



INCORPORATED

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TAMALPAIS BRANCH NO. 47



TAMAL TALK

A SIR PUBLICATION

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

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| Big Sir -- | Doug Twitchell | 415-897-1759 |
| Little Sir-- | Frank Ghazzagh | 415-505-7931 |
| Treasurer- | Bill Stewart | 415-990-2010 |
| Asst Treasurer | Will Kaefer | 415-9271043 |
| Secretary - | Ned Lawrence - | 415-595-1092 |
| Asst Secretary | Alan Thomas | 415-457-4576 |

Luncheon Meeting:
McINNIS GOLF CENTER, SAN RAFAEL
Fourth Tuesday of the month
Happy Hour at 11:00 am, as always

Editor/Publisher - Ron Kosciusko -415-435-0650
Attendance Committee—415-881-7477

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MARIN COUNTY

FEBRUARY 2020
OUR 45TH YEAR

VOL. XLVI No. 2

BIG SIR'S MESSAGE

Our January luncheon was very well attended and I thank everyone for helping to begin our year with an enjoyable time together and hearing a most interesting speaker. Dale Miller gave us all a lot to think about when we consider our future car choices and the pros/cons of making the change to an electric vehicle. Our Little SIR, Frank Ghazzagh, is off to a great start selecting our February speaker, Galen Dunham. He will give a presentation of Civil War uniforms, weapons, artifacts and more.

We had two new guests at our luncheon, Fred Fletcher and Curt Javorski. A thank you to Jack Brandon and Tom Culhane for bringing these new potential members to our branch. If every member can bring at least one guest to a luncheon during 2020 this will insure the growth of Branch 47.

The 2020 Roster Books were passed out at the luncheon and these will continue to be available to members that were not in attendance. Please take the time to review the roster and to check your personal information. If you note any errors, please inform Erick Young. Kudos to Erick for his excellent work in putting this roster book together and for insuring it was available to us for our first meeting of the year. A PDF version of the roster will be in your email shortly.

Do not forget the upcoming Chinese New Year lunch on February 11 at the Yet Wah Restaurant in San Rafael. Members and guests are welcome. If you have not registered, please contact See Tom at 415.378.3008 before February 7th.

If you have not yet paid your 2020 dues, please have a separate check at the February luncheon for \$30. The lunches for 2020 are \$30 and a payment by check is preferred.

Please contact our Little SIR, Frank Ghazzagh, if you have speaker suggestions.

Doug Twitchell, BIG SIR BRANCH 47



SIR Br 47 Chinese New Year's Celebration

@ 11:30 am on Tues Feb 11, 2020 at Yet Wah restaurant, 1238 fourth St., San Rafael



This is our first party in 2020 to kick off the Year of the Yang Metal Rat. This Rat has exceptional taste, so what better than a sit-down Chinese Banquet

The proposed menu includes: Sizzling Rice Soup, Yet wah Lettuce Blason, Glazed Walnut Prawns, Glazed Orange Beef with Broccoli, Lemon chicken, Salt and Pepper Pork Chops, Sweet and Sour Fish Filet, Mixed Vegetables with Bean Curds and Cashews, White or Brown Rice, Dessert. Plenty of food to eat and take home.



Cost is \$30 including tax & tip. Please invite spouses and other guests to help us celebrate the New Year.

Reservations required.

Contact See Tom @ 415-378-3008 or seestom@gmail.com.

Feb. 4 2020 is the deadline for making both reservations and payment



TRAVEL



For SIRs Travel please refer to the SIRs WEB site www.sir47.org for the years Travel itineraries or call your Travel Chairman Kurt Heilman @ 415-897-2460

FEBRUARY LUNCH MENU

Salad

Corned Beef, boiled red potatoes and cabbage

Alternative: Penne pomodoro Pasta and

vegetables

Rolls and butter

Dessert *NOTE: Lunch Price is now \$30.*

LUNCHEON SPEAKER FOR FEBRUARY

February 25: Galen Dunham.

