

TAMAL TALK

A SIR PUBLICATION

www.SIR47.ORG Our own website

TAMALPAIS BRANCH NO. 47

A Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation of Retired Men Devoted to the Promotion of Independence and Dignity of Retirement.

- Big Sir -- Jake Solomon 415-472-3069
- Little Sir-- Jim Norton- 415-491-0816
- Secretary - Ned Lawrence - 415-595-1092
- Ass't Sect'y - Charles Stedwell-415-299-1498
- Treasurer - Paul Schofield - 415-892-7019
- Ass't Treas.-Will Kaefer - 415-927-1043

Luncheon Meeting:
McINNIS GOLF CENTER, SAN RAFAEL
Fourth Tuesday of the month
Happy Hour at 11:00 am, as always

Editor/Publisher - Ron Kosciusko -415-435-0650
 Attendance Committee—415-881-7477
 Cashier - Glen Ohm - 415-479-5693

Directors: Bob Wilson Tim Leveque Jim Kleiser George Miller Doug Twitchell

State President - Jerry Strain (sirjerry42@gmail.com)
 Region 10 Director - Jim Filippo 415-892-2063 Area 6 Governor - Sandy Grieve

MARIN COUNTY **MAY 2018** **VOL. XLIV No. 05**
OUR 44TH YEAR

BIG SIR'S MESSAGE

Many thanks to John Lister for the fine musical entertainment for our April luncheon.

Sandy Greive, Area Governor for Area 8 which comprises all the Marin Country branches, has established an advisory council. Our Branch 47 representative is Tim Leveque. Many concerns that are common to all branches may be brought to the advisory committee. I'm certain that we will hear much from this group in the future as Sandy is taking an active role in assisting all Marin SIRs branches

They say it takes a village... Well, in our branch we have many members who make a lot of things happen, but most of the other members are unaware of their contribution. So I would like to name a few, with many thanks for what they do: **Ken Griffin**. Ken procures the wine gifts that we distribute at the luncheons. He has upgraded the quality of the wine that we share. **Russ Flaum**. Our new members meet Russ when he takes their photo. What may not be apparent is that Russ maintains our roster book, making changes as they occur, and contracts for the printing of the book that gets distributed to all members in January. **Ron Kosciusko**. When you read TamalTalk, you are seeing the results of Ron's efforts. He is the editor, making sure that all the contributors get their input to him so he can get the newsletter out in a timely manner. **Doug Twitchell**. Everyone sees Doug monthly; he checks people in at our monthly luncheon. But behind the scenes, he keeps up our membership records, and makes the required report to the state SIR. I don't have room to mention all members who make contributions to the branch but are deserving of mention. I plan to recognize the contributions of other members in the coming months. **PAUL BELL** who has designed and makes changes to the WEB page, SIR47.org.

Statistically, It takes about 3 guests to sponsor one new member. This tells us that we need to invite more folks to our luncheons, and encourage more of the guests to join SIR. Everyone can do their part by handing out the calling card described by Bill Donnelly. If you would like assistance, or when you need additional cards, call Bill (415-897-8966). Also, please text the Branch 47 hot line (415-881-7477) or e-mail (sirbranch47@gmail.com) to let Doug Twitchell know that you are bringing a guest.

The nominating committee invites members to submit nominees for Little Sir and for director. If you know someone who would like to have a leadership role in our branch – or if you would like such a role yourself, please contact a member of the nominating committee – John Freel, Tim Leveque, and Jake Solomon.

