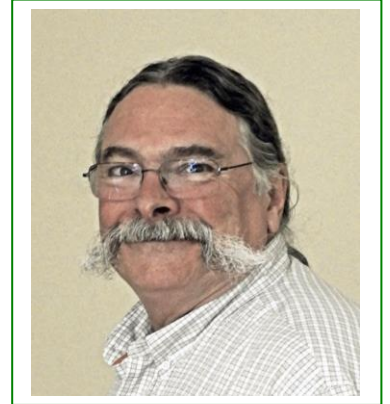


LITTLE SIR MESSAGE: STEVE PATTON

Let me introduce myself to those of you that I do not know.

I am a California native and St. Mary's graduate. I joined SIR in April 2018. Now I chair the Bocce group and we play Tuesday and Friday mornings from 10 to noon. You may have seen me serving drinks with George before our luncheons (remember luncheons?). I also enjoy the historic outings and shooting pool with the SIR groups. I hope we all will rejoin our activities as we come back together.

As we return to meet in person, please consider stepping up to fill the vacancies our long hiatus has produced. I joined the BEC, our Branch Executive Committee, earlier this year and am now serving as Little SIR and a member of the Nominating Committee. Please join me in keeping our favorite activities, and ourselves, thriving!



Steve Patton

Little SIR - Branch 171

SPEAKER PROGRAM – Wednesday, June 9, at 9:30am

Mark your calendars now!

Wednesday, June 9, at 9:30am on Zoom. NOTE THE EARLY TIME!

We are excited and extremely fortunate to have Nicolle Wallace as our speaker. Nicolle is a very well-known political analyst and TV Anchor, New York Times Best-Selling Author, and a former White House Communications Director.

Nicolle graduated from Miramonte High School in 1990 and returns via Zoom to her “hometown” to talk at a joint meeting of SIR Branches 171 and 174. It will be a “Ladies Day” event with spouses and partners of our members encouraged to join.



This will be an excellent opportunity to attend a very good program and to have a chance to see some of your friends from both Lamorinda SIR branches. Invite some prospective member guests or even friends who might be just interested in hearing the inside stories Nicolle will share with us.

[Please see the last page of this Newsletter for more information on our June guest speaker.](#)

[Zoom link will be sent in a subsequent email.](#)

ANNOUNCEMENT

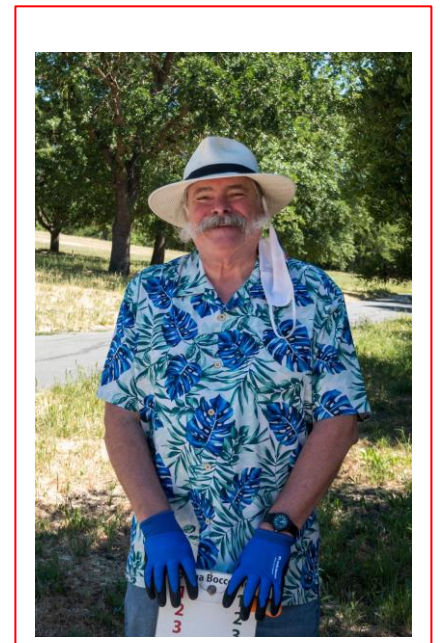
Elections for 2022 BEC

We will be conducting elections at our August meeting for the 2022 Officer and Director team. The BEC will build a slate at our July meeting. **Please consider stepping up to the plate to serve help our Branch as we get into a post-Covid operation.** Strongly consider a position on the team. Contact me (stumps@crossley.zone) or our Nominations Chair Rick Fend (rickfend@yahoo.com) with your interest in any position. In particular the following are vital to the strength and successful continuity of our club:

- Little SIR. This is an elected BEC position. The Little SIR heads the speaker committee and is in-waiting to become the Big SIR the following year.
- Branch Secretary. This is an elected BEC position. Our current Secretary, Mike Donovan, will be leaving this role at the end of the year.

