

# Sons in Retirement



Volume 29 Issue 4

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

April, 2017

## **Big SIR sez:**

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"Did you see the bear?" . . . APRIL FOOL! I hope you had fun with April Fool tricks, and celebrating the April 1 birthday of our own Phil Yurtis!

The Full Moon for April is the **Pink Moon**, which heralds the appearance of the moss pink, or wild ground phlox—one of the first spring flowers. Check it out on April 10 and then come on down to our monthly lunch on Wednesday, April 26 to hear Tom Gregory talk about drones and their increasing presence in our lives. After lunch will be our Orientation to SIR, presented by Phil Yurtis. We especially invite our recent new members - Richard McGrath, Peter Brooks, Charles Shamieh, Anwar Dughman, Ching Hwang, Mark Castro, Chuck Cali and Jerry Ely. Say "Hi" and welcome them to our Branch 5. Anyone who wants to know more about SIR is also invited to attend.

Our Birthday winner for April is Don Andrews. We welcome him with a free lunch.

Our bi-monthly gathering of Big SIRs and Little SIRs of branches within Region 5 will be held at the Qube in San Mateo on April 28. We will be welcoming Duncan MacVicar, Big SIR of Branch 35, as our new Director for Region 5, which covers the Peninsula between San Francisco and San Jose. He takes over from Bob Fox and he will be coming to our Branch soon.

We recently learned that Russ Currier passed away on March 18. I am glad that some of our members were able to attend his Memorial Service at Alta Mesa Memorial Park in Palo Alto on

March 30.

Our new Lunch-ending Raffle actually went quite well and the winner was Les Spring. Remember, you must show that you have your SIR Business Card in your wallet in order to win. The prize is a decorated Wine Cork made by our own wood turner, JW Whittier.

### **Lunch 4/24: Noon**

#### **Salads**

Spinach with Eggs and Mushrooms  
Tomato and Cucumber, Vinaigrette  
Three Bean

#### **Entrees**

Beef Lasagna  
Crab and Shrimp Cannelloni

#### **Dessert**

Ice Cream

Our committee will begin meeting this month to plan our popular July 26 Summer Barbeque - Gary Hornberger, Richard MacGrath, Greg Kemist, Roy Driesbach and me. Duane Stauffer will be our MC. If you have some suggestions, talk to any of us. Save the date, July 26. This is co-ed, so plan to bring your wife or significant other. We will again be paying in advance, \$30.00 per person. Greg Kemist will be handling that.

We will be starting a Hiking Group. Shum Mukherjee and Bob Merk will be spearheading. More about that at our Monthly Lunch. Meanwhile, enjoy our weekly golf, our first and third Tuesday bocce and we will see you at Michaels on April 26.

Foster Kinney, Big SIR  
[fostertkinney@gmail.com](mailto:fostertkinney@gmail.com)

## **April Branch 5 Calendar**

- April 4 - Bocce at Los Altos - 2:00 PM
- April 6 - Golf at Sunnyvale - 9:30 AM
- April 13 - Golf at Shoreline - 9:30 AM
- April 18 - Bocce at Los Altos - 2:00 PM
- April 20 - Golf at Moffett - 9:30 AM
- April 26 - Lunch Meeting at Michaels
- April 26 - Cards at Michaels - After Lunch Meeting
- April 27 - Golf at Los Lagos - 10:00 AM
- May 2 - Bocce at Los Altos - 2:00 PM

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## **SPEAKER**

### **Drones: Love'em or Hate'em**

By Tom Gregory

Tom graduated from Cal Berkeley and retired from NASA-Ames Research Center after 37 years where he worked with the wind tunnels, simulators, computers, and flight test aircraft. Much of that work was on remotely piloted vehicles (RPVs) or "drones" as they are called now. He is currently studying and flying quad copters with interest in package delivery. He will discuss this exciting field and the concerns of citizens, regulators and entrepreneurs. The presentation will use slides and videos of quad-copters, hybrid winged quad-copters and other concepts. Several aircraft will be on display including some flown with virtual reality goggles that use an on board video camera and a transmitter to let you feel as if you are in the vehicle. The presentation will cover a little history, some contemporary civilian and military "drones", as well as a glimpse into possible future aircraft.

