



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	Alan Thomas	415-457-4576
Asst Secretary	Ned Lawrence -	415-595-1092

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 <stuwilliamsatlake@gmail.com>

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

MARIN COUNTY

MARCH 2021
OUR 47TH YEAR

VOL. XLVII No. 3

BIG SIR'S MESSAGE

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

Hopefully now most of you have received at least the first dose of the coronavirus vaccination. If not, keep checking with your medical provider. It seems that more slots are becoming available with the increased vaccine supply. It will be important for each member to have received the vaccinations when we do resume our luncheons at McInnis.

We now have a new Sunshine chairman. Our Little Sir, Frank Ghazzagh, has volunteered to take over this very important function from Bill Donnelly. If you are aware of any member facing any event where a card and note from our branch will help, please inform Frank. Again, much thanks to Bill Donnelly for the many years he handled this function.

Our outdoor activities of golf, bocce and hiking have resumed. Please contact the respective leads for these activities if you wish to receive email notifications of the planned events.

We have been having a fairly large turnout for our Zoom speakers. The other branches from Marin and Sonoma have also been joining these sessions. If you have not been participating in these events due to computer concerns, remember you can also dial in with a regular phone and be able to hear the talk and ask questions. Read further in this Tamal Talk on what is scheduled for our March 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
February 22, 2021

Meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Big Sir Doug Twitchell and a quorum was determined to be logged in.

Attendees: Doug Twitchell, Frank Ghazzagh, Rick Coburn, Jake Solomon, Alan Thomas, George Brown, Bob Gonzalez, Bill Stewart, Will Kaefer, Jim Kleiser and George Miller. Missing was Ned Lawrence. Visitors present were Ron Kosciusko and Mark Bosch.

Minutes from Board meeting of January 25, 2021 were moved for acceptance.

Corona Virus Updates: There have been no known afflictions of COVID-19 among our membership as far as we know. Several Board members have had their first vaccination and are awaiting the second one. Effects from the second vaccination are said to range from no reaction to fatigue and flu-like symptoms.

Prior to routine business, Ron Kosciusko spoke to follow up on the possible Commerce revision. He offered information that a test system has been set up and revisions are under consideration.

A Speakers WEB page, [speaker web page](#), provided by Alan Baker from SIR State, includes a feature of calling up a speaker from another Branch's ZOOM presentation that can be used if our scheduled speaker fails to appear for program presentation. It can also be found at SIR State under Branch Resources.

Big SIR Report:

A call list for 2021 has been distributed to board members

It was confirmed that the annual audit report had been submitted to the Area Governor

It was confirmed that the branch roster was provided to the Area Governor and Regional Director

It was noted that a PDF version of the roster was forwarded to Area Governor and Regional Director but as previously discussed did not include telephone numbers or e-mail addresses of members. This decision was based on board's desire to retain membership privacy.

Little SIR Report:

Our speaker for February 23rd will be John Freeman who will make a Zoom presentation. The presentation is *How Dry I Ain't: Prohibition – the Ignoble Experiment that Failed*. Frank said that speakers are scheduled between now and May. Since programs are scheduled for Zoom presentation for an indefinite period, speakers will be checked for their adaptability prior to their presentations.

Treasurer's Report: No change in treasury status with figure of \$10,493.81 currently available.

Committee Reports:

Jake reported that currently the nominating committee will include him and Alan Thomas.

Big Sir and Little Sir positions will be filled for 2022.

Ned Lawrence has requested a switch in positions so that he will revert to Assistant Secretary and Alan will move into Secretary position. It is not known whether Ned plans to remain on the Board for 2022; both Secretary and Assistant Secretary are board positions. If Ned vacates his board position, then the Assistant Secretary position must also be filled for 2022.

(Continued)

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Board Meeting continued from page 2)

Old Business: Big Sir again raised the matter that the Sunshine function is vacant and he is holding materials given to him by Bill Donnelly on Bill's resignation. Frank Ghazzagh volunteered at this point to fill the Sunshine Coordinator position and there was brief discussion on availability of cards and that purchase of all materials is reimbursable. The Board extends its gratitude to Frank.

A discussion ensued regarding storage of files within the confines of the Branch 47 Google drive account. Will Kaefer led a discussion regarding the original purpose of establishing cloud storage for the branch was to provide safe and ready access to critical raw files, such as the membership data base, the roster book, Tamaltalk, Form 28, and original historic documents like our chapter charter. These files should be in their original format like , Excel Word, Publisher, Quicken, etc. This is so such that if one of the current responsible person were to experience a serious health issue , there would be continuity of these important files. In switching from Dropbox to Google Drive, considerable additional data such as TamalTalk pdf files, BOD minutes, and individual membership applications have been uploaded which changes the original concept. It was not settled what Officer is responsible for managing this effort.