In addition we need to fill the Recruiting Chairman role. This is an assigned position. Very important as we focus on growing our membership. Vital to our future.

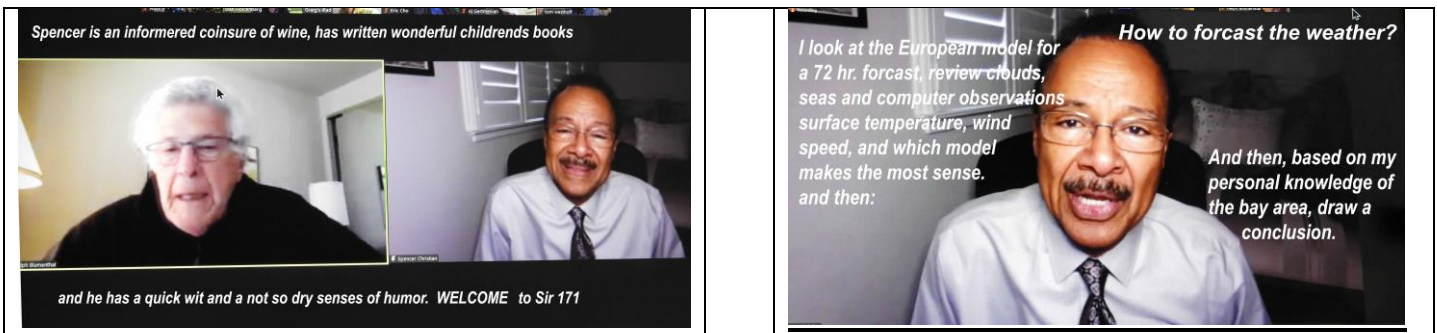
PHOTOs of the Month – Bocce Season is upon us !!



Bocce Chair
and
171 Little SIR
Steve Patton



MAY MEETING PHOTOS -- by club photogrrpher Russ Aubry (*with lots of intended typos*)



BIRTHDAY DRAWING

The following members have their birthday in June and are eligible to win a free luncheon at a date TBD. There will not be a drawing at the June 9 meeting. The drawing for both June and July birthdays will be at the branch meeting. You must attend the July meeting to be eligible.

- George Barron – Jerry Borrmann – Lew Edwards – Jack Flanagan –
- Dan Friedman – Bill Hughes – Bill Korn – Tom Lenz –
- Sid Meyers – Mack Riddle – Mike Rijavec – Tom Roberts --

Please reply to sir171-news@comcast.net if your birthday is in June and you do not see your name on the list.

BRANCH REPORTS

ATTENDANCE REPORT: FRANCIS WONG

Not a luncheon meeting. No formal report.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: ED DRASIN (Chair)

<u>MEMBERSHIP</u>					
Prior Month:	139				
Inductees	0				
Deductions	1	Sam Zorich #65, deceased.			
Total, This Month:	138				
<u>APPROVALS</u>					
	0				
<u>APPLICANTS AWAITING INDUCTION</u>					
	0				
<u>APPLICANT LIST</u>					
	0				

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

APRIL 2021

Beginning Balance	\$4,469
Receipts	0
Disbursements	245
Ending	\$4,224

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

Branch 171

SIR Sam Zorich passed away on on April 28 after a continuing battle with cancer. What an exceptional man with a unique character and great personality. What a fun person who enjoyed life so much.

Sam was the originator of the annual Hawaiian shirt luncheon, a member of the Sirpremes, and very active in Bocce and other activities. He also founded the 171 Couples Dining Out group. And we all probably remember Sam as the member that often grabbed the microphone at meetings for a joke or a song.

Sam joined Branch 171 in 2002. He was the Little Sir in 2013, Big Sir in 2014, stayed on as BEC Director in 2015, and held the Club Activity Chairman position.

Memorial Service were held for Sam at St. Monica's in Moraga on Wednesday, May 12

Branch 174 (MARK MAHONEY)

There are no reports this month.

