



INCORPORATED

HTTPS://SIR47.ORG Our own website

TAMALPAIS BRANCH NO. 47

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

Big Sir --Carl Dawson 303-888-4411 Little Sir--Frank Luttringer 415-819-6534 Treasurer Bill Stewart 415-990-2010 Asst Treasurer Mark Rudy 415-924-4219 Asst Treasurer Howard Foster 415-461-1460 Secretary Alan Lutsky 415-456-1597 Asst Secretary Charlie Panfely 415-302-4391

TAMAL TALK

A SIR PUBLICATION

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: Mark Bosch, Marshall Gross, , Bill McNichols, Ron Kosciusko, Rick Coburn, Bill Wickley

State President - Dale Decker - daledftg@gmail.com State Vice President- Stu Williams - stuwilliamsatlake@gmail.com Area 8 Governor -Vacant

MARIN COUNTY

FEBRUARY 2024 OUR 50TH YEAR

Vol. L I No. 02

BIG SIR'S MESSAGE \bar{b}

You must make a reservation (RSVP) to attend our monthly luncheon. Please call our Lunch Line at (415) 881-7477 or send an eil to www.sirbranch47@gmail.com



Whew! I made it through my first meeting! I would like to thank all of you who provided encouragement and "attaboys" for me. That felt really good! I hope you enjoyed the presentation by our Marin District Attorney, Lori Frugoli. I think we all learned something that we did not know about her office.

We also had a presentation from Barry Smail, with the Novato Historical Guild, on serving as a docent at the Hamilton Field History Museum. Barry said he would be happy to share any other information about the museum and volunteer opportunities. You may email him at Gandalf.smail@gmail.com. We plan on having other opportunities throughout the year.

In January, our Board had a planning meeting for the year with an eye on the SIR MISSION STATEMENT: SIR exists to enrich the lives of its members through fun activities, luncheons and events while making friends for life. There was an enthusiastic discussion of what should

be our priorities for the year. The ideas included:

- Maintaining our current membership.
- Increasing our number of events.
- Getting more people involved in the branch leadership.
- Updating our web page.

Addressing these items will be the Board's goal this year. We can maintain our membership by providing meetings and activities that are worthwhile to you as members. Let us know how we can improve. We are already increasing our number of events with a September Bay Cruise. We do need someone to help coordinate that. Interested?

We are now looking for people who would like to be on next year's Branch Executive Committee (BEC) or help with any of our activities. You are always welcome to attend our meetings which are held before the monthly membership meeting at 9:30 AM at McInnis.

(Continued on Page 2)

Carl Dawson Big Sir

We need help with our web page. If any of you have some experience in the design of web pages, we would like to hear from you. We are hoping to have a small group of experienced people working on this. Maybe even some grand kids.

Come celebrate New Year's with us. The Chinese New Year celebration is at China Village in Novato this year on February 13th. Contact Kurt Heilman, heilmanfour@comcast.net, to sign up before February 9th. Plan ahead for the Garden/Bocce Party on June 18th. This is not only a chance to play a little bocce on beautiful professional Italian finished Bocce courts, but also a lot of fun with a good lunch. I hope to see you all out there. These activities are both open to guests.

I look forward to seeing you on February 27th at our next membership meeting. Be happy and enjoy what life throws at you!

Carl Dawson Big SIR

Little Sir Report Frank Luttringer

For those of you who have not met me, I am Frank Luttringer the Little Sir for 2024. I am glad to be the link from Branch 68 to Branch 47 to help bring out the best from both branches. I hope to continue to meet everyone at our luncheons and events planned for this year. I will be following in the footsteps of Carl Dawson who we all need to thank for all his planning and coordination of events during his tenure as Little Sir in 2023. Now taking on the role of Big Sir, Carl and I thought it would be a good idea to add a Little Sir report to our Tamaltalk Newsletter.

Thanks to all who attended our January luncheon. As many of you know, the Little Sir is responsible for lining up speakers for Branch 47. I hope you all enjoyed hearing from Lori Frugoli, the Marin District Attorney, as much as I did. I found her discussion of the successful innovations and programs that our county leaders are putting into place illuminating. The many inciteful questions that her talk generated indicated to me that everyone enjoyed hearing from her.

You won't want to miss our February speaker, Jody Lewen, president of the Mount Tam College at San Quentin Prison. She is the founder of the college with 25 years of leadership. Mount Tam is the only accredited college inside a prison in the United States. She will be joined by one of her alumni and they will be able to answer all of your questions about the initiative to make San Quentin a model rehabilitative institution in California. I look forward to seeing all of you there for our luncheon on February 27th.