Final paperwork has been completed with regard to being in compliance with COVID-1 outdoor regulations. SIR Branch 47 is doing everything that needs to be done as related to these activities and is documented by attachments concerning hiking, golf and bocce. Updated attachments are available with these minutes. Leaders for these activities are Jake Solomon for hiking, Ned Lawrence for golf and Kurt Heilman for bocce.

Next Branch 47 Board meeting is scheduled for March 22, 2021. The February meeting was moved for adjournment at 12:00 p.m.

Alan Thomas
Secretary

**SIR Outdoor Bocce Activities
Branch BEC Resolution**

RESOLVED, that all SIR sponsored bocce activities are henceforth approved by SIR Branch 47 provided:

such activities are not prohibited by an applicable order of the California Department of Public Health or County or Municipal Health Department, and all activities are conducted under written protocols in a strict compliance with all applicable State and Locally mandated mask, hand sanitizing, distancing requirements, and any other pertinent Health Related Requirements.

The Resolution and the written protocols must be passed by the Branch BEC and recorded in the Branch minutes.

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Proposed Health safety measures:

Masks, or other facial coverings, are to be worn as long as California and/or Marin (or Sonoma) County requirements are in place. Bocce players choosing not to wear masks or face coverings will not be permitted to be part of the SIR group.

Social distancing shall be practiced, i.e. to maintain a minimum of 6 feet between bocce players whenever possible.

Any other activities before or after bocce are on each individual.

How will “special requirements” be communicated to Activity participants?

After approval by the Branch 47 BEC, the Bocce Chairman will provide an email copy to all members who have requested to receive bocce notifications.

The Bocce Chairman may suggest a lunch location that conforms to the dining regulations currently in effect.

Who will be responsible to assure “special requirements” compliance for activity members?

Bocce Chairman or the member in charge of the specific bocce event.

Approved by Vote of the BEC of Branch 47 on Monday, February 22, 2021

SIR Outdoor Golf Activities

Branch BEC Resolution

RESOLVED, that all SIR sponsored golf activities are henceforth approved by SIR Branch 47 provided:

- (a.) such activities are not prohibited by an applicable order of the California Department of Public Health or County or Municipal Health Department, and
- (b.) all activities are conducted under written protocols in a strict compliance with all applicable State and Locally mandated mask, hand sanitizing, distancing requirements, and any other pertinent Health Related Requirements.

The Resolution and the written protocols must be passed by the Branch BEC and recorded in the Branch minutes.

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Activity: This includes all golf activities within Area 8 (includes all of Marin County and parts of Sonoma, primarily the area of Petaluma) .which is scheduled by the Branch Golf Chairman. Due to the Corona Virus, some previously scheduled outings may have to change to comply with the State and Local County Health Department Requirements.

Proposed Health and Safety Measures: Sir Area 8 Golf Branches will follow and comply with all Federal, State, County, and Golf Course guidelines. This includes the wearing of masks as instructed by the County and Golf Course. Social distancing of 6 feet will be practiced in the warm up areas, practice greens, as well as on the Golf Course. There will be no social gatherings before or after the golf outing. Golfers will report to the Golf Course and check in with the pro shop as required 15 minutes prior to their tee time to pick up their key to the single golf cart. To safeguard the health of all Sir Members, we will communicate to all players, if you are running a fever, cough, or not feeling well; please do not participate in the golf activity at that time.

Communications of Special Requirements: The Branch Golf Chairman will obtain a written list of golf course specified safety measures and provide a copy to all golfers prior to the first group teeing off. This can be done by e-mail as well as a score cards for that foursome.

The following Sir Members are responsible to make sure that all special requirements are being met at the Golf Course. The Tournament Chairman, Golf Course Marshall, and Sir Golf Members.

Signed:

Ned Lawrence: Sir Area 8 Golf Chairman, member of Branch 47

Wally Holmes: Sir Are 8 Vice Chairman, member of Branch 22

Rich Seyler; Sir Area 8 Director of Golf, member of Branch 22

Mike Hahn: Golf Chairman, Branch 7

Jim Filippo: Golf Chairman Branch 22

Ned Lawrence: Golf Chairman Branch 47

Ray Anderson: Golf Chairman Branch 58

Jim Larkin: Golf Chairman Branch 68

Sam Gill: Golf Chairman Branch 134

Mark Cooper: Golf Chairman Branch 147

SIR Outdoor Hiking Activities

Branch BEC Resolution

RESOLVED, that all SIR sponsored hiking activities are henceforth approved by SIR Branch 47 provided:

- (a.) such activities are not prohibited by an applicable order of the California Department of Public Health or County or Municipal Health Department, and
- (b.) all activities are conducted under written protocols in a strict compliance with all applicable State and Locally mandated mask, hand sanitizing, distancing requirements, and any other pertinent Health Related Requirements.