Please try to contact SIR's with illnesses to offer your support and encouragement and keep them in your 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 major illness or passing of a member.

BRANCH 171 NEWSLETTER: Editor **STAN HOLCENBERG.** The deadline for receipt of Newsletter material by the Editor is the 15th of the month. E-mail to sir171-news@comcast.net is preferred.

Enjoy reading SIR Happenings, our State Newsletter, and find out about all the fun things that are going on throughout our organization. You can find the most recent edition of SIR Happenings on our SIR State website (February 2021) -- click on the following link, or cut and paste the link into your browser to view -- <http://bit.ly/SirHappenings-Feb2021> Some very interesting articles highlighting news of interest from other SIR branches. CHECK WHAT OTHER BRANCHES ARE DOING. SEE SOMETHING YOU LIKE? Let your Activities Chairman know about it and we if we can adopt something similar for our Branch. Send comments and article to HappeningsEditor@gmail.com

BRANCH ACTIVITIES (BRANCHES 171 & 174)

As per SIR State guidelines, outdoor activities may open if approved by the Branch BEC and the group follows the necessary SIR Covid protocols – *“all activities are conducted under written protocols in a strict compliance with all applicable State and Locally mandated mask, hand sanitizing, distancing requirements, and any other pertinent Health Related Requirements.”*

Walking (“Original” and “Senior Strollers”), golf (“18 Holes” and “9 Holer”), Fishing, and Bocce have been approved.

Some activity groups are meeting via Zoom. For those that are not, and especially for those that you have been a participant, meeting via Zoom is a great way to catch up and chat. Why not contact the Activity Chairs and suggest they get something going. Or set up such a meeting yourself !!

Branch 171 Activity Chairman

The branch Activity Chairman is a focal point for the Branch activity-related matters. The Branch 171 Activity Chairman is **DAVID ZEIMER** (dzeimer12@gmail.com). The Sir 174 Activity Chair is Tom Farr (ruskfarr@pacbell.net).

Branch 171 Activity List:

Apple Users Group

Barbershop Harmony

Book Club

Bridge – Social

Computers & Technology

Dominos

Golf – 18 Holes

Historical Adventures

Pinochle

Stamp Club

Tennis

Walking – Original Group

Wine Tasting

Astronomy

Bocce Ball

Bowling

Bridge – ACBL Duplicate

Couples Dining Out

Fishing (*also meeting via Zoom*)

Golf – 9 Holer

Investment Group

Poker

Table Pool

Travel

Walking – Senior Strollers

Activities in **Green** have been approved by the BEC for re-opening. Approved Covid protocols need to be followed.

Activities in **Orange** are available for re-opening; BEC approval required.

Activities in **Blue** are meeting via Zoom.

The following outdoor activities have been approved for re-opening:

BOCCE: STEVE PATTON (BR. 171) -- steven_patton@hotmail.com
ED PROTIVA (BR. 174) -- edprotiva1@comcast.net

BOCCE opened for play on May 21

Bocce is played every Tuesday and Friday. The group meets at 10 am, just beyond the bandstand at the Moraga Commons, located at the corner of Moraga Road & St Mary’s Rd (next to the bandstand). The cost is all of \$2; the game is really easy to learn and is great fun, including a lot of good chat. You can be a part of this great group of guys, and can play on either or both days.

The Bocce game consists of 4 players on each court, creating 2 teams of 2 members each. Each team has one player at each end of the court. It is quite easy to learn

FISHING – KARL DROESE (Br.171) – kdroese@comcast.net 925-376-0468
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. The next meeting will be **IN-PERSON on Thursday, June 24 at the Legends Sports Bar and Grill** at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord, starting at 8:30 am. You can order breakfast and have it served in the meeting room.

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.

