

TRAIL



TIPS

Sons in Retirement, Inc.

Mission Trail Branch 35

Los Altos, California

Branch 35 web site: www.sirinc2.org/branch35/

January, 2021

— NEXT MEETING —

3rd Wednesday, January 20, 2021

Social Time 11:45am

Business 12:30pm, Speaker 12:45pm

VIA ZOOM MEETING

Zoom instructions will be sent via email before the meeting.

PROGRAM

Speaker: Ann Hepenstahl, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator for Los Altos

Topic: "Are You Really and Truly Ready?"



We all know it can happen – a disaster strikes and the normal world we enjoy is upended. Each of us thinks we know what to do if it happened but are we really and truly ready? And, the community resources we rely upon, are they going to be there? Are the managers of those operations ready for a disaster? Answers to these questions and many more will be covered by our January speaker, Ann Hepenstahl.

Ann is the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator for the City of Los Altos. In this role she not only helps alert and train individuals on how to best prepare for a disaster, she ensures that the City is prepared to support the community. Ann graduated from Case Western Reserve and has a Masters in Management Science from Stanford. She is very experienced in driving both public and private sector organizations to best identify risks and mitigate their potential impact. She leads the County CERT Leadership Team, and in 2019, was named the Emergency Manager of the Year by the Santa Clara County Emergency Managers Association. Ann and her husband are 22-year residents of Los Altos, and their children went through Los Altos School District and graduated from Mountain View High School.

Be sure to join us for this very important topic so we can all be ready when the time comes.

The Big Sir Says . . .

The Brotherhood of SIR

When I joined Branch 35 of SIR in January of 2004, one of the things that impressed me was the energy and enthusiasm of the members as we gathered for our social hour prior to the luncheon. Many of the members were dressed for a business lunch with sport coats and ties. In those days we always sang a song called, "The Brotherhood of SIR".

That tune came back to me as I contemplated writing this article. There is a special bond between brothers whether they are siblings or very good friends or both. During my years in this branch, I have benefited from finding lots of brothers with whom I have shared great times on golf courses, on hiking trails, at picnics, at lunches and even at Branch Executive Committee meetings.

The thing about brothers is that we stick together whether we are sharing good times or working through major challenges. We may disagree with each other from time to time, but we will always be brothers. During the pandemic, few things are more important than to stay in touch with each other, check on each other and encourage each other.

As we start the new year, I want to remind you that we are brothers who are in this together. Even though we can't mingle together during the social hour or sit at our table with our friends, we can still stay in touch with our brothers. Think of one of your SIR brothers and make a simple phone call, send an email or greeting card that will brighten his day. It is what brothers do for each other.

Thanks, brother.

Stan

stanbarkey1@gmail.com



JANUARY 2021 ROSTER

Active Members: 332

Net Monthly Change: -1

In Memoriam
Jerry Butler

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES: 10+ YEARS

John Wong	22	Stan Barkey	17
Jim DeLong	21	Capp Spindt	12
Wendell Lehr	21	John Brown	11
Herb Fischgrund	18	Ernie Robertson	11
Dick Knock	18	Dick Treakle	10

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Ben Adelman	Don Fidler	Joe Mullen
David Arata	John Files	Ron Murphy
Russ Atkinson	Joe Geist	John Richardson
Richard Blackborow	David Gobuty	Joe Scheid
Vince Clampa	Clive Hallatt	John Sleeman
Dick Costa	Robert Manetta	Ranney Thayer
Dick DeLoof	Les Miles	Ron Wilensky
John Faucett	Cal Morris	Harold Wong
Gerry Feeney	Tom Moulton	



Small Group Gatherings: Opportunities to Stay Social

By Jerry Belden, Activities Director

As most of you know, we have now had small group meetings prior to our monthly SIR meetings for a number of months. At this point we've had as many as 9 different groups at a time. These include: biking, bocce ball, gardening, the Fabian Wayfarers (ex SSL employees), hiking, movies, photography, trail birds, golf and the purely social "randomly assigned" groups.

