

TAMAL TALK

A SIR PUBLICATION

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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
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 Region 10 Director - Jim Filippo 415-892-2063 Area 6 Governor - Sandy Grieve

MARIN COUNTY

OCTOBER 2018
OUR 44TH YEAR

VOL. XLIV No. 10

BIG SIR'S MESSAGE

Welcome to our new member: Jeff Plotnick.

Many thanks to Russ Flaum for many years of maintaining the Branch 47 roster book. Russ has decided that 10+ years is enough, and he will no longer maintain the roster book, beginning this year. As a result, we are looking for someone to step forward for the roster production. This is not reinventing the "wheel", but rather keeping the "wheel" rolling. We really need someone to come forward soonest so that we can have the roster available to members in January. Interested persons should contact me at 415-472-3069, or at j_ksolomon@comcast.net

I would like Branch 47 be one of the best branches in SIR. Achieving this will take some contributions by you, our members, in the form of participation. I believe that filling a responsible position in the branch is a rewarding experience, one which benefits the member as well as the Branch. We are trying to get away from a situation where one person is responsible for multiple tasks, a position which we were in several years ago. Spreading the tasks requires the involvement of more members, but reduces the time required by each individual. We have many members who have skills that would benefit our branch; most positions take minimal time and can be very enjoyable. So please consider filling one of the responsible functions when asked; your contribution to the branch will be appreciated.

Looking ahead, I would like to see more members step up, as many have done, when the nominating committee begins seeking officers for 2020.

The Branch 47 holiday party will take place at the McInnis Golf Center on Tuesday, December 4th. The social hour will commence at 5:00pm, and dinner will be served at 6:00. This is always a very popular event, so make your reservations with Chuck McDevitt (415-420-2299; e-mail: mcdev095@aol.com). Events like this are important to the comradery that SIR can provide. I encourage you to attend as many of our special events as possible, as well as our variety of activities. Thanks to Chuck McDevitt for putting the holiday party together.

Jake Solomon, Big Sir

October 23rd Luncheon Menu

Salad

*Roasted Turkey with Cranberry & gravy Peas and carrots,
sweet Potatoes (stuffing on the table)*

Alternative: Chicken Marsala

Rolls and butter

Dessert

OCTOBER 23rd Luncheon Speaker

Jim says it's a SURPRISE.

Just kidding, we will announce by email .

JAMES NORTEN , LITTLE SIR

SOFIA—Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy

By Alan Thomas

Our speaker at the Branch 47 luncheon on August 28th was Erick Young, a widely recognized authority on infrared astronomy, and had had the appointment of science mission operations director for NASA's Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy. Dr. Young, who specialized in designing science instruments, had participated in virtually all of NASA's space infrared astronomy missions. Young helped develop and spoke about the Wide Field Camera 3 (WFC3) which was installed in the Hubble Space Telescope and was Hubble's most technologically advanced instrument. SOFIA is a joint program between NASA and the German Space Agency located in Bonn, Germany. The program is managed in the United States at NASA's Ames Research Center, Moffett Field, California. The following covers some details of this vast and significant program.

SOFIA was designed to observe celestial magnetic fields, star-forming regions, comets, nebulae and the galactic center. SOFIA is based on a Boeing 747SP wide-body aircraft that has been modified to include a large door in the aft fuselage that can be opened in flight to allow an 8.2 foot diameter reflecting telescope access to the sky. The telescope is designed for infrared astronomy observations in the stratosphere at about 41,000 feet. At the aircraft's cruising altitude, 85% of the full infrared range will be available. The telescope itself is a reflector with a primary mirror with other mirrors embodied for camera guidance and other factors. SOFIA's telescope is the largest ever to be placed in an aircraft. Gyroscopes, motors and cooling mechanism must all come into play in order for the telescope to function optimally.

