

# Sons in Retirement



Volume 29 Issue 3

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

March, 2017

## **Big SIR sez:**

Welcome to March. Daylight Savings Time returns on Sunday, March 12 and it will be accompanied by a full moon. ( This is known as the Sap Moon, as it marks the time when maple sap begins to flow and the annual tapping of maple trees begins.) Spring begins on Monday, March 20. Then come on down to Michaels for our monthly lunch on Wednesday, March 22 and hear Captain Carl Stewart, SC, USN, (Ret.) tell us about the thrill of the Honor Tour to Washington, DC. for the purpose of honoring World War II Veterans with a tour of the city and its War Memorials, especially the World War II Memorial with its presentation for each state.

Last month we heard Horace Hines tell us about Geology from the Pacific to the Rockies. We found out why there is a coastal range followed by the Great Valley, breadbasket to the whole world, and then the Sierras. And how the rounded Sierra granite mountain tops (like Half Dome) were formed, and what forces created the Rockies.

And in between our meetings, enjoy your time with other SIR members playing golf every Thursday, bocce on the first and third Tuesdays at the Los Altos Senior Center at 2:00 PM and cards after our monthly lunch meeting.

With pleasure I report that the 2017 Branch 5 Bocce season has

now begun. The Los Altos courts were rained out in January and February, but we were able to play at Redwood City on February 15. So, plan to join us and bring a friend. This is a co-ed opportunity and ladies are always welcome. Meanwhile, a letup in the rain has allowed the golf year to also begin, except that Los Lagos was under 2 feet of flood water on February 23, so plan on a visit to the links every Thursday, weather permitting!

I attended the gathering of the Big SIRS and Little SIRS of our Area 5, covering from north of San Jose to South San Francisco, on February 17, where we shared ideas for improving our branches. I will be chairman of this group on April 28, as there is not yet a manager for our Area. Also, many of our offic-

### **Lunch 3/22: Noon**

- Salads
- Spinach with Eggs and Mushrooms
- Caesar
- Three Bean
- Entrees
- Snapper Monterey
- Sirloin Tips
- Dessert
- Ice Cream

ers attended the officer-training session on February 24 put on by our State Organization. This is an annual event, put on early in the year to help plan activities for our branches for the coming year.

Yes, we have great food and great speakers monthly here at SIR

Branch 5. So bring a friend and we will even buy his lunch!

See you on March 22!

*Foster Kinney*

Big SIR

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### **March Branch 5 Calendar**

No Data Received

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### **SPEAKER**

Carl Stewart grew-up in Bakersfield, CA, graduated from Cal Poly-SLO and USC schools of engineering

- Retired, Navy Reserve Supply Corps Captain, served 30 years, last command tour was the Navy Supply Center-Pearl Harbor, last Navy unit assignment was Office of Naval Research-Naval Post-graduate School, Monterey
- Last deployment 2007 Forward Logistics Commander, Operation Enduring Freedom Iraq

- Currently, Industrial Sales Manager for General Electric Energy Management service division for northern California and Hawaii, also Co-chairs General Electric Veterans Network Unit
- Lives in Pacific Grove with wife of 35 years

Time is of the Essence — In 5-7 years almost all of our World War II Veterans will be gone. This tour is their "last hurrah", the last time they will be recognized as the conquering victors that collectively and literally saved the world.

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### **Attendance Report, 2/22**

33 members

1 guest

1 speaker

35 total

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### **Membership**

No Data Received

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**Roster Changes**

None reported

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**April Birthdays**

April 1, Phil Yurtis  
April 14, Don Andrews

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**SUMMARY OF  
BRANCH 5  
Executive Board  
MINUTES**

**February 22, 2017– 10:00 AM**

1. Call to order – the meeting was called to order at 10 a.m.
2. Confirm quorum of six Board members - A quorum was present. In attendance were Chris Vasquez, Carl Orta, Roy Dreisbach, Paul Butler, Gary Hornberger, Pete LoPresto, Foster Kinney, Albert Stratz, and Greg Kemist .
3. Additions or correction to minutes of January 25, 2017 – Foster highlight the misspelling of a name in the minutes. The minutes were approved with that comment.
4. Introduction of Visitors and Guests – Fred Van Kirk was introduced as a guest
5. Big SIR reports:
  - a. Foster stated we needed a motion that all activities for 2017 in the Roster and the Newsletter are approved by the BEC. He stated this is needed to satisfy SIR insurance coverage.

It was so moved and approved by the BEC.

b. Big SIR attended Region 5 meeting in San Mateo on Feb. 17 - Foster reported this meeting was successful.

c. Officer Training, 1300 S. El Camino, San Mateo, Friday, February 24, morning or afternoon sessions for all officers - Foster reported that there is officer training this coming Friday and the information has been previously sent. Foster encouraged all of the applicable officers to go.

d. Why SIR? This Branch has good food and good speakers. Invite your friends. - Foster reiterated that he would be communicating that this branch has good food and good speakers and encourage the membership to invite their friends during the meetings.

