

SIR Mission Branch 32 Newsletter

Promoting the Independence and Dignity of Retirement

April 2023 Volume 55 No. 4



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

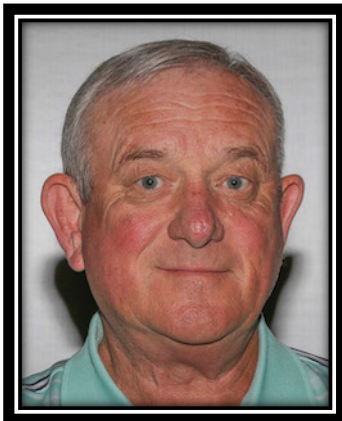
State Sir Website: <http://www.sirinc.org/>

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

April Luncheon is Wednesday 19th at Three Flames.

Social hour begins at 11:00

From Big SIR



Normally in the month of April we would be looking forward to “Spring Showers”. But, having already been inundated for months, we are instead begging for sunshine!! Reservoirs are nearly full, and skiing will last well into the summer, so that’s enough!!

Speaking of summer, the Ladies Summer Picnic/BBQ is again being held in July this year to avoid any potential State Golf Tournament conflicts. We will be using the same Saratoga Friendship Hall venue that worked so well for the last two years. However, because the hall is being used by youth camps during the week all summer, we had to move our BBQ to a Saturday, July 22nd. Save the date! The same caterer that provided the awesome food is returning to serve us again this year! Cost will be \$38. The flyer is in this newsletter and ticket sales will begin at the May lunch meeting. Our Activities continue to be well attended and new ones are in the works. The new Bike Activity, chaired by Fred Jones, is off to a great

start. Participation is good and the planned rides have provided wonderful scenery and exercise. A combined Bowling and Pool activity has been tested and is being considered. If you are interested in bowling, or want a new activity, let me know. We are open to any suggestions.

Our recruitment efforts reflect pride in our Branch and a strong desire to share our fellowship. We had 10 Guests at the March Lunch, resulting in 9 new member applications being approved for induction this month. The guest list for April is growing. Think of who you know, or meet, that you could share the benefits of SIR fellowship/activities with, and then bring them to a lunch.

Finally, due to the State, County and SIR eliminating Covid restrictions, we will no longer require proof of vaccine/booster for membership or events. However, we still recommend that everyone get them for their own protection.

If at any time during the year you have a concern, suggestion, or even a complement for someone, please feel free to call me at 408-828-5416. I'm at your service!

Rick Hausman, Branch 32 Big SIR

April Luncheon Presentation



Please join us for Sportswriter Cam Inman from the San Jose Mercury News.

Come to see his insight about our local teams including the 49ers, Warriors, and the Giants. Ask him his perspective on Tre Lance and his 49er future, Giants baseball, and the Warriors.

Ken Roberts, Program Chairman

Speaker

Cam Inman is a sports reporter for the San Jose Mercury News who specializes in covering the 49ers and the NFL. He grew up in Cupertino, delivered the San Jose News on a BMX bike as a kid, and turned pro as a sportswriter at age 16 for the Cupertino Courier. After graduating Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo with a journalism degree in 1993, he worked on the Central Coast two more years before returning to his native Bay Area in 1995.

Cam has worked for the Bay Area News Group and its entities since 1995, covering sports at every level. He's covered eight Super Bowls, the 2010 Giants' World Series breakthrough, the



Warriors' NBA championships and many other less celebratory events. He's also spoken with SIR groups in the East Bay, but he promises not to compare them with this strong, San Jose Branch 32.

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



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

MEMBERSHIP REPORT



The March luncheon was very well attended with 70 members, 10 guests, and a speaker. **Nine** of the guests submitted applications and were approved by the April BEC including **3** that used the web page online form. There are John Caldwell, Arun Aggarwal, Mark Reynolds, Morris Pisciotta, Charles James, Jim Henderson, Bill Haas, John Delgado and Jerry Berticevich

The BR member headcount is 124, as we inducted 5 new members, See photos below.



