

# Sons in Retirement



Volume 28 Issue x

Web site <http://sirinc2.org/branch5/>

xxxx, 2016

## **Big SIR sez:**

We had another great speaker at our September meeting in Greg Horne. Greg is a SIR member and former Big SIR from Santa Cruz who spoke on climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro with his brother. His presentation was full of wonderful pictures of their ascent. We have Spencer Christian, the weather forecaster on KGO-TV and formerly of Good Morning America, as our October speaker. This is one meeting that you should not miss! Thanks to Al Stratz and Chris Vasquez for inviting these interesting speakers to our meetings.

We recently learned with great sadness that both Bob Fox, our Regional Director, and Creed Morgan, our Area Governor, have resigned due to health concerns. Both of these gentlemen have provided guidance and leadership to our branch and the eight other branches in our region. The meetings and training that they have conducted have been invaluable to our operations. Both Bob and Creed have come to our BEC and lunch meetings over the past few years and presented Senior SIR and Super Senior SIR awards to our members. We appreciate all they have done for Branch 5 and wish them all the best with our sincere thanks.

Our annual Holiday Party will be held on December 14<sup>th</sup> at Michaels. Please note that this is the second Wednesday in December. We will have individual signup flyers available at our October and November meetings. One change from the past is that we will request advance payment prior to the party. More details will be presented at the October meeting.

Thanks to Carl Orta for bringing

two guests to the last meeting. We enjoyed meeting them and hope they enjoyed the meal and the speaker. Please follow Carl's example and bring a friend to a meeting. They can't lose with a free meal and quality entertainment, plus they will make some new friends.

See you on October 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **Lunch 10/26/16 Noon**

#### **Salads:**

Spring Mix Greens  
Red Potato and Dill  
Three Bean

#### **Entrees:**

Snapper Monterey  
Meatloaf with Mushroom Sauce

#### **Dessert:**

Chocolate Mousse

*Gary*

\*\*\*\*\*

### **October Branch 5 Calendar**

- October 4 - Bocce at Los Altos - 2:00 PM
- October 6 - Golf at Sunnyvale - 9:30 AM
- October 12 - Bocce at Redwood City - 3:00 PM
- October 13 - Golf at Moffett - 9:30 AM
- October 19 - Bocce at Redwood City - 3:00 PM
- October 20 - Golf at Sunnyvale - 9:30 AM
- October 26 - Lunch at Michaels - 11:00 AM
- October 26 - Cards at Michaels - 1:30 PM
- October 27 - Golf at Los Lagos - 10:00 AM
- November 1 - Bocce at Los Altos - 2:00 PM

\*\*\*\*\*

## **SIR BRANCH 5 HOLIDAY PARTY**

**DECEMBER 14, 2016**

**SOCIAL TIME 11:30 AM  
LUNCH SERVED 12:00 PM**

**GUESTS AND SPOUSES INVITED**

**CHOICE OF FOUR ENTREES -  
PLEASE SELECT ONE AT  
REGISTRATION**

1. PORK LOIN ROAST, GREEN PEPPERCORN SAUCE
2. BREST OF CHICKEN, PORTOBELLO
3. BROILED SALMON, LEMON BEURRE BLANC
4. WILD MUSHROOM CREPES (VEGETARIAN)

LUNCHEES INCLUDE SEASONAL GREENS, VEGETABLES, POTATO DU JOUR, FRENCH ROLLS, AND VANILLA ICE CREAM WITH CRÈME DE MENTHE SAUCE

RAFFLE PRIZES

\$35.00 PER PERSON IN ADVANCE

**RESERVATION FORMS AT OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER MEETINGS**

GARY HORNBERGER (408) 264-5029 [gornberger@earthlink.net](mailto:gornberger@earthlink.net) or  
FOSTER KINNEY (650) 299-9479  
[fostertkinney@gmail.com](mailto:fostertkinney@gmail.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

## **SPEAKER**

### **Spencer Christian**

After more than 45 years in TV news, I still wouldn't trade jobs with anyone in the world. I've been a news reporter, sportscaster, talk show host, and weather forecaster. My assignments and travels have taken me to all 50 states and 5 continents. I've had the privilege of interviewing 5 presidents;

*Continued—*

the most prominent figures in sports, world affairs, and the arts; and, most memorably, ordinary people who have done extraordinary things. Of course, there have also been unsettling moments--reporting from hurricanes, floods, blizzards, earthquakes, virtually every natural calamity known to mankind --but I can't imagine any career path that would have been more enriching or rewarding.

