

Recent Events

Members Recognized with White Hats

Erick Young



Since the term of Past Big SIR Mark Bosch, Branch 47 has had the tradition of recognizing SIRs who have gone above and beyond to serve the Branch. With the end of the year, Big SIR Frank Luttringer gave out SIR White Hats to members who have especially contributed.

Ron Kosciusko has served as Webmaster, handled the luncheon meals, and acted as general technical wiz.

Kurt Heilman has many key roles including activity chair, bocce organizer, Assistant Secretary, party organizer, song leader, and anything else the Branch needs.

Lucky Lindbeck has been the A/V guru for our luncheons.

Ron Nelson answered our call for Little SIR, and he was elected to that position for next year.

Dan Hurlbutt is a new member who has thankfully jumped into Branch 47 support. He is our newest member of the Board, and he also brings technical expertise as a former IT manager.

Jim Purvis has agreed to be Assistant Secretary for 2026.

Mark Bosch, past Big SIR, gets a hat because he couldn't give himself a white hat, and has long deserved one.



Editor's Notes

Erick Young

As Editor, it's my prerogative to leave myself a tiny space and only a small amount of writing to do. I'll take this opportunity to just wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season. Since we won't be having a December luncheon, I hope to see many of you at the Holiday Party.

I do want to call your attention to the Chinese New Year's Party in February. More information is in this Tamal Talk.

NO DECEMBER LUNCHEON

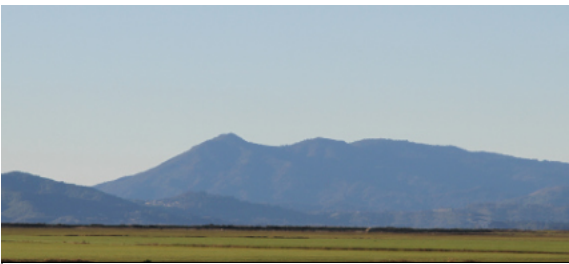
Instead, sign up for the December 9, 2025 Holiday Party.
Details in this Tamal Talk. Deadline to register is December 6.

NEXT LUNCHEON TUESDAY JANUARY 27, 2026 McInnis Park Club

Reservations: <https://sir47.org/monthly-luncheon/>

Or call 415-881-7477

Please bring a check for \$37 per person



Big SIR Report



Big SIR Report for December 2025

Frank Luttringer

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
	Dan Hurlbutt
	Ron Kosciusko
	Ron Nelson
	Bill Wickley

Past Big Sir	Carl Dawson
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Activities	Kurt Heilman
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Membership	Charlie Panfely
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Attendance	Frank Luttringer
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Luncheons	415-881-7477
	sirbranch47@gmail.com
	https://sir47.org

SIR State Organization

President	Rich Carlston
Vice Pres.	Lee Lamp
Secretary	Jeff Chin
Treasurer	Carl Masson
CIO	Kevin King

Area 8 Rep.	Carl Dawson
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Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, and Happy Hanukkah to all SIRs! Please join us for our Annual Holiday Party, the last major activity of the year, which is scheduled for Tuesday December 9th. It promises to be a fun and entertaining evening with members and spouses in attendance. Don't miss it! Find more details later in the Tamal Talk.

Our next Luncheon will be on January 27th, 2026. 2025 has flown by and we need to prepare for the new year.

This is my last Big Sir Report. It has been a pleasure to be your Big Sir for 2025. We are so fortunate that our branch has so many volunteers that take care of so many aspects of the branch from finance to activities. Our officers and BEC were incredible this past year making great progress on many needed fronts. Thanks to all who did their part in any way to keep our branch activities fun for everyone. As I hand off my post to Charlie, I know that you are

all in good hands with a very competent leader at the helm.

I want to remind everyone that it is time to pay your dues for 2026. The annual dues are \$45 for 2026. There is more information later in the Tamal talk about where to send your checks. You can also pay at the January meeting. It would be very Helpful if everyone could pay by the end of January. We are continuing to look for ways to make registration for activities easier for everyone. We are considering a credit card option to register and pay for events. Stay tuned for more information as we move into 2026.