Tac Berry

Mike Branden

Mike Harvey

Mike Kallbrier

Dave Smith

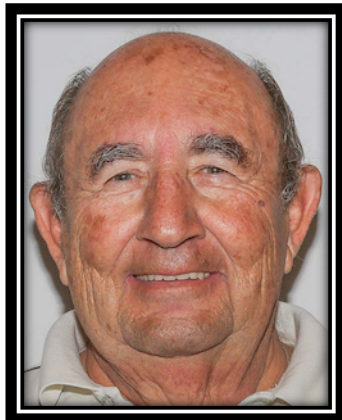
Database Status as of Mar 1, 2023

Members: **124** Inductees: **0** Applicants: 7 Widows: **22** Other: **12** Open Numbers: 20

Total Database Count: 185

Respectfully Submitted: *Jim Caratozzolo*, Membership Chair

MEMBERSHIP CARE



Mort Berlant has been battling COVID and has added Pneumonia

Fred Boyce spent several days in the hospital but is fully recovered.

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

Larry T. and Sandi See	04/24	1963	60
C. Greg and Mary Sue Caillat	04/30	1977	46
Jerry and Isabelle Angelo	04/03	1982	41
Kenneth and Claire Tarquinio	04/26	1987	36
William and Meg Morales	04/11	1992	31

Edwin K. and Eva Wright	04/09	1994	29
Vern and Donna Meade	04/13	2003	20

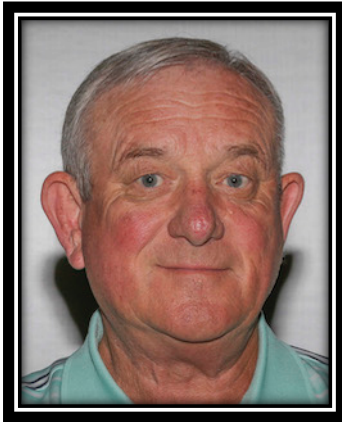
BIRTHDAYS

Greg Caillat	04/26
Bill Comport	04/10
Hal Daner	04/29
Roger T. Earle	04/09
Gary Espinosa	04/02
Bruce Fenton	04/19
Gene Handloff	04/14
Mac MacLaren	04/17
Nick Marafino	04/21
William Morales	04/26
David Smith	04/16
Richard Teel	04/29
Joseph Townsend	04/21
Todd White	04/19

LONGEVITY

Roger T. Earle	10	2013
Hans Lingens	6	2017
Reiad Chikhani	5	2018
Larry See	5	2018
Ed Henderson	4	2019
Van Lalumondier	4	2019
Orlando T. Michelon	4	2019
Larry Turner	4	2019
William Schlaefer	1	2022
Bruce Fenton	1	2022

GOLF CLUB



I guess this is getting repetitive, but the month of March was another rain challenged golf month! It seemed that the atmospheric river arrivals were on exactly a 7-day cycles and always on Tuesday! So, we were able to play on only one Tuesday last month.

However, the Area 11 Monthly Tournament was played on March 27th, and it was able to avoid the rain. This tournament was hosted by none other than Branch 32, with Dan Love doing a fantastic job serving as host and organizer! There were 56 players, with 28 of them coming from our Branch. The esteemed team of Galen Gipson, Wes Howard, Bruce Henry and Hal Daner finished tied for second place out of 13 teams. The team of Jerry Angelo, Kelvin Thomas, Bob Thompson and Holt Gordon finished in 5th place. The rest of us don't want anyone to know where we finished!!

Friday golf was off cycle from the rain and was managed to be played all but one week. Several times it was cart path only due to the soggy conditions, but we were still able to post decent rounds. With such limited response, other golfing activities, and the poor golf/food conditions at Deep Cliff, we are suspending the SIR co-ed golf event.

March 7th

Low Gross	David Neuhaus	85	
	Paul Gardner	90	
	Garry Sellers	92	
Low Net	Mike Bishop	69	
	Wes Howard	72	
	Dave Neuhaus	75	
	Garry Sellers	75	
Low Putts	Paul Gardner	35	
	Dave Neuhaus	35	
	Wes Howard	35	
	Mike Kallbrier	35	<u>Rick Hausman, Golf Chairman</u>

WINE SOCIETY



Our next Wine Society event will be on Sunday April 16 at 12 noon, weather permitting, at The Calerrain Winery at 10220 Jean Ellen Ct, Gilroy. The winery is just off Day Road. Go to the rear of the home around back. Plenty of parking in the rear area.