The project development of the use of aircraft for performing infrared observations has a long history dating back to 1965. Aircraft put to this use have been NASA Convair 990s, Ames Learjet, Boeing 747, Airbus Beluga, with interruptions along the way. Components of telescopes have been shared with those of German manufacture. United Airlines declared bankruptcy in 2004 which delayed the project then in progress.

CONTINUED

CONTINUES SPEAKER REVIEW

The project was restored in 2006 when SOFIA passed the review when NASA concluded that there were no insurmountable technical or programmatic challenges to the continued development of SOFIA. The maiden flight of SOFIA in its present form took place on April 26, 2007 and successful completion of the project took place in January 2008 at the NASA-Armstrong Flight Research Center.

The primary science objectives of SOFIA are to study the composition of planetary atmospheres and surfaces, to investigate comets and their composition, and to explore the formation of stars and other stellar objects.

Some further related information that Dr. Young imparted dealt with the assembly of galaxies, the birth of stars and planetary systems. The universe continues to expand and it has been theorized that the solar system is 4.5 billion years old. There are thousands of galaxies which contain billions of stars. Galileo's telescope could detect images at 170X of normal vision; the Keck telescope on Manua Kea in Hawaii can detect 78 million times that of normal vision.



Sirs Day at the races will be October 19th (golden gate fields) The cost will be \$41/person , includes valet parking , all you can eat lunch with Jockey club seating.

Make your check out to Br # 68 and send it to :

**Ron Gurich
36 Bridle Path Lane
Novato , Ca 94945
Tel # 415-233-1584**

He needs Your check by Oct 2nd, and your tickets will be at Will Call .

Enjoy the races.

Tim Leveque

FILLER

What did the Buddhist ask the hot dog vendor? "Make me one with everything."

Never criticize someone until you have walked a mile in their shoes. That way, when you criticize them, you'll be a mile away, and you'll have their shoes.

Why did the cowboy get a wiener dog? He wanted to get a long little doggie.

SEPTEMBER 24th BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Treasurers Report: Branch 47 has a balance of \$10, 810 in our account with a lunch deficit of \$964. The branch currently has 107 members.

Roster Book: Russ said he was too busy to prepare the 2019 roster book and the branch needs someone else to take over. The book is scheduled to be distributed on the fourth Tuesday in January, 2019 and the printer usually requires about three days to turn around the finished project. Russ will mentor the individual who takes on this task for 2019.

Old Business: The decision was made to NOT send in an email list of Branch 47 members to the state in their suggested format at this time.

Jim Norton will purchase a projector that is owned by the branch and it will be the responsibility of every Little Sir to use to coordinate with the speaker to show his or her presentation.

If a prospect shows interest in joining the branch, the Membership Chairman will notify the Recruitment Chairman and include the applicants' phone number so that a sponsor can be assigned to guide this applicant through the membership and orientation process. Applications from the web or phone call that have been assigned a sponsor and completed an application will be voted upon by email vote of the board rather than wait for the next board meeting for approval.

New Business: The state Sirs officers sent a series of suggestions to each branch for the purpose of gaining their input before deciding on new measures for the future of Sirs. The Branch Secretary will compile the answers discussed at the September board meeting and send to the state officers.

Ned Lawrence, Secretary

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!