6. Secretary’s Report – Chris Vasquez - Chris had no items to report.
7. Treasurer’s Report and approval – Pete LoPresto - Pete reported income is \$2160 and expenses were \$1213.47. Pete stated the gain was \$946.53. He said the dues paid to date are \$1,110. This equates to 74% of members paid. Pete reported that 14 members are still unpaid and one may possibly drop. There was a discussion about the summary of the minutes to still continue to go to the newsletter. It was decided that budget detail would continue to not be reported in the newsletter. (Budget detail attached)
  - a. Proposed Budget for 2017 – Pete passed out and spoke to the proposed budget forecast

for SIR-5. During the discussion, Pete highlighted he had liquor that he planned to donate to some events. There were appreciative comments from the board. The forecasted budget was approved. (Forecast attached) Foster inquired of Chris if his band might be interested in playing for an event, and Chris responded he would check with his band mates. Foster stated that Greg Kemist would be the administrative assistant to the president to handle some administrative duties. He stated Greg would continue to procure get-well cards and also handle other various administrative duties. Members can request cards to be sent via an email to Greg. It was decided that Greg would send any bills associated with procurement of cards to Pete for disposition.

There was discussion about allowing members who have assistants (who assist in mobility) to accompany them to meetings. It was reiterated that this is fine and the assistant will be the guest of the member who they assist.

8. Committee Reports:
  - Attendance** – Tom Donahue - Tom was not in attendance. Foster reported for Tom that we had 43 members in attendance at the last January meeting and one guest.
  - Membership** - Paul Butler – The membership report is attached. Paul reported no new members, no resignations, one

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application was out and there has been no decrease in the last six months.

**Golf** - Gary reported that golf has been rained out for the last several weeks. He passed around a photo of a flooded Las Lagos!

**Form 27** - Foster covered the monthly branch membership report, which is attached. He stated that the branch goal is critical and for 2017 the proposed goal will be 63. It was approved. For 2018 the goal of 65 was proposed and approved. The goal for guests was proposed as 10 for 2017 and this was approved. Foster highlighted that in June our branch will be celebrating our 45th anniversary. More information will follow.

There was a discussion about guests for lunch to hear interesting speakers. It was reiterated that for potential prospect guests, one lunch could be "on the branch". The host member beyond one lunch will pay for other lunches.

**Speakers** - Al Stratz - Al covered Horace Hines background for January. He stated Horace would speak today about the geologic formation of the Sierra Nevada and the western part of the United States. For March he mentioned that Captain Stewart would be speaking about honor tours for World War II veterans in Washington. He stated that he is working on speakers for April and May. The rest of the year also is being addressed he said.

There was a discussion about speakers contacting the branch and the issue of solicitation. It was reiterated that we generally find the speakers rather than the speakers offering their services, as a way to ensure we have appropriate speakers.

**Activities** - Carl Orta - Bocce - Carl reported Bocce continues in Los Altos. He stated schedules would be published in the newsletter. Carl will

also approach the Los Altos newspaper to post an advertisement for our branch. He volunteered to approach other periodicals as well and welcomes input.

Foster reported **cards** will be played after the luncheon today.

9. New Business:

- a. Senior SIRS this year  
Don Andrews - April 14,  
Cal Cook - May 19,  
Flemming Nielsen - July 5, Fred Van Kirk - June 8
- b. Super Senior SIR -  
Emmett Hearn - January 20
- c. Items from Board members - there were no new items from Board Members.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Chris Vasquez*  
Secretary

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**GOLF**

Due to wet courses and in the case at Los Lagos flooding, there was no golf in February.

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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 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 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)

**Biking**

Wives and guests welcome:  
Rain cancels; Helmet Required  
2nd Thursday March 9 - 11:00 AM  
Coyote Hills / Alameda Creek --  
Niles/Fremont

**The Ride:** We will begin the ride  
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at the Coyote Hills Park and continue on the Alameda Trail to Niles where we will have lunch at a restaurant in downtown Niles. The ride is flat and approximately 9 miles each way, with an optional loop of a scenic view of the bay that adds about one mile (a total ride of 19 miles).

Directions: Take Highway 84 across the Dumbarton Bridge past the toll booth to the first exit, which is Paseo Padre Parkway. Turn left and go one mile to Paterson Ranch Road; turn left. This is the entrance to Coyote Hills Park (there is a small sign). Go 1/2 mile to the park toll booth (\$5 per car or use your East Bay Regional Park District season pass).

Some of the SIR bicyclists have been experimenting with establishing a 4th Thursday of the month ride. This ride will be more unstructured with the objective of finding new, paved and safe biking trails to

add to the standard 9 SIR ride list. Some of these new trails may be outside of the Immediate Bay Area. The riding pace is a little faster depending on the riders, bike trails are new to the riders so there may be some backtracking and are not always well marked/identified so it makes for a more adventurous ride. If interested, please talk with Jim Lunt or Gordon Tong.

To Ride or More Info: CONTACT	
CHAIRMAN	ALTERNATE
Jim Lunt	Gordon Tong
408-252-6804	gordy6850@gmail.com
jamesdlunt@yahoo.com	408-242-0557

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**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: TBA  
Area 16 Governor: TBA

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**PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE**