



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

Directors: Jake Solomon, Jim Kleiser, George Brown, Bob Gonzalez, Rick Coburn

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Region 3 Director Dennis Pangburn pang1@comcast.net, Area 6 Governor - Sandy Grieve agrieves1@comcast.net

MARIN COUNTY

OCTOBER 2020
OUR 47TH YEAR

Vol. XLVII No. 10

BIG SIR'S MESSAGE

IMPORTANT NOTICE: DUE TO COVID-19 (The Corona Virus) SIR LUNCHEONS AND ALL SIR ACTIVITIES ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

There is not much SIR news to report this month.

So far we are not aware of any members that have had coronavirus and hopefully this will remain unchanged. A couple of members have experienced health issues. Bill Donnelley has sent them cards from the branch.

Thanks to everyone that has paid dues for 2020. Our membership remains strong placing your branch in a great position to resume our normal activities as soon as permissions are granted. Additionally, our branch's financial situation is very good which enabled us to not to collect dues for next year – 2021.

Our hiking group has been going on hikes of about 4 miles or so every Thursday. Masks and physical distance guidelines are followed. This is great opportunity to see some different areas of Marin and San Francisco. It is especially a wonderful way to keep contact with your SIR friends. If you are not receiving the hiking invites each week, please contact Jake Solomon to be added to the mail list.

If you have not been joining in our Zoom speaker meetings you have been missing out on hearing some great speakers with wonderful stories to tell. These talks are being recorded and posted to YouTube with the links sent to all members.

Please keep safe and well.

Doug Twitchell, BIG SIR BRANCH 47

OUR SPEAKER FOR OUR ZOOM MEETING ON 22nd SEPTEMBER

“POLICE WORK IN SAN RAFAEL” KEVIN McDOUGALD—DETECTIVE SR.P.D.-SIRS 9/22/02

One cannot hope to replicate in a few words the information and the answers to numerous questions, with the attitudes and values exhibited in this ninety minute presentation. Nor is it necessary because our Administration has made the recording available to us. (see Doug’s email 9/22/20)

Instead I will make five points:

1 Therapy. This talk restored my faith in the goodness of human nature and in the humanity of police work; such faith is sorely challenged in this time of cynicism and discord.

Kevin has wanted to be a policeman since an early age and his professional education has been second to none. (BS in Criminology with a minor in Psychology while working as a Reserve Police Officer, years at the SRPD, Law school with Bar passed, 17 years in private law practice with trial experience, and return once again to SRPD with promotion to Detective. He loves what he does and finds satisfaction from serving his community.

He presented two cases in detail for discussion.

2 The first, a breaking and entering aborted by two shots from the home owner, one of our Sirs’ colleagues. This case was solved by listening carefully to a variety of voices and integration of seemingly unrelated and detailed observations by other police officers. It did not come to trial because the DA needs to meet a higher burden of proof than officers in the field.

3 The second was a bookkeeper who stole \$700,000 from a local nonprofit. On discovery she split and finding her in the haystack took over a year and involved at least six warrants and examination of 300,000 emails. The effort to apprehend involved imagination and persistence and was well justified because, on capture, she had already worked her scam on three more businesses.

4. It was inevitable that Kevin would be asked about police racism and defunding. He readily agreed we live in a bubble here in Marin and he has never been aware of any racism. He welcomes professional help on the streets with social and psychological problems because he obviously does not have that degree of expertise. Just how this ancillary help would be organized and presumably paid for, he leaves to politicians.

5 Abuse of citizens by police is not a one way street however. Kevin understands, but is disappointed by how he is treated as he drives in his patrol car. Just last week he was hectored and flipped off by both blacks and whites. He related a recent incident where a young black man was reluctant to pull over for a traffic violation. Eventually he did but he was reluctant to take his hands off the steering wheel to reach for his registration. On questioning the man said he feared being shot if he did. Kevin promised to keep his hands on the door in plain sight and the man agreed. On further discussion the young man said he was not used to such considerate behavior. He came from Arkansas.

The above barely scratches the surface of the value of this address. I hope you will find time to view it.

Trevor Hughes

ED NOTE: IF YOUI MISSED THIS TALK OR OTHERS IT WAS RECORDED AND YOU CAN PLAY IT BACK ION OUR WEB SITE WWW.SIR47.ORG, UNDER THE TAB ZOOMING, THEN EVENTS.