Happy New Year! And I hope to see you at the Holiday Party or next year at the January 27th luncheon.

Frank Luttringer
Big SIR 2025 for Branch 47
Fluttringer1@gmail.com

Next Regular Branch Executive Committee Meeting

Tuesday January 27, 2026, 9:30 AM.

McInnis Club Restaurant; luncheon after meeting.

We will have a special planning meeting at Mamita's Restaurant, Novato

Tuesday January 13, 2026 at 11:30 AM

Little SIR Report



Little SIR Report for October 2025

Charlie Panfely

Our final speaker for 2025 in November was Alan Baker from SIR State. Alan is the SIR State webmaster and his presentation entitled Staying Safe on the Internet was timely. Alan gave us practical advice that included avoiding phishing attempts, securing personal information, using strong passwords and enabling multi-factor authentication. Our members were clearly engaged with lots of questions during and after the talk.

We will not have a luncheon in December. Instead, we will celebrate the Branch 47 Annual Holiday Party on December 9th. Cost is \$65 per person and it will be from 5:00 to 9:00 pm. RSVP on the sir47.org website or contact

Kurt Heilman by Saturday December 6th.

I hope everyone enjoyed our speakers in 2025. In 2026 Ron Nelson will take over the Little SIR position. His first speaker will be Richard Holmboe speaking on his US Navy submarine experiences during the Vietnam War. Be sure to RSVP in January. See you in 2026!

Charlie Panfely

cpanfely@att.net

December 2025 Membership Report

Active Members	129
Alumni	17
Total Members	146
Honorary Life Members	4

Passing

Walt Zebrowski

Sadly we report the passing of **Walt Zebrowski** on November 9 at the age of 92. A resident of Novato, George was a member of SIRs since 2012.

Among his activities, Walt enjoyed bocce ball.

An obituary can be found at <https://www.marinij.com/obituaries/walter-zebrowski-novato-ca/>

SIRs Branch 47

Officers and Directors for 2026

Officers:

Big SIR – Charlie Panfely

Little SIR – Ron Nelson

Secretary – Alan Lutsky

Assistant Secretary – Jim Purvis

Treasurer - Bill Stewart

Assistant Treasurer – Howard Foster

Directors:

Carl Dawson (Area 8 Representative)

Frank Luttringer (Past Big SIR)

Bill Wickley (Backup Treasurer)

Ron Kosciusko (Webmaster)

Kurt Heilman (Activities and Travel)

Dan Hurlbutt (Technology)

Sunshine Committee

If you know of any SIR who has passed, is ill, or just needs contact, please call **Frank Ghazzagh**, Chair of the Sunshine Committee. He will make sure the Branch provides the needed contact.

415-505-7931



Branch Executive Committee Minutes

SIR Branch 47 Board Meeting Tamalpias Branch In Person Meeting October 28, 2025

The BEC Meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Little Sir Charlie Panfely. A quorum was determined to be present.

Attendees: Officers and Directors of 2025 Board were present as follows: Charlie Panfely, Kurt Heilman, Bill Stewart, Howard Foster, Bill Wickley, Ron Kosciusko, Marshall Gross, Mark Bosch

Guests: Rick Coburn, Jim Purvis, Ron Nelson, Jim Purvis, Dan Hurlbut, Erick Young (Tamal Talk)

The action was approved to accept the Board agenda for October 28, 2025, and minutes for BEC meeting of September 23, 2025.

Big SIR Report: No report as Frank could not attend.

Little SIR Report: In October, the speaker was to be Ki Siadatan talk on his topic entitled: Revolutionizing Aging: How Innovation and Emerging Technologies are Shaping the Future of Longevity and Healthcare. However, he was hospitalized due to an auto accident, so Galen Dunham filled in to speak about the Civil War, the clothes/personal items they carried, Civil War reenactments, etc. Our final speaker for 2025 will be Alan Baker from SIR's state. Alan is the SIR's state Webmaster and his presentation is entitled: Staying Safe on the Internet.

