

Sons in Retirement



Volume 23 Issue 10

Web site <http://www.sir5.org>

October, 2010

Big SIR sez:

If you were not at the September luncheon, you missed a very educational and entertaining talk. The speakers, **Art Boudreault** and **Mike Bouldland**, spoke about the history of New Almaden, the mercury mine, and the surrounding area. Both gentlemen were dressed in period clothes and had lots of visual aids and anecdotes. These speakers are typical of the speakers that Little SIR, **John Geibel**, has brought in this year, and there are more to come. Come to the next luncheon on October 27 to hear another entertaining speaker.

I've changed the way we have been proceeding to the buffet table at our luncheons. We now direct one table at a time to the food line, thus avoiding the mass rush and long lines. The tables that are waiting their turn can remain seated and have more time for conversation. We've used this system at the summer barbeque, and at the August and September luncheons.

How do you like it? I would like your feedback. Should the new method be continued?

My thanks to Membership Chair, **Al Stratz**, and his committee of **Fred Van Kirk**, **Les Spring**, **Dan Haley**, and **Duane Stauffer**. They met to discuss recruiting methods for attracting new members to Branch 5. Their recommended actions were presented to the BEC, and discussed by Al Stratz at the September luncheon. Posters advertising Branch 5 will be placed where seniors gather. Al introduced a unique SIR Branch 5 business card that can be handed to a prospective new member. These cards have information about the luncheon date and time, and contact information for the member who is

inviting the guest. **Les Spring**, who has recruited many new members, has found them to be very effective. Personalized cards for each member will be distributed at the October luncheon.

Mark your calendars now for the November luncheon, which will be held on November 17. The officers for 2011 will be installed. Also, note that our annual Holiday Party will be held on Wednesday, December 15. Guests are invited to the Holiday Party, so plan ahead to ensure your attendance. More about this party next month.

Howard Trudeau
Big SIR

Lunch, Oct. 27th

Salads: Mixed Greens, Caesar, and Antipasto
Entrees: Beef Lasagna and Chicken Marsala
Dessert: Sherbet

SPEAKER **IS AMERICA** **IN DECLINE?**

Why talk of America's decline is once again misplaced

Presentation by Alex Kugushev

Agenda:

They doubt, they despair, some even hate America

Are they right? Are we in decline, or in transition?

Judging America on evidence, current and historical, not on emotion

Topics for discussion:

How vital and enduring is our culture? Access to opportunity and second chances, assuming risk and the American Dream; assimilating the im-

migrants; optimism

Does the stream of American inventiveness and creativity continue to flow? How lively are our instincts for innovation and problem solving?

How vigorous is our civic engagement? Is the community still central and dynamic? Do we continue to give and to help? Civic commitment

Do we believe in the rule of the law and do we defend individual rights? How do we compare to other societies

Morality, honesty and compassion

The Presenter:

Alexander Kugushev was born in France, and educated successively in Yugoslavia, Austria, Switzerland, and Argentina. The son of political émigrés, growing up in a Europe rent by conflicts between the two World Wars, he experienced a fair share of life's ups and downs. As a boy and into his early teens, he lived through World War II, the defining experience of his life. He is a journalist by trade and a publisher by profession, having published educational materials in the United States for over forty years, in print and on the internet. He was the founder and CEO of CyberGnostics, an online educational publisher. He is a committed naturalized American, speaks seven languages, and has traveled extensively throughout his life, at this point to over seventy countries. He has authored *Resilient America – An immigrant examines our nation's adaptive continuity* and lives in Menlo Park, in Northern California.

Attendance **Report**

September 22, Luncheon.

Continued—

A turnout of 44 members and 2 guests not counting the 2 speakers almost tied our lowest turnout of the year (43) so again we need to do better.

Our membership hasn't declined recently so what's the reason for the low turnout?? This theme seems to be repeated every month. Is it the speakers, the health of our membership the location of our luncheons or what. It can't be the food because Michael's does a good job every month at least from the folks I talk to. The price hasn't gone up and compared to other locations our price is better than most it not all other locations except maybe McDonald's.

You could change that by showing up next month so I'll see you then.

Ray Odell

Attendance Chairman

~~~~~

### Membership

September 22, 2010

In Memory of: None

New members: None

Membership Changes: None

Membership Status:

Active: \_\_\_\_\_ 96

Waiting: \_\_\_\_\_

Inactive: \_\_\_\_\_ 5 (2

no Bulletin)

Widows on mailing list: \_3

Current Mailing List:

128: 89 by email and 39 by snail mail.

Member Record Updates: None

Al Stratz ,

Membership Chairman

~~~~~

September Birthdays

Kenneth V. Christie 9/3

Donald W. Drews 9/23

Frank W. Herterich 9/20

Adel I. Nazzal 9/22

(editor's note: I missed these last month, but I DID have them, Al.)