SIR Branch 47 – August 25th, 2020 Speaker Review

Speaker: Ken Dutrieux

Topic: “Air Traffic Controller Stories of the North Bay”

Review:

The talk was given via Zoom and was well attended by approximately 45 members. Ken is Big SIR of Branch #68 (China Camp/ Indian Valley) and gave an interesting talk about his experiences as an air traffic controller.

Ken divided the talk into three parts. The first part dealt with his personal history as an air traffic controller. After joining the Marine Corps in 1975, he spent most of his duty in the Far East. He re-enlisted to go to air traffic controller school in 1979, and Ken’s first assignment was at 29 Palms. He gave an interesting anecdote about working on the installation of an aluminum panel runway at 29 Palms using panels that he help remove years earlier in the Far East. Ken was discharged from the Marine Corps in 1983, and he then went to work for the FAA. His first assignment was with the Oakland Oceanic Center. During his 24 years with the FAA, he worked a number of FAA facilities in Northern California, and he retired in 2008.

The second part of the talk covered the Air Traffic Control (ATC) system. The ATC system is a multi-layered system with different components covering regions from large down to local. The ultimate authority for US airspace is held by the 21 Air Traffic Control Centers. On the West Coast, there are three ATC Centers: Seattle, Oakland, and Los Angeles. Ken spent most of his career with the Oakland Center, which is responsible for traffic in Northern California as well as much of the traffic in the Eastern Pacific. Oakland Center Oceanic airspace covers all of the Eastern Pacific and is the largest ATC region in the world. The next level of organization is Terminal Radar Approach Control (TRACON). TRACON is responsible for sequencing traffic in the region around airports. Tower Control handles the active runways at a given airport, and Ground Control coordinates traffic on taxiways and gates.

The final part of the talk gave details about the complicated airspace in the San Francisco Bay area. With three major airports at San Francisco, Oakland, and San Jose as well as many smaller airports, handling all the traffic in the region requires a lot of coordination.

Some Q&A

How are military aircraft handled? Military aircraft are handled like other aircraft except they generally use UHF rather than VHF radios.

What is the relation between ATC and the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB)?
ATC only interacts with the NTSB during investigations of incidents.

How are system upgrades going? Upgrading the ATC system has been very difficult. The latest system is a “\$9 Billion fiasco.” The biggest issue is legacy software, much of it based on decades old systems.

Erick Young

ED NOTE2: If you missed this presentation you can view and listen in its entirety at URL

<https://youtu.be/e49Ou3oRyvE>. Copy and paste in your browser or go to www.SIR47.org under ZOOMING events.

BRANCH 47 BUSINESS

Sir Branch 47 Board Meeting
Tamalpais Branch
Zoom Meeting from Member's Homes
September 22, 2020

Meeting was called to order at 10:30 by Big Sir Doug Twitchell and a quorum was determined tube present.

Attendees: Doug Twitchell, Frank Ghazzagh, NedLawrence, Bill Stewart, Will Kaefer, Rick Coburn, Jake Solomon, George Miller. Guest Ron Kosciusko. Missing: Bob Gonzalez, Jim Kleiser, Alan Thomas

Minutes: The minutes from the August 24 BEC were not read because they were distributed the same day as the meeting. It was suggested that Ron Kosciusko could publish the first copy of the minutes in Tamaltalk unless the corrections were deemed major. The corrections or changes would be reflected in the hard copy kept by the secretary and on the Google Drive copy.

Corona virus updates: Little Sir Frank Ghazzagh reported that both his wife and daughter had been diagnosed with the virus but were doing fine now. No other cases known within our branch.

Big Sir Report: The phone tree will be enacted soon and each board member will resume calling our members to let them know that zoom meetings are still being held in lieu of dining together. Doug Twitchell and membership chairman, Rick Coburn, will phone the members who have not paid their 2020 dues and the other members will be distributed among the board members. Members will be encouraged to invite their friends to attend the monthly Zoom speaker meetings. No word from State Sirs about the latest Zoom awards. As word comes down from state and county guidelines Doug will let us know when regular lunch meetings will resume.

Little Sir Report: Some speakers scheduled for 2021 have expressed that they prefer not to give their lunch talks over Zoom so Frank Ghazzagh will find alternatives until we are meeting under normal conditions.