JAKE SOLOMON, Big Sir

May 22nd Lunch Menu

Salad

Tri-Tip topped with balsamic onions, mashed potatoes and vegetables

Alternative: Pesto Tortellini and vegetables

Rolls and butter

Dessert

Lunch Fees up \$1 to \$28

MAY 22nd Luncheon Speaker

The Speaker for our May Luncheon will be Steven Gilford an author who will speak to us about his book :The Extraordinary Life of Henry Kaiser"

-Jim Norton

Little Sir

Highlights of the April 23rd Board Meeting

Big Sir Report: Jake reported about the topics from the recent State Sirs meeting . Despite a deficit budget, the state has allocated \$2500 to every Area Governor for use in their area. Over half of the state annual budget goes into payment of Liability Insurance to hold Sirs Inc. harmless for accidents occurring during branch activities. In order for this coverage to be maintained all branch activities need to be approved by the BEC at the start of each year and must be reflected in the minutes. Several proposals had not been voted upon but were raised at the meeting and we will be notified if they are approved by the state.

Treasurer Report: Our current balance is \$11, 438.00. We have 87 members paid and have not received 2018 dues from 17 members. Our lunch deficit is \$225.00 for wine and guest expenses.

Committee Reports: The website committee met and decided that the best way to keep the website current was to ask the Chairmen to learn WordPress and update the committees that are on the website. Paul Bell sent out WordPress instructions and also offered to help anyone who had problems with their updates. If a Chairman does not choose to implement this method, they can send an email to Paul so he can copy and paste items like weekly golf results and the start of a new season. Paul will enable the site to count the number of hits that occur so we can track improvement as we update. Updating the website will be the first step towards a recruiting program.

Ned Lawrence
Secretary

Military Plane Crashes in Marin County

By Alan Thomas

Ranger Matt Cerkel made a presentation at the Branch 47 meeting of March 27th. Matt Cerkel is employed as a ranger for the Marin Municipal Water District and has been employed in this position for 22 years. Matt grew up in Kentfield and Greenbrae. Matt attended Redwood High School in Larkspur and then attended the University of Idaho. He began part time employment with MMWD during summer vacations. Matt is knowledgeable regarding mountain rescues, wildlife settings and various other tales from the area. For the particular interest of the Branch 47 membership, Ranger Matt presented a fascinating history of the airborne presence in Marin County during World War II and a recount of the many tragedies that befell pilots during this intense period of world conflict.

During the years that World War II was being waged, there were more than 60 plane crashes in Marin County. Military planes crashed on White's Hill near Fairfax, Bald Hill, Mt. Tamapais, and even close to homes in Novato. During the early years of the war, many crashes occurred which involved the P-38 aircraft. During the war, 1,200 aviators were killed in the United States, most being P-38 pilots. General Curtis LeMay said that B29 bombers were safer than P38s. P-38s were difficult to fly and were called Lieutenant Eliminators. Most of the Marin crashes involved planes headed to Hamilton Air Force base in Novato or other nearby airfields such as Travis, Santa Rosa or Mills Field, predecessor to San Francisco International Airport. Because pilots were being trained quickly for warfare, young men in their 20s often received less than adequate training. That shortage combined with mechanical failures or poor weather, resulted in a number of crashes, though the causes of many are still unknown.

As an example, a pilot crashed near Point Reyes because the incorrect type of backfire screen, a ten cent part, was installed resulting in a backfire and engine failure. Another instance involved a B-22 bomber returning from Hawaii. After years of combat in the Pacific, the crew was nearly home. It was raining and planes didn't have radar at that time, so the pilot was listening to instructions from the air traffic controller at Hamilton. Mistaking Richardson Bay for San Pablo Bay, the pilot crashed into a eucalyptus grove near Highway 101 on Waldo Grade. Crashes continued after the war ended; a jet fighter took off from Moffat Field and two lost their lives as a result of a cloud bank. The most recent military plane crash in Marin County was in 1972. A Delta jet crashed near Atherton Avenue in Novato after leaving Hamilton. The plane narrowly missed houses and scared a couple of horses who threw their riders.

It is illegal for private citizens to remove wreckage from a crash site of a military crash. In several instances, wreckage remains in place at crash sites in Marin due to inaccessibility or other reasons.