Fishing Report: Trout fishing at San Pablo Reservoir has remained good with several members catching nice-sized trout from shore, boats, and a kayak. They also scored on catfish to 8 lbs and even a sturgeon which was released. Eight members enjoyed great fishing and weather during our annual Spring trip to Lake Almanor, coming home with rainbow and brown trout up to 6 lbs. The striper run is still on and members have had success both in the Bay and the Delta. Live bait is now available and halibut fishing in the Bay should soon be red hot. A 19 inch rainbow was caught by one of our fly-fishermen. Bay Area salmon fishing is expected to open on June 26th.

GOLF – 18 HOLES: GENE BELL (Br. 171) gdbell1@comcast.net
ED MC BRIDE (Br. 174) edwardmcbride@aol.com

Sirs Golf is up and running again! There is a great combination of members from Branch 171 and Branch 174.

Br. 174 chair Ed McBride reports that the Club Championship continues and that there has been great participation regarding this event. The great weather has allowed all tournaments to continue. The group looks forward to playing the various courses this summer.

Sign up for emailings by emailing 1wadsy@gmail.com or roneleiker@gmail.com.

GOLF – 9 – HOLER: TIM FREEMAN (BR. 171) – timfre@comcast.net

For those that don't want to play 18 holes, or want to play a shorter course on occasions, there is a 9-hole group that meets each Friday morning at Diablo Hills Golf Course in Walnut Creek.

Tim Freeman coordinates this and sends out a note to all members on his interested party list each week, a few days before the game, to see who is interested in playing. Contact Tim if you would like to be added to the interested party list.

**WALKING – ORIGINAL GROUP: AL DONNER (Br. 171) aajdonner@gmail.com
STEVE BEHNKE (Br. 174) stevebehnke@icloud.com**

Branch 174 is currently taking the lead on this activity, which usually is a Tuesday morning walk. Branch 171 members are welcome and encouraged to participate.

Contact Steve Behnke or Al Donner for information on participating in the walks and also to get on the mailing list that includes a weekly notice of the upcoming Tuesday walk.

WALKING – SENIOR STROLLERS: JOHN SCHICK (Br. 171) jschick@att.net

The Br. 171 and 174 Strollers Walking Group welcomes new members for whom the regular walking group agenda has become a bit strenuous. Their walks are limited to about one-half mile (one mile optional) on a flat, paved surface, at a leisurely pace geared to the ability and limitations of the participants. The strolls give the group the opportunity to get exercise, get some fresh air, and to socialize, yet while continuing to observe all the prescribed COVID precautions.

The group meets on Wednesdays @ 9:30 a.m. in front of Si-Si's coffee shop on Country Club Drive in Moraga. If you are interested, please call John Schick, 925-376-9412 or contact at jschick@att.net

The following activities are conducting Zoom meetings. Contact the Chair to receive the Zoom meeting link and to be included on their distribution list.

APPLE USER GROUP -- STAN HOLCENBERG (Br. 171) – sholcenb@icloud.com

Meets the first Monday of every even numbered month. HOWEVER, the next meeting will be on the third Monday in June – [Monday, June 21 at 10:00](#). The date has been moved from June 7 (first Monday of every other month) in order to discuss what transpires at the June 7 - 11 Apple World Wide Developer's Conference (WWDC21). Also, the recent announcement of the new 24" iMac's will be discussed

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; Sharing Information and perspective on new Apple product acquisitions; Conducting a roundtable covering rumors, buying decisions, tips, applications, and Issues.

Novices and advanced users are welcomed. Come and be a part of the group. Please contact Stan to be added the Apple User Group distribution list.

BOOK CLUB – BOB KROMPHOLZ (Br. 171) – rakrompholz@gmail.com

The SIR Branch 171 book club is in its fifth year. The group has reviewed one book selection each month. Each member recommends a book he has read and enjoyed and it is added to the selection list and scheduled for a month the group will meet and review the book. The host who recommended it leads the review discussions. The group tends to enjoy historical non-fiction, but is open to a wide variety of books.