Treasurer's & Budget Report: Bill Stewart had nothing to report.

Secretary Report: Kurt Heilman will do the minutes for October.

Membership / Attendance Updates:

- Mark Bosch will do attendance today through the end of the year.
- The Luncheon attendance is 75 meals, that includes 5 guests and 1 speaker
- There are currently ~~about~~ 127 active and 17 alumni members.
- No new members today, but 5 guests – 2 from the Senior Faire sign-up.
- A report showing the status of no shows was reviewed. Most have paid or were excused.
- Two may go onto alumni status.
- Form 20 was submitted to state noting the Br47 BEC leaders and roles for 2026.
- Marshall Gross agreed to be an additional greeter for today and assist with check-in when there are Exceptions. Jack Fuller to do this at future luncheons if helpful.
- Erick Young will need input to update our roster book by mid-December. Discussion occurred around the number of rosters to print vs. sending on-line. Ron Kosciusko will send out dining options to the BEC to see if we want to make changes to the 2026 luncheon menu for the roster book.
- McInnis is to increase our luncheon from \$36 to \$37 for 2026.
- George Martinez passed away and will be remembered today.

Nominating Committee update:

- For 2026 Charlie will take over the Membership Chair including the database and Frank will take over the Attendance Chair. Dan Hurlbut has volunteered to help with technology beginning with understanding the current website. Dan has agreed to become a director in 2026 and attended the October BEC meeting.
- We continue to need volunteers for the many activities we support. We encourage members to attend the BEC meetings. We especially need those who have interest in the membership, attendance, and technology positions with roles to be determined. It is never too early to start looking for the Little Sir for 2027.

Special Activities-Updates – need to determine the 2026 party schedule.

1. Christmas Party – Dec. 9, 2025 – members to sign up online and Kurt will enroll @ Oct. & Nov. luncheons
2. 2026 Chinese New Years Party - Erick
3. 2026 Luncheon with spouses and guests
4. 2026 Garden Party
5. 2026 Miwok BYO Picnic

Branch Executive Committee Minutes - 2

6. 2026 Senior Faire
7. 2026 Sept. Cruise
8. 2026 Christmas Party

Technology update – Mark / Ron / Frank / Charlie

1. Credit Card Payments: Carl is attempting to connect with branches using an alternate platform.
2. Website updates – Ron still working issues with Alan Baker at state.
3. Google Workspace - Frank, Charlie, Ron K., Dan H., Mark B., Kurt – no update from Frank

Member Surveys, History, Program Adjustments – Kurt has now placed in the Gmail sheets
Future Surveys – to be determined as needed.

Branch 47 Membership Application review and revisions

Review group – Charlie, Mark, Bill W., Marshall. It was decided that if a new member did not fully complete his application, he would be contacted and asked to make updates.

New Business: Should we continue to have a book table? Do our members still use books or read on phones and tablets? We agreed to obtain a show of hands re how many use the lending library.

1. October Luncheon

- a. Reservations (Mark)
- b. Treasurer (Bill)
- c. Speaker (Charlie)
- d. Birthday Wine and Martinelli's option (Frank G)

2. November Luncheon

- a. Reservations (Mark)
- b. Treasurer (Bill)
- c. Speaker (Charlie)
- d. Birthday Wine and Martinelli's option for both Nov. & Dec Birthdays (Frank G)

3. Next BEC meeting is November 25, 2025

With no further topics to be raised, the meeting was **adjourned at 10:30 a.m.** The next BEC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 25, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kurt Heilman, Asst. Secretary

November 25 Luncheon Speaker

Alan Baker Tells Us How to Stay Safe on the Internet



Alan is the SIR's state webmaster, and he gave an enlightening talk about "Staying Safe on the Internet". This is certainly an important topic, given the large number of scams that have flooded the Internet, particularly those targeting seniors.

He has presented internet security topics to many SIR branches and other community groups. In 2022 he was awarded SIR's Honorary Life Membership.