Ranger Matt Cerkel gave a fascinating talk on a rather bleak but historical period of the military presence in Marin County.



GOLF

Chairman Tom Brady, 897-8573

May 7 Monday Petaluma CC 08:30 9 Holes Twice
 May 14 Monday Chardonnay 08:00
 May 21 Monday Foxtail North 08:00
 May 28 Monday OPEN HOLIDAY

9-Hole Golf at McInnis Park

Mondays at 9:00 am, weather permitting
 Contact Jack Friesen <friesenjack@aol.com>

BOWLING

Bowling League bowling is every Friday at
 Country Club Bowl, 88 Vivian Way, San Rafael.
 Start time: 10:45 AM. Come and share the fun!

Contact Paul Schofield, Chair 892-7019

BRANCH 47 BOCCE

The first Monday of each month; no cost to play. Spouses and guests are encouraged to attend. We start with Lunch at 12 noon @ the Swiss Hotel on the Sonoma Square. Then we play Bocce @ about 1:30 pm at Depot Park behind the Swiss Hotel. Bring your own Bocce balls, if you have them.

Contact: Kurt Heilman @ 415-892-2460 or
heilmanfour@comcast.net to let him know if you want to be on the mailing list or to join us for lunch and bocce.

SIR ROLLING ROAMERS RV CLUB

Join us for lunch 2nd Tuesday of each month
 & on our outings.

For information, contact

SIR Ray Canziani Branch 22, Wagon Master
(415) 453-4463

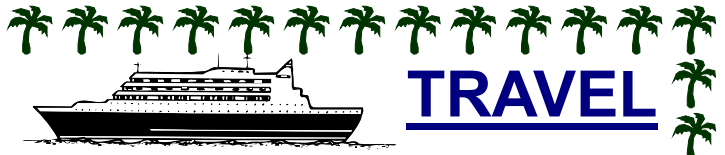
TENNIS, ANYONE?

Every Wednesday 9 AM McInnis Park
Bill Donnelly 897-8966 or Glen Ohm 479-5693

Interested in Dominos???

Gary Polsky, of Branch 68, is their new Dominos Chairman and would like to hear from anyone who is interested, his contact information is

garypolsky77@gmail.com or (415) 710-4949.



May 25-Jun 9, 2018: Historic Cities of Eastern Canada & New England. 16- day trip begins in Toronto then Lake Ontario, Niagara Falls, Ottawa, Quebec City and Montreal. Then travelers will board Holland America cruise ship and cruise down the St Lawrence river to Charlottetown, Sydney and Halifax and onto Bar Harbor ending in Boston. Cost is \$3695 to \$5185 (with out Airfare). Jim Hohenshelt, Br 62, 408-394-7226 or Roy Jordan, 408-735-8765.

Aug 6 – 12, 2018 Yellowstone, A Wildlife Safari
 Tour Highlights: Yellowstone NP , Idaho Falls, Grand Teton NP, Snake River Float trip, Salt Lake City w/Mormon Tabernacle choir and Grizzly & Wolf Discovery Center
 Includes: home pickup, transfers, R/T air Salt Lake City, (10 meals: 6 breakfasts, 1 lunch, and 4 dinners) all taxes and gratuities. Cost: \$2789 per person dbl occupancy. \$3509 Single.Br. 32 Escorts John Pletsch 408 504-1255 and Mike Console 408 246-1080

Aug 22-30, 2018: Colors of Provence River Cruise – Lyon to Aries
 Begin your cruise in Lyon, France's gastronomical capital. Cruise thought legendary wine growing regions. Enjoy wine tastings at local vintners, marvel at Roman ruins and stroll thought medieval villages. See the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Avignon, the city where Vincent Van Gogh lived and Pope's at one time. Post option, three nights in Barcelona. Price \$6349 to \$7350. Larry Yarberry Branch 8 – yarberry42@comcast.net
 Phone 925-890-9245

Sep 8, 2018: Colorado Train Trip. 7- day trip with stops at the US Airforce academy, Pikes Peak, Garden of the Gods, Colorado National Monument and Colorado Museum. Cost \$3035 and includes 15 meals, R/T Air, home pickup and back, professional tour manager, Larry Yarberry, Br 8, 925-890-9245.