October Birthdays

Saul Kravitz 10/02

Robert G. Cruzen 10/17

Stan C. Kazul 10/21

Howard D. Trudeau 10/27

Jeffry R. Denton 10/15

Harold F. Wellmerling 10/09

Edgar L. Huffstutler 10/08

Lloyd A. Lettis 10/15

Howard B. Hushbeck 10/19

Alfred W. Richmond 10/16

~~~~~

### Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Board

September 22, 2010

There being a quorum, Big SIR, Howard Trudeau, convened the meeting at 10:03 AM, at the Mountain View Shoreline Golf Course Pro Shop conference room.

The minutes of the August 25, 2010, meeting were approved without change.

It was noted by Big SIR that Senior Life Member, Al Gardner, was in attendance.

The following reports were submitted:

BIG SIR-Howard Trudeau: Due to ill health Art Schmid will be unable to assume the duties as Secretary until January, 2011. In his absence Asst. Secretary, Wayne Richter, and Fred Van Kirk will serve as Acting Secretaries.

Big SIR will be unable to attend The October BEC and luncheon meetings. In his absence, Little SIR, John Geibel will conduct both meetings.

Big SIR announced that he and our 2011 Little SIR Al Stratz will attend the State SIR Leaders' Training Event in Vallejo on October 19.

Big SIR called attention to the "Activities Section" of the State website, SIRINC.org for an update of Branch activities which all SIR members are welcome to attend.

TREASURER-Don Harryman: The Branch 5 cash balance as of August 31, was \$6,115.62. The cash balance at the start of 2010 was \$6,111.76.

2. A discussion was held regarding our cash reserve and how this reserve might be utilized for the betterment of the Branch. One suggestion was to provide paid entertainment for our summer Bar-B-Q and winter Christmas party. Other sugges-

tions are welcomed and should be passed on to Big SIR.

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN-Al Stratz:

There are currently 96 active members and 5 inactive members.

Our current mailing list indicates we are sending out 128 Newsletters per month, 89 by email and 39 by "snail" mail.

At the August BEC meeting Big SIR requested Al to form a committee to explore ways to increase our membership. A committee was appointed consisting of Dan Haley, Les Spring, Duane Stauffer, Fred Van Kirk and Al. Al presented the following suggestions: make posters that would be displayed at places where seniors gather giving basic information about SIR Branch 5; post notice of our meetings and speakers in local weekly newspapers, e.g. Los Altos Town Crier, etc; provide each member with business size cards that could be given to prospective members containing information regarding meeting place, time, date, etc. Sample cards were made available to the members at the September meeting. Any comments or suggestions will be appreciated.

ATTENDANCE CHAIRMAN-Ray Odell:

Our total attendance at the August meeting was 46 members and one guest.

Gordon Miller was placed on the inactive list.

SPECIAL PROJECTS AND GOOD SAMARITAN- Art Kraemer:

1. Art requested that anyone knowing of a member who is ill or is suffering a loss, should notify him and he will send a card.

No other business was brought before the BEC. A call for adjournment was moved, seconded and passed. Meeting adjourned at 11:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Van Kirk

"Acting Secretary"

~~~~~

GOLF

9-2 Sunnyvale

Adel Nazzal 88 net 67 cttp

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

| | |
|--------------|----------------|
| Jires Nazzal | 96 net 68 |
| Naim Nazzal | 97 net 76 cttp |
| Kamel Totah | 108 net 74 |
| Jere Austin | 106 net 76 |
| Azmi Habib | 113 net 77 |

9-9 Santa Clara

| | |
|----------------|------------|
| Howard Trudeau | 97 net 63 |
| Azmi Habib | 104 net 67 |
| Jere Austin | 104 net 67 |

| | |
|---------------|----------------|
| Jim Stevens | 92 net 66 |
| Naim Nazzal | 89 net 68 cttp |
| Jiries Nazzal | 97 net 69 |

9-16 Shoreline

| | |
|---------------|----------------|
| Jiries Nazzal | 96 net 68 |
| Naim Nazzal | 92 net 71 cttp |
| Adel Nazzal | 94 net 73 |

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Howard Trudeau | 103 net 70 |
| Jere Austin | 106 net 75 cttp |
| Azmi Habib | 115 net 78 |

9-23 Spring Valley

| | |
|----------------|------------|
| Howard Trudeau | 99 net 67 |
| Adel Nazzal | 88 net 68 |
| Wayne Richter | 108 net 73 |

9-30 Los Lagos

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Howard Trudeau | 95 net 63 |
| Wayne Richter | 108 net 72 |
| Azmi Habib | 109 net 73 cttp |

| | |
|-------------|-----------|
| Adel Nazzal | 86 net 65 |
| Jim Stevens | 92 net 68 |
| Naim Nazzal | 91 net 71 |
| Jere Austin | cttp |

~~~~~

**CompuSIR**

**Chairman,**

**Jim Dinkey, Branch 35**

**The CompuSIR group meets the second Wednesday of each month at noon for a brown bag lunch at the Los Altos Legion Hall , 347 First Street, Los Altos. The following**

**speakers are currently scheduled:**

**Topic:** *Can One Device Do It All? How Many Phones, Cameras, Tablets and Computers Do I Really Need?*

**Speaker:** Angela Hey, *technology columnist, Mountain View Voice:*

[< http://tinyurl.com/lmxdnu >](http://tinyurl.com/lmxdnu)

Angela Hey will describe the past, present and future of personal electronic devices, with case studies showing lessons learned from past successes and failures, and will predict how users from diverse market segments will use personal technology in the future.

Angela Hey is a technology columnist for the Mountain View Voice. She has been an industry analyst and worked in the wireless communications industry. She has degrees from Imperial College, Waterloo and Cambridge.

