

# *SIR Mission Branch 32*

## *Newsletter*

Promoting the Independence and Dignity of Retirement

May 2023 Volume 55 No. 5



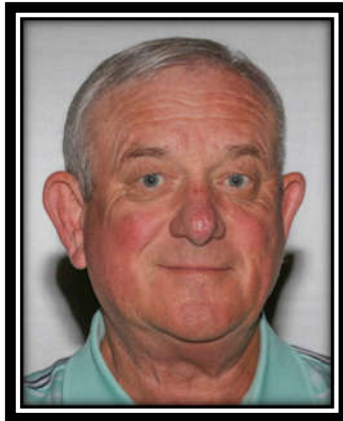
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Branch 32 Website: <http://branch32.sirinc2.org/>

State Sir Website: <http://www.sirinc.org/>

Sir Happenings Newsletter: <http://sirinc.org/sirhappenings/>

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### From Big SIR

The month of May brings with it the celebration of Memorial Day. As a result, you saw the flags placed on the tables at the Luncheon, courtesy of Doug Krause and Bernie Coullahan. We honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for freedom and our country.

The Ladies Summer BBQ/Picnic will be held on Saturday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> this year at the Friendship Hall in Saratoga Prospect Center(see Flyer in this newsletter). The City of Saratoga booked youth camps all summer weekdays, causing us to move to a Saturday. The venue has been great for us and the same caterer as last year will be providing the food! Tickets are \$38 per person and will be sold at the May and June lunch meetings. Don't miss it!!

The April Luncheon had an attendance of 90 and the May Luncheon saw 83 meals served. Membership has risen to 132 with the 5 Inductees in May. Keep the guests coming so we can share the fellowship!!

As always, if you have any suggestions, complaints, or even complements, please feel free to contact me via email or phone below.

Rick Hausman Big Sir

[Rhausm@aol.com](mailto:Rhausm@aol.com)

408.828.5416

## Save This Date

Wednesday, December 20th! This year's event will be held at the Three Flames Restaurant as usual and will be hosted by outgoing Big Sir Rick Hausman. We have contacted Leland High School's music director. She reported that they would love to entertain us again this year. Their appearance is predicated on the fall school schedule which will not be published until September.

### May Luncheon Presentation



Sorry, the May luncheon took place before the publication of the newsletter. Hope you all enjoyed the luncheon speaker and the lunch.

### Branch 32 Website Jim Caratozzolo, Webmaster



The update of the Br 32 webpage has been completed and is activated, replacing the previous version. The primary purpose was to utilize the SIR State website template



that is based on a WordPress development environment. This change insured that the website would display accurately and properly on all display screen sizes from mobile phones to desktop computers. The previous HTML based design had not achieved that objective. Further, the WordPress approach has been considerably simpler to create and maintain the website because of the built-in features that the tool environment provides. Note for example the Event Calendar is now Google based as offers more viewing flexibility. Also adding and organizing photos is considerably easier to achieve.

Please have a look and provide any feedback including suggestions for improvement or additional features that you believe will improve both the membership experience as well as the outreach to the public.

Jim Caratozzolo SIR BR 32 Web Master  
(408) 623-3405 [onlinejim@aol.com](mailto:onlinejim@aol.com)

### MEMBERSHIP REPORT



The April luncheon was very well attended with 81 members, 9 guests, and a speaker.

Five individuals submitted applications. Mark Reynolds was previously approved by the BEC and will be inducted in May, along with the current 5 applicants if approved by the May 10<sup>th</sup> BEC.

#### Database Status as of May 1, 2023

Members: **127** Inductees: **1** Applicants: **5** Widows: **22**  
Other: **12** Open Numbers: **18** **Total Database Count: 185**

The following men were inducted at the Br 32 luncheon on April 19:



l to r: Morris Pisciota, John Delgato, Dehn Haas, Jim James,  
John Caldwell, Jim Henderson, and Arun Aggarwal

## Welcome aboard SIRs

Respectfully Submitted: *Jim Caratozzolo*, Membership Chair

## MEMBERSHIP CARE



Fred Boyce, No. 104 has been in and out of the hospital due to a internal issue. He has been receiving therapy at a rehabilitation facility and is on the mend.

