



SIR BRANCH 171

August 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, **August 4**, at 10:00am

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Branch 171 Zoom Virtual Meeting

Wednesday, August 4 at 10:00am

ACTING BIG SIR MESSAGE: STEVE PATTON

Hello Fellow Sirs,

IN PERSON MEETINGS With the survey results in and negotiations complete we had scheduled the August meeting as an in-person gathering. Based on ever changeable events, however, it will be a ZOOM meeting. No one is more disappointed than me, but the safety of all our members is our primary concern.

ACTIVITIES In addition to our monthly get-togethers, activities are a most important point of engagement for our members. Please see the article by Activity Chairman David Zeimer in the Announcements section of this newsletter (page 3) regarding what is necessary to re-open the remaining branch activities.

ELECTIONS We will vote on our slate of Branch Officers and Directors at the August meeting. See the Announcements section of this newsletter (*page 3*) for the current slate.

We need active participation as officers and directors and a fresh perspective on how we head back toward 'normal' and beyond to strengthen and improve our Branch. **PLEASE consider stepping up to fill the BEC vacancies our long hiatus has produced.** We are specifically looking for a Little SIR, Secretary, Asst. Secretary, and Asst. Treasurer. Become a contributing VOTING member of the branch by joining the Officer and Director team.

LITTLE SIR BIG SIR in training. A voting member of the Branch Executive Committee (BEC). I may hold the record for the shortest tenure in the position and I want this person to have the luxury of preparation and understanding.

SECRETARY Without a Secretary, the branch can't produce the BEC minutes, a vital corporate record. No business = no luncheons.

ASST. SECRETARY The Secretary's backup and a voting member on the BEC.

ASST. TREASURER Supports the Treasurer and is a voting member on the BEC; also collects money at the Branch meetings. Hal has been doing this for 20 years!

DIRECTORS Voting members on the BEC.



Please contact me (steve_patton@hotmail.com or 510-409-2916) or Nominating Chair Rick Fend (rickfend@yahoo.com or 925-376-0495) with your interest or if you have questions.

These positions don't require a significant time expenditure, but filling them is ABSOLUTELY vital for the continued operation and future of our Branch. SIRs is a 501(c)(4) non-profit public benefit corporation under the California Corporation Code. **Our ongoing operation REQUIRES Officers and Directors to function.**

There are committees that require a refresh as well. More on that later.

Steve Patton
Acting Big SIR - Branch 171

SPEAKER PROGRAM – Wednesday, August 4, at 10:00am

Mark your calendars now! [Zoom link will be sent in a subsequent email.](#)

We will have a presentation on the Flying Tigers at the August 4 meeting. The speaker will be Moraga resident **Leslie Pfeifer**, who served three years as a Flying Tiger flight attendant and made over 75 trips to Vietnam during the war.

The Speaker Program – “The History of the Flying Tigers”



The Flying Tigers were American fighter squadrons formed to defend the Republic of China against Japan during World War II. Leslie will speak on the history of the Flying Tigers and her experiences as a Vietnam War flight attendant on military charters taking troops to and from Vietnam in the 1960s.

Leslie is a Moraga resident. Here is an article about her that appeared in the March 31, 2021 issue of the Lamorinda Weekly -- <https://bit.ly/Sir-FlyingTiger>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elections 2021 – Club Officers and Directors

The following slate has been provided by our nominating committee, and approved by the BEC, to lead the club in 2022:

- OFFICERS

- Big SIR Steven Patton 2021 Little SIR & Acting Big SIR
- Little SIR **(open)**
- Secretary **(open)**
- Asst. Secretary **(open)**
- Treasurer Bob Krompholz *incumbant*
- Asst. Treasurer **(open)**

- OTHER BOARD MEMBERS

- Director Laszlo Bonnyay *incumbant*
- Director Ed Drasin *incumbant*
- Director Rick Fend *incumbant*
- Director Tim Freeman *incumbant*
- Director Barry Leskin *incumbant*
- Director Chris Lyne *incumbant*
- Director David Zeimer *incumbant*

We will vote on this slate at the August 4 meeting.

Additional nominations for the BEC may be submitted to Acting Big SIR Steve (steven_patton@hotmail.com) or Nominating Chair Rick (rickfend@yahoo.com) before the meeting or can be taken from the floor at the meeting. All nominees from the floor must signify their agreement to accept the office if elected. Contested positions, if any, will be by a secret ballot process after the meeting.

Activities Status for Branch 171

The following was provided by our Branch 171 Activity Chairman, David Zeimer

There are protocols in place to open or re-open an activity. They are the following:

- All participants in an activity must sign a waiver form to hold harmless SIRS.
- Each activity chairman must “see” the participant’s Covid vaccine card to see that the member has been vaccinated. To be clear, the chairman will not take or make a copy of the vaccine card. He only has to see it.