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## **Attendance Report**

Continued—

40 members  
1 speaker  
1 guest  
42

**The following 5 members have 10 years or more perfect attendance :**

Paul Butler  
Cal Cook  
Peter LoPresto  
Jack Raymond  
Les Spring

**Perfect attendance for 2016:**

Russ Currier  
Dean Johnson  
Jim Stevens  
Al Stratz



**Membership**

Russ Currier passed away in March



**Roster Changes**

Sooahoo - Change phone to  
(408) 529-6511  
Ching Hwang - change email to  
[huang111@gmail.com](mailto:huang111@gmail.com)



**April Birthdays**

1 Philip Yurtis  
14 James Andrews



**SUMMARY OF BRANCH 5 Executive Board MINUTES**

SIR Branch 5  
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes  
March 22, 2017- 10:00 AM  
Call to order - The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m.  
Confirm quorum of six Board members - A quorum was confirmed. In attendance were Chris Vasquez - Secretary, Roy Dreisbach - Little Sir, Foster Kinney - Big Sir, Paul Butler - Membership Chair, Fred Van Kirk - Guest, Al Stratz - Speaker Chair, Pete LoPresto - Treasurer, Don Andrews - Assistant Treasurer, Carl Orta - Director,

Gary Hornberger - Activities Director, Dan Haley - Greeter, Tom Donahue - Attendance Chair, Phil Yurtis, Les Spring – Newsletter Chair.

Additions or correction to minutes of February 22, 2017 BEC meeting and approval - The minutes were approved with the acknowledgment that Foster’s name was misspelled.

Introduction of Visitors and Guests - Fred Van Kirk was introduced as a guest.

**Big SIR reports:**

2017 is the Asian Year of the Rooster - Anything we can do with our Rooster to capitalize on this? Post Office has Rooster stamps - Foster displayed a page of rooster stamps, which he will be using for correspondence during the year of the rooster.

Guests - Any guests for Lunch? - There were no guests scheduled for today's lunch. Foster will continue to encourage membership to bring guests.

There are no inductions this month. It was announced that Russell Currier passed on March 18th. Foster mentioned that there would be a memorial at AltaVista on March 30<sup>th</sup>, Thursday at 1 p.m. Some members of the BEC said they would try to go. Foster said he would announce this at the luncheon. Gary asked Les Spring to put a picture in the newsletter. Gary also said Greg will send a card.

New Member Orientation after the April Meeting - Foster reported that the new member orientation presentation is being updated. Foster stated that Phil Yurtis would be giving the presentation to the new members after the April meeting. Foster said that he would get Phil the list of the new members. Foster stated it would be good for the BEC members to attend as well. Foster said that he is going to do a monthly raffle with prizes going to those members whose tickets are drawn and who bring their recruiting cards.

Why SIR? This Branch has good food and good speakers. Invite your friends - Foster reiterated that our branch has great food and great speakers and encouraged everyone to invite their friends.

Secretary’s Report – Chris Vasquez - Chris reported out that the secretary training that he attended last month was

great. He touched upon what he learned and said he enjoyed meeting other branch secretaries and sharing information.

Gary’ Foster, and Roy also said they attended. All said that they enjoyed the training and received good information.

Treasurer’s Report and approval – Pete LoPresto - Pete reported our income of \$1130. Expenses amounted to \$770 with a gain of \$360. Pete reported that the year to date gain was \$1306.53. Pete also reported that as of today there are 8 unpaid members. A copy of the treasurer’s report is attached. Pete stated that 54 of 62 members have paid.

There was a discussion regarding calling members for meeting reminders. General feedback was that they really appreciate it and it is also a good way to find out about their status.

Pete also passed out the 2017 forecast versus YTD actuals that is attached. The total income items forecast is \$15,545. The actual income items to date are \$3290. The forecasted expense items are \$15,376. The actual expense items to date are \$1983.47.