Treasurers Report: Bill Stewart has been following up with Sir State requirements on forms and payments and dues collection for 2020 dues. Only one member has officially dropped out to date and we may learn more when we contact the members who have not paid 2020 dues. He has been posting all forms on Google Drive.

Old Business: The only Branch 47 activities that have resumed are golf and hiking. Activity chairmen will be contacted to inform them of the process needed to resume activity and encouraged to go through the process to restart the activity. They may be hindered by county regulations regarding safety and will act accordingly.

Ned Lawrence, Secretary

STATE SIR SANCTIONED ACTIVITIES



Chairman Ned Lawrence, 415 595-1092
18 Hole Golf 2020 Season

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

October 5	Monday	Rooster Run	07:00 AM	Sequential Tee Times
October 12	Monday	Chardonnay	08:00 AM	Modified Shot Gun
October 19	Monday	Peacock Gap	08:00 AM	Sequential Tee Times
October 26	Monday	Indian Valley	08:00 AM	Sequential Tee Times

THURSDAY 09:45 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

FROM THE INVESTORS LUNCH BUNCH

The evolving Covid-19 strategy has had a significant impact on the economy and stockmarket. The stock market has experienced extreme daily volatility over the last several weeks. There has been a significant though partial recovery. Will the recovery continue or will there be another downward trend?

The INVESTORS LUNCH BUNCH held a ZOOM video conference meeting in April With 16 in attendance. This was conducted from the comfort and safety of each person's home. We will again meet virtually on Friday, **OCTOBER 9th at 12:30**. If you are not already in our Investors email list and would like to join the meeting, please send me your email address to willmary@pacbell.net so that I can add you to the invitation. This will be an easy way to check out what our Investors lunch bunch is all about.

This virus and our response to it have hampered many of our normal activities. But the market goes on, and so we will too.

If you are a bit intimidated about trying a ZOOM connection, email and I will walk you through a demo.

Hope to see you there.

Will Kaefer, Investors Lunch Bunch Chair
willmary@pacbell.net

SIRs Birthdays – OCTOBER

<u>BADGE#</u>	<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>O</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>YE</u>	<u>AR</u>	<u>AGE</u>
6	CHIPMAN	WALLY	10	18	32	88		
26	FORST	HARRY	10	10	39	81		
77	GANAS	ERNIE	10	27	42	78		
27	GLAZUNOV	SERGE	10	15	46	74		
73	HANCOCK	JAMES	10	22	40	80		
41	KOCH	ROBERT	10	26	37	83		
101	LAWRENCE	NED	10	17	40	80		
117	MARTIN	CARL	10	13	38	82		
82	MILLER	HARRY	10	10	43	77		
36	RICCI	REGINALD	10	17	40	80		
32	SMITH	TED	10	1	25	95		
64	SOJA	MARTIN	10	22	43	77		
54	SULLIVAN	RICHARD	10	24	51	69		
18	SYKES	LAURENCE	10	12	35	85		
63	TURNER	LEE	10	5	38	82		

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Summary:

Actives -	114	
Gains:	0	0
Losses:	1	0



Tennis Report

There has been NO SIR Tennis the last 3 months w/ the Shelter In Place during the the Virus. Even though Tennis is considered the lowest risk of all activities, the State SIRS has not yet approved this activity! BD

ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

Thur	Oct 1	Hiking Group		
Mon	Oct 5	Rooster Run	07:00 AM	Sequential Tee Times
		9 Hole McInnis Golf Park	09:00 AM	
Thur	Oct 8	Hiking Group	09:45 AM	
Fri	Oct 9	Investors' Lunch Bunch(ZOOM)	12:30 AM	
Mon	Oct 12	Chardonnay	08:00 AM	Modified Shot Gun
		9 Hole McInnis Golf Park	09:00 AM	
Thur	Oct 15	Hiking Group	09:45 AM	
Mon	Oct 19	Peacock Gap	08:00 AM	Sequential Tee Times
		9 Hole McInnis Golf Park	09:00 AM	
Thur	Oct 22	Hiking Group	09:45 AM	
Mon	Oct 26	Indian Valley	08:00 AM	Sequential Tee Times
		9 Hole McInnis Golf Park	09:00 AM	
Mon	Oct 26	ExecCommittee Meets(ZOOM)	10:30 AM	
Tues	Oct 27	Speaker (ZOOM)	11:00 AM	
Sat	OCT 31	HALLOWEEN		