Upcoming speakers will include some history with Art Boudreault and Michael Boulland – The Story of the First Mining Community in California - mining mercury 2 years before the gold rush; some 2024 election politics as we hear Dick Spotwood, IJ columnist; and a wildfire update from Mark Brown, executive director of the Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority. We are always interested in topics that you might want to hear about or speakers that you would like to recommend. You can email me with your comments at Fluttringer1@gmail.com.

Frank Luttringer Little SIR

FEBRUARY 27 MENU ENTREES

All choices include, bread or rolls, butter, and dessert

(1) Corned Beef, boiled red potatoes and cabbage

(2) Grilled Salmon mango papaya salsa with Rice and vegetables

(3) Vegan Plate - Penne Pomodoro and vegetables

(4) Chicken Caesar Salad

JUST A REMINDER THAT IF YOU DO NOT CANCEL YOUR RESERVATION BY THURSDAY 5pm ,BEFORE THE LUNCHEON YOU WILL BE CHARGED AND EXPECTED TO PAY THE \$35 FEE



Mount Tam College - Bringing higher education to San Quentin State Prison

In March of 2023, Governor Gavin Newsom announced an initiative to transform San Quentin State Prison into a model rehabilitative institution. Jody Lewen is a key leader in this initiative.

Jody Lewen is the founder and President of Mount Tamalpais College (MTC). She will share information, reflections, and lead a discussion about the college at San Quentin, which provides an AA degree to approximately 300 people incarcerated at the prison. She will be joined by an alumnus of the MTC program to give us a unique perspective.

Mount Tam is the only accredited, independent liberal arts college in the U.S. that operates its main campus out of a prison. For the past 25 years Mount Tam has been providing access to quality higher education for incarcerated people at San Quentin Prison.

Jody's involvement dates back to 1999, when she started working as a volunteer. Over the years, she has served as a thought leader in the field of prison education, advocating for the values of high academic quality and inclusivity, as well as serving as a resource to policymakers, practitioners, academics, and the administrations at San Quentin State Prison and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. She was the 2006 recipient of the Peter E. Haas Public Service Award from the University of California, Berkeley, and a 2015 recipient of the James Irvine Foundation Leadership Award in recognition of her work to support higher education for incarcerated people in California. In 2016, the organization received the National Humanities Medal from President Barack Obama.

For more information watch a short video about MTC here and learn more about MTC on their website.





SIR BR 47 CHINESE NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION @ 11:30 AM ON TUES FEB 13, 2024 AT CHINA VILLAGE 107 SAN MARIN DR.

NOVATO



This is our first party in 2024 to kick off the Year of the Dragon. Now is the time to "drag" yourself to our Chinese Buffet at a new location with ample parking. The menu includes: CRAB PUFFS & POT STICKERS, MONGOLIAN BEEF, KUNG PAO CHICKEN, HOT SPICED FISH, CASHEW PRAWNS, MIXED VEGETABLES, BARBEQUED PORK CHOW MEIN, BARBEQUED PORK FRIED RICE RICE, TEA OR SODA. There should be leftover food to take home.

The cost is \$34 / person. Please invite spouses and other guests to help us celebrate the New Year.



Tickets are on sale at the Br 47 January 23, 2024 luncheon. or go on line @ sir47.org to register. The contact is Kurt Heilman @ 415-892-2460 or heilmanfour@comcast.net. Reservations are required.

The deadline for making both reservations and payment is Friday Feb 9, 2024 2024.

BRANCH BUSINESS

There was not a Branch Executive Committee meeting in December, so there were no approved minutes to publish.



John Nygren T-23

John was inducted as our newest member at our January luncheon. John was a Telecom Manager and in Computer sales.