~~~~~

TRAVEL NEWS
FOR AREA 16,
BRANCHES 5, 35,
& 51

Still looking for a travel chairman, See BIG SIR.

~~~~~

**Bowling**  
**BRANCHES 5, 35,**  
**& 51**

**EVERY TUESDAY –**  
**HOMESTEAD LANES,**  
**HOMESTEAD AND**  
**STELLING,**  
**SUNNYVALE.**

BOWLING ART ENGLAND  
650-948-5828 [Anm\\_Eng@att.net](mailto:Anm_Eng@att.net)

Assistant: BOB

TAGGART Prizes: ROY ROBINSON

Play starts at 1pm - Practice lanes available at 12:50pm

Join us for the Summer/Fall Tournament. We bowl on a handicap system,

so all bowlers have an equal chance winning the team and individual prizes. Each season, teams are revised and always have a cross section of bowlers by ability. If you're new, it's easier if you call Art in advance so we will be prepared

Tournament High Scores through Sept. 14:

Highest "3 game series":

Tim Eastham: 623  
Chuck Huff: 482  
Bob Taggart: 453

Highest game:

Art England: 240  
Bill Nye: 188  
Jerry Ososkie: 174

Highest handicap "3 game series":

John Synder: 690  
Jerry Coe: 666  
Bill Webster: 626

Highest handicap game:

Arnie Satterlee: 250  
Earl Pampeyan: 250  
Fred Schwalbach: 250

~~~~~

Biking

Jerry Butler – (650)494-8078
GXB366@aol.com

2nd Thursday— Oct 14, 2010, 11:00 AM ; Wives ands guests welcome ; Rain cancels; Helmet required .

Location: Los Gatos Creek Trail: We will ride the rolling Los Gatos Creek Trail for about 7.5 miles from Blackford School to the town of Los Gatos for lunch. Then ride back for a total of about 15 miles.

Directions: Go South on I-280 (past Highway17) to Meridian; turn right. Go to Willow Street (the second stoplight); turn right. Take Willow until it dead-ends at Blackford Elementary School. Parking is available in the school parking lot and on neighborhood streets.

If you plan to ride or have questions, please reply to or contact

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

Jerry Butler, as per above, or contact Karl Reseck at (650) 941-8837, karl.reseck@stanfordalumni.org.

~~~~~

## California Sons in Retirement (SIRs) Part 2

August 6, 2010 by [Harry Hubinger](#)

*Second of a four-part series dealing with retirement.*

**Rob, our fictional hero, becomes bored after six months of retirement and begins to hunt around for stimulation. He meets a SIR (Sons in Retirement) group on the golf course and is invited to their next meeting.**

**Even when he awoke that morning, Rob wasn't sure if he would attend the SIR meeting he had been invited to. Certainly after meeting a few SIRs**

**on the putting green at the golf course and hearing about the organization, he felt like going with the flow. But now, as the time neared he wasn't so sure. He'd looked at the SIR web site and couldn't find a reason not to go. He had selected a branch website near to where he lived and liked the list of activities they had available for members. But, even so, he wasn't a joiner and hated to go to meetings where he didn't know anyone.**

**Are you going to that thing you talked to me about? his wife asked. Maybe, maybe not. Not sure. he replied.**

**Well if you don't go you'll need to find something around here for lunch. This is my card day, and I won't be around.**

**That settled it. Another homemade tuna lunch all alone was not what he had in mind. Guess I'll go. .... Part 2 is at <http://aliveeastbay.com/archives/california-sons-in-retirement-sirs/>**

### RESPONSIBILITY DECLARATION

All activities arranged for or by, or sponsored by, Sons In Retirement, Incorporated, and its Branches, are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their guests who desire to participate. Son In Retirement, Incorporated and its Branches do not assume responsibility for the well being or safety of the participants or their property, in any matters.

-2010-

State President: Floyd D. "Buck" Kendrick [BUCKKENDRICK@SBCGLOBAL.NET](mailto:BUCKKENDRICK@SBCGLOBAL.NET) 650-948-7470

Region Director: John Mason [JBMAISON832@COMCAST.NET](mailto:JBMAISON832@COMCAST.NET) (650) 948-5442

Area 16 Governor: Stanley Barkey [stan@stanbarkey.com](mailto:stan@stanbarkey.com) (408) 996-3133

**SONS IN RETIREMENT  
INCORPORATED  
SOUTHERN PENINSULA  
BRANCH 5**

Howard Trudeau Big Sir  
John J. Geibel, Little Sir  
Editor: Les Spring  
[4retselgni@sbcglobal.net](mailto:4retselgni@sbcglobal.net)

**ATTENDANCE**  
Raymond Odell  
(650) 366-7827

Fred Van Kirk  
534 Torwood Court  
Los Altos, CA 94022-2155

**PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE**

---