“Civil War uniforms, weapons, artifacts, women’s contributions, Confederate money, hard tack and more.”

Galen is a 35 year member of the first and largest Civil War reenacting club west of the Mississippi that reenacts Civil War Battles for the public.

BRIDGE GROUP

The bridge group meets on the third Thursday of each month at a member's home. Play is from 10 am to 2 pm. To reserve space and get directions for the next event, call or email

Charles Caviness: 415 435-9618
c.caviness@sbglobal.net



ADVANCED DIGITAL CAMERA STUFF

3rd Wednesdays, vp@ggcs.org
All Wednesday sessions are from 1:30 to 3:30 pm

GGCS classroom
First Presbyterian Church
Fifth Avenue, San Rafael

All are welcome. Open to all of Area 6.



FISHING

The fishermen meet every 2nd Tuesday of the month at Novato United Methodist Church at 9:30am. For detailed information, contact **SIR Bill Cline, Branch 134, @ 415 892-0209**



INVESTORS LUNCH BUNCH

Second Friday of the month at Sam's Place at 1545 South Novato Blvd. Order from the complete Breakfast/Lunch menu and receive individual checks. No reservations are required. Meeting will start at 11:45, followed by presentations and discussions.

Contacts:

Will Kaefer 415-927-1043, or
Brian Stompe 415-897-1610

THURSDAY WALKING/HIKING GROUP

1st week each month: Jake Solomon 415-472-3069
2nd week each month Pierre Terrier 415-785-4513
3rd week each month: Al Springstead 415-250-3808
4th week each month: Alan Thomas 415-457-4576
5th week (if applicable): Dee Stuever 415-459-6751
Call leaders for details about future walks and hikes



TENNIS, ANYONE?

The tennis Gods have not been good to us this month! Several cancelations for wet courts & lack of players! Hopefully new members will show up in 2020! BD



Play is at McInnis Park every Wednesday @ 9:30 AM.
Call Bill Donnelly 897-8966 or Glen Ohm 479-5693 if you wish to join the fun!

GOLF



Chairman Ned Lawrence, 415 595-1092

9-Hole Golf at McInnis Park

Mondays at 9:00 am, weather permitting
Contact James G Bitter <jybitter@aol.com>

18 Hole Golf

2020 Season (Schedule Pending)

BRANCH 47 BOCCE

The first Monday of each month; no cost to play. Spouses and guests are encouraged to attend. We start with lunch at 12 noon @ the Swiss Hotel on the Sonoma Square. Then we play Bocce @ about 1:30 pm at Depot Park behind the Swiss Hotel. Bring your own Bocce balls, if you have them.
Contact: Kurt Heilman @ 415-892-2460 or heilmanfour@comcast.net to let him know if you want to be on the mailing list or to join us for lunch and bocce.

BOWLING

Bowling League bowling is every Friday at Country Club Bowl, 88 Vivian Way, San Rafael.

Start time: 10:45 AM. Come and share the fun!



Contact Paul Schofield, Chair 892-

The GGCS QUICKEN and PERSONAL FINANCES SIG

The Quicken SIG is no longer meeting monthly or quarterly. Instead, it has gone digital and become the Quicken Forum, an Email List where Quicken users and those curious about the program can ask questions, give one another tips, and discuss the program's features, as well as other related personal finance issues.

If you would like to subscribe to the Quicken forum, contact Babette Bloch at babette@ggcs.org.

Br 47 Outings include:

- 1. Ross Valley Players: Jan 17- Feb. 9, 2020 "Silent sky".** The story, based on real events, is about some of the first woman astronomers, who helped pave the way to our understanding of both the universe and Earth. Three exceptional women are hired in the early 1900's in jobs called "computers". Prohibited from actually looking through the giant telescope (that's for the men), they undertake to discover the answer to "Where do we fit in space?" For tickets contact <<http://rossvalleyplayers.com/>> rossvalleyplayers.com or call 1-415-456-9555 Ex 1.
- 2. Marin Theatre Company: Jan 9 – Feb. 2, 2020 "Noura".** Noura and her family celebrate Christmas, and their new life, in New York City. But when the arrival of a visitor stirs up long-buried memories, Noura and her husband are forced to confront the cost of their choices; the past they left behind. Inspired by stories from Arab-American women and created in response to Ibsen's A Doll's House, Heather Raffo's Noura charts the intricate pathways of motherhood and marriage—and the fragile architecture of what we call home. Contact the Box Office at (415)388-5208, <<mailto:boxoffice@marintheatre.org>> boxoffice@marintheatre.org, or visit us during regular Box Office hours of operation: 397 Miller Ave. Mill Valley, CA 94941
- 3. Pacific Empire Chorus (PEC) all-you-can-eat crab feed and live a cappella singing. Sat. Feb. 1, 2020** from 5 pm to 9 pm @ Petaluma Veterans Bldg., 1094 Petaluma Blvd. \$55 for adults (\$65 at the door). Tickets on line at pacificempire.org or call 1-877-772-0087. (Those wanting to sit as with us as a group need to contact Kurt Heilman beforehand).
- 4. The Novato Theater Company:** Contact <<http://novatotheatrecompany.org>> novatotheatrecompany.org or call 415-833-4498. **Jan 23 – Feb 19, 2020 "Our Town"**
- 5. Cinnabar Theater:** 3333 Petaluma Blvd. North, Petaluma. Note: Seating is now reserved in advance, but the Theater seating has been refurbished. * **Jan 31 – Feb. 16 "Rip Cord"** Friday and Saturday nights 7:30 pm & Sunday matinees 2pm. Like a fleet of shiny subway trains in a utopian metropolis, "gotcha" moments arrive right on schedule in RIPCORDER, David Lindsay-Abaire's expertly engineered situation comedy about adversarial roommates in a retirement home. Contact <<http://centerstageticketing.com/>> centerstageticketing.com or 707-763-8920 for tickets or for other performances
- 6. Alzheimer's Association.** For some of us who have loved ones with memory issues, the Alzheimer's Association **has several support classes and events in Marin, Sonoma & Napa**, e.g. (1) ongoing training to help caregivers, (2) to learn more about diet, nutrition, exercise, cognitive activity & social engagement, (3) participating in a sing-a-long as a way for people to express themselves in a stimulating social environment,

and (4) a **2020 Sate Advocacy Day on Wed. Feb. 5.** Contact **ALZ.org** or call **800-272-3900** to find out ways they can help in your family situation.

7. Homeward Bound Fresh Start Chef Events. Thu. Jan. 16, 2020 @ 6:30 pm. pp. Visit [Fresh Starts Chef Events](#) online to make reservations or call 415-382-3363 x243. **Wed. Feb. 12, 2020. Michelin-Star Chef Ron Siegel**, chef-owner of the Michelin-starred [Madcap](#) in San Anselmo, brings us a menu featuring his elegant French- and Japanese-inspired cooking. A longtime Marin resident, the former chef at Michael Mina and Charles Nob Hill shops regularly at the Marin Farmers Market to supply his restaurant, which opened in 2017. Menu details coming soon! You can pair dinner with special selections from [Meadowcroft Wines](#), which harvest its grapes from esteemed vineyards in Napa and Sonoma counties for wines that blend California flair with European complexity. Cost is \$65 pp. Visit **[Fresh Starts Chef Events](#) online to make reservations or call 415-382-3363 x243.**

8. Enjoy Vintage Music and tour a lovely Victorian Home on 824 Grove St., SF 94117 (between Fillmore & Webster). Concerts are on specified Sat & Sun afternoons @ 2 pm (doors open @ 1:30 pm, so you can tour the old Victorian before the concert.). Send a check for \$30pp payable to Robert Gonzalez @ 26 Foremast Cove, Corte Madera, CA 94925 and specify the desired day you wish to attend. Free champagne and snacks are served during intermission as you enjoy Richard Ruetlinger's fine collection of mechanical musical instruments. The next scheduled concerts are: Jan 18 & 19 Concert by Adam Swanson performer & lecturer at ragtime and jazz festivals; **Mimi Blais Feb. 22 & 23; Ivory & Gold June 13 & 14.**