John is sponsored by Rich Coburn and his intreats are;

- 1) Bocce
- 2) Digital Photography
- 3) Hiking
- 4) Pickle Ball
- 5) Travel
- 6) Walking



SIR Branch Travel Chair Trips and News Milt Smith State Travel Chair miltsmith549@gmail.com 925-285-2897c

August 2023

Best of Spain and Portugal April 27 – May 12. 2024. Branch 146. Cost \$7,895pp. Madrid, Segovia, Porto, Lisbon, Seville, Gibraltar, Costa Del Sol, Alhambra, Valencia, Barcelona, round trip airfare, 15-day guided tour with Travel Director, 14 nights at centrally located 4star hotels, 5 dinners and 2 lunches including wine, all tips, transfers and baggage handling. Contact Glenn Breslin 925-288-6520 glennbreslin@gmail.com

Memorials of WWII Tour Sept. 6 – 15, 2024 Cost \$4,972pp dbl.Occ. London, Portsmouth, Paris, D-Day Museum, Landing R/T air, motor coach, ferry from England to France. 8 brkfst. 4 dinner. Contact Glenn Breslin

925-288-6520 glennbreslin@gmail.com

Grand Circle River Trip Prague to Budapest 2024

Here is information about a river trip Prague to Budapest 11/6-11/20 2024, discounted by \$1000 if booked by 12/31/23; also pre and post trips are available, see below. I have attached a video at the end. Do not pay attention to those prices in the video the prices I have listed in the email body are correct for SIRs. Along with the group number etc.

This trip has an additional \$1000 off my listed prices if you book by December 31. So act now, If you have any questions call or email Milt Smith State Travel Chair. Br 146, 925-285-2897 miltsmith 549@gmail.com

Take a look let us know what you think. We can give you chapter and verse on shipboard life, cabins, weather, air etc. I am sending this to all SIRs statewide, we could get a large group. Also, excellent prices for solo travelers.

Dates: 11/6 thru 11/20

Pre-trip to Dresden and Berlin US departure date: 11/1/24 Pre-trip to Warsaw and Krakow US departure date: 11/1/24

Post-trip to Budapest return date: 11/23/24

Per person pricing, by cabin level: \$1000 OFF IF CONFIRMED BY 12/31/23

Serenade A: \$3995 Serenade B: \$3895 Sonata C: \$3795 Sonata D: \$3695 Cantata E: \$3595 Cantata F: \$3495 Prelude G: \$3395 Prelude H: \$3195

Air from SFO: \$1100

Dresden and Berlin: \$995 Warsaw and Krakow: \$1095

Budapest: \$745

The group code for the trip is G4-23630. This is fully linked to the cruises date - all set for registrations to come through at 1-800-221-2610 once travelers are ready.

Sir Branch 47 and Area 8 needs a Golf Chairman

SIR BRANCH 47 OFFERS GOLFERS A WIDE VARIETY OF CHOICES.

NINE HOLES (Weather Permitting)

Every Monday a group of golfers plays nine holes of golf at McInnis Park Public Golf Course. McInnis offers golf, a putting green, a driving range, pull carts and electric carts, (which must be reserved). If you are a member of a SIRs Branch and you wish to play 9 hole golf on Monday morning at McInnis contact coordinator, Jim Bitter, (jybitter@aol.com) or phone 415 388-7897. Players do not need a ghin number or golf handicap to play.

EIGHTEEN HOLES 18 Hole No Schedule for 2024 as yet

On Monday morning golfers can join Sir Branch 134 for golf competition at 10 courses throughout the county. In order to play and enjoy different courses a player needs a ghin number and an updated handicap card. Contact either Jim Larkin, Branch 134 Golf Chairman at Jlark57@yahoo.com-or

2024 dues are collectible now if a golfer wants to have a state sponsored handicap and their scores recorded to show their current shot making ability. For those interested, send a check for \$39.00 if you are continuing a handicap number and \$59.00 if you are new to Sirs golf.

SIRS STATE GOLF WEBSITE-WWW.SIRGOLF.ORG

Take a look at the website and download the attached flyers to use as a signup or talk to other golfers about this opportunity to play. New rules for this year's scramble tournament enable C and D players to play from the forward tees. Branch 47 can enter as many teams as we want so lets talk it over and win this year's tournament.

--

https://sir47.org/

18 Hole Golf 2020 Season

Date COURSE

Day Start Time

Comments

NO SCHEDULE YET

9 Hole Golf at McInnis Park

We play on Mondays at Mcinnis Golf Park. First tee time is 9:30.weather permitting Jim Bitter will be running the nine holes golf.

Jim's email is jybitter@aol.com

EXCLUSIVELY FOR:

STATE SIR SANCTIONED ACTIVITIES

Investors Lunch Bunch

Join us on the second Friday of every month for lunch followed by an hour discussion on various investment topics such as current market conditions, specific investment strategies, market cycles, and specific investments (stocks, bonds, real estate, funds, ETFs, limited partnerships, options). This is not a traditional Investment Club. It's purpose is to share knowledge and experiences of managing investments. We encourage attendees to ask questions and share their knowledge. We have had discussions on Estate Planning, appropriateness of specific types of investments, investment performance calculation tools, laddering bonds, risk management, broker selection, various internet resources, and tax issues.

