



TAMAL TALK

January 2025

Vol. LI No. 10

<https://sir47.org>

Recent Events



Holiday Party at McInnis Club

Kent Dutrioux



On December 12th, a cold and rainy night in a warmly lite Banquet room of the Club Restaurant at the McInnis Golf Center, a group of Merry Makers were having a wonderful evening hosted by Kurt Heilman and Branch 47. The party started at 5:00pm with Hors d'oeuvres and champagne provided by the branch. The evening started with the arrival of the guests who were checked in by Kurt Heilman and directed to have a good time and to choose any seat to their liking. After most of the guests arrived a special person made his grand entrance, none other than Santa Claus himself. Santa made his rounds among the tables ensure

that each guest was on the good list and not to worry about Christmas wishes. Even a nervous Doug Twitchell was relieved to hear that his request for a tricycle was known to Santa. After he made his rounds, he disappeared into the night with a jolly greeting of Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. From here the band took over to continue the merry making, The Thomas Trio consisting of our own Alan Thomas on keyboard, Kent Gohea vocalist/saxophone and Steve Hanson on bass. The music was so appreciated that there was dancing throughout the night. One very special performance that we experienced this night was by Tim Leveque's son Patrick who sang the

Editor's Note



New Editor for Tamal Talk

Erick Young

Happy New Year! As the new editor for the Tamal Talk, I first want to thank Ron Kosciusko for his fifteen (!) years of editing and publishing the Talk. Under his watch, the Tamal Talk has been the essential way members of Branch 47 have been informed of happenings and events. Hopefully I can maintain this tradition—but only with your help. Please keep sending me news, information, and pictures that might be of interest.

Christmas Song and White Christmas. This was a delightful treat and well received. Later Patrick was joined by Audrey Shimkas to close the evening with several Holiday numbers. It was a very musical night. In closing there were several well-deserved shout outs to our board and in particular Carl Dawson our outgoing Big SIR who will become our new Area Representative. Another person to recognize is Kurt Heilman who not only ran and hosted a great Holiday Party but for the work he is doing as our Activity Chairman, Kurt you have made this a great year for our branch.

NEXT LUNCHEON TUESDAY JANUARY 28, 2025 McInnis Park Club

Reservations: <https://sir47.org/event/branch-47-january-2025-luncheon/>

Or call 415-881-7477

Please bring a check for \$36.



Big SIR Report

Tamal Talk A SIR Publication

Editor/Publisher Erick Young
erickt.young@gmail.com
650-526-8079

Tamalpias Branch No. 47

<https://sir47.org>

Big SIR Frank Luttringer
Little SIR Charlie Panfely
Treasurer Bill Stewart
Asst Treas. Howard Foster
Secretary Alan Lutsky
Asst Sec. Kurt Heilman

Directors Mark Bosch
Marshall Gross
Bill McNicholas
Ron Kosciusko
Bill Wickley

Past Big Sir Carl Dawson

Activities Kurt Heilman

Membership

Attendance 415-881-7477

Luncheons 415-881-7477
sirbranch47@gmail.com
<https://sir47.org>

SIR State Organization

President Dale Decker
Vice Pres. Stu Williams
Area 8 Governor Carl Dawson



Big SIR Report for January 2025

Frank Luttringer

I'm hoping that all our SIRs enjoyed a Merry Christmas and a Happy New year celebrating with family and friends. Here we are in 2025 celebrating the 67th year of the SIRs organization that we all enjoy!

This is my first Big Sir report, so I'd like to start by thanking Carl Dawson who ably led us through 2024 and is going on to be the area 8 leader coordinating the Marin and Petaluma branches. In 2024 we maintained our membership, improved our website, actively participated in Sirs State activities, and added many special activities that I know we all enjoyed. This Tamal Talk is also a first for Erick Young who is stepping up as the new editor replacing retiring editor Ron Kosciusko. We need to thank Ron for his many years of fantastic Tamal Talk editing. We also need to thank Mark Rudy and Rick Coburn, our retiring officers and directors, for their years of leadership on our board.

I was not able to attend the Holiday party this year due to illness, however I heard that 60+ people attended enjoying the music of Alan Thomas, the singing of Patrick Leveque (Tim's son) and oh yes, Santa did show up! Of course, none of this would have been possible without the leadership of Kurt Heilman who organized the entire event. Kurt is now organizing the Chinese New Year's lunch, so sign up now before it fills up. Thanks to Kurt and the many others who made the Holiday Party so successful.