All agreed that we are tracking well. Committee Reports:

Attendance – Tom Donahue - Tom reported that attendance at our last meeting was 33 with one guest and one speaker. Tom reported that five members are over 10 years perfect attendance including Paul Butler, Cal Cook, Pete LoPresto, Jack Raymond and Les Spring. Tom reminded everyone to make sure they put correct badge numbers on the sign in sheets. Gary stated that in the past he handed out ribbons for perfect attendance. Tom and Gary will work together to identify names of members, and Gary volunteered to procure the ribbons.

Bulletin – Les Spring - Les reported that the newsletter deadline remains at the end of the first week of the month or seven days into the month. He stated that he sends one reminder, and then publishes the newsletter. Foster asked if the schedule of events goes into the newsletter and Les responded yes, if he receives it. Roy stated that he will do the monthly birthdays and Paul said that he would send this information to Roy. It was encouraged to send this information as well to Les so that he

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has the birthdays for the year and he can publish. Gary also volunteered to send Russell's picture to the Webmaster for publication.

Membership - Paul Butler - Paul passed out the membership report, which is attached. Report shows 62 members, with one inactive. Al reported that a couple of members have incorrect phone numbers.

Golf - Gary for Howard Trudeau - Gary reported that golf continues and Las Lagos has dried out.

New Member Orientation - Foster reported that the new member orientation presentation is being updated. Phil Yurtis will be giving the presentation to the new members after the April meeting. Foster said that he would get Phil the list of the new members. Foster said it would be good for the BEC members to attend as well. Foster said that he is going to do a monthly raffle with the prize going to those who bring their recruiting cards.

Speakers - Al Stratz - Al reported that Captain Carl Stewart would be speaking today. He said that he is a retired active reserve member and will talk about the Freedom Flight program. Al agreed that it would be a good idea for our veterans to come forward and make arrangements to take advantage of this. Foster stated that his brother-in-law participated in the program and really enjoyed it. Foster asked Al about the Los Altos Symphony speaker possibility and suggested that the speaker speak before the June concert, possibly in May. A suggestion was given to Al on securing a speaker on how to prevent falling.

Activities - Carl Orta - Carl said that bocce is set for the first and third Tuesdays of the month as weather permits.

Other activities - Gary reported the examination of a hiking group. Gary said that Branch 35 has a group that's very active. He said that if there is interest, they might alternate, with bocce the first and third week and possibly hiking the second and fourth week. Gary will report back on how this goes and said that he will also send information to Les for the bulletin.

Gary reported there would be cards today.

Foster passed out Form 27 for February, attached, which shows 62 active

members.

Old Business:

Report on announcements in local papers - Foster said it's important to get the word out regarding SIRS and mentioned the possibility of venues like a senior fair where information can be promulgated. Carl reminded Foster that he has been sending announcements to newspapers such as the Los Altos Town Crier. Chris stated that he'll call Paul Krug to find out how he did this, check on any archives and will work with Carl to get information out to newspapers. Gary suggested Chris ask for Paul's Secretary badge as well.

New Business:

No new business

The meeting was adjourned at 11:24 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Vasquez

Secretary

SIR Branch 5

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### March Golf

#### Sunnyvale golf course

3-2-17

|                 |            |
|-----------------|------------|
| Rlchard McGrath | 76 net 68  |
| Jim Stevens     | 96 net     |
| 68 CTPP         |            |
| Mark Castro     | 103 net 76 |
| Jiries Nazzal   | 109 net 77 |
| Jere Austin     | 112 net 77 |
| Phil Yurtis     | 103 net 78 |
| Howard Trudeau  | 115 net 80 |
| Shum Mukherjee  | 102 net 82 |
| Naim Nazzal     | 111 net 85 |
| Azmi Habib      | 124 net 89 |
| CTTP            |            |
| Charles Shamieh | 133 net 98 |

### Shoreline Golf Course

3-9-17

|                 |             |
|-----------------|-------------|
| Richard McGrath | 76 net 68   |
| CTTP            |             |
| Jiries Nazzal   | 104 net 71  |
| Mark Castro     | 99 net 72   |
| Howard Trudeau  | 114 net 77  |
| Jim Stevens     | 110 net 80  |
| Azmi Habib      | 121 net 84  |
| Jere Austin     | 124 net 87  |
| CTTP            |             |
| Charles Shamieh | 137 net 100 |
| Anwar Dughman   | 138 net 101 |
| Shum Mukherjee  | 45/9        |