Our attendees collectively have broad experience and share their specific knowledge with the group. If you have limited investment experience this is a excellent resource to learn the basics and make you more fluent with financial terms and products. This knowledge is especially useful whether you manage your own investments or use an individual or firm to manage your finances.

Join us at 11:30 AM the second Friday every month at Sam's Place, Nave Shopping Center, 1545 South Novato Blvd. Novato, . We use their private room for our lunch and discussion. You can order any breakfast or lunch item on their extensive menu. You will receive a separate check. We will conclude promptly at 1:30. See link below for menu and directions http://www.samsplacenovato.com/index.html

Will Kaefar, willmary@pacbell.net



THURSDAY 09:45 WALKING/HIKING GROUP

1st Thursday 2nd Thursday 3rd Thursday 4th Thursday Jake Solomon Pierre Terrier Al Springstead Charlie Panfely

5th Thursday Rotation of leaders in the same order as above

BRANCH 47 FAMILY BOCCE

BOCCE PLAYERS:

Our BR 47 Family BOCCE PLAYS on the first Monday of each month AT 10 AM at the Margret Todd Center in Novato. If you are on Kurt's bocce email list you will advised of any changes in the schedule by email. Let all know how many in your party will be eating lunch and/or playing bocce afterwards.

If you are not on the bocce email list and want be put on our bocce email list contact Kurt Heilman, heilmanfour@comcast.net, or call Kurt @ 415-892-2460. Members, spouses and all guests are always invited.

Cheers,

Kurt Heilman

PS Please bring your bocce balls if you have them

BRIDGE GROUP

Br 47 BRIDGE GROUP. Future bridge games have not been determined, but likely be at a rotating host's home. If you would like to play bridge, contact Kurt Heilman (heilmanfour@comcast.net) directly. Also he will put you on the bridge email list of players.

ACTIVITIES CONTINUED

Pickle Ball -

Pickleball now has a fixed schedule. We will play on the Third Monday of the Month aat the Margaret Todd Recreation Center in Novato at 2 pm. The Novato courts have six dedicated pickle ball courts.

Please see the video on pickle ball basics on YouTube if you are not experienced before you come to play

Please bring your paddles and pickle balls and wear court shoes.

Car Enthusiasts

Our Branch 47 Car Enthusiasts group (previously called Vintage Vehicles) meets on the third Tuesday of each month at Sam's Place Restaurant, 1545 South Novato Blvd., Novato. Meetings begin at 11:30 AM. If you enjoy automobile related activities, car shows, automotive memorabilia, car museum tours, etc. then the Car Enthusiasts group is for you. For more information contact Joe Sauerland at 415-479-8442 or joesauerland@comcast.net."

Joe Sauerland

Federation Bocce

SR Branch 47 Bocce Report

Since league play concluded in late October we are conducting bocce practices each Wednesday morning at 10am. The cost is \$10 and we play for around 2 hours. Several of the participants have lunch following play.

Bill Risch (<u>rischbill@gmail.com</u>) is sending an email to interested members each week asking that they respond if they intend to play. If you are not on last year's list, please contact Bill if you wish to participate. If you have not played before and wish to join the group, we will be conducting clinics to acquaint you with the game.

These weekly practice sessions will continue until league play resumes in mid-March weather permitting.

Regards, Jack Friesen

Regards, Jack Friesen

POKER

After the Branch meeting. If interested in the poker group, call Jim Waltz, Geezer831-home@yahoo.com or call 415-408-8695

BRANCH 47 WINE TASTING

Contact Kurt (heilmanfour@comcast.net) or Erick (erickt.young@gmail.com).