ACTIVITIES THAT ARE OPEN:

- Bocce Ball
- Book Club
- Fishing.
- Golf -- both 18 and 9 holes
- Walking Groups -- the regular Tuesday group, the Senior Group, and the Friday Long Hike Group

ACTIVITIES THAT ARE OPEN VIA ZOOM:

- Apple Users Group
- Computers & Technology
- Investment Group

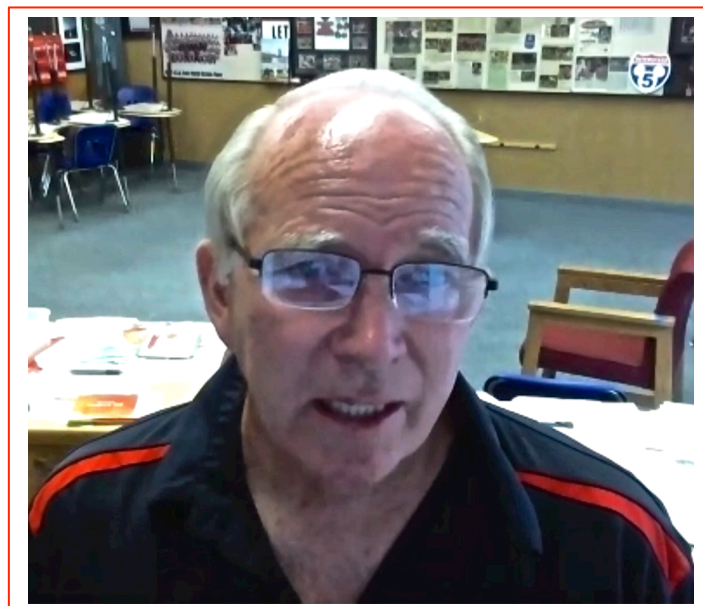
If your activity is open or plans to re-open, please contact David Zeimer, Branch 171 Activity Chairman -- Dzeimer12@gmail.com

PHOTOS OF THE MONTH



THAT'S HOW YOU HOLD A
CUE STICK – BIG SIR
EMERITUS RICK FEND
SHOWING OFF HIS SKILLS

JULY MEETING SPEAKER,
COACH KEVIN MACY OF
CAMPOLINDO HIGH SCHOOL,
SHARING WHAT IT TAKES TO
WIN TWO STATE FOOTBALL
CHAMPIONSHIPS



BIRTHDAY DRAWING

The drawing at the August 4 Branch meeting will be for August birthdays. The following members have their birthday in August and are eligible to win a free luncheon at a date TBD. Attendance is required at the August to win the free luncheon.

--- Al Dessayer – Phil Eyring – Michael Gibbs – Richard Haddock – John Haffner ---

--- Jim Kline – Rich Laufenberg – Tom Lemmer – Tom Marnane ---

--- Robert Meadowcroft -- --- Larry Monin – Joe Muscat – David Ohlson ---

--- Kenneth Russi – John Schick – Mitch Tarkoff ---

Please reply to sir171-news@comcast.net if your birthday is in August 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:	137			
Inductees	0			
Deductions	0			
Total, This Month:	137			
<u>APPROVALS TODAY</u>	0			
<u>APPLICANTS AWAITING INDUCTION</u>	0			
<u>APPLICANT LIST</u>	0			
NOTES:	<u>AR category members - 10</u>			

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.

<p>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.</p>
--

TREASURER'S REPORT: BOB KROMPHOLZ

JUNE 2021

Beginning Balance	\$4,224
Receipts	0
Disbursements	0
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

We are pleased to report that there are no known health issues this month relative to Branch 171 members.

Branch 174 (MARK MAHONEY)

During the 4th of July weekend, SIR Golfer Willy Mautner was riding his bicycle and was hit by a car. The car won. Willy suffered a fracture to his femur. Surgery was successful and Willy is onto the road to recovery; not the bicycle he rode. Get-well wishes can be sent to Willy at: mautner1@comcast.net

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 (May 2021) -- click on the following link, or cut and paste the link into your browser to view -- <https://sirinc.org/newsletters/> 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)

A number of our outdoor activities have been opened as per BEC approval of Covid protocols. These include Bocce, Book Club, Fishing, Golf (18 Holer and 9 Holer), and Walking (Original, Senior Strollers, and Long Hike). Other indoor activities are on hold. Some activity groups are meeting via Zoom.

The current SIR Reopening Protocol: With verification of being fully vaccinated and a signed waiver no mask is required for either indoor or outdoor participation in SIR activities. If you have not done so, you will be asked to sign a waiver, and show your proof of vaccination card, when you participate in a SIR activity.

See the individual activity reports below for the latest news on activities.

Branch 171 Activity Chairman

The branch Activity Chairman is a focal point for Branch activity-related matters. Those responsibilities include supporting the various chairmen of our branch activities, providing liaison with these chairmen and the Branch Executive Committee, and assisting in organizing new activities of interest to our Branch members. 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	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 – Long Hikes	Wine Tasting

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 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

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

FISHING – KARL DROESE (Br.171) – kdroeese@comcast.net 925-376-0468
Ron Lew (Area 16)



All SIR members and guests are welcome and encouraged to participate in fishing trips and attend the monthly meetings. Our next meeting will be Thursday, August 26, 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 baitfish, 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.

July Report: Several members braved the July winds with mostly good results. Eight of our fishermen went out the Gate for a few salmon. Five others caught numerous rockfish. Four SIRs caught stripers in the Delta. Three caught Kokanee salmon at Boca Lake and Lake Berryessa. Other success stories included black bass in the Delta and Halibut in the Bay.

Coming up: August will be our most active month for salmon fishing with 3 trips scheduled on Sundance and 3 trips on private boats. Also on the schedule are our annual Summer BBQ at a member's house; a shark trip; shore fishing for catfish at San Pablo or Lafayette Reservoir; a Kokanee trip to Lake Berryessa; and possibly, a 6 to 8-day long-range trip out of San Diego.

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 Golf Championship is down to the two finalists, Gary Irwin and Steve Roath. This has been a fun and competitive tournament enjoyed by many.

And, exciting news -- a group of Sirs members informally play Thursdays at Franklin Canyon. Bob Mayne of 174 shot a hole in one on the par three second hole. The distance was 125 yards and he used a five wood. And yes, he did buy a round of drinks! Bravo Bob!

Outings in August include: [Lone Tree on August 2](#); [Poppy Ridge Golf Course on August 9](#), and [Chardonnay on August 23](#).

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: OPEN (Br. 171)
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 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 SiSi'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

LONG HIKERS: OPEN (171)
STEVE BEHNKE (Br. 174) stevebehnke@icloud.com

This activity was established to engage SIRs who want a walking route longer and stronger than the other two walking groups. It offers opportunities for hikes more than 3 miles in length and, perhaps, with a little more elevation. The group is considering offering perhaps one hike per month. Please contact Steve for more information

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

The group will continue having Zoom meetings rather than in-person meetings. The Zoom share screen venue is an excellent vehicle for the discussions and for sharing.

Although meetings are typically held bi-monthly on the 1st Monday of even number months, due to scheduling reasons the **next meeting will be held at 10:00 am on Monday, September 13.**

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

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

Please contact Stan Holcenberg at sholcenb@comcast.net to be added to the Apple User Group distribution list. The Zoom meeting link will be shared with members approximately one week before the meeting.

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

The SIR Area 16 Computer & Technology Group will be having a **Zoom meeting on Thursday, August 19th at 9:30 AM.** (The Zoom doors will open at 9:15 AM so come a little early to chat with friends).

The August presentation topic will be Windows 11 by CAT Director Frank May. His presentation will discuss the current functionality and status of Windows 10 and the move by Microsoft to Windows 11. Why is Microsoft moving away from providing updates to Windows 10 to requiring Windows 11 and what does that mean to individual users of Windows? Much of the new functionality revolves around the need to beef up security. What is being added and why is it important? What additional functionality and features can we expect? At this point it looks like many recent machines may not run Windows 11 because of processor requirements. Will try to give the latest on what are the basic requirements for the new OS.

Meetings are typically held 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 will again meet with SIR 128's Investment Group by [Zoom on Wednesday, July 28 at 1:30 PM](#). Reminder and Zoom link go out Wed AM.

The group will discuss potential risks to Recovery as well as the Role of the Fed

- Higher inflation on a sustained basis.
- “Peak liquidity” is fast approaching, with elevated rates of federal deficit spending on the decline and the Fed beginning discussions in the coming months to end quantitative easing.
- The 10-year Treasury yield could go as high as 2.5%-3.0% in the coming quarters if higher inflation and tighter monetary policy are realized, and real rates could turn positive. These are likely to lead to a challenging operating environment for many kinds of companies, although cyclical, financials, and companies with pricing power can perform well amid such a background.

The following meeting will again be with Branch 128's Investment Group for their August 25, [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 on their distribution list if you're not already.

OTHER ACTIVITY NEWS

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