Sep 13-23, 2018: Alaska Inside Passage. 11-day Grand Princess Cruise starting in SF with ports of call at Juneau, Skagway, Glacier Bay, Ketchikan and Victoria B.C. Trip includes R/T transfer, Gratuities, Shipboard credit, and Photo. Cost \$1899.00 to \$3249 depending on cabin. Tom Molinari, Br 147, 707-762-1880. stmolinari@sbcglobal.net

Questions?? Your Travel Chairman:
Kurt Heilman –415 892-2460



QUICKEN SIG

2nd Tuesdays, 10:am
B. Bloch, GGCS, 415-388-3864

ADVANCED DIGITAL CAMERA STUFF

3rd Wednesdays, vp@ggcs.org
All Wednesday sessions are from 1:30 to 3:30 pm

GGCS classroom
First Presbyterian Church
Fifth Avenue, San Rafael

All are welcome. Open to all of Area 6.



FISHING

The fishermen meet every 2nd Tuesday of the month at Novato United Methodist Church at 9:30am. For detailed information, contact

SIR Bill Cline, Branch 134, @
415 892-0209



INVESTORS LUNCH BUNCH

Second Friday of the month at Sam's Place at 1545 South Novato Blvd. Order off from the complete Breakfast/Lunch menu and receive individual checks. No reservations are required. Meeting will start at 11:45, followed by presentations and discussions.

Contacts:

Will Kaefer 415-927-1043, or
Brian Stompe 415-897-1610

BRIDGE GROUP

The bridge group meets on the third Thursday of each month at a member's home. Play is from 10 am to 2 pm. To reserve space and get directions for the next event, call or email

Charles Caviness: 415 435-9618

THURSDAY WALKING/HIKING GROUP

1st week each month: Jake Solomon 415-472-3069
2nd week each month Pierre Terrier 415-785-4513
3rd week each month: Al Springstead 415-250-3808
4th week each month: Alan Thomas 415-457-4576
5th week (if applicable): Dee Stuever 415-459-6751

Call leaders for details about future walks and hikes

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Summary:	Actives -	103	Inactives -	6
	Gains:	0		0
	Losses:	0		0

PERFECT ATTENDANCE 2017

Erik Boditker, Jack Brandon, Russell Flaum,
Bob Gonzalez, Kurt Heilmann, Mike Kelly,
Peter Kerner, Carlos Martin, George Miller,
George Pikkarainen, Terry Scott, See Tom

APRIL LUNCH TICKET WINNER

Paul Rubenfeld

MAY BIRTHDAY BOYS

1st Paul Bell, 7th Will Kaefer, 26th Vic Reizman,
31st Charles Caviness, 31st Bill Donnelly

FEBRUARY ATTENDANCE REPORT

Total Members	103
Members Present	77 76%
Guests:	4
Visitors:	1

To call-in non-attendance, order an alternative plate or to notify you're bringing a guest/visitor

Call or Text 415-881-7477
or E-mail sirbranch47@gmail.com
with your request, giving name and badge number

*Please call by noon of the Friday
before the lunch date*

See what's happening Statewide in SIR
www.sirinc.org/sirhappenings/

To see all that SIR has to offer:

www.sirinc.org

BRANCH 47 OUTINGS

1. Mill Valley Philharmonic Concert:

May 19 (8:00pm) Beethoven's 9th with the Dominican University Chorus and Throckmorton Chorus, @ the Angelica Hall, Dominican Univ

May 20 (2:00 pm) Beethoven's 9th with the Dominican University Chorus and Throckmorton Chorus, @ the Angelica Hall, Dominican Univ.