Through these groups, our members get a bit of social interaction, keep up with acquaintances, and potentially meet other SIR members they may not know. Nowadays, we can certainly enjoy and benefit from these less-structured groups. If any of the above activity areas have previously been a part of your life, why not reengage? Alternatively, if you have an interest in one of these activities but have not participated before, you can meet some of the members and learn more about the activity.

In this time of social isolation, we all need a bit of social interaction with others. Why not give one of these groups a try? Alternatively, there may be a topic which is not on the list but which you think would be of interest to other members of our SIR chapter. If so, suggest that topic. If you know at least a couple other people who would be interested in participating, start a group. If you need help setting up a Zoom meeting, we can provide resources to help.

For additional information on how to start a new group, contact Jerry Belden via email at jerry@gbeldenlnc.com. Alternatively call him at the number listed in our membership directory.

December Virtual Branch Meeting Drawings

December Birthday: Pete Squire

Zoom Attendee Award: Ernie Robertson

November 12 email from the Big Sir

I am immediately curtailing all non-Zoom Branch 35 Meetings, Activities and Events

Therefore Branch 35 will comply with the State SIR Executive Committee directive and immediately curtail all in-person meetings, activities and events until further notice.

BIKING

JIM LUNT 408-252-6804
jamesdlunt@yahoo.com

There will not be a SIR bicycle ride for January.

As stated last month:

The SIR bicycle group is not riding in January. SIR has giving the order that all outdoor activities are to be suspended. We take this to mean that protocols have to be resubmitted at the appropriate time. So as for now, there are no SIR bicycle rides until further notice.

We have complete trust in your protocols and hope to be back riding again.

BOCCE BALL

NORM PASS – SCHEDULE/
CANCELLATIONS 408-737-7639;
normpass@sbcglobal.net

FRED SCHWALBACH – PLAYER
DEVELOPMENT 408-257-9713;
fpschwalbach@aol.com
JOHN RICHARDSON - SUPPORT
650-996-7787; jlrcgc.com

An update on two of our SIR Bocce activity founders:

NORM PASS: He has overcome two major health issues in the last months and is now ready to play again. He is thinking that maybe we could play as soon as April, 2021.

FRED SCHWALBACH: He is now mobile and wishes that he could both bowl and play bocce since he can move around and drive.

For those of us with health and no limitations for playing Bocce except SIR and County restrictions, we have much to be thankful for as we enter 2021. May it be a much improved year!

BOWLING

BOB TAGGART 650-321-2654
chtaggart@earthlink.net
DOUG ANDERSON 415-407-4000
marktinti@aol.com

Prizes: Alan Gaudie

Homestead Bowl is closed and there will be no league bowling in 2021 until further notice. We will be in contact with Homestead Bowl after we receive approval from SIR to continue bowling again.

HIKING

DELL SMITH 650-968-5006 (LOOKING FOR A
dellnmolly@sbcglobal.net Replacement)

The SIR sponsored monthly group hiking is postponed until the Covid crisis is over and trail regulations are updated. Members are encouraged to still hike. However, if with anyone outside their family group, the social distancing recommendations should be followed. For those that want to hike with another SIR member and get trail recommendations, there is an on-line contact procedure. SIR Hiking members are now included in a Google Group. If you would like to join, contact Peter Thurston, the administrator.

Member Profile

RON NAKAMOTO 408-440-2330
ron.nakamoto@yahoo.com

This monthly article highlights one of our branch members. We hope that you enjoy knowing a little more about your fellow members and the interesting life they have had. If you have someone you would like to nominate or if you would like to help author an article, please email ron.nakamoto@yahoo.com.

Lawrence (Larry) Yelowitz

"Did you know, at age 15 I replaced Neil Sedaka as music counselor at Trail's End Camp, Beach Lake, PA (Summer '59). Neil, scheduled to return for a second season, bowed out to pursue his music career, which soon soared with his Billboard Hot 100 hit "Breaking Up is Hard to Do" in the summer of 1962. Decades later, my wife and I saw Neil headlining a fundraiser for our synagogue at Flint Center, Cupertino. Although I did not get to meet him, a wave of exciting memories came back to me of my two great summers at Trail's End Camp.