The past year's reviews have been done remotely using Zoom, but the group is looking forward to meeting again in person at the host's home. The book reviews are scheduled on the [last Wednesday evening of the month at 7- 8pm](#).

If you are interested in joining the group please call Bob Krompholz at 925-528-9937 or email rakrompholz@gmail.com

COMPUTERS & TECHNOLOGY – NEAL SCHMIDT (Area 16) – np_schmidt@pacbell.net

The next Zoom SIR Area 16 Computer & Technology (CAT) Group meeting will be [Thursday, June 17th starting at 9:30 AM](#).

The June discussion will be "Surfing the Net More Safely" by Tom Farr from Branch 174. Topics including VPN Services, managing passwords, phishing and malware will be discussed.

Meetings are on the third Thursday of each month (except June & December) and are currently held via the Zoom platform. The meetings are at 9:30am. The Zoom "doors" open at 9:15 AM so members come a little early to chat with other members.

Ensure you have subscribed to the CAT mailing list (see next paragraph) to receive information about the May 20 meeting, the speaker programs, and other pertinent information.

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 Computer 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 (\$Sums in Retirement) – TOM HENRY (Br.174) – tomh925@icloud.com
DAVE SUTTON (Br. 8) -- davesutn@comcast.net

The group met on Wednesday, May 26. The agenda included real estate investments. REITs – individual rental properties – etc.

The group will again join Branch 128's (San Ramon) Investment Group for their 4th Wed, [June 23, Zoom meeting](#) at 1:30 PM. The topic will be announced.

Zoom instructions will be sent out later to those on the email list. Contact Dave Sutton to be included if you're not already.

OTHER ACTIVITY NEWS

ASTRONOMY **TOM FARR** (Br. 174) 283-1561 ruskfarr@pacbell.net,
Larry Lange, Co-Chairman rllange@comcast.net.

Due to the current health situation, the group is unable to have their Astronomy activity meeting in person. See Larry Lange's Astronomy comments in Branch's 8 monthly newsletter. In addition, please check out the Astronomy member link at <https://www.sirbr8.com/astronomy/> for other links

and articles of astronomical interest.

Nicolle Wallace

Miramonte High School Graduate

**Political Analyst, MSNBC Anchor,
New York Times Best-Selling Author,
& Former President Bush's White
House Communications Director**



Nicolle Devenish Wallace graduated from Miramonte in 1990 and returns via Zoom to her "hometown" to talk at a joint meeting of SIR Branches 174 and 171

Wednesday, June 9th at 9:30am

A "Ladies Day" event with spouses, partners, and guests of our members encouraged to join with members of the two Lamorinda SIR Branches

Zoom link will be provided in a later mailing

Nicolle Wallace is now one of the most visible faces on cable news. Her career has covered both sides of the aisle.

- Former special assistant and Director of Communications at the White House under President George W. Bush
- Senior Advisor for John McCain's Presidential campaign
- Currently host of *Deadline: White House* on MSNBC
- Frequent guest on the *Today Show*
- Former co-host of *The View*
- Along with Brian Williams and Rachel Maddow she recently co-anchored the MSNBC coverage of the Presidential election and inauguration, plus the U.S. Capitol situation

She is known for her calm, moderate demeanor in contrast to the many extreme, partisan voices found on cable TV. She is passionate, funny, and insightful and continues to have her finger on the pulse of the Beltway.

The following include areas that she will likely include in her talk:

- Candid thoughts on the political news of the day
- Breaking down what's going on behind-the-scenes in the White House and on Capitol Hill
- The impact of partisanship on politics in DC and nationwide
- How technology and social media are changing the political landscape
- Sharing fascinating stories from her time in the White House, on the campaign trail, and at MSNBC and ABC studios

Nicolle graduated from Cal Berkeley and Northwestern's Medill School of Journalism, and is the author of a series of *New York Times* best-selling contemporary novels that feature women in top political roles.