### Moffett Field golf

3-16-17

|                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Mark Castro     | 97 net 69 CTPP |
| Phil Yurtis     | 99 net 73      |
| Richard McGrath | 84 net 76 CTPP |
| Jim Stevens     | 110 net 81     |
| Howard Trudeau  | 119 net 82     |
| Gary Hornberger | 105 net 84     |
| Azmi Habib      | 126 net 89     |

### Los Lagos golf

3-23-17

|                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Richard McGrath | 80 net 72       |
| Gary Hornberger | 93 net 73       |
| Phil Yurtis     | 100 net 76      |
| Jim Stevens     | 104 net 76      |
| Mark Castro     | 104 net 77 CTPP |
| Jere Austin     | 120 net 85      |
| Howard Trudeau  | 127 net 92 CTPP |

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### MAC Group

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

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### Bocce Ball

Bocce ball play in Los Altos: all members/guests/spouses are welcome, we play from 2:00 to 4:00 pm, and it's free. There is no residency requirement. The courts are at the Hillview senior center, next to Room 10, 97 Hillview Ave. For 2017 we are going to play on the FIRST and THIRD Tues. of each month; the dates for next games are Feb. 7 and 21, Mar. 7 and 21, April 4 and 18. We plan to keep the Redwood City courts as a back-up venue as needed, on the third Wed. of each month from 3:00 to 5:00 pm. Come join us, stay active and learn a new sport.

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### 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

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level is about 2.5. Contact is Bob Kamin, 650-322-4300.

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**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 .

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

EVERY TUESDAY,  
HOMESTEAD LANES,  
HOMESTEAD AND  
STELLING,  
CUPERTINO

(BRANCHES 5, 35 & 51) We bowl on a handicap system, so all have an equal chance. Each season teams are revised and always have a mix of players by ability. Be there by **12.45**. New bowlers are always welcome at any level of experience. If you're new, it's easier if you call me in advance so we will be prepared.

TIM EASTHAM (366-2449)

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**Biking**

**SIRS ON BIKES:** SIR Area #16 bike rides regularly start at 11:00 AM the **2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month.** Wives and Guests are welcome. **Bring bike, helmet and a jacket if it is windy. Rain will cancel.** Attendance averages 10-15 riders. More are welcome. Rides are planned to be 15-20 miles on paved bicycle trails (so that almost any type of bike is usable) with some optional ride distances. The pace is moderate and riding on streets is kept to a minimum and includes a restaurant lunch

break. Participants should exercise good judgment such as maintaining a safe distance between riders, obeying all signs and stoplights etc.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday April 13th – 11:00 AM Foster City Bay Trail**

**Ride:** We will ride the flat Foster City Bay Trail for about 10 miles from the Oracle Headquarters to the Poplar Creek Golf Club at Coyote Point for lunch, and then return (approximately 20 miles round trip). It might be windy, so bring a jacket or windbreaker.

**Directions:** Get off Highway 101 at Marine Parkway/ Ralston. Turn right on Marine Parkway, then an immediate left onto Oracle Parkway. The meeting point is a tree-shaded parking lot with restrooms to the left of this intersection. If the parking lot there is full, backtrack over the creek to 401-501 Island Parkway and park in the Oracle lot. Ride your bike across the pedestrian bridge to the meeting point.

**COME RIDE WITH US**

**To Ride or More Info: CONTACT**  
**CHAIRMAN** Jim [jamesdlunt@yahoo.com](mailto:jamesdlunt@yahoo.com) 408-242-0557  
**ALTERNATE** Gordon Tong\_408-252-6804  
[gordy6850@gmail.com](mailto:gordy6850@gmail.com)



Our dear departed fellow SIR, Russ Currier. 1925-2017. We shall miss you.

**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.

-2017-

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Region 5 Director: Duncan MacVicar  
Area 16 Governor: TBA

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

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