"I was born the younger of two siblings in a family of four in Brooklyn, NY. My mother was a kindergarten teacher who taught for over two decades and was admired and respected by her young students and their parents. Our apartment was located about a 20-minute walk from Ebbets Field, home of the Brooklyn Dodgers. Despite this proximity my absolute favorite baseball player in my youth was Willie Mays of the NY Giants. In those days before mega-salaries for star players, many of the Dodgers would walk past my apartment on the way to the stadium as the subway stop was right around the corner from me.

"To get out of the hot city streets in the summer, my mother took a job as the Girls' Head Counselor at Camp Mayfair in upstate NY. For many years my sister and I got an eight-week free, summer camp experience as a perk. Fortunately, there was a piano in our apartment and I "had an ear" for music and would play popular radio tunes on the piano, including chords with one listen. I started piano lessons at

age eight and continued for about eight years. I always enjoyed improvising with a spontaneous vs. repetitive style with sheet music.

"I attended Erasmus Hall high school and thrived in their musical program. I played trumpet and later trombone with the band. My favorite activity was as pianist for "Sing," an annual activity put on by each Class, which included our



Larry on his family piano at age 3

writing a 30-40-minute skit with song parodies. I was honored to be voted Class Musician by my graduating class of over 1,500 Seniors.

"After graduation I enrolled at Brooklyn College. I had always enjoyed math, so picked that as a major. As a resume-enhancer I ran for and became President of the Brooklyn College Math Society in my junior year. The Vice President that year was a cute freshman girl

named Rhoda; she asked me about her duties as V.P. and I told her "to make the President happy." (This was well before the Me-Too era). We hit it off from our first date. Rhoda laughed at all my dumb jokes, had a beautiful smile, and there was an easy-going relationship that we both found very enjoyable with mutual attraction. Her father liked me because he was also a piano player (and composer) and admired my playing. In 2020 we celebrated our 55th wedding anniversary.



Math Society President and VP Tie the Knot

"As a senior I received an unsolicited, unexpected offer from Harvard University to pursue a one-year Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) degree in math. The fellowship covered full tuition plus room and board so who am I to refuse the offer?

"Following my MAT degree, I took a position teaching math and decided to join the US Public Health Service Commissioned Corps which would fulfill my military obligation. I went to Washington, DC, and worked for the National Center for Health Statistics, programming in Fortran on applications dealing with health/demographic statistics. Computers were very useful for data intensive tasks, but due to limited resident memory there was a need to constantly load/unload magnetic tapes. I mastered computer programming early on and was able to solve the magnetic tape problem with a program that required minimal memory.

"In April '68 Rhoda and I took our first vacation to CA and we both immediately fell in love with the Golden State. This was a three-week vacation starting at San Diego and ending in Marin. We both still remember driving the red Mustang on Route 1, cruising around Carmel with its easy beach access, outstanding restaurants, and romantic atmosphere.

"Computer Science was emerging as an academic discipline, so I enrolled at Johns Hopkins University and pursued their PhD program. My dissertation area was Program Correctness – the ability to prove with logical rigor that a computer program performed its intended function, rather than merely test it on a sampling of data points. Program proving was a new theory that had originated at Stanford with an article by Prof. Robert Floyd in 1967, "Assigning Meanings to Programs". The ultimate goal was that if you could prove that a program was correct, there would be less need for extensive and exhaustive testing which would save time and money. After receiving my PhD, I was on the Computer Science faculty at three universities for the next seven years, including UC Irvine and the University of Pittsburgh.

"While on the faculty at the University of Pittsburgh a job became available at Ford Aerospace Corporation in Palo Alto that seemed to have been designed for me. This was the Kernelized Secure Operating System (KSOS) project, whose goal was to develop a provably secure Unix operating system. The ultimate intent was that

an outside user could run all the same applications on KSOS as could be run on Unix, but with the benefit that KSOS would not permit any security breaches. This was one of the first projects sponsored by the Department of Defense to create a secure operating system for defense applications.

"The KSOS project was a great beginning for me at Ford Aerospace. I enjoyed working with a high powered academic and development team developing a new product. I was the liaison to our subcontractor, SRI, International, assigned the theoretical task of developing automated logic proofs. We were successful and were awarded a follow-on project, Provably Secure Operating System (PSOS), [that](#) focused on adding more automation to the labor-intensive proof technology. Unfortunately, this was too ambitious for the technology at that time. However, our pioneering work advanced DoD knowledge in secure computing and was used to create the "Orange Book" in 1983. *(Editor's note: The Orange Book, formally known as the Trusted Computer System Evaluation Criteria (TCSEC) became the reference set of requirements used by DoD to assess the effectiveness of computer security controls built into a computer system. TCSEC was sponsored by the National Computer Security Center which was an arm of the National Security Agency (NSA). Larry was one of the pioneers in the emerging area of computer security.)*

"Over the course of my 25-year career at FAC/Loral/Lockheed Martin, I have been fortunate to use my academic training in mathematical proof techniques in a variety of projects. I moved to the Tactical Reconnaissance Intelligence Ground Station (TRIGS) program. *(Editor's note: TRIGS was a transportable ground station for the U2 and SR71 blackbird reconnaissance airplanes. It gathered intelligence in various forms and would disseminate the information at various classification levels to many defense and other users.)* A proud moment for me was developing the TRIGS Computer Security Policy Model. This involved developing a mathematically rigorous definition of "secure state," and using "precondition/postcondition" semantics to prove that the system is initialized securely and maintains a secure state. To make a long story short, after several years of rigorous work we were one of the first DoD systems to be able to certify the TRIGS system for multi-level security operation. (Our certifying agency accreditor had a PhD in mathematical logic, so we bonded instantly.)

"I retired in 2004 after a 25-year career but was requested to consult on a major new defense satellite program with multi-level security protection capabilities. I did so and after an intense period we were informed that LMC was awarded the program. I decided to retire for good on a high note and am very proud of my contribution. Pre-pandemic, I kept an active musical life, playing piano in three different bands. On Tuesday and Friday mornings I played for the Sunnyvale Senior Nutrition Program; attendees danced to the music working up their appetite for a hot lunch. Tuesday was a banjo band and Friday was a nine-piece mini-big band. The seniors were a super-appreciative audience, applauding after nearly every dance. On Saturday mornings I played more straight-ahead jazz with six friends at the NASA Recreation Center.

"Rhoda worked as a computer programmer at HP and later as a programmer/analyst and project manager at Stanford University, which she enjoyed for 20 years prior to her retirement. Our son Aaron earned his PhD in economics from MIT and is now a professor of economics at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, KY. He has

published numerous refereed journal articles including recent ones (<http://yelowitz.com/#>) (click on News then Health Affairs) describing the salutary effect of shelter-in-place restrictions on the health of the KY population. Our son Jason achieved entrepreneurial success during the dot-com era. He moved from his house in Sunnyvale to Reno, NV for its more friendly business environment. We have five grandkids between them, all active and curious. Our 3 KY grandkids have all played violin in their school orchestras.

"Rhoda and I have maintained an active social/cultural life in retirement, with numerous theaters, concert, and dinner outings, by ourselves and with friends. Of the many plays we have seen, we are very impressed with the Hershey Felder series portraying great composers (part of the TheaterWorks repertoire), and of these, with his passionate portrayal of Beethoven's agony over going deaf. We have also enjoyed traveling within the US (many National Parks, and road trips up and down the west coast, plus visits to friends and family) as well as internationally (England, France, Canada, Israel, Spain/Portugal, Holland, Italy, Central Europe, and several cruises). We especially remember our three-week trip to Italy in 1996, where we met our son Jason who was in the midst of a nine-month self-directed world tour. At that time, Rhoda and I were fairly adventurous in traveling around on our own but nowadays we prefer organized tours for international travel and have enjoyed Tauck excursions.

"I will conclude with stating that I greatly enjoy our monthly get together and being able to catch up with my fellow LM and SIR friends. The monthly speakers are tops and I also enjoy, occasionally, serving as the substitute pianist for the Trail Birds. One important lesson I have learned and am always eager to pass on is to have a sense of humor, ... about yourself as well as the situation, and to try to laugh heartily at least several times a week."



"WOULD YOU PLEASE STOP READING OVER MY SHOULDER?"

Member Profile Call for 2021 Candidates

Fellow Branch 35 members,

Wouldn't you like to know a little more about your fellow members? Every member in our branch has lived a long and interesting life. Whether they did it in academia, within the business community, their local community/church, or indulged in a favorite sport or hobby, your fellow member would be interested in your story. It is a very simple process to do one and you can start by just sending me an email (ron.nakamoto@yahoo.com) that you would be interested and want to know more. If you have already been Profiled I would encourage you to let your fellow members know what you thought about the process and article and to encourage them to participate.

GOLF

JOE CIONI, GOLF CHAIRMAN
516-448-6721, jacioni@yahoo.com

SIGN-UP with John Gerich by Fri Jan 8 for the following:

Canyon Lakes (CLK)	Mon Feb 1	9:30	\$33
Gikis 650-948-9523 gikisben(at)yahoo.com/ Tran			
Callippe Preserve (CPR)	Thu Feb 4	10:00	\$37
VanderWerf 760-224-0836 philly631(at)yahoo.com / Wong, Peter			
Monterey Pines (MPN) (Cart,Range)	Mon Feb 8	9:30	\$40
Gikis 650-948-9523 gikisben(at)yahoo.com / Pattison			
Metropolitan (MET) (Cart)	Thu Feb 11	9:30	\$42
Cioni 650-393-5711 jacioni(at)yahoo.com/ Wong, Peter			
Sunnyvale (SVL)	Mon Feb 15	9:00	\$35
4 Club - 2 Man 1 Best Ball Mattson 650-949-3739 donmattson(at)yahoo.com / Narva			
Half Moon Bay Ocn (HMN) (Cart)	Thu Feb 18	10:00	\$101
No cancel after 5 days Enos 650-712-1201 J.enos(at)comcast.net/ Rittweger			
San Jose CC (SJCC) (Cart)	Mon Feb 22	10:00	\$75
O'Meara 408-251-5402 Omearatimo(at)gmail.com / VanderWerf			
Monarch Bay (MNB)	Thu Feb 25	9:30	\$34
Nakamoto 408-440-2330 Ronandela(at)comcast.net/ Jones			
Castlewood CC Hill (CWH) (Cart,Range)	Mon Mar 1	10:00	\$105
this is special - Try it VanderWerf 760-224-0836 philly631(at)yahoo.com/ O'Meara			

GOLF INFO**Double Eagle or Albatross?**

Some golfers roll their eyes when they hear the term "double eagle" referring to holing out 3 under par. Logic dictates that a double eagle should define something that is twice as good as being two under par. (That would be four under par, right?). In most parts of the world the term "albatross" is used to designate being 3 under par on a par 5 or par 6 hole, but in the US "double eagle" is the more common term, though more commentators and writers have switched to using albatross in recent years.

But every so often a golfer will score a hole in one on a Par 5 hole, which could legitimately be called a "double eagle," though perhaps "miracle" would be an even better term.

Here's the backstory on one such lucky shot, courtesy of *USA Today*: "Such a score has been recorded four times, the most unusual by Shaun Lynch, a 33-year-old Irishman. He hit a 3-iron over hedges 20 feet high on the horseshoe-shaped par-5 17th hole at Teign Valley Golf Club in England in 1995. It ran down a slope and into the hole for a 1.