As we start the new year, it is a great time to remind everyone of one of the expectations of SIRs members that we all signed on for when we joined. It states, "volunteer as your time and interest allows". I have noted several ambitious volunteers above and I know that there are many of our members who have volunteered as officers, directors and activity coordinators in the past and present. If you have volunteered, thank you. If you have not volunteered, jump in anywhere there is a need. All members are invited to visit our branch board meetings at 9:30 on the Tuesday of our monthly luncheon to become more informed about our activities. Let one of the officers or directors know you are coming to be sure there is no meeting adjustment for that month.

Let me know if you have suggestions for things you would like to see in 2025. You can email me at Fluttringer1@gmail.com.

Frank Luttringer
Big SIR 2025

Little SIR Report



Little SIR Report for January 2025

Charlie Panfely

Happy New Year and welcome to 2025! I hope everyone enjoyed a wonderful holiday season. I would like to add my kudos to Kurt Heilman for the Holiday Party in December. I think most who attended would agree with me that it was a delightful evening of food, music and friendship.

Frank Luttringer did an outstanding job arranging speakers for our 2024 luncheons and I hope to follow his example in 2025. Coming up we have Danica Remy at our January luncheon. She is the President of the B612 Foundation and leads the organization's global efforts to protect Earth from asteroid impacts. Her presentation is on "How the Asteroid Institute and the B612 Foundation are Working to Protect us from Asteroid Impact". It should be an "out of this world" experience!

Then, in February we have Cal Berkeley professor Dr. Andrew Reddie speaking on "Technology and War: National Security Under a New Administration". He will discuss how advancements in AI, cyber capabilities, autonomous systems, and space technologies are reshaping the nature of conflict and global power competition.

And there is a lot more to come in 2025! To change things up in April our luncheon presentation will be family friendly with spouses and other guests invited.

Remember to RSVP for the January luncheon on the 28th. I will see you there. My email is cpanfely@att.net.

Charlie Panfely
Little Sir 2025

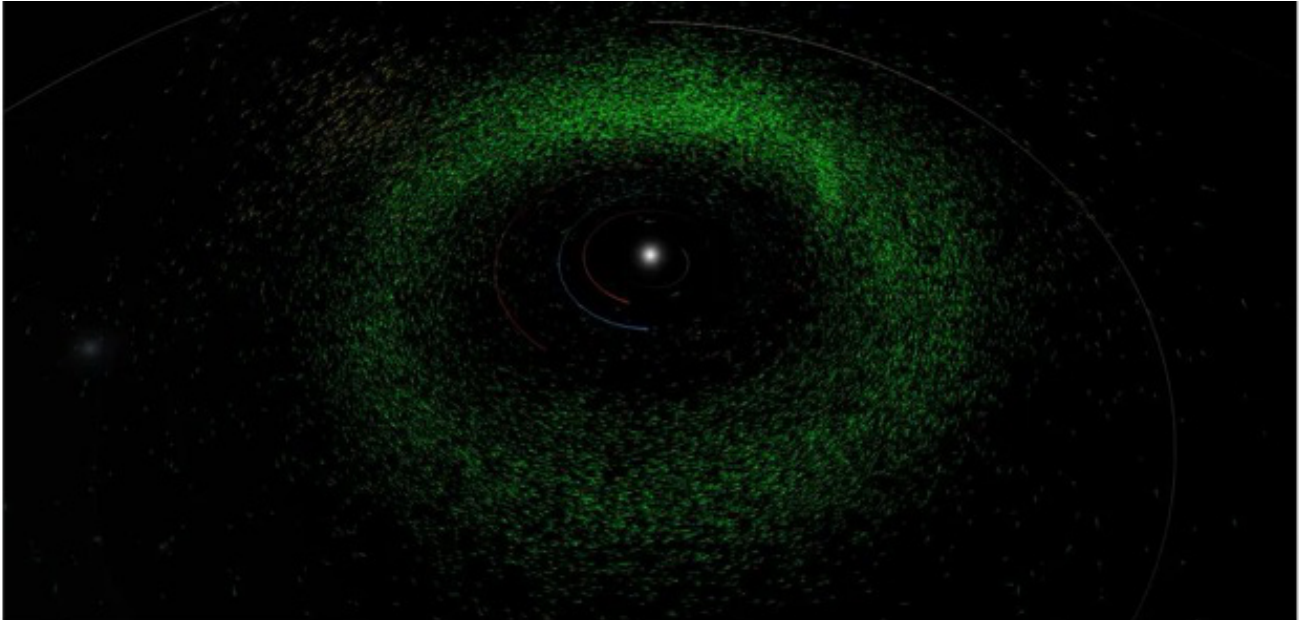
December 2024 Membership Report

Active Members	157
Alumni	17
Total Members	174
Honorary Life Members	4

At the January Luncheon we will start collecting **dues** which remain at \$30.00