As a news junkie in my early childhood, I read the newspaper every day to get my politics fix and to satisfy my burning curiosity about the world. But I also liked a dash of humor in my news recipe, so I enjoyed watching legendary TV journalists like David Brinkley and Walter Cronkite, who often added a wink and a smile to an otherwise "hard news" broadcast.

In college during the late 1960s, my love of language and literature led me to major in English, while choosing to minor in journalism. I also played varsity baseball and had a Major League tryout in my junior year. It was clear, though, that my journalistic skills exceeded my baseball talent; so I wisely followed my nose for news.

I began my career as a news reporter in 1971, at the NBC TV affiliate in Richmond, VA, just 25 miles from my childhood home. Aside from general assignment reporting and lighthearted features, my regular "beat" included state and local politics, the federal courts, and education. I could not have forecast then that weather would be my ticket to the big time. But, following a two-week stint "filling in" on weather, I became the station's main weather person; and by the mid-1970s, after a brief stop at the NBC station in Baltimore, I was on my way to WABC-TV in New York. Skies were looking sunny!

I spent 9 years at WABC, serving first as weatherman, then morning show host, and finally main sportscaster. During all of those years, I made frequent appearances on ABC's Good Morning America, filling in on weather and doing feature reports and interviews. In 1986, I joined GMA full time as weather forecaster, feature reporter, and guest host. Over the next 13 years, I not only travelled the world, but I also

served as spokesperson for ABC's literacy campaign, wrote and published a series of children's books, and had the opportunity to indulge my passion for wine as the host of "Spencer Christian's Wine Cellar", which aired on HGTV and later on the Food Network from 1995 to 2000.

After 22 years in New York, I heard the Bay Area--and the wine country--calling my name. ABC7 has been my home since 1999, and I now get to test my forecasting skills for the Bay Area's micro-climates. In my time away from work, I enjoy visiting wineries, watching baseball (or just about any sport), working out at the gym, and doing community service. But my greatest joy is spending time with my son and daughter, Jason and Jessica. We enjoy sports events and wine tastings together; and, after all these years, they still laugh at my jokes.

Having been blessed with so many memorable career experiences, I find it difficult to name just a few, but here's a short list:

Interviewing then-Senator Barack Obama just before he announced his candidacy for President

Emceeding former President Jimmy Carter's 75th birthday celebration in Americus, GA, in 1999 .

Surviving and reporting from the Loma Prieta earthquake in 1989, while on World Series assignment for Good Morning America .

Suiting up and playing baseball with the NY Yankees and NY Mets in spring training .

Playing basketball against the Harlem Globetrotters in a charity game at Madison Square Garden .

\*\*\*\*\*

## Attendance Report

September 28, 2016

34 Members

2 Guests

1 Speaker

37

Howard Trudeau for Tom Donahue

\*\*\*\*\*

## Membership

No data received

\*\*\*\*\*

## Roster Changes

No data received

\*\*\*\*\*

## October Birthdays

Oct 9 Harold F. Wellmerling

Oct 12 Chris E. Vasquez

Oct 15 Lloyd A. Lettis

Oct 23 Albert T. Donahue

Oct 27 Howard D. Trudeau

Oct 31 Shum Mukherjee

Oct 31 Roy C. Dreisbach

\*\*\*\*\*

## SUMMARY OF BRANCH 5 Executive Board MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 28, 2016

Members Don Harryman and Harold Wellmerling have resigned. Branch membership is now 61. Our year-end goal is 63.

Eleven guests/potential members have attended luncheons so far this year, six of whom have joined and have been inducted, 1.8 guests per new member. All members are encouraged to bring a potential member to lunch to experience our excellent food and great speakers.

As of 31 August, the Treasury balance was \$1610.23, a decline of \$639.56 for the year. We are approaching the \$1500.00 minimum balance required by Chase Bank for free accounts. The monthly account fee will be \$10.00.