May 24 Retirement Party for conductor, Laurie Cohen @ the Sweetwater Music Hall, Mill Valley – Contact millvalleyharmonic.org for details

2. Cinnabar Theater: 3333 Petaluma Blvd. North, Petaluma suggested by Al Anderson. Contact centerstage.ticketing.com or 707-763-8920. Next music venues: Suggested by Al Anderson. Next performances are:

May 11 - 20 Bye Bye Birdie Another classic, nostalgic story.

May 13 Will Durst Midterm Madness

May 19 Petaluma Chili Cook-off

May 20 Cinnabar Singers Spring concert

3. Ross Valley Players: May 17 – June 10 – The Tin Woman. Based on a true story, is full of laughter and light, even at the darkest hour..

For tickets contact rossvalleyplayers.com or call 1-415-456-9555 Ex 1

4. Marin Theatre Company: May 3 – 27. Marjorie Prime. It's 2062, the age of artificial intelligence, and 85-year-old Marjorie has a handsome new companion who's programmed to feed the story of her life back to her. This play explores the mysteries of human identity and the limits of what technology can replace. Contact the Box Office at (415)388-5208, boxoffice@marintheatre.org, or visit us during regular Box Office hours of operation: 397 Miller Ave. Mill Valley, CA 94941

5. College of Marin Performing Arts. Contact "pa.marin.edu" or 415-485-9385 for more details and tickets. **April 9 @ 11:10 am @ Lefort Recital Hall "Evidence of Things Not Seen" – Art songs of Ned Rorem.**

6. College of Marin Performing Arts Contact "pa.marin.edu" or 415-485-9385 for more details and tickets> Samples of events are:

May 4 Com Jazz Ensemble – The music of New Orleans @ the James Dunn Theatre, Kentfield Campus. Performance dates:

May 4-20 "Romeo and Juliet" @ the Studio Theatre

Sewer Band free concerts:

* **May 15, 2018 Spring Concert**

* **May 28 Memorial Day Concert**

8. The Novato Theatre Company:

May 24 - June 10 Five Tellers Dancing in the Rain.

Contact novatotheatrecompany.org or call 415-833-4498 .

9. The Buck Institute Events, recommended from Chloe Caviness, Buck Communications Manager, and daughter-in-law of Charles Caviness:

(Continued)

(9. Continued)

Thursday, May 10: TEDxMarin Salon with guest speaker, Buck's CEO, Dr. Eric Verdin. Extending Our Human Healthspan: <http://www.tedxmarin.org/salon/#black>

* **Register with discount offered to Buck members:** <https://tedxsalon2.eventbrite.com?discount=Insider-VIP>

Monday, May 21 @ 2:30pm: Annual Epstein Lecture with Dr. Shinya Yamanaka (Nobel Prize winner, Senior Investigator at Gladstone Institutes, Professor at UCSF & Kyoto University) A New Era of Medicine with iPS Cells. **Visit webpage to register:** <https://buckinstituteevents.wixsite.com/epstein> **Note:** Buck also has free docent tours on Thursday mornings @ 10:30 AM. (You might remember we had a tour a few years ago with lunch afterwards.) To reserve a date, call 415-209-2245.

Cheers,
Kurt Heilman
1-415-892-2460

SIR Br 47 May Party Tuesday May 1, 2018 Luncheon at the Marin Country Club

11:30 am social time and 12:00 for lunch
Please invite your spouse and friends to join us.

The cost is \$32 / person for a 3-course lunch which includes spinach salad, rolls & butter, and choice of main course:

- (1) Mushroom & Goat Cheese Stuffed Chicken
- (2) Grilled Salmon or
- (3) Gnocchi Gorgonzola.
- (4) Also brownies & ice cream, coffee and tea. There is a no host bar, for those interested.



How many of you remember giving and receiving May Baskets? Join us to celebrate the coming of summer with good friends.