Alan gave a number of practical strategies to avoid being scammed:

- Guard your passwords by using a password manager.
- Long = Strong passwords
- Enable two-factor authentication.
- Learn to recognize and avoid phishing attempts.
- Freeze your credit reports at the three major credit bureaus.

Special Happy Birthday to Henry Behar - 101



We celebrated a special birthday at the November luncheon. Henry Behar, who joined Branch 47 last year, just turned 101. For the luncheon, he was joined by his wife Phyllis and son. One of our newest members is also our oldest member.

Jake Solomon was also recognized with a SIRS 90th birthday certificate.

Branch 47 Welcomes Three New Members



In the official, solemn SIRs ceremony, three new members of Branch 47 promised to be Fun-Loving Guys.

Welcome to:

Tom Kunst of Novato,

sponsored by Anthony Gerdaldi.

Robert San-Chez of San Rafael, sponsored by Jim Purvis.

Steve Klansko, of San Rafael, sponsored by Jake Solomon.

Upcoming Events in 2025

Holiday Party at The Club at McInnis Park

Tuesday December 9, 2025

Kurt Heilman, coordinator

Not in 2025 but not that far in the future:

Chinese New Years Luncheon

February 18, 2026

Erick Young, coordinator

Special Luncheon for SIRS and Spouses and Partners

May 26, 2026

Topic: Homeward Bound of Marin



Branch 47's Annual Holiday Party

On Tuesday, December 9, 2025

At McInnis Golf Club, San Rafael



Cost is \$65 per person:



Social Hour: 5:00 pm — 6:00 pm Includes Appetizers

**Cash Bar: \$6 for Beer, \$12/glass for house wine (\$30 for bottle), \$4 soft drink
(other cocktails may be ordered at the main bar)**

<<< Holiday Entertainment will be provided >>>

6:00 to 8:00 pm: Sit-down Holiday Meal starts with House Salad of mixed organic greens. Then your Choice of: (1) Prime Rib with potatoes & veggies: (2) Grilled Salmon with Lemon butter sauce over rice & veggies: (3) Chicken Toscana (artichoke hearts / mushrooms) over rice & veggies: or (4) Vegetarian pasta Pomodoro. Sourdough at each table. Coffee-Decaf-Tea and Ice Cream & Brownie for Desert.

Make a reservation by logging onto sir47.org under the Events calendar and RSVP at sirbranch47@gmail.com. You can also contact Kurt Heilman by Email at heilmanfour@comcast.net or by phone at (415)-892-2460.

Reservations or cancellations must be made by Saturday Dec. 6.

Kurt Heilman will also be collecting money and reservations at our Oct. 28 and Nov. 25 luncheons.



MAYFLOWER CHORUS PRESENTS

Spirit of the Season

Celebrate the multifaceted spirit
of the holidays – from frolicking fun
to wide-eyed wonder.

Friday, December 12, 8 p.m.

Saturday, December 13, 2:30 and 7:30 p.m.



Tickets (fees included): General \$29

Seniors 65+ & students 13-18 \$23

Children 12 & under \$12

Advance tickets: tickets.marincenter.org

Marin Center Showcase Theater

10 Avenue of the Flags, San Rafael

Information: 415-491-9110 or

www.mayflowerchorus.org

David Manley, Choral Director Daniel Savio, Accompanist Cathy Sarkisian, Show Director
Proceeds benefit the non-profit Mayflower Choral Society's music and scholarship programs.



GOLDEN TICKET

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10% OFF YOUR ENTIRE
PURCHASE
PLUS 50% OFF SELECT STYLES

Sons in Retirement branch 47
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UNION CITY & RICHMOND

[LOCATION DETAILS & HOURS](#)
richmondemployeestore@columbia.com

NOVEMBER 21 - DECEMBER 14



**BRING THIS PASS + PROOF OF AFFILIATION
+ UP TO 4 GUESTS**

SIR Multi-Branch Travel News

Glenn Breslin
SIR 146 Travel Chair
glennbreslin@gmail.com
 925-788-6520



Australia/New Zealand

Jan 7, - Jan 25, 2026.