Mort Berlant, No. 82, is recovering from Covid and pneumonia and is beginning to feel better. If any Branch 32 member knows of anyone in sickness or distress, please call: **Mort Berlant** at (408) 264-5706



or **Skip Saunders** at (860) 961-1311.

## ANNIVERSARIES

Van and Mary Helen Lalumondier	05/16	1959	64
Seymour A. and Myham Bloom	05/21	1967	56
James and Claire McGuire	05/25	1970	53
Charles and Marenne Swan	05/06	1974	49
Wesley H. and Rosalie Howard	05/19	1979	44
Fred R and Cathleen Jones	05/18	1985	38
Anthony T and Leslie Mazzucco	05/12	1990	33
James and Tina Bowen	05/04	1991	32
Sam and Gloria Kahn	05/15	1999	24
Robert E. and Theresa Catalano	05/08	2004	19
Ken P. and Patti Roberts	05/12	2005	18

## BIRTHDAYS

<b>Augie Argabright</b>	05/07	1940
<b>Morton E. Berlant</b>	05/26	1935
<b>Michael Bishop</b>	05/28	1956
<b>Milton Blackstock</b>	05/05	1936
<b>Mike Console</b>	05/23	1930
<b>Paul Gardner</b>	05/17	1951
<b>Mike Price</b>	05/15	1944
<b>Ken Roberts</b>	05/03	1957
<b>Dick Rossman</b>	05/29	1938
<b>Jim Sleigh</b>	05/06	1930

## LONGEVITY

Jeff White	28	1995
Bob Berglund	25	1998
Bernie Coullahan	20	2003
Dean Johnson	20	2003
Fred Boyce	11	2012
Nick Marafino	10	2013
Bob Ravizza	10	2013
Robert Catalano	9	2014
Seymour Bloom	6	2017
Ed Wright	6	2017
Bill Comport	4	2019
Fred M Rasmussen	2	2021
Robert M Mannell	1	2022

## GOLF CLUB



The great news is that April was dry enough to actually play golf! After several months of atmospheric rivers every Tuesday, we finally played all four weeks in April. Now, there were a few weeks of light attendance due to rain “ threats”, but even on those days there were enough die hards to collect scores!! We’re all begging summer to arrive!!

Friday golf seemed to also dodge any weather bullets, with two full foursomes most weeks. The monthly Co-Ed golf at Deep Cliff had been suspended pending better weather and improved course conditions.

Once again Branch 32 volunteered to host the monthly Area 11 Golf Tournament which this time was a shotgun start at Los Lagos GC. There were 13 teams and the Branch 32 team of Jerry Angelo, Holt Gordon, Bob Thompson, and Dave Neuhaus finished in second place!! Dan Love was in 3rd place in the Closest to the Pin contest. A huge thank you to Bruce Henry who managed all the teams, score cards, and results calculations/reporting! He did Branch 32 proud!

	April 4th		April 11th		April 18th		April 25th	
Low Gross	Steve Guyon	82	Kevin Madej	86	Bob Thompson	83	Jim Claitor	84
	Garry Sellers	91	Wes Howard	92	Rick Hausman	87	Garry Sellers	88
	Mike Bishop	92	Jim Claitor	92	Paul Gardner	88	Bill Hawk	92
			Bob Grandey	92				
Low Net	Phyllis Vogel	67	PeterDuke	66	Wes Howard	68	Jim Claitor	70
	Mike Bishop	70	Bob Grandey	67	Rick Hausman	70	Garry Sellers	71
	Annie Allen	71	Bill Schlaefer	68	Bruce Henry	70	Bill Hawk	71
Low Putts	Annie Allen	32	Peter Duke	31	Bruce Henry	31	Mike Bishop	32
	Mike Sinnott	33	Mike Sinnott	32	Bill Schlaefer	33	Bill Hawk	32
	Garry Sellers	33	Wes Howard	35	Wes Howard	33	Wes Howard	34
							Jim Claitor	34

Rick Hausman, Golf Chairman

## BIKE ACTIVITY

### ELECTRIC & NON-ELECTRIC BIKES ON PAVED TRAILS

RIDES WILL BE ON THE 1st THURSDAY OF THE MONTH AT A DETERMINED LOCATION. THERE'S MANY TO CHOOSE FROM

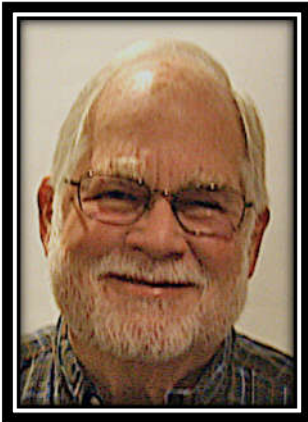
HELMETS REQUIRED & BIKE IN WORKING ORDER

RECOMMENDED ITEMS--Gloves, Left handlebar mirror, Sunglasses, Patch kit, Bike tools, Bicycle bell, & flashing red light to Alert your presence

BRING WATER, SNACKS, BIKE RACK OR BACKPACK, DRESS TO UNDRESS. IT COULD BE COLD

**Fred Jones, Biking Chairman [freddyelect@sbcglobal.net](mailto:freddyelect@sbcglobal.net) Cell 408-609-1926**

## BOCCE CLUB



Our During the month of April, we had the pleasure of having three matches each having between 13 and 16 players. Since we are now seeing the onset of warmer temperatures and dryer conditions we are regularly having more that 12 players available to play, we are prepared to expand to using three counts for all future matches when necessary. We do not



expect that we should have much difficulty obtaining three courts at this time of day.

Our winners on April 13th were Fred Boyce, Galen Gipson and Jim Sleigh with scores of 11 to 8 and 11 to 10.

Our winners on April 17th were Bernie Couallahan, Stan Schneider, and John Pletsch and Nick Jise with Scores of 11 to 3 and 11 to 6.

Our winners on April 24th were Bernie Couallahan, Daryle Gray, Ray Hall, and Larry Turner with scores of 11 to 5 and 11 to 5.

Congratulation to Bernie for his two match win.

We play every Monday afternoon starting at 1:00 pm at the Almaden Lake Park located in South San Jose (Winfield Road Side). No reservations are needed and there are no court fees

Roger Earle and Hersh Booth, Bocce CoChairmen

## POOL CLUB



We have been having 6 to 8 players on Monday nights at Cuetopia Cafe and Billiards, 4700 Almaden expressway, San Jose, Between Branham Lane and Cherry Avenue 5:00PM to 7:00PM come out and join the fun.

Galen Gipson  
Fred Rasmussen  
Co-Chairmen

## COUPLES BRIDGE



During the month of April we were able to hold two Saturday afternoon bridge sessions. On April 1, four couples met at the Earles house. Don Soderman took first place with Jane Earle in second place and Betsy Grandey in third. On April 15th 4 couples played at the Sodermans house. Linda Soderman took first place with Claire and Jim McGuire taking second and third places. The SIRS Br 32 couples bridge group has been playing for over a year now. We continue to enjoy gathering for one of our periodic Saturday afternoon bridge sessions which includes dessert.

Recently I had several inquiries from individual SIRS wanting to play bridge in a small group instructional setting for the purpose of improving their bridge skills. To do this, my wife and I would be willing to provide basic bridge instruction at our house to any SIRS BR32 couples who might like to do this. We would both bid, play and discuss the individual hands, both for playing offence and defense. The goal is to get you to a level where you would be comfortable playing with a more experienced group. Scheduling could be flexible. Please call me if you might be interested and we will set something up. If there is sufficient demand it might be possible to enlist additional instructors.

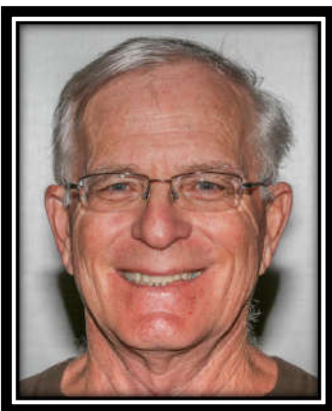
Roger Earle, Couples Bridge Co-Chair

## BRIDGE

The Bridge Club has restarted and meets every Thursday morning at 10 AM. We are looking for additional members that love to learn and play Bridge. If you have any interest in Bridge and enjoy a good time, please call Reiad Chikhani (408) 425-3738 for additional information.

Reiad Chikhani. Bridge Chairman

## HIKING CLUB



Our once a month outside hikes will be scheduled for the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month, or the first Wednesday after the monthly luncheon. At luncheon it will be announced with signup sheets on the back table.

We always walk every Monday at Vasona Lake around on the Los Gatos Creek trail and go 1½ hours from 9am to 10:30am on a 4.2 mile roundtrip on a level, paved, asphalt trail. We encourage all members to come join us. Show up



at 8:50am at 283 Garden Hill Dr Los Gatos. Come for the exercise and fun!

April's hike, 4/26/23, to High Meadow Trail was a roaring success! We had 11 signups with 9 attendees: John Caldwell who joined in April, Bernie Coullahan, Bruce Fenton, Bob Jamello, Fred Jones, Mike Kallbrier-a March inductee, Doug Krause, Dan Tam and Bob Thompson-who is warming up for a Machupicchu Peru hike real soon. Watch out for the Llama's Bob!



The weather was spectacular and we couldn't ask for better conditions. Dry trails except for a small stretch of muddy trails we had to dodge. Temps were 65 at 10am start to 79 at 1pm finish. There was a large group of people all walking one direction so we walked that way towards the Deer Hollw Farm. There is a large barn and outside corralled area that had all the animals on full display: cows, goats, sheep, long hair pigs, and hens and roosters. The Farm was picturesque set inside the forest of tall pines, oaks and madrones. After a short visit we set out from our hike even though we were already a mile into it already. We walked another mile and a half on level packed dirt trail amidst the lush green forest providing lots of shade, alongside a full and rapid flowing creek. The air was cool and full of pure oxygen. We climbed up another 550 feet to the top ridge via Wildcat Loop Trail. At the top we come on to High Meadow Trail where after a short hike there was a great vista point, with benches, where we stopped to admire the full vista of Silicon Valley with views of the North, East and South. The full vista views of our great Bay Area was a true rush of adrenaline. Temperature was about 74 with a slight 3mph breeze and crystal clear blue skies. Heaven! It felt like Hawaii! We stopped to sit on the benches to enjoy the views while we hydrated with water and snacked on fruit. Bernie Coullahan shared his own backyard dried apricots and persimmons. Mmmmm! Thanks Bernie!! We walked along the ridge for 2 miles more and then proceeded downward and finished off at the parking lot 3 hours after our start in a total 5.6 mile hike.

We all drove off in 2 cars to Applebee's on Saratoga Av by I-280 and had a hearty lunch at 1:30p start. As Bernie says: "I go on the hikes so I can enjoy the food afterwards!" And enjoy we did. The bonus



was they were having \$1 Margarita's just then. It was part of the plan! Right?! All in all....everyone had a real good time and it will become a hike to remember. It's events like these that grow our membership through establishing enduring friendships. Isn't this what it is all about in SIR? Friends for Life! Keep coming out for more to come.

Other outside hikes will be announced by email to those on my list and at the luncheons. Sign up by email back to Doug Krause at [diamondtub@sbcglobal.net](mailto:diamondtub@sbcglobal.net) or at the luncheon signup sheet.

Doug Krause, Hiking Club Chairman

### From Stan Schneider