Please make check payable to SIR Branch 47 and send to: Kurt Heilman, 457 Fieldstone Dr., Novato, CA 94945. Payment must be received by noon Friday, April 27

Cancellations will not be honored after 48 hours in advance. Contact Kurt Heilman @ 1-415-892-2460 or heilmanfour@comcast.net.

THIS MONTH'S ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

Tuesday	May	1	May Day Party MCC
Wednesday	May	2	Tennis
Thursday	May	3	Walking Group
Friday	May	4	Bowling
Monday	May	7	Bocce
Monday	May	7	9 Hole Golf (Maybe)
Monday	May	7	18 Hole Golf
Tuesday	May	8	Rolling Roamers
Tuesday	May	8	Fishing
Wednesday	May	9	Tennis
Thursday	May	10	Walking Group
Friday	May	11	Bowling
Friday	May	11	Investors' Lunch Bunch
Sunday	May	13	MOTHER'S DAY
Monday	May	14	9 Hole Golf
Monday	May	14	18 Hole Golf
Wednesday	May	16	Advanced Digital Camera
Wednesday	May	16	Tennis
Thursday	May	17	Bridge
Thursday	May	17	Walking Group
Friday	May	18	Bowling
Monday	May	21	9 Hole Golf
Monday	May	21	18 Hole Golf
Monday	May	21	Executive Committee Mtg
Tuesday	May	22	Branch 47 Luncheon
Wednesday	May	23	Tennis
Thursday	May	24	Walking Group
Tuesday	May	24	TamalTalk Deadline for June
Friday	May	25	Bowling
Monday	May	28	Nine Hole Golf
Monday	May	28	18 Hole Golf
Monday	May	28	MEMORIAL DAY
Wednesday	May	30	Tennis
Thursday	May	31	Walking Group

AREA 6 MONTHLY MEETINGS

Br. #	Branch Phone
7	The Club at McInnis Park 1st Thursday 415 456-3763
22	The Club at McInnis Park 1st Tuesday 415 924-4862
47	Club at Mcinnis Park 4th Tuesday 415 881-7477 Happy Hour - 11:00 am; Luncheon - 11:45 am
68	The Club at McInnis Park 2nd Tuesday 415 479-3286
134	Embassy Suites 1st Tuesday 415 892-0209

ATTENDANCE: Failure to attend three consecutive meetings without giving prior notice to the Attendance Chairman, and/or failure to attend at least 6 meetings within the previous 12 months, may result in termination.

Condensed from Rule 100 of State Policy Manual

Attendance at another branch meeting, duly recorded with the Attendance Chairman of that branch, will be credited to a member's attendance record (*Rule 101*).

Call the branch phone listed above to secure a guest spot.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Please report SIR illnesses or deaths to
Bill Donnelly at 415 897-8966

* EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE will meet *
* Monday, May 21, 2018. 10:30 AM at the *
* McGinnis Park Golf Club Boardroom *
* 350 Smith Ranch Road *
* San Rafael, CA 94903 *

BRANCH 47 LUNCHEON MEETINGS IN 2018

Fourth Tuesday Of The Month

January 23 (Tuesday)	July 24 (Tuesday)
February 27 (Tuesday)	August 28 (Tuesday)
March 27 (Tuesday)	September 25 (Tuesday)
April 22 (Tuesday)	October 23 (Tuesday)
May 22 (Tuesday)	November 27 (Tuesday)
June 26 (Tuesday)	

DATES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Monday preceding the Fourth Tuesday
Branch 47 Luncheon Meeting

Jan. 8	
Jan. 22	July 23
Feb. 26	Aug. 27
Mar. 26	Sept. 24
Apr. 23	Oct. 22
May 21	Nov. 26
June 25	

TAMAL TALK, SIR Branch 47
Ron Kosciusko, Publisher
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Tiburon, CA. 94920