Cheers

Kurt Heilman 1-415-892-2460

NOTE: If anyone has a suggestion for a Br 47 Outing or event, please let Kurt Heilman know so he can include it in our future Outings.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE REPORT



If any of you know of a member who needs some "sunshine", please report an illness or death to BILL DONNELLY at (415) 897-8966

BRANCH 47 BUSINESS HIGHLIGHTS

McInnis Park Board Room
January 27, 2020

Attendees: Doug Twitchell, Jake Solomon, Alan Thomas, Will Kaefer, Rick Coburn, Bob Gonzalez, George Brown, Erick Young, Bill Stewart, Ned Lawrence.

Call to Order and Quorum: The meeting was called to order at 10:30 and a quorum was determined to be present.

Minutes of Last Meeting: The minutes of the meeting of November 25, 2019 were read. Minutes were moved to be passed, seconded and carried.

Treasurer's Report: The annual Branch 47 audit has been completed and will be checked for accuracy.

Big SIR Report:

Jim Norton's passing was acknowledged. There is no designated date set for a service. Doug Twitchell has been in contact with Jim's daughter and there is a possibility that later services may be held in multiple cities due to family members in diverse places. Doug will keep us posted.

(Reporting for Little SIR) Dale Miller will speak at the meeting of January 28th and the topic will be a comprehensive report on electric cars

Discussion took place on action to be taken on members who have been or are currently in arrears.

Branch 47 currently does not have a Recruiting Committee but ten new members were added during 2019. One reason for this success was based on the policy that the first lunch attended by a guest is paid for by the branch and dues would be waived for all new members. This policy was taken up for vote and approved for 2020.

Old Business:

Will Kaefer provided details on the Drop Box which is used by Board members to share and update pertinent information; not all Board members have access but can participate on an as-needed basis; if members have participated in Drop Box due to prior need, it can be activated and used for SIR activity at any time
Erick Young distributed 2020 roster books to Board members

Information provided on luncheon options that Caesar salad is available as an alternate entrée choice; twenty orders of salmon are available to membership by prior notice, also as a luncheon option.

New Business:

There is now a vacancy on the Board and the members should be made aware that we are encouraging a volunteer to serve on the Board. Ideally, a new board member should serve at least a year as a member, then progress to Little SIR and then Big SIR

Meeting Adjourned at noon

The next Branch 47 Board meeting will be held on February 24, 2020.

Jokes of the Month

While reviewing math symbols with my second-grade pupils, I drew a greater-than (>) and a less-than (<) sign on the chalkboard and asked, "Does anyone remember what these mean?"

A boy confidently raised his hand. "One means fast-forward and the other means rewind."

A friend was due to give birth around the same time that her oldest daughter was due to give birth to her first baby. On the morning my friend went into labor, I happened to drive by her house, wondering what she'd had. A sign on the front porch gave me my answer: "It's an Uncle!"

Tip-jar humor in our local coffee shop: "Afraid of Change? Leave It Here."

I dreamed I was rocking a baby to sleep. In the morning, my husband, who is bald, told me I patted his head for 30 minutes while repeating, "Go to sleep, baby."

JANUARY ATTENDANCE REPORT

| | |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Total Members | 114 |
| Members Present | 87 76% |
| Guests: | 2 |
| Visitors: | 0 |

To call-in non-attendance, order an alternative plate or to notify you're bringing a guest/visitor

Call or Text 415-881-7477

or E-mail sirbranch47@gmail.com

with your request, giving name and badge number

***Please call by noon of the Friday
before the lunch date***

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Summary:

| | | | |
|------------------|------------|----------|--|
| Actives - | 114 | | |
| Gains: | 2 | 0 | |
| Losses: | 0 | 0 | |