The shot was commemorated by a plaque. *"From this tee Shaun Lynch smote a golf ball into the hole. It was witnessed by two members and certified by Guinness Book of Records."*

USGA Tips for Repairing Ball Marks

This is the third and final installment of articles on caring for the golf course. Previous installments covered divot replacement and the use of divot mix. The text below comes from this page on the USGA web site: <https://www.usga.org/articles/2018/07/repairing-ball-marks--5-things-every-golfer-should-know-.html>.

As golfers, a small amount of our time and attention can go a long way in helping to maintain high-quality playing conditions on the courses we play. Repairing ball marks on the putting greens is an easy way to make a positive impact, but the importance of ball mark repair and the proper tools and technique are often misunderstood. Here are five things every golfer should know about repairing ball marks:

1. The proper technique for ball mark repair is easy and fast. Insert the ball mark repair tool behind the ball mark and gently pull the top of the tool toward the center. Continue working around the ball mark, pulling the surrounding turf in toward the center of the indentation. Avoid using a lifting or twisting motion because this can damage turf roots. Once you have finished pulling turf in toward the center, gently tamp the area down with your putter to create a smooth, firm surface.

2. Unrepaired ball marks cause lasting problems Failing to repair a ball mark may seem like a minor oversight, but there are lasting consequences. Unrepaired ball marks can take weeks to heal, during which time they can cause balls to bounce off line. The damage to the putting surface is also an entry point for weeds that can cause serious problems.

3. Certain putting greens are more vulnerable to ball marks than others. Any putting green that typically receives high, lofted approach shots will be more susceptible to ball marks. The putting greens on par-3 holes are a perfect example. If you recognize that a putting green is prone to damage from ball marks, it is important to be mindful of repairing your own ball mark and a few unrepaired ones nearby.

4. Soft conditions mean more ball marks. When putting greens are wet or soft, ball marks will be more of an issue. This is just one of the reasons why superintendents work hard to promote firm playing conditions with aeration, topdressing and other maintenance practices. If excessive thatch accumulates beneath the putting surface, ball marks and other turf issues will be more problematic.

5. Almost any pointed tool can be used to successfully repair a ball mark. Many different tools have been created to repair ball marks, including single-pronged and fork-shaped tools. Almost any pointed tool, including a golf tee, can be used to effectively repair a ball mark. Using the proper technique is the key to success.

Repairing ball marks is one of the easiest ways that golfers can help superintendents deliver high-quality playing conditions. After hitting a great shot onto the putting green, fixing your ball mark and a couple nearby is an excellent way to celebrate.

TRAVEL

LARRY GARDNER 650-776-1970
larry_gardner@xanda.com

If you can travel in 2021, here are 20 Tips that also apply in 2021:
<https://www.journohq.com/blog/20-travel-tips-so-you-can-travel-easy-in-2020/>.

Read the January Travel Bulletin on the SIR Branch 35 website.

Movie Review

Mank. Gary Oldman stars as Herman J. Mankiewicz (Mank), the celebrated screen writer of *Citizen Kane*. Hollywood of the 1930s comes alive. Mank is known for his sharp wit and scathing ripostes. He takes on the big wigs of his day, Louis B. Mayer, William Randolph Hearst and other lesser elites. He is an avowed alcoholic who works best when drunk. The script for *Citizen Kane* is quite the hot potato as Mank has to placate his bosses at Paramount and Orson Welles, while staying true to his vision. This feature is wonderfully filmed in black and white. It is chalk-full of wonderful bon mots as Mank clearly has the upper hand in the race to bring *Citizen Kane* to the Big Screen and to the Public. Look for Oldman to receive an Oscar nod. Rated R for language. Streaming on Netflix.

All activities arranged for or by Sons in Retirement, Incorporated, and its Branches, are for the convenience and pleasure of its members and their guests who desire to participate. Sons in Retirement, Incorporated, and its Branches do not assume any responsibility for the well-being or safety of the participants or their property in any matters pertaining to said activities.

SIR Branch 35 2021 Officers and Directors

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