To send a check for dues, mail it to
Bill Stewart
2 Paseo Mirasol,
Tiburon 94920

Luncheon Cost will rise to \$36.00 indicative of the \$1.00 raise seen each year. If paying by check, please bring **Two**, one for each cost made out to SIR Branch 47



January 28 Luncheon Speaker

Danica Remy (B612 Foundation)

How The Asteroid Institute and the B612 Foundation are Working to Protect us from Asteroid Impact

Danica is President of B612 Foundation and leads the organization's global efforts to protect Earth from asteroid impacts. She co-founded Asteroid Day, a United Nations day of education and awareness. She is a well-respected Silicon Valley strategist and operations executive. She has successfully led numerous startups, companies, and non-profits at the forefront of pioneering technology, internet services, education, scenario planning and philanthropy. She is a recognized expert in information technology, facilities, human resources, finance, and government relations.

Fun Marin Fact

Danica, a resident of Mill Valley, grew up in San Anselmo as a fourth-generation native of Marin County, a College of Marin alumni and spent her youth, in part, shooting off homemade rockets with her father and brother from what is now the Bon Air Center, and then chasing happily across the marshlands to retrieve them.

The mission of the B612 Foundation is to develop tools and technologies to understand, map, and navigate our solar system, and protect our home planet from asteroid impacts.

Asteroid Institute® brings together scientists, researchers, and engineers to develop tools and technologies to understand,

map, and navigate our solar system. A program of B612 Foundation®, the Asteroid Institute® leverages advances in computer science, instrumentation, and astronomy to find and track asteroids. Since 2002, the Foundation has supported research and technologies to enable the economic development of space and enhance our understanding of the evolution of our solar system in addition to supporting educational programs, including Asteroid Day and the Schweickart Prize. Founding Circle and Asteroid Circle members, and individual donors from 46 countries provide financial support for the work.

EVENTS

SIR Br 47 Chinese New Year's Celebration



12:00 PM on Tuesday Feb 11, 2025 at



China PALACE
7089 REDWOOD Blvd. Novato



This is our first party in 2025 to kick off the Year of the Snake. So now is the time to “snake” your way to our Chinese Buffet at a new location with ample parking.

The menu includes: POT STICKERS, MONGOLIAN CHICKEN, BRAISED TOFU WITH VEGETABLES, BEEF WITH ASPARAGUS, BLACK BEAN SAUCE PRAWNS, GINGER SCALLION FISH, VEGETABLE CHOW MEIN, RICE, TEA OR SODA. There should be left over food to take home.

The cost is \$40 / person. Please invite spouses and other guests to help us celebrate the Chinese New Year.

Tickets are on sale at the Br 47 January 28, 2025 luncheon or go on line @ sir47.org to register. The contact is **Erick Young** @ 650-526-8079 or erickt.young@gmail.com. Reservations are required.

The Pacific Empire Chorus presents



All-You-Can-Eat
CRAB FEED
& Live A Cappella Show
Crack Crab with the Ones you Love!

Saturday, February 8, 2025
5 pm to 9 pm

Petaluma Veterans Building
1094 Petaluma Blvd. So.
**Includes All-You-Can-Eat Fresh Crab,
Pasta, Salad, French Bread and our
famous handmade Desserts
Wine . Lagunitas Beer . Awesome Auctions**

\$80 adult ticket

Child 10 and under with adult \$30

Captains Table of 8 @ \$780

(front of stage with fullservice linens, china and glass)

Tickets online at pacificempire.org

Expected Events in 2025

Chinese New Year's Party at China Palace,
7089 Redwood Blvd., Novato
Tuesday February 11, 2025
Erick Young, coordinator

Garden/Bocce Party at Marin Bocce,
550 B St., San Rafael.
Tuesday June 10, 2025
Roger Burstrem & Jim Phelan, Coordinators

BYO Picnic at Miwok Park, Novato
Tuesday July 15, 2025
Tom Culhane, coordinator

BYO Dinner & Tiburon Bay Cruise
Saturday September 20, 2025

Holiday Party at The Club at McInnis Park
Tuesday December 9, 2025
Kurt Heilman, coordinator

ACTIVITIES

Verified Branch 47 and Area 8 Activities (as of 2/29/2024)