Australia: Cairns, Great Barrier Reef, Sydney Arrowtown, Queenstown, Rotorua, Auckland. New Zealand : Te Anau.

Starting from \$6,495 including air. Free Single Supplement. Pre-trip 5 nights to Melbourne & the Outback from \$2,395. Post trip 4 nights to Fiji from \$1,995 SIR Group Code is G6-30339.

Contact Glenn Breslin glennbreslin@gmail.com Branch 146 or call direct 1-800-955-1925. Be sure to use the SIR Group Code.

Link: <https://www.gct.com/trips/land-tours/south-pacific/australia-and-new-zealand/2021/itineraries>



Cuba

March 12-18, 2026

\$4611 with airfare included

Immersion into culture and history with Five star lodging. All Meals but one included. All tours included

Contact: glennbreslin@gmail.com

Link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Lj0SXJIn7aSk4_2p6cSuoJA4N6ea4-12/view



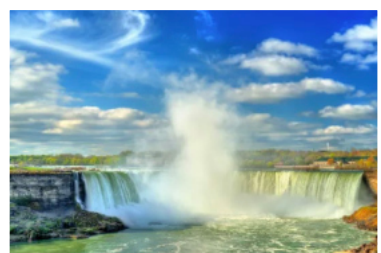
South Korea & Japan: Temples, Shrines & Seaside Treasures

April 1, - April 26, 2026

Korea: Seoul, Japan: Tokyo, Toba, Kyoto. '26. Starting from \$7,495 including air. Pre-trip Mongolia: Ulaanbaater & the Gobi Desert. 9 nights from \$1495. OR... Vietnam: Hanoi & Halong Bay Cruise 5 nights from \$1,495. SIR Group Code G6-30339

For more information contact Glenn Breslin glennbreslin@gmail.com

Link: <https://www.oattravel.com/trips/land-adventures/asia/south-korea-and-japan-temples-shrines-and-seaside-treasures/2021/itineraries>



Explore the Great Lakes and Niagara Falls

May 3-11, 2026

From urban skylines to uninhabited islands, discover North America's wilderness alongside renowned cultural attractions aboard a small expedition ship. 378 passengers. Led by experts. Balcony staterooms \$6170-8295pp.

Contact Michael & Kathi Gervais Br. 98.

Kathig@shipsandtripstravel.com 916-337-1623

Link: <https://sirinc.org/wp-content/uploads/SirGreatLakesTrip.pdf>



Christmas on the Danube

Nov. 27-Dec. 8, 2026

with a 2 day Christmas Markets of Prague extension. Six night Danube River Cruise including Christmas Markets in Vienna, Wurzburg, Rothenburg, Nuremberg, Regensburg, Passau, Wachau Valley, gluhwein party.

Pricing: \$5896-\$7497 p.p., double occupancy.

Contact: Bill Britton Br. 101 bill.britton@comcast.net (925) 200-1062

Link: <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1271367>



SIR Br 47
Chinese New Year's Celebration
12:00 PM on Wednesday Feb 18, 2026

China PALACE Restaurant
7089 REDWOOD Blvd. Novato

This is our first party in 2026, and it kicks off the Year of the Horse. Since there were so many good comments last time, we've decided to have our celebration at the same venue as 2025. So now is the time to gallop to our Chinese Buffet.

The menu includes: POT STICKERS, MONGOLIAN CHICKEN, BRAISED TOFU WITH VEGETABLES, BEEF WITH GREEN BEANS, ALMOND PRAWNS, HOT SPICED FISH, and VEGETABLE CHOW MEIN, RICE, TEA OR SODA. There should be left over food to take home.

The cost is \$46 / person.

Please invite spouses and other guests to help us celebrate the Chinese New Year.

Tickets will be on sale at the Br 47 January 28, 2025 luncheon or online at sir47.org in the near future.

The contact is
Erick Young
@ 650-526-8079 or
erickt.young@gmail.com

Reservations are required.