Verified Branch 47 and Area 8 Activities (as of 4/21/2023 MAB)

Activity	Activity Frequency Chair		Email	Phone	Branch	
18 Hole Golf	Monthly	Richard Seyler	rseyler41@gmail.com	415-479-6028	22	
18 Hole Golf		Jim Larkin	JLARK57@YAHOO.COM	707-364-7225	134	
9 Hole Golf	Weekly	Jim Bitter	jybitter@aol.com	415-388-7897	47	
Bocce (League)	Weekly	Jack Friesen	Friesenjack7walter@aol.com	415-491-1086	47	
Bocce (Co-Ed)	1 st Monday	Kurt Heilman	heilmanfour@comcast.net	415-408-8489	47	
Investors Lunch	2 nd Friday	Will Kaefer	willmary@pacbell.net	415-927-1043	47	
Vintage Cars	Varies	Joe Sauerland	joesauerland@comcast.net	415-479-8442	47	
Hiking/Walking	Thursdays	Jake Solomon	J_KSolomon@comcast.net	415-845-1645	47	
Hiking		Bill Long		415-883-0261	134	
Book swap	Monthly @ Luncheons	Pikk Pikkarainen Lonn Baldwin	pikkdata@sbcglobal.net lwbaldwin@aol.com	415-454-3843 415-453-4295	47	
Bridge member & couples	4 th Thursday	Bill Cline	wacline@comcast,net	415-892-0209	134	
Genealogy	2 nd Thursday	Jeff Vailant	topspinut@yahoo.com	415-897-7808	134	
Gardening	1 st Friday	Bill Walker	walker@gmail.com	415-883-5780	134	
Foreign Policy	2 nd Wednes- day	Bill Medigovich	billandky@comcast.net	415-827-1262	134	
Military History	1 st Wednesday	Alan Dunham	alnberta@comcast.net	415-897-8886	134	
Poker	After meeting	Jim Waltz	Geezer831- home@yahoo.com	415-408-8695	47	
Tennis		Robert Chandler Bill Cline	robertchan- dler33@comcast.net not listed	415-464-7794 415-892-0209	47	
Rolling Roam- ers (RV)		Ray Canziani		415-453-4463	22	
Bowling*						
Bicycling (many use E-bikes)	Wed's @ 9:30 later coffee	Jim Barden	jbarden@aol.com	415-897-6537	134	
Book Club	Wed	Dick Locke	rflocke@comcast.net	415-897-1572	134	
Science Discussion Group	3rd Thursday @ 10:00 am	Don Pierce	Not listed	415-897-2701	134	

Bowling League possibly for Fall '23 and Winter '24 - in Petaluma (Need to contact Branches 58 and 147 in Petaluma)

FEBRUARY SIR BIRTHDAYS

Name	Birth Date	Age	
Marshall, Gross	2/7/1940	84	
Ron, Harness	2/12/1952	72	
Martin, Benson	2/13/1948	76	
James , Cloud	2/16/1947	77	
Laszlo , Folk	2/21/1937	87	
John , Woy	2/22/1942	82	
Galen , Dunham	2/24/1951	73	
William , Stewart	2/27/1943	81	

FEBRUARY SIR ANNIVERSARIES

Name Anniversary	Date	Years	
Joanne & William Wickley	2/4/1967	57	
Sarah & Ronald Simon	2/6/2011	13	
Virginia & Donald Perazzo	2/7/1965	59	
Ingrid & George Martinez	2/14/1970	54	
Patti & Richurd Somers	2/14/1964	60	
Sara & Norman Jensen	2/20/1965	59	

ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

Thursday	Feb	1	Hiking
Monday	Feb	5	BOCCE
Monday	Feb	5	9 Hole Golf (Weather Permits)
Thursday	Feb	8	Hiking
Friday	Feb	9	Investors' Lunch Bunch
Monday	Feb	12	9 Hole Golf (Weather Permits)
Tuesday	Feb	13	Chinese New Year Luncheon
	- 1		B. 1.1

Friday Feb 14 Bridge Thursday Feb 15 Hiking

Monday Feb 19 9 Hole Golf (Weather Permits)

Monday Feb 19 PickleBall

Tuesday Feb 20 Car Enthusiasts

Monday Feb 22 9 Hole Golf (Weather Permits)

Thursday Feb 22 Hiking

Tuesday Feb 27 Board Meeting 8:30 McINNIS
Tuesday Feb 27 Branch 47 Luncheon Meeting
Tuesday Feb 27 Poker after Meeting

Thursday Feb 29 Hiking

JANUARY LUNCH ATTENDANCE

Total Members 161
Members Present 87
Guests: 6
Visitors: 1

JANUARY MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Summary:

Actives - 161 Alumni 20 Gains: 1 Losses: 1

ESCOM

The Emeritus Students College of Marin (ESCOM), was founded at the College of Marin (COM) in 1973. A pioneer in the innovative use of community colleges for adults, the organization enhances the lives of its greater community with a diverse selection of clubs, events and classes offered online or at COM's Kentfield and Indian Valley campuses. Check it out at:

https://escom.marin.edu/

HUMOR