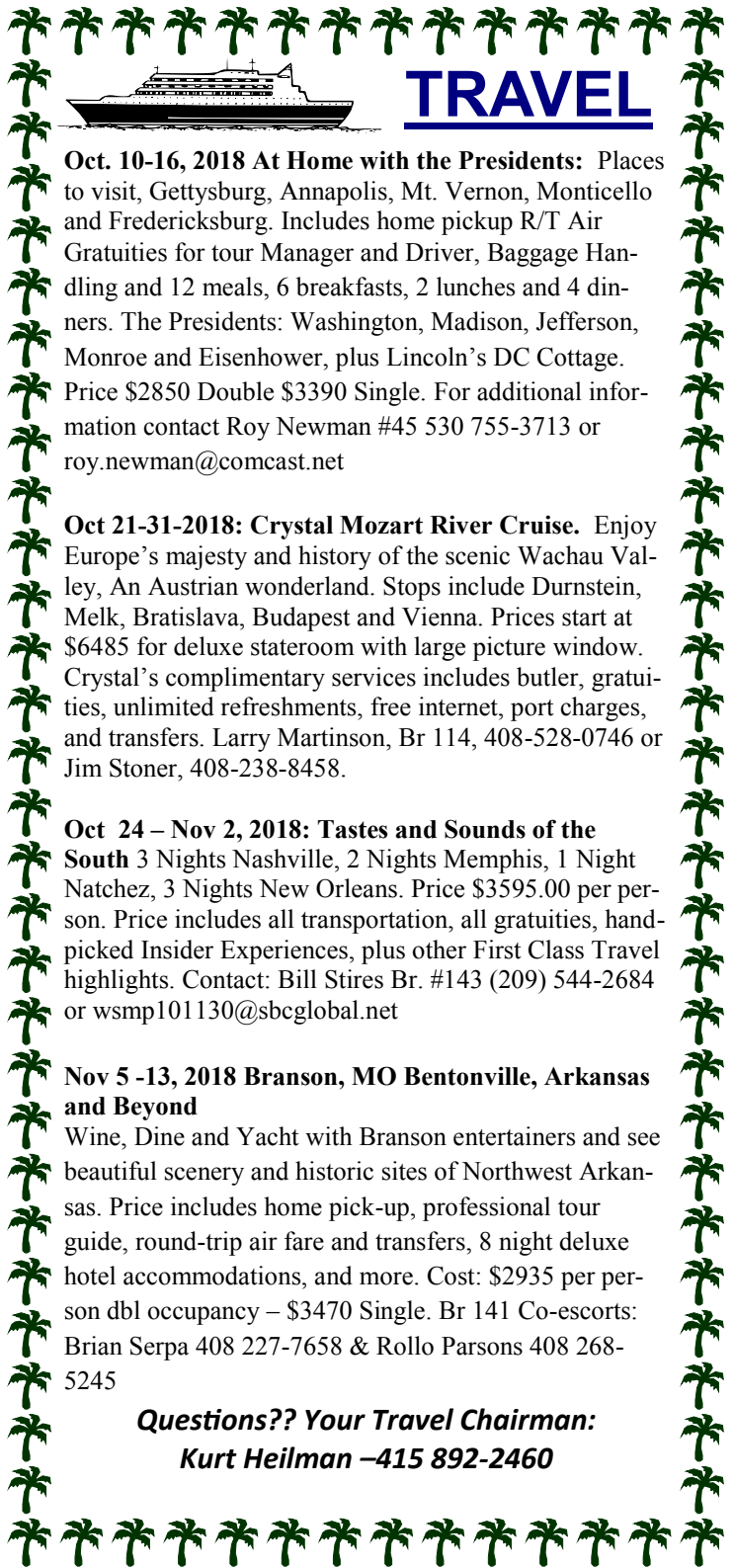
Contact Paul Schofield, Chair 892-7019

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



TRAVEL



Oct. 10-16, 2018 At Home with the Presidents: Places to visit, Gettysburg, Annapolis, Mt. Vernon, Monticello and Fredericksburg. Includes home pickup R/T Air Gratuities for tour Manager and Driver, Baggage Handling and 12 meals, 6 breakfasts, 2 lunches and 4 dinners. The Presidents: Washington, Madison, Jefferson, Monroe and Eisenhower, plus Lincoln's DC Cottage. Price \$2850 Double \$3390 Single. For additional information contact Roy Newman #45 530 755-3713 or roy.newman@comcast.net

Oct 21-31-2018: Crystal Mozart River Cruise. Enjoy Europe's majesty and history of the scenic Wachau Valley, An Austrian wonderland. Stops include Durnstein, Melk, Bratislava, Budapest and Vienna. Prices start at \$6485 for deluxe stateroom with large picture window. Crystal's complimentary services includes butler, gratuities, unlimited refreshments, free internet, port charges, and transfers. Larry Martinson, Br 114, 408-528-0746 or Jim Stoner, 408-238-8458.

Oct 24 – Nov 2, 2018: Tastes and Sounds of the South 3 Nights Nashville, 2 Nights Memphis, 1 Night Natchez, 3 Nights New Orleans. Price \$3595.00 per person. Price includes all transportation, all gratuities, hand-picked Insider Experiences, plus other First Class Travel highlights. Contact: Bill Stires Br. #143 (209) 544-2684 or wsmp101130@sbcglobal.net

Nov 5 -13, 2018 Branson, MO Bentonville, Arkansas and Beyond Wine, Dine and Yacht with Branson entertainers and see beautiful scenery and historic sites of Northwest Arkansas. Price includes home pick-up, professional tour guide, round-trip air fare and transfers, 8 night deluxe hotel accommodations, and more. Cost: \$2935 per person dbl occupancy – \$3470 Single. Br 141 Co-escorts: Brian Serpa 408 227-7658 & Rollo Parsons 408 268-5245

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

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

TENNIS, ANYONE?

Every Wednesday 9:30 AM McInnis Park

Bill Donnelly 897-8966 or Glen Ohm 479-5693 if interested



QUICKEN SIG

Meets quarterly for info call

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

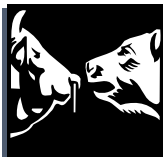
Fifth Avenue, San Rafael



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, @



INVESTORS LUNCH BUNCH

Second Friday of the month at Sam's Place at 1545 South Novato Blvd. Order 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

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

GOLF

Chairman Tom Brady, 897-8573



October 1 Monday Rooster Run 07:00SeqTeeTimes
October 9 TUESDAY Bennett Valley 08:30 Note Day Change
October 15 Monday Blue Rock West 08:00
October 22 Monday Napa/Kennedy 08:00
October 29 Monday Rooster Run 07:00 SeqTeeTimes
October 30 TUESDAY Bennett Valley 08:30 Note Day Change

9-Hole Golf at McInnis Park

Mondays at 9:00 am, weather permitting

Contact Joesph Sauerland at joesauerland@comcast.net

NOTE: If anyone has a suggestion for a Br 47 Outing or event, please let Kurt Heilman know so he can include it in our future Outings.

SEPTEMBER MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Summary: Actives - 107 Inactives - 0
Gains: 1 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

SEPTEMBER LUNCH TICKET WINNER

Reg Ricci



OCTOBER BIRTHDAY BOYS

1st, Ted Smith, 5th, Lee Turner,
10th, Harry Forst, 12th, Lon Sykes,
13th Carl Martin, 16th, Pete Petrofsky, 17th, Ned Lawrence,
18 Wally Chipman, 22nd Jim Hancock, 24th, Ric Sullivan,
26th, Bob Kooch, 31st, Reg Ricci

SEPTEMBER ATTENDANCE REPORT

Total Members 107
Members Present 72 67%
Guests: 1
Visitors:

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

Br 47 Outings include:

1. A unique opportunity suggested by Bob Gonzalez that I highly recommend. Enjoy **Vintage Music and tour the lovely Victorian Home of Richard Reutlinger in San Francisco**. Concerts are on specific Sat & Sun afternoons @ 2 pm (doors open @ 1:30 pm so you can tour the old Victorian before the concert.). The next scheduled concert: What: **Crown Syncopators Concert**, When: **October 6 & 7, 2018**, Time: Door opens at 1:30 and music at 2 pm. Where: 824 Grove St., SF 94117 (between Fillmore & Webster) Send a check payable to Richard Reutlinger to the address above to reserve seats. **\$25 per person**. The Crown Syncopators trio, well known for its joyful, upbeat and toe-tapping classic ragtime style, has been performing together since 2007, although they have been friends and colleagues for many more years. It's the bringing together of these three "well schooled in the roots of ragtime" performers that gives this group their pop. You will hear Frederick Hodges on piano, Virginia Tichenor on percussion, and Marty Eggers on tuba. They appear regularly at the legendary waterfront restaurant, Pier 23. Free champagne and snacks are served during intermission as you enjoy Richard's fine collection of mechanical musical instruments. Be sure to mention which day you wish to attend and buy your tickets early to guarantee seating.

2. **Cinnabar Theater**: 3333 Petaluma Blvd. North, Petaluma suggested by Al Anderson. Contact <<http://centerstageticketing.com/>> centerstageticketing.com or 707-763-8920 for tickets or for other performances. * Note: Seating is now reserved in advance, but the Theater seating has been refurbished... **Oct. 12 – 28 "The Great God Pan"** Jamie's life in Brooklyn seems just fine: a beautiful girlfriend, a budding journalism career, and parents who live just far enough away. But when a possible childhood trauma comes to light, lives are thrown into a tailspin. Deeply compassionate, THE GREAT GOD PAN tells the intimate tale of what is lost and won when a hidden truth is unloosed into the world.

3. **Ross Valley Players: Sept. 28 – Oct. 21 "Twelfth Night" by William Shakespeare**. A ship is wrecked on the rocks and Viola is washed ashore. She steps out to explore this new land and so begins a whirlwind of mistaken identity and unrequited love. Come see this imaginative interpretation on one of the Bard's most beloved works.. For tickets contact <<http://rossvalleyplayers.com/>> rossvalleyplayers.com or call 1-415-456-9555 Ex 1.

4. **Marin Theatre Company**: Contact the Box Office at (415)388-5208, <<mailto:boxoffice@marintheatre.org>> or visit us during regular Box Office hours of operation: 397 Miller Ave. Mill Valley, CA 94941 * **Sept. 27 – Oct 21 "Oslo**. About the Top Secret meetings between the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, culminating in the historic 1993 Oslo Accords.

5. **Red Oak Victory – reopened on Sat. Sept .1**. Regular hours are Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday from 10 am to 4 pm. Or perhaps you'd prefer to attend one of our famous **Pancake Breakfast on October 14**. Finally, watch this space for the details of our exciting Oktoberfest & Wine Tasting to be held October 27. Contact (510) 237-2933 or red-oakvictory.us. (Continued)

(Continued)

6. **Fresh Starts Chef Events @ Homeward Bound of Marin, 1385 N. Hamilton Parkway, Novato** Contact "cookingschoolsofamerica.com". Cost is around \$60 pp. * **Thurs Oct. 11 @ 6:30 pm** Celebrate Tassajara Cooking with Edward Espe Brown * **Thurs Nov 11 @ 6:30 pm** Rebecca Katz - Entwine Great Taste & Healthy Eating.
7. **The Buck Institute Events**, recommended from Chloe Caviness, Buck Communications Manager, and daughter-in-law of Charles Caviness Note: Buck also has free docent tours on Thursday mornings @ 10:30 A.M. (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 1-415-892-246



Branch 47's Annual Christmas Holiday Party **Tuesday, December 4, 2018** **At McInnis Golf Club, San Rafael**



Cost: \$47.00 / person:



Social Hour: 5:00 pm—6:00 pm Includes
Appetizers and Champagne
Cash Bar: Beer \$6, House Wine \$7, Cocktails \$8,
House Wine Bottle \$24

Holiday Entertainment will be provided

6:00 pm Sit-down Holiday Meal
with Choice of:
Prime Rib, Grilled Salmon with Mango sauce,
Rack of Lamb, or Pasta Pomodoro (Vegetarian)
With Coffee-Tea-Decaf & Ice cream sundae

No refunds within 48 hours. Make a firm
reservation & payment by contacting
Chuck McDevitt by phone @ 415 420-2299,
or email @ mcdev095@aol.com

Chuck will be collecting money/reservations at the
Tues. Oct. 23 and Tues. Nov. 27 Br 47 Luncheons