Activity	Frequency	Chair	Email	Phone	Branch
18 Hole Golf	Twice Monthly	Bill Wilhelm	Bill@billandbev.com	415-479-6028	22
18 Hole Golf		Jim Larkin	jlark57@yahoo.com	707-766-8402	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	Mark Rudy	mrudy356@gmail.com	415-924-4219	47
Hiking	4 th Thursday	Jim Gloystein	jimg@gloyboy.com	415-717-3163	134
Book Swap	Monthly at Luncheons	Pikk Pikkarainen Lon 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	Inactive	Bob Mauceli	bmauceli@comcast.net	585-734-3856	134
Foreign Policy	2 nd Wednesday	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 Luncheon	Jim Waltz	geezer831-home@yahoo.com	415-408-8695	47
Tennis		Robert Chandler	robertchandler33@comcast.net	415-464-7794	47
		Bill Cline	wacline@comcast.net	415-892-0209	134
Bowling	Possible in 2024				
Bicycling (incl. E-bikes)	Wednesday @9:30 Later Coffee	Jim Barden	jbarden@aol.com	415-897-6537	134
Book Club	Wednesday	Dick Locke	rflocke@comcast.net	415-897-1572	134
Science Discussion Group	3 rd Thursday @ 10:00 am	Don Pierce	Not listed	415-897-2701	134

ACTIVITIES

Family Bocce

Our BR 47 Family plays non-competitive bocce on the first Monday of each month. In the colder winter weather, we eat first and play bocce afterwards. Usually, we eat at 11:30 am at Mamita Cocina on 340 Ignacio Blvd. and play bocce around 1 pm at the Margret Todd Senior Center in Novato. In the warmer weather, we play bocce first at 10 am, and eat afterwards at Mamita Cocina at noon.

If you are on Kurt's bocce email list, you will be advised of any changes in the schedule by email. If you are not on the bocce email list and want to be included on our bocce email list, contact Kurt Heilman at heilmanfour@comcast.net, or call Kurt at 415-892-2460. Members, spouses and all guests are invited.

PS. There is no charge for playing bocce, but we do ask you to bring your bocce balls if you have them.
Cheers, Kurt Heilman

PS Please bring your bocce balls if you have them

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. Its 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 an 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. For menu and directions go to

<http://www.samsplacenovato.com>

Will Kaefer, willmary@pacbell.net

Pickle Ball

Pickleball now has a fixed schedule. We will play on the Third Monday of the Month at 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.

ACTIVITIES

Academy of Art Auto Museum Tour

You're invited to join our Branch 47 car enthusiast's group for a visit to San Francisco's Academy of Art University Automobile Museum on Tuesday, January 14. The two hour guided tour starts at 10:30 AM and will cost \$10 per person (senior rate). Spouses and friends are welcome. The museum houses an expansive collection of rare and classic vehicles, everything from a Duesenberg to a 1958 Edsel. Space is limited and an RSVP is required. Contact Joe Sauerland at joesauerland@comcast.net for more information, or to RSVP.

Our Branch 47 car enthusiast's group meets for lunch on the 3rd. Tuesday of each month at Sam's Place Restaurant, 1545 South Novato Blvd., Novato. Our next meeting is Tuesday, January 21, beginning at 11:30 AM. If you enjoy motorcycles, automobiles, automotive memorabilia, car shows, etc., the car enthusiast's group is for you. Guests are always welcome. Owning a classic vehicle is not necessary. For more information contact Joe Sauerland at 415-479-8442 or joesauerland@comcast.net.

Poker

After the Branch meeting. If interested in the poker group, call Jim Waltz,

Geezer831-home@yahoo.com or call 415-408-8695

League Bocce

As we did last year, we are holding bocce practices each Wednesday morn-ing at 10am and will continue weather permitting until league play resumes in mid-March 2025. The cost is \$15.00. Bill Risch (rischbill@gmail.com) (415/454-7815) is the coordinator of these practices. If you are on his list from last year, there is no need to contact him. If you were not on his list and wish to participate, please email or call him with your contact information so that can include you in his group emails each week.

Jack Friesen, Bocce Chair

Wine Tasting at Parum Leo Winery

4415 Kastania Rd, Petaluma

Fri. Jan 31 at noon

Branch 58 set up this wine tasting for its members & spouses and has invited our Branch 47. This includes 5 tastings and a charcuterie board for \$30. If you are interested, please contact Bruce Scheibach of Branch 58 at bscheibach@aol.com. or call or text him at 707-338-2593.

Kurt Heilman(heilmanfour@comcast.net) or Erick (erickt.young@gmail.com)
Branch 47 Wine Tasting Coordinators

ACTIVITIES

Thursday 09:45 Walking/ Hiking Group

1st Thursday	Jake Solomon	415-472-3069
2nd Thursday	Mark Rudy	415-924-4219
3rd Thursday	Al Springstead	415-250-3808
4th Thursday	Charlie Panfely	415-302-4391
5th Thursday	Rotation of leaders in the same order as above	

Call leaders for details about future walks and hikes

9-Hole Golf at McInnis Park

Every Monday (Weather Permitting and except Holidays) 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).

Contact Jim Bitter at jybitter@aol.com