**OUR THEATER GOERS... WE INVITE YOU...
THE SIR'S #7, #22, #47, #58, #134 & #147, TO OUR THEATER,
THE ORPHEUM, IN SAN FRANCISCO FOR A PERFORMANCE OF**

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

"The Phantom of the Opera" unfolds the tale of a disfigured musical prodigy, known as the Phantom, who haunts the Paris Opera House and becomes infatuated with a young soprano named Christine. Residing in the catacombs beneath the opera house, the Phantom secretly mentors Christine, helping her rise to fame while demanding her affection in return. His possessive nature spirals into terror and upheaval as he disrupts the opera's performances and threatens those who oppose him. The story reaches a climactic showdown when Christine's childhood sweetheart, Raoul, attempts to safeguard her, resulting in tragic repercussions stemming from the Phantom's obsession.

Show Duration: 2 Hours & 30 Minutes

**Time Boarding at - Smith Ranch Rd
Park & Ride 945am Depart BY 10am**

Return Home Approx 530pm

DATE THURSDAY JUNE 18TH, 2026

COST: \$143/PP

COST IS BASED ON A MINIMUM OF 56 GUESTS

**Cost Includes: Luxury Motorcoach Transportation, Bus Fees
(Parking, Driver Gratuity, Bridge Toll, Fuel), Lunch at Max's Opera
Cafe, Rear Orchestra Seats for the matinee showing of Phantom of
the Opera at the Orpheum Theater in San Francisco**

MUST REGISTER BY MONDAY MARCH 2ND, 2026

TRAVELCENTER, TOURS AND TRAVEL, 1936 OAK PARK BLVD., PLEASANT HILL, CA 94523 PHONE: (925) 937-2223

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RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY PASSENGERS OR THEIR POSSESSIONS. TRIPS AND TOURS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND AVAILABILITY. SPECIFIC CONDITIONS APPLY.
INDIVIDUAL CANCELLATIONS/CHANGES MUST FOLLOW YOUR GROUPS CANCELLATION POLICY. NO REFUND AFTER FINAL PAYMENT. CST#1002945-40

All checks should be made out to SIR Branch #7

Mailed to: David Pell, 1075 Calle Empinado, Novato, CA 94949

Questions? Call David at (415) 483-6303

Name(s): _____ Branch: _____

E-mail Address: _____ Meal Choice:

☐ Reuben Sandwich w/ Fries

☐ Cheeseburger w/ Fries

☐ Chicken Cobb Salad

☐ Veggie Wrap

TravelCenter
Tours & Travel



ACTIVITIES

Area 8 Activities- updated 5/28/2025

Activity	Frequency	Chair	Email	Phone	Branch
Billiards	1st & 3rd Thursday	Bob Bundy		415-342-4935	7
Biking	Friday Morning	Bob Bundy		415-342-4935	7
Coffee Klatch	Monday 9 AM Bayside Café	Al Wuthnow		415-640-6747	7
Golf		Ron Radtke		415-559-8995	7
Hiking	Thursday AM	Michael Sommer		415-264-0166	7
Snapshots Book Group	2nd Tuesday	Dave Cooke		415-305-3173	7
18 Hole Golf	Twice Monthly	Bill Wilhelm	Bill@billandbev.com	415-479-6028	22
9 Hole Golf	Weekly on Monday at 9:30am	Jim Bitter	jybitter@aol.com	415-388-7897	47
Bocce (Co-Ed)	1 st Monday	Kurt Heilman	heilmanfour@comcast.net	415-408-8489	47
Bocce (League)	Weekly	Jack Friesen	friesenjack7walter@aol.com	415-226-8896	47
Book Swap	Monthly at Luncheons	Pikk Pikkarainen	pikkdata@sbcglobal.net	415-454-3843 415-453-4295	47
Car Enthusiasts	3rd Tuesday 11:30 am	Joe Sauerland	joesauerland@comcast.net	415-479-8442	47
Hiking / Walking	Thursdays	Jake Solomon	J_Solomon@comcast.com	415-845-1645	47
Investors Lunch	2 nd Friday	Will Kaefer	willmary@pacbell.net	415-927-1043	47
Poker	After Luncheon	Jim Waltz	geezer831-home@yahoo.com	415-408-8695	47
18 Hole Golf		Jim Larkin	jlark57@yahoo.com	707-766-8402	134
Bicycling including 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
Bridge member and couples	4 th Thursday	Bill Cline	wacline@comcast.net	415-892-0209	134
Foreign Policy	2 nd Wednesday	Frank Jamieson	frank.jamieson.0710@gmail.com	415-328-7692	134
Gardening	Inactive	Bob Mauceli	bmauceli@comcast.net	585-734-3856	134
Genealogy	2 nd Thursday	Jeff Vailant	topspinut@yahoo.com	415-897-7808	134
Hiking	4 th Thursday	Jim Gloystein	jimg@gloyboy.com	415-717-3163	134
Military History	1 st Wednesday	Alan Dunham	alnberta@comcast.net	415-897-8886	134
Science Discussion Group	3rd Thursday at 10am	Don Pierce	Not listed	415-897-2701	134
Tennis		Bill Cline	wacline@comcast.net	415-892-0209	134

ACTIVITIES

Family Bocce

Our BR 47 Family plays non-competitive bocce on the first Monday of each month.

We meet at 11:30 AM at Mamita Cocina on 340 Ignacio Blvd. for lunch. Bocce follows at approximately 1 PM. 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.

Members, spouses and all guests are invited. There is no charge for playing bocce, but we do ask you to bring your bocce balls if you have them. Also bring a good appetite for delicious Mexican food.

Cheers, Kurt Heilman at heilmanfour@comcast.net, or call Kurt at 415-892-2460.

SIR State Bowling Committee

SIR Bowling
For information, contact:

Dan Weller, Chairman

925-935-5510 dweller@astound.net

Investors Lunch Bunch

Come join us every second Friday of the Month at Sam's Place in Novato at 11:30. You can order any menu item and receive a separate check. No reservations are required. Try to get there a bit early as we are filling up the room quickly. <http://www.samsplacenovato.com>

Will Kaefer, willmary@pacbell.net

Pickle Ball

We 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.

Auto Enthusiasts' Group

Branch 47 car enthusiasts will be visiting the Cobra Experience Museum in Martinez on Wednesday, January 21, 2026. Fellow SIR's, spouses, family, and friends are invited to attend. Our two-hour docent led tour begins at 11:00 AM. Cost is \$27.50 per person. The museum houses a collection of rare Shelby Cobras and Ford Mustangs from the 1960's along with racing engines, artifacts, and other memorabilia.

The museum recommends tickets be purchased on-line (at least two weeks prior to our visit). Contact Joe Sauerland if you'll be attending, and for ticket purchasing information joesauerland@comcast.net or 415-479-8442.

Branch 47's car enthusiasts meet for lunch on the 3rd. Tuesday of each month at Sam's Place Restaurant, 1545 South Novato Blvd., Novato. Meetings begin at 11:30 AM. If you enjoy motorcycles, vintage vehicles, automotive memorabilia, car shows, etc. the car enthusiasts' group is for you. Guests are always welcome, and owning a classic vehicle is not necessary.

Joe For more information contact Joe Sauerland at 415-479-8442 or joesauerland@comcast.net.

ACTIVITIES

Poetry Group

Poetry is a somewhat new but enjoyable experience for me. My academic degrees and teaching experiences during my academic career have focused on “Applied Mathematics”. That is why I chose to focus on something quite different, but very enjoyable, in retirement. I would like us to form a group to pursue poetry experiences at this time. This activity does not require experience with poetry, just an interest in the area. If you have an interest in joining us to pursue this activity, please contact me.

Jack Fuller

Telephone or text : 415-798-7322

Email: jfuller@wvu.edu

League Bocce

With league play over for the year we are conducting practices for the winter months which began on November 1st. These practices are at 10 am on both Tuesdays and Thursdays, weather permitting, as opposed to Wednesdays as we did last year. Bill Risch is organizing these practices. The cost to participate is \$15.00. We have had a very good turnout for the practices so far and we hope it continues throughout the winter months until league play resumes in late March. If you are interested and are not on Bill's list from last year, please contact him. His contact information is in the roster.

