



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

State President - Stu Williams <stuwiliamsatlake@gmail.com>

Region 3 Director Dennis Pangburn [pang1@comcast.net](mailto:pang1@comcast.net), Area 6 Governor - Sandy Grieve [agrieves1@comcast.net](mailto:agrieves1@comcast.net)

MARIN COUNTY

FEBRUARY 2021  
OUR 47TH YEAR

VOL. XLVII No. 2

## BIG SIR'S MESSAGE

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

Well, the saga continues but there does seem to be some brightness ahead on this long journey. Some of us have received the first dose of the vaccine and as far as we know there have not been any negative reactions. I received the Moderna vaccine at the Santa Rosa VA on Wednesday - much like getting a flu shot with a little more "kick". Only advice I can give is to get a shot as soon as you can.

Golf has been given the approval of the state SIR organization to resume activities. If you are a golfer, stay tuned for information from Ned Lawrence, the golf activity chairman for our branch and Area 8. No word on the resumption of other activities but we are looking forward to these restrictions to be eased also.

Our speaker for January 26th was Oak Dowling, JD on "Avoiding Scams". We had a large turnout on the Zoom meeting with over 50 logging in. There were also members from other SIR branches that joined. The deck of his slides was sent to everyone several days ago. Read further in this Tamal Talk on what is scheduled for our February speaker.

Continue to keep safe and well.

**Doug Twitchell, BIG SIR BRANCH 47**

## **BRANCH 47 BUSINESS**

### **Sir Branch 47 Board Meeting**

Tamalpais Branch

Zoom Meeting from Homes

January 25, 2021

Meeting was called to order at 10:30 AM by Doug Twitchell and a quorum was determined to be present by Zoom.

**Attendees:** Doug Twitchell, Frank Ghazzagh, Rick Coburn, Ned Lawrence, Alan Thomas, Bill Stewart, George Brown, Bon Gonzalez, Jake Solomon, Will Kaefer: Guests: Mark Bosch, Ron Kosciusko  
**Absent:** George Miller, Jim Kleiser

Coronavirus: No new cases reported among our members. Stay at home order lifted as of January 25. More activities occurring related to vaccines although many issues still exist.

**Big Sir Report:** Last Meeting minutes from November 23, 2020 were approved. The Schedule of Operations was discussed and the dates and procedures for officers and directors required a status needed to be determined by March, 2021. Jake Solomon is Chairman of the nominating Committee and he will need to recruit a couple of members to assist him. It was suggested one of the past Big Sirs should be a candidate for this committee. The slate deadline for officer and directors for 2022 is due in July so they can be voted on in August. The first quarter Assessment has been waived by the State Sirs and the next assessment is due in April.

The results of the audit need to be submitted in February. Bill Stewart, Paul Schofield and Bob Gonzalez are committee members and the results will be ready before the deadline.

**Little Sir Report:** Frank Ghazzah related that he would be too busy to assume the duties of Big Sir next year so the Recruitment Committee will need to find both a Little Sir and Big Sir for 2022. Our branch has followed the guidelines that a candidate needed to be Little Sir, then Big Sir followed by a one-year term on the BEC. Frank has speakers committed to zoom presentations through April and will adjust when we learn when we can resume live lunch meetings. It was suggested that we record live lunch meeting speakers at that time so copies of the talk could be available on Utube for members who missed the presentation.

**Treasurers Report:** Bill Stewart reported that nothing had changed from the last report and that we had a little over \$10,000 in our bank account.

**Committee Reports:** Rick Coburn reported that our branch currently has 107 members. He has coordinated lists with Erick Young and the Roster Book will be published at a future date.

**Old Business:** Bill Donnelly has requested that he no longer be a committee of one to perform Sunshine duties so a replacement needs to be appointed. Doug Twitchell has received all of Bill's inventory and will assume the duties of this committee until a replacement can be named. Members will be notified of this vacancy and hopefully a volunteer will emerge. The process to notify the Sunshine Chairman of events will continue as an informal process.

(continued)

(Board Meeting continued from page 2)

Guest Ron Kosciusko presided over a discussion to determine next steps to implement software that would have a great impact on the use of software to manage club attendance and information for Committee Chairmen. Ron will implement the software in the coming months but requested that another person make the decisions on procedures and content. The discussion covered a series of discussions about procedures but the final decision on how to proceed would be made at a later date after various members had an opportunity to become familiar with the uses of the software. A motion was brought forward, seconded, discussed and passed with the use of the board members and a segment to be started as a pilot effort and questions will be answered as the pilot progresses. The motion was to start a pilot program using the calendar portion for the board members and discuss with Kurt Heilman how to incorporate the events for which he takes responsibility. One suggestion was to create a pilot event just for board members and to expand upon this event when members were more familiar with the application. Doug Twitchell will assist Ron in filling in the necessary data to the application and it is believed this will be a recurring topic for future board meetings. The annual cost of \$89.00 will be discussed at a future time to see if our usage warrants this expenditure.

Will Kaefer discussed the procedures for putting relevant information of the shared google drive and delete the information from dropbox which is no longer our choice for this archival storage.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM.

Next Branch 47 Board meeting is scheduled for February 27, 2021.

## **BRANCH 47 FEBRUARY, 2021 ZOOM SPEAKER**

**Speaker Name: John Freeman**

***Title: How Dry I Ain't: Prohibition – the Ignoble Experiment that Failed***

This year we celebrate the centennial of the beginning of the Volstead Act (1920 – 1933), the enforcement legislation of the 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment. The Prohibition movement had its origins in the Northeast and Midwest, with very little enthusiasm in the West, and particularly in the San Francisco Bay Area. But it was the “Law of the Land,” and we had to obey its restrictions. The 13 years of Prohibition have been sensationalized, primarily because of gang violence and dramatic law enforcement methods in big cities and smaller communities in other regions of the nation. This presentation will focus on the less dramatic activities of citizens in our area, who found ways to circumvent what President Herbert Hoover called the “noble experiment” with a much more relaxed attitude.

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>

*Date Day COURSE Start Time Comments*

Several weeks ago we received updated guidance from our state leadership that we must suspend all SIR in-person activities. This applies to those activities that had been previously approved (hiking, golf, bocce). This suspension will remain in effect until we are given the clearance to resume.



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

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**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, **FEBRUARY 12th 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](mailto: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](mailto:willmary@pacbell.net)

**SIRs BIRTHDAYS – FEBRUARY**

<u>Badge #</u>	<u>LAST NAME</u>	<u>FIRST NAME</u>	<u>MO.</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>AGE</u>
97	ANDERSON	AL	2	14	25	96
136	BENSON	MARTY	2	13	48	73
45	DUNHAM	GALEN	2	24	51	70
89	FOLK	LAZLO	2	21	37	84
12	GROSS	MARSHALL	2	7	40	81
98	HUGHES	TREVOR	2	23	36	85
38	ROUSH	JOHN	2	3	23	98
48	SCHMID	HANS	2	28	40	81
62	STEWART	BILL	2	27	43	78
88	WILSON	BOB	12	18	38	83

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

**Summary:**

**Actives - 107**  
**Gains: 0**  
**Losses: 1**

**JANUARY ZOOM ATTENDANCE REPORT**

**Total Members 107**  
**Members Present 44**  
**Guests: 8**  
**Visitors: 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

# HUMOR



**BRANCH 47 ACTIVITY SCHEDULE**

**Several weeks ago we received updated guidance from our state leadership that we must suspend all SIR in-person activities. This applies to those activities that had been previously approved (hiking, golf, bocce). This suspension will remain in effect until we are given the clearance to resume.**