Feel free to bring snacks to share. The event is limited to 20 people on a first come first served basis with your **RSVP to my email below**. Ladies are welcome.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Paul Gardner
Wine Society Chairperson
paulgardner1757@yahoo.com

BIKE ACTIVITY (NEW ACTIVITY)

It was a beautiful day for a bicycle ride. About 65 degrees, with almost no breeze.

Doug Krause and Fred Jones meandered down the paved Los Gatos Trail. Following the fast-moving Los Gatos Creek from Meridian Ave. to Main St. in Los Gatos



We rode around Vasona Lake from one side of the dam to the other. We saw a turtle swimming under the foot bridge. We saw about 6 turtles sunning themselves on a tree limb in the water on the University Ave. side of the lake. I always see them on the same log.



Many ducks and geese were on the grass and in the water. Wildflowers are everywhere and the grass is green. Spring is finally here. It is a good time to be outdoors.

We had coffee at the Los Gatos Brewing Co. on Main St. Having good conversation and people watching the locals while sitting outside on their bench. We got to see the brew house roasting their coffee

beans in the roaster creating that great coffee aroma that coffee drinkers crave in the morning.

The ride was 8.3 miles and 1hr. in each direction with little foot traffic in the morning during the week compared to the weekend. It was a very good ride. I highly recommend it. On a bike you can cover a lot of ground in a lot less time

Fred Jones. Bike Activity Chairman

BOCCE CLUB



March was a great month for playing Bocce. We were able to play 3 out of the 4 Mondays this month under very pleasant conditions, having around 13 players for each match.

Our Bocce match held on March 13 was won by Fred Jones, Ken Roberts, and Stan Schneider.

Our Bocce match held on March 20th was won Hersh Booth, Roger Earle,

Bob Grandey and Will Pfund.



Our Bocce match held on March 27 as won by Hersh Booth, John Pletsch and Stan Schneider.

It looks like Hersh was the big winner for last month. Congratulations Hersh.

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, there are no court fees, and we never turn players away even if they arrive after the start

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

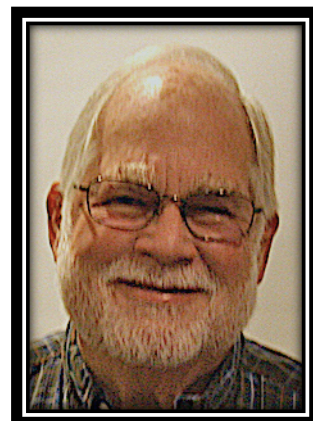


COUPLES BRIDGE

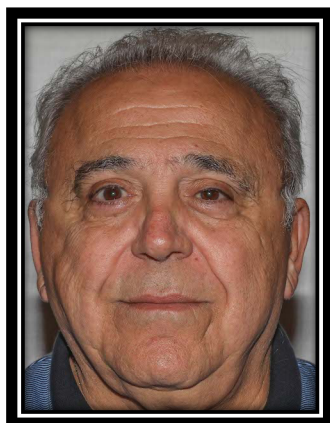
During the month of March our Couples Bridge group was unable to gather enough players even for one match.

We currently have 7 couples in our bridge group and play on Saturday afternoons whenever we can gather enough couples. We are a very busy group being involved in lots of other activities. We would like to get two or more couples involved so we could play more often. If you like to play bridge and are interested in joining our fun couples group, please call me.

Roger Earle, Couples Bridge Co-Chair



BRIDGE



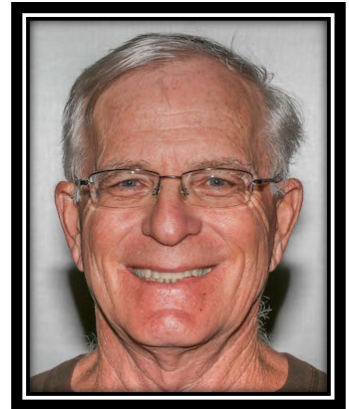
The Bridge Club has restarted and meets every Thursday morning at 10 AM. We are looking for additional members that love to learn and play Bridge. If you have any interest in Bridge and enjoy a good time, please call Reiad Chikhani (408) 425-3738 for additional information.

Reiad Chikhani, Bridge Chairman

HIKING CLUB

What a wet March we had! Normal for March in San Jose is just above 0.0 inches and we had 4.6 inches, let alone what fell in the hills nearby. This made it literally impossible to take a group on a hike what with all the mud and many down trees. We were fortunate to walk every Monday at Vasona on the Los Gatos Creek Trail where we walk around the lake on our normal 4.2-mile roundtrip on paved trails over 1 ½ hours. We welcome all those that want to join our group of anywhere from 6 to 10 guys who walk with us. So come on out!!

We saw some spectacular waterfalls with rapid, white water and huge water release from the Vasona Dam that led to trail flooding for portions of the walk. To join us, drive to 283 Garden Hill Dr Los Gatos and meet us at the top of the Vasona Dam NLT 8:50am. We leave at 9am.



Our next once a month outside hike will be:

PENINSULA OPEN SPACE TRAILS – RANCHO SAN ANTONIO OPEN SPACE PRESERVE - HIGH MEADOW TRAIL LOOP

When: Wednesday, April 26, 2023

Time: 9:30am – 1:30pm **Hike Period** plus join us for a friendly robust Early Dinner/Late Lunch 2p-3:30pm at Applebee's Grill & Bar 555 Saratoga Av SJ 95129 Free Parking. 408-446-8370.

Rendezvous Point: Meet **NLT 8:50am** at Cambrian Park Plaza parking lot in San Jose at the intersection of Camden Ave and Union Av. We will be on the side facing Union Ave.

We leave at 9am.

Directions to Rancho San Antonio County Park Parking Lot: From I-280, take Foothill Blvd exit. Go south on Foothill Blvd for approx. 0.2 miles. Go right onto Cristo Rey Drive, continue 1 mile and veer right around traffic circle, turn left into County Park entrance. Trailhead for the preserve located adjacent to the 85-car parking area in the northwest lot.

Hike Details: This hike is great for all seasons; enjoy wildflowers in the spring, cool canyon shade in summer, and wildlife all year long. Watch for deer, wild turkey, bobcat, mountain lion, and many migrant songbirds. There have never been any incidents due to bobcat and mountain lion recorded here.

Distance: 5.5 miles round trip

Elevation change: 800 feet

Hiking time: 4 hours

Trail Surface: Uneven, packed dirt. There are 2 sections of elevation gain: First mile is flat, then it goes up to 250', then along the creek and flat for a while. Next is a gain to 800'. We finish the rest of the hike at the ridge top with great views all around and flat and then down to the end.

What you see: Start along cool, green canyon and then through chaparral to high meadows filled with lupine, poppies, and blue-eyed grass during the springtime. With

clear skies **views of Mt. Tamalpais to the north and Mt. Hamilton to the east. See Deer Hollow Farm** near the start of the High Meadow Trail, a working farm with organic garden and animals including a cow, pigs, goats, sheep and chickens.

Safety: Wear hiking shoes, sunhat. Bring a backpack with 1-2 water bottles. Trail bar or fruit is good idea. Wear sunscreen and sunglasses recommended. Hiking sticks for those that want them. Dress in layers appropriate for the temperature of the day.

Call Doug Krause at 408-821-3263 or email at diamondtub@sbcglobal.net with any questions.

Doug Krause, Hiking Club Chairman

From Stan Schneider





It's Coming Back!



SIR Mission Branch 32

Ladies Summer Picnic/BBQ

Fully Catered BBQ Incl Beverage

Same Cook As Last Year!



\$38.00 Per Person

Social Time and Fun

Voluntary games (such as Bingo)

When: Saturday, July 22

What Time: 12:00 to 2:30

Where: Saratoga Prospect Center

19848 Prospect Road

Saratoga, CA

Tickets Go On Sale May 17