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY BOYS

3rd John Rouch, 7th, Marshall Gross,

13th, Marty Benson, 14th, Al Anderson,

18th, Bob Wilson, 21st, Folk Lazlo,

23rd, Trevor Hughes, 27th, Bill Stewart,

28th, Hans Schmid

ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

| | | | |
|------------------|------------|-----------|----------------------------------|
| Tuesday | Feb | 2 | Groundhog Day |
| Monday | Feb | 3 | Bocce Ball |
| Monday | Feb | 3 | 9 Hole Golf (Weather Permits) |
| Wednesday | Feb | 5 | Tennis |
| Thursday | Feb | 6 | Walking Group |
| Friday | Feb | 7 | Bowling |
| Monday | Feb | 10 | 9 Hole Golf (Weather Permits) |
| Tuesday | Feb | 11 | Fishing |
| Wednesday | Feb | 12 | Tennis |
| Wednesday | Feb | 12 | LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY |
| Thursday | Feb | 13 | Walking Group |
| Friday | Feb | 14 | Investors' Lunch Bunch |
| Friday | Feb | 14 | VALENTINES DAY |
| Friday | Feb | 14 | Bowling |
| Monday | Feb | 17 | 9 Hole Golf (Weather Permits) |
| Monday | Feb | 17 | PRESIDENTS' DAY |
| Wednesday | Feb | 19 | Tennis |
| Wednesday | Feb | 19 | Advanced Digital Camera |
| Thursday | Feb | 20 | Bridge |
| Thursday | Feb | 20 | Walking Group |
| Friday | Feb | 21 | Bowling |
| Monday | Feb | 24 | 9 Hole Golf (Weather Permits) |
| Monday | Feb | 24 | Executive Committee Meets |
| Tuesday | Feb | 25 | Branch 47 Luncheon |
| Wednesday | Feb | 26 | Tennis |
| Wednesday | Feb | 26 | ASH WEDNESDAY |
| Thursday | Feb | 27 | Walking Group |
| Friday | Feb | 28 | Bowling |

AREA 6 MONTHLY MEETINGS

| <u>Br. #</u> | <u>Branch Phone</u> |
|--|---------------------|
| 7 The Club at McInnis Park 1st Thursday | 415 456-3763 |
| 22 The Club at McInnis Park 1st Tuesday | 415 924-4862 |
| 47 Club at McInnis Park 4th Tuesday | 415 881-7477 |
| Happy Hour - 11:00 am; Luncheon - 11:45 am | |
| 68 The Club at McInnis Park 2nd Tuesday | 415 479-3286 |
| 134 Embassy Suites 1st Tuesday | 415 892-0209 |

ATTENDANCE: Failure to attend three consecutive meetings without giving prior notice to the Attendance Chairman, and/or failure to attend at least 6 meetings within the previous 12 months, may result in termination.

Condensed from Rule 100 of State Policy Manual

Attendance at another branch meeting, duly recorded with the Attendance Chairman of that branch, will be credited to a member's attendance record (Rule 101).

Call the branch phone listed above to secure a guest spot.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Please report SIR illnesses or deaths to
Bill Donnelly at 415 897-8966

* EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE will not meet in December *
* Next meeting , February 24th 10:30 AM at the *
* McGinnis Park Golf Club Boardroom350 Smith Ranch *
* Road *
* San Rafael, CA 94903 *

DATES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Monday preceding the Fourth Tuesday
Branch 47 Luncheon Meeting

BRANCH 47 LUNCHEON MEETINGS IN 2020

Fourth Tuesday Of The Month

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| January 28 (Tuesday) | February 25 (Tuesday) |
| March 24 (Tuesday) | April 28 (Tuesday) |
| May 26 (Tuesday) | June 23 (Tuesday) |
| July 28(Tuesday) | August 25 (Tuesday) |
| September 22 (Tuesday) | October 27 (Tuesday) |
| Nov 24 (Tuesday) | |

See what's happening Statewide in SIR

www.sirinc.org/sirhappenings/

To see all that SIR has to offer:

www.sirinc.org

TAMALTALK, SIR Branch 47

Ron Kosciusko, Publisher

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