Spencer Christian, the ABC Channel 7 weatherman, will be our speaker at the October meeting.

No-shows at the Summer Barbeque cost the Branch \$100. This has been a continuing problem at our two social events. A proposal to require advance payment for the Christmas Party was approved. Big SIR will announce this at the luncheon. Sign-ups for the Christmas Party will begin at the October meeting.

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

~~~~~

**GOLF September**

**Sunnyvale golf**

**9-1-16**

|                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Jiries Nazzal   | 99 net 66        |
| Richard McGrath | 82 net 71        |
| Howard Trudeau  | 108 net 73       |
| Jim Stevens     | 102 net 74       |
| Greg Kemist     | 89 net 75        |
| Jere Austin     | 110 net 75       |
| Mark Castro     | 98 net 76 CTTTP  |
| Norm Nazzal     | 99 net 76        |
| Charles Shamieh | 129 net 94 CTTTP |
| Anwar Dughman   | 131 net 96       |
| Ching Hwang     | 884              |

**Shoreline golf**

**9-8-16**

|                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Jim Stevens     | 91 net 63        |
| Shum Mukherjee  | 93 net 66        |
| Jiries Nazzal   | 105 net 72       |
| Richard McGrath | 84 net 73        |
| Greg Kemist     | 87 net 73        |
| Mark Castro     | 95 net 73        |
| Howard Trudeau  | 109 net 74 CTTTP |
| Norm Nazzal     | 98 net 75        |
| Jere Austin     | 112 net 77       |
| Azmi Habib      | 128 net 93       |
| Ching Hwang     | 99 CTTTP         |

**Sunnyvale golf**

**9-15-16**

|                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Richard McGrath | 75 net 64        |
| Gary Hornberger | 90 net 69 CTTTP  |
| Jere Austin     | 106 net 71       |
| Shum Mukherjee  | 98 net 72        |
| Mark Castro     | 103 net 80 CTTTP |
| Jim Stevens     | 109 net 83       |
| Azmi Habib      | 121 net 86       |
| Charles Shamieh | 129 net 94       |
| Ching Hwang     | 96               |

**Los Lagos golf**

**9-22-16**

|                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Jiries Nazzal   | 93 net 61       |
| Richard McGrath | 74 net 63       |
| Gary Hornberger | 84 net 63       |
| Howard Trudeau  | 104 net 70      |
| Carl Orta       | 104 net 72      |
| Jim Stevens     | 100 nwt73 CTTTP |
| Jere Austin     | 109 net 74      |
| Mark Castro     | 98 net 76       |
| Azmi Habib      | 115 net 80      |
| Charles Shamieh | 123 net 88      |
| Anwar Dughman   | 140 net 105     |
| Ching Hwang     | 88 CTTTP        |

**Moffett Field golf**

**9-29-16**

|                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Richard McGrath | 81 net 70 CTTTP  |
| Mark Castro     | 95 net 71        |
| Howard Trudeau  | 110 net 74       |
| Jiries Nazzal   | 108 net 75       |
| Carl Orta       | 109 net 75       |
| Phil Yurtis     | 103 net 77       |
| Gary Hornberger | 100 net 78 CTTTP |
| Jere Austin     | 115 net 78       |
| Norm Nazzal     | 107 net 83       |
| Jim Stevens     | 111 net 83       |
| Azmi Habib      | 123 net 86       |
| Ching Hwang     | 100              |

~~~~~

**MAC Group**

**MAC users should contact W.A. Ross, <waross@closeareach.com> (aka Skip) for information on this group.**

~~~~~

**Bocce Ball**

Foster Kinney is reserving the two bocce courts at Red Morton Park in Redwood City (1400 Roosevelt) on the second & third Wednesdays from 3:00 to 5:00 PM for members of SIR-5 and their guests. We also play at the Los Altos Senior Center at Hillview at 2 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month.

We have enough bocce balls for 8 players, so there is plenty of room, and the cost is FREE!

Please contact Foster 650-299-9479, or email [fostertkinney@gmail.com](mailto:fostertkinney@gmail.com) (note the extra "t") to tell him you are coming to Redwod City or Carl Orta , 650-868-5221, [carlcal54@sbcglobal.net](mailto:carlcal54@sbcglobal.net) if you are coming to Los Altos.