Jack Friesen, Bocce Chair

Jack Friesen, Bocce Chair

email: friesenjack7walter@aol.com



State Golf News

The final event of the season was the Monterey Week. There was a one day Individual play tournament at Monterey Pines on Monday on Nov. 2, followed by a 2 day tournament at BlackHorse/Bayonet at Fort Ord. These 2 days were 4man 2 best-ball events.

I want to thank all of the volunteers that helped make our 2025 tournaments operate smoothly.

Additional Information can be found on the State Golf website at www.sirgolf.org

Ben Gikis, 2025 State Golf Chairman

ACTIVITIES

Thursday 09:45 Walking/ Hiking Group

1st Thursday	Jake Solomon	415-472-3069
2nd Thursday	Mark Rudy	415-924-4219
3rd Thursday		
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.

**We will miss our dear friend Al Springstead who passed away in September.
We are still looking for a new leader to help organize future hikes.**

Chairman: Jake Solomon at j_solomon@comcast.net

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

Travel

The SIRSs Travel activities are primarily arranged by the the State organization. For example, check out the page on Multi-Branch travel. Kurt Heilman has agreed to be the Point of Contact for Branch 47, so the state activities can be distributed to the members of Branch 47.

Please check out the page in Tamal Talk about the current opportunities.

Glenn Breslin

SIR146 Travel Chair

glennbreslin@gmail.com

925-788-6520

Wine Tasting

We had a great wine tasting/party at my home on Oct. 24. Plenty of good wine and plenty of great snacks. We also talked about possible future events, and we have at least one in the pipeline. We're always looking to good suggestions.

Contact: Kurt Heilman

heilmanfour@comcast.net

415-892-2460

DECEMBER 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
30	1 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM 📅 18 HOLE GOLF 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM 📅 9 HOLE GOLF AT McINNIS GOLF PARK 11:30 AM - 2:00 PM 📅 BRANCH 47 FAMILY BOCCE	2	3	4 9:45 AM - 2:00 PM 📅 THURSDAY 09:45 WALKING/HIKING GROUP	5	6
7	8 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM 📅 18 HOLE GOLF 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM 📅 9 HOLE GOLF AT McINNIS GOLF PARK	9 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM BRANCH 47 ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY	10	11 9:45 AM - 2:00 PM 📅 THURSDAY 09:45 WALKING/HIKING GROUP	12 11:30 AM - 2:00 PM 📅 INVESTORS LUNCH BUNCH	13
14	15 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM 📅 18 HOLE GOLF 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM 📅 9 HOLE GOLF AT McINNIS GOLF PARK	16 11:30 AM - 2:00 PM 📅 Car Enthusiasts Lunch	17	18 9:45 AM - 2:00 PM 📅 THURSDAY 09:45 WALKING/HIKING GROUP	19	20
21	22 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM 📅 18 HOLE GOLF 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM 📅 9 HOLE GOLF AT McINNIS GOLF PARK	23	24	Christmas New Years	26	27
28	29 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM 📅 18 HOLE GOLF 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM 📅 9 HOLE GOLF AT McINNIS GOLF PARK	30	31		2	3

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



December Birthdays

Name	Years
Ken Blumenthal	69
Ted Vogelaar	70
John Eller	76
Rob Ruby	77
Reny Brown	79
Jim Purvis	79
Tom Culhane	80
Joe Sauerland	82
Jack Devlin	82
Ted Gaebler	84
Al Noxon	84
Norm Jensen	87
George Miller	89
Larry Breeze	94

December Anniversaries

Name	Years
Ed and Helen Sabrack	35
Don and Page Drummond	52
Paul and Judy Schofield	56
Tim and Sharon Leveque	57
Bill and Pat Bunderson	59
Bob and Leonor Gloistein	60