

The Sea Otter

Branch 28 Bayonet Golf Course Meeting 2nd Thursday of Each Month



April, 2024

LUNCHEON 12:00 NOON

Thursday, April 11



Big Sir Message - April, 2023

Hi SIRs,



I hope all is well with each of you. This month's message is unfortunately about a problem or bump in road we will need to deal with fairly quickly. As a result, your branch leadership has already begun to work on resolving this issue. And we want you to know what's happening.

After our March 14th luncheon our Treasurer Don Battles, Past Big SIR Mike Carbaugh and I met with the new Bayonet Food & Beverage Manager to discuss an additional "room fee" of \$500 a month that we learned a few days earlier will be added to our bill beginning in April. And at the meeting he made it clear the amount is "not negotiable". His reasons are increased labor costs and also it's a practice other businesses in the area have adopted. This adds about an additional \$12 per luncheon attendee, if we have 40. We suggested switching to a lower cost buffet versus serving our lunches as we do now as a way to reduce labor cost, which he said they would consider. But a few days later our proposal was rejected. He did agree to our request to pay only \$250 for the room in April, so we would have more time to consider our options. And he will provide a "complimentary" glass of wine to April attendees who are interested. What a guy!

So, since we think this new fee that results in a \$39-\$40 member luncheon cost is unacceptable, your BEC has begun to actively contact other possible meeting places in the area beginning with the Monterey Elks Lodge, where we met for a number of years prior to Bayonet and the pandemic. And we are pursuing suggestions from some of you, as well. Our goal is to have a new venue lined up for our May luncheon, but we'll keep you informed of progress. And, in the meantime, of course, our various activities will continue as usual where you will still be able to socialize, and in some cases like Bocce, lunch with fellow SIRs. So, thanks for your support, assistance and understanding during this challenging time.

We shall overcome ... Big SIR John

March Luncheon



Mary Alice Cerrito Fettis Chair of Whalefest Monterey

This gentleman appears to have begun the festivities early.





On the left Big Sir, John Hetz, and Membership Chair, Alan Williams induct new members, Mike Wilson and Gari Soule.

On the right is Alan Williams, new members, Irv Beiman, Eric Bull, and Kim Bambace. At the end of the line is Big Sir, John Hetz.





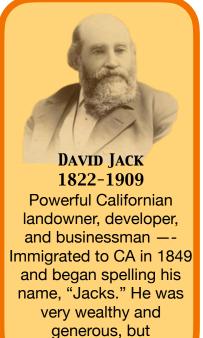
Let's all give a warm welcome to Mike, Gari, Irv, Eric, and Kim.

April Program





Mary Lendlay Teacher, Author, CFO, Docent, etc.



controversial.

After 25 years of teaching English literature in two Peninsula private schools and MPC (for one term), I have retired to my fall-back position as CFO for my husband's business. I currently enjoy keeping Jacks Peak Park safe from ziplines and offering free docent tours there. I have published two books for young adults called The Cat Tamer, and the second in the trilogy, Return to the Wild. Volunteering at the Mayo Hayes O'Donnell research library has opened a passion for history which has produced an informative lecture about David Jacks and his family. I also attend Gentrain classes and serve on their board. Travel is always a joy, but the best is enjoying my home with my family.



Some historians speculate that April Fools Day dates back to 1582 when France switched from the Julian calendar to the Gregorian calendar. In the Julian calendar the New Year was around April 1st, but the Gregorian calendar changed it to January 1st. People who were slow to make the change were the butt of jokes and called "April Fools."

- Apr. 1 April Fools Day
- **Apr. 4** Wine Tasting at Taste of Monterey
- Apr. 3, 10, 17, 24 Bocce 10:00 Custom House Plaza
- **Apr. 11 Luncheon (at Bayonet Golf Club)**
- Apr. 18 Book Club
- Apr. 19 Bowling (Monterey Lanes) 2-4 pm
- Apr. 22 Passover Begins

Reports & Activities

Treasurer's Report

Beginning Cash Bal. \$5,066.22

For Feb.., 2024 Net Loss 249.22

by Don Battles Ending Balance \$4817.00



Please join us each Wednesday at the bocce courts at the Custom House Plaza in Monterey at 10:00 am. We usually go out to lunch after we play. We enjoyed quite a bit of variety in our lunch destinations in March. We went to the Breakfast Club in Seaside, Siamese Bay in Monterey, and Mariscos Puerto Nueve in Seaside. We averaged about 8.3 guys per week (you should have seen that .3 guy).

- Scott Van Tyle



No ifs, ands, or putts about it ...

You should join us for golf. Interested? There are lots of opportunities to play. For information contact John Ecklund at jecklund@sbcglobal.net



More Activities



Our next book to read and discuss in April is *The Last Lieutenant - A Foxhole View of the Epic Battle for Iwo Jima* by John C. Shively. The battle for Iwo Jima lasted for thirty-six days of continual, chaotic combat. When it was over, more than twenty-six thousand Americans were killed or wounded and only slightly more than two hundred Japanese defenders survived. We will meet via Zoom on Thursday, April 18, 2:30-4:00 to discuss this book.

If you would like to join us, contact John Hetz for a Zoom invitation at: hetz.john@yahoo.com

*This book was recommended by Book Club member Ed Cavallini, an Iwo Jima surviver.



Do you enjoy knocking things down? We do too! Please join us. We meet the third Friday of each month. So, the next bowling event is April 19 at Monterey Lanes, 2161 N. Fremont St., Monterey.

2:00 - 4:00



Don't come to our next wine tasting

unless you enjoy wine, good fellowship, and smiling. As you can see from the picture at our last wine tasting at Albatross Ridge in Monterey, everyone more than qualified to attend the event.

If you are interested in attending our next event at Taste of Monterey on April 4 at 2 pm, please contact Mike Carbaugh at 408-781-0073 or email him at mfcarbaugh@gmail.com. If you aren't smiling at the beginning, I guarantee you will be by the end. All are welcome.





SIR State, Region, and Area Officers

State President Dale Decker

Vice President

Area #14 Rep. Bill Ackerknecht 831-458-0132 willeacker@aol.com

Our Branch 28 Leadership Team

Big SIR Big SIR Elect Secretary Treasurer/Web Past Big SIR Membership Activities/Recruitment Mike Hartter

Communications

Open Terry McNelley. **Don Battles** Mike Carbaugh Alan Williams **Curt Parker**

John Hetz

Activities Leaders Golf John Ecklund **Bocce** Scott Van Tyle Bowling Mike Hartter Wine Tasting Mike Carbaugh **Book Club** John Hetz Tours/Events Various Members

Speakers &

Programs Dick Haiduck

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Jon O"Keefe reported that his mother, Wendy O'Keefe, passed away on March 5, 2024. A celebration of life will at come at a later time. Cards may be sent to Jon and his brother, Paul O'Keefe, at Jon's home, 857 Taylor Street, Monterey, CA 93940. The picture above shows Pat and Wendy at their 50th anniversary party in 2022. Pat passed away just 6 days later.



EDITOR'S NOTE

This is the last Sea Otter that I am compiling and editing. The first one I did was for July, 2021. I have enjoyed the creative experience and doing the newsletter gave me a positive outlet for my creative juices. The decision to resign stems from my realization that because of health issues I need to prioritize my personal priorities and engage in self-care.

I want to express my sincere appreciation for the opportunities and support I have received, especially from the Branch Executive Committee (BEC). I will always be grateful for the trust of the BEC members, even when they were the object of my humor.

I want to assure you that I am still a committed member of SIR and will be available to assist any fellow SIR who would like to volunteer to be the next Sea Otter Editor. In order to minimize any disruptions in SIR communications, Big Sir, John Hetz has offered to write a two-page bulletin monthly that we can send out with important information.

I want to thank all of you for your understanding and support as I make this change in my life. - Your editor, - Curt P.S. See you at the next luncheon.