~~~~~

**Tennis:**

Tennis group meets Mondays and Thursdays at Rinconada Park, 777 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto, at 8:00 a.m. when doubles are formed. Late arrivals will play as sets are completed. Skill level is about 2.5. Contact is Bob Kamin, 650-322-4300.

~~~~~

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

Still looking for a travel chairman. See BIG SIR. You can read the State SIR newsletter called SIR HAPPENINGS at the state website [www.sirinc.org/sirhappenings/](http://www.sirinc.org/sirhappenings/), which includes travel news from other branches .

~~~~~

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

**EVERY TUESDAY, HOMESTEAD LANES, HOMESTEAD AND STELLING, CUPERTINO, 1:00 p.m.**

**Co-Chairmen:**

Bob Taggart  
[cbtaggart@earthlink.net](mailto:cbtaggart@earthlink.net)  
650-321-2654 &  
Doug Anderson  
[marktintl@aol.com](mailto:marktintl@aol.com)  
415-407-4000

**Prizes: Alan Gaudie**

There were numerous position-changes in the final week and the Fall Session is just starting. There are immediate positions for new bowlers. Our immediate goal: **More women Bowler-sin** . The cost is \$15 per week.

~~~~~

**Biking**

**Jim Lunt, 408-252-6804**  
**[jamesdlunt@yahoo.com](mailto:jamesdlunt@yahoo.com)**  
**Cell ----(408) 921-5085**

**SIR BICYCLE RIDES**

The SIR Branch 35 monthly bicycling is a combined activity with all SIR Branches in Area 16. The objectives of the monthly rides are to continue to promote fellowship, share experiences, get some exercise and above all, have FUN! Planned SIR rides are announced in each SIR Monthly Newsletter and by

(Continued on page 4)

*(Continued from page 3)*

email to all interested members. The rides are on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Wives and guest are welcome. All that a bicyclist needs are a bike, bicycling helmet, and a jacket or vest, if it is windy. Rain will cancel the planned ride. We ask that all participants exhibit a positive attitude, exercise good judgment when riding such as maintaining a safe distance between riders, obeying all traffic signs and stop lights, etc.

**2nd Thursday— October 13, 2016, 11:00 AM**  
**Wives and guests welcome**  
**Rain cancels; Helmet required**  
**Stevens Creek Trail & Shoreline Park**  
**(Mountain View)**

**Ride:** We will ride a flat 14-mile round-trip to Michael’s Restaurant in Shoreline Park, plus an

optional 5-mile loop to the Palo Alto Duck Pond, near the Palo Alto Airport (a total ride of 19 miles). Lunch will be at Michael’s.

**Directions:** Meet at the south end of the Stevens Creek bike path at the corner of Sleeper Ave. and Franklin Ave. From Palo Alto, go south on El Camino, to Grant Rd.; turn right. The first street past the 3<sup>rd</sup> traffic signal is Sleeper Ave.; turn left. Go 8 blocks to the end of Sleeper Ave. to a small park. Park your car along the curb.

**To ride or for info, contact James Dell Lunt (408) 252-6804, [jamesdlunt@yahoo.com](mailto:jamesdlunt@yahoo.com) or Gordon Tong (408-242-0557) [gordy6850@gmail.com](mailto:gordy6850@gmail.com)**

**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.

-2016-

State President: Donald Dill, [donaldadill@sbcglobla.net](mailto:donaldadill@sbcglobla.net), 530-885-6948  
Region Director: TBA  
Area 16 Governor: TBA

**SONS IN RETIREMENT**  
**INCORPORATED**  
**SOUTHERN PENINSULA**  
**BRANCH 5**  
Gary Hornberger Big Sir  
Foster Kinney, Little Sir  
Editor: Les Spring  
[4retselgni@sbcglobal.net](mailto:4retselgni@sbcglobal.net)

**ATTENDANCE**  
Tom Donahue  
408-532-7274

Gary Hornberger  
2661 Thrasher Lane  
San Jose, CA 95125

**PLACE**  
**STAMP**  
**HERE**