The Resolution and the written protocols must be passed by the Branch BEC and recorded in the Branch minutes.

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Proposed Health safety measures:

1. Masks, or other facial coverings, are to be worn as long as California and/or Marin (or other) County requirements are in place. Hikers choosing not to wear masks or face coverings will not be permitted to be part of the SIR group.
2. Social distancing shall be practiced, as much as possible. Maintain a minimum of 6 feet between hikers whenever possible.
3. Any other activities before or after the hike are on each individual. Restaurant lunches are not part of the hiking activity.

How will “special requirements” be communicated to Activity participants?

1. When approved by the Branch 47 BEC, Chairman will provide a copy of this request to all Hike Leaders, and to all members who have requested to receive hike notifications.
2. Hike Leaders will reiterate the health measures in the e-mail hike advisories with other hike details and directions. Hike Leaders will remind hikers of these rules at the beginning of the hike.
3. Hike leaders may suggest lunch locations that conform to dining regulations currently in effect.

Who will be responsible to assure “special requirements” compliance for activity members?

Hiking/Walking Chairman and / or hike leader for the specific hiking event.

Approved by Vote of the BEC of Branch 47 on Monday, February 22, 2021

BRANCH 47 MARCH, 2021 ZOOM SPEAKER

Speaker Name: Lee Lange

Title: Honoring the Fallen

One of the most important and least known duties in the Marine Corps and in all the other US military branches is the Casualty Assistance Call Officer. Headquarters Marine Corps utilizes a nationwide network to identify Marine officers and senior enlisted members for this duty. Once assigned, these Marines' primary duties is to notify the next of kin of fallen Marines. Once notification is made, these Marines are responsible for follow-up visits to explain military benefits and to provide military honors if requested by the family. These assignments are some of the most difficult in the Marine Corps. Every Marine in this duty understands this is the very least they can do to honor the service of fallen Marines and help families deal with the loss of their loved one. "Honoring the Fallen" explains this process and why it is so important to those serving and their families

STATE SIR SANCTIONED ACTIVITIES



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

<i>Date</i>	<i>Day</i>	<i>COURSE</i>	<i>Start Time</i>	<i>Comments</i>	
3/8	Monday	Rooster Run	07:30	Sequential	
3/15	Monday	Foxtail North	08:00	Sequential	\$42
3/22	Monday	Blue Rock East	07:45	Sequential	\$39
3/29	Monday	Hiddenbrooke	07:45	Sequential	\$48



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

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.

Kurt advises that Bocce will start for Branch 47 on April 5th.

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, **MARCH 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 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 – MARCH

Badge # LAST NAME FIRST NAME MO. DAY YEAR AGE

15	APKARIAN	ARA	3	29	1932	89
102	BROUSSEAU	PETER	3	23	1943	78
35	FREEL	JOHN	3	13	1941	80
132	HUDOBNIK	NORBERT	3	22	1936	85
2	HUSEN	HERB	3	13	1929	92
59	KUCHTA	DON	3	3	1932	89
76	LEVEQUE	TIM	3	16	1943	78
49	TERRIER	PIERRE	3	18	1938	83
84	VAIO	GEORGE	3	26	1938	83

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Summary:

Actives - 107
Gains: 0
Losses: 1

FEBRUARY ZOOM ATTENDANCE REPORT

Total Members 107
Members Present 45
Guests: 0
Visitors: 0

BRANCH 47 ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

Thursday	Mar	4	Hiking
Monday	Mar	8	18 Hole Golf(Weather Permits)
Thursday	Mar	11	Hiking
Friday	Mar	12	Investors' Lunch Bunch
Monday	Mar	15	18 HoleGolf (Weather Permits)
Wednesday	Mar	17	St Patrick's Day
Thursday	Mar	18	Hiking
Saturday	Mar	20	First Day of Spring
Monday	Mar	22	18 HoleGolf (Weather Permits)
Monday	Mar	22	Executive Committee Meets
Tuesday	Mar	24	Branch 47 Luncheon
Thursday	Mar	25	Hiking
Monday	Mar	29	18 HoleGolf (Weather Permits)

HUMOR



“He told me he’d quit smoking cigars if I’d quit nagging. I’ve come to enjoy the smell of cigars.”

