



Port Stockton Sayings Bulletin



The monthly bulletin of Port Stockton Branch 46 of Sons In Retirement, a California non-profit corporation chartered July 23, 1974.

LADIES DAY CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON DECEMBER 7TH 12:00 NOON

BIG SIR GREETING DECEMBER - 2017

Lot's of special days in December. Of course, the most important is the Ladies Day Christmas Luncheon on Thursday, December 7. In case you haven't signed up for this yet, there's a special page further on in the bulletin that tells you what to do. Then we have Pearl Harbor day also on December 7. A very important date is December 5 – the date of Prohibition Repeal which occurred in 1933. Poinsettia Day comes on Dec 12, but you'll see them December 7 on your table at the Christmas Luncheon. Winter Solstice (shortest day of the year) comes on Dec 21 and then Christmas Eve on December 24 which is also National Egg Nog Day (very convenient). Finally we have Christmas Day on the 25th and New Year's Eve on the 31st.

Our active membership is currently 88, one lower than last month which at that time was the lowest in Branch 46 history. This stresses the extreme importance of recruiting new members – a task that every branch member should undertake. Once again, we encourage everyone to participate – either by contacting your friends, the people you meet in our branch activities, or anyone else you come across who you think would enjoy being a member of our organization. In this regard, be sure to carry several of the wallet-sized cards that are always available at our sign-in table. If you don't have any of these cards, please contact Dave Derksen or Jack Lamberty.

In spite of the relatively low active membership, the November luncheon turnout was 56, resulting in an impressive 64%

attendance. This is a good percentage when one considers the fact that it was a rainy day and also getting close to the holiday season. The speaker, Kevin Hertell, director of the Micke Grove Zoo and Oak Park Nature Center, gave an excellent talk emphasizing their animal enrichment policy which is mainly directed towards “making the animals happy”. And a sincere welcome back to Gary Calhoun and John Mendonca who showed up at the luncheon in spite of spending the last month or two in the hospital.

Finally, this will be my last Greeting for the bulletin. Dave Derksen will take over the Big Sir duties in January. I would like to thank all those who helped me during the year – there's not room enough in this bulletin to name everyone. I have really enjoyed being your Big Sir. It's an excellent way to meet people and to become more familiar not only with the workings of the Branch but also with the State Sir Organization. But you're not getting rid of me – I will pop up next year as the Branch Treasurer. So I'll see you at the sign-in table next January.

John Doisy - Big Sir 2017

NEW IN THIS EDITION

- ❖ --Birthdays & Anniversaries
- ❖ --November Luncheon
- ❖ --December Calendar
- ❖ --New Website Listings
- ❖ --Roster Addition
- ❖ --Big Sir Greetings (front page)

SIR BOWLING

Come join us for bowling fun every Wednesday morning, 9:30 am, at Pacific Bowl. Experienced bowlers, beginners and anybody in between will have a great time. Women are welcome, too.

Call Ron Korock at 951-4759 for more information. Or ronkorock@comcast.net



Miss a Meeting?

When you know you will miss a luncheon meeting, please give our Attendance Chairman, Dick Andersen, a call (478-3753) or send him an e-mail: whalelady@comcast.net

Bring a Friend, Win a Prize

- When you bring a friend (prospective new member) to a Branch 46 lunch meeting, you will receive FREE five 50-50 tickets. Good luck! **ALSO**, if your friend happens to join, then you will receive a free lunch.



SIR BRIDGE

Bridge starts at 8:30 AM preceding the monthly meeting. Please contact Dave Palmer to reserve a seat at a bridge table. **Dave Palmer Bridge Chairman 242-2093** or E-mail Dave at dpalmeretal@aol.com

Sunshine & Memorials:

John Mendonca is our chairman for this committee. His phone number is 477-0743. Whenever you are aware of a member who has a serious illness or whose family has experienced some tragic circumstances, please give John a call. Please don't be hesitant to call John if you are aware of a member who is having problems. A call from the SIR would be greatly appreciated.



9 Hole Golf

The 9 hole golf group plays every Tuesday at Swenson Executive Course. Players should arrive by **8:30 a.m.** to get their tee times. In the winter months we play on an informal basis. Come and join us. John Mendonca

Any questions, call me at 477-0743 or johnmendonca@yahoo.com

SWITCHING TO E-MAIL



Sending out bulletins via Snail-mail (USPS) is time consuming and expensive. If you have a computer and are now receiving your bulletin thru the mail, please consider switching to E-mail. Simply contact Jack Lamberty and we'll take care of the rest. Thank you. **Remember – E-mail is in color!!**

Jack Lamberty 451-1165 JackL68734@aol.com



WELCOME OUR NEW STARS

New members to Branch 46 are easy to recognize. They have a star on their badge. When you see a star on a SIR's nametag, make sure you introduce yourself and welcome them to Branch 46. **We suggest you also send a welcoming E-mail to the new member.**



18 hole golf had a great season. Those interested in helping by running a tournament or two next year please let me know. We will be meeting in the next month or so to set up the schedule for next year. Our first tournament will be in February.

The NCGA Dues are now due. The renewal amount is \$43, A check should be sent to: Bill Rutherford, 1067 1st Avenue, Walnut Grove, 95690.

Any of you who have not been involved with 18 hole golf, but would like to be, call me (957-7775) and I will help you get involved. We all have a good time. You are not required nor expected to play in every tournament. You may pick and choose which ones to participate in.

John Stevens



**IMPORTANT DATES FOR BRANCH 46
DECEMBER, 2017**

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3		5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

- ❖ Dec 5 Prohibition Repeal (1933) I'll Drink to That!
- ❖ Dec 7 Christmas Luncheon plus Pearl Harbor Day
- ❖ Dec 12 Poinsettia Day
- ❖ Dec 21 Winter Solstice (Shortest Day)
- ❖ Dec 24 Christmas Eve and National Egg Nog Day
- ❖ Dec 25 Christmas Day
- ❖ Dec 31 New Years Eve



GET READY FOR LADIES DAY CHRISTMAS PARTY!!



Dec. 7, 12:00 @Elkhorn

No tickets? No Problem!!

Pay at the Party

**Just let us know ahead of time
How many? Tri-Tips or Ham?**

Please notify Ron Korock by November 30. 951-4759

HERE'S WHAT YOU'RE MISSING IF YOU DON'T COME:

- 1. Gift Exchange – bring a gift if you wish to participate**
 - 2. New Officer & Director Installation.**
 - 3. Lincoln High School Choir at 12:00**
 - 4. Luncheon at 12:30**
 - 5. Big “R” (\$)**
- (Events not in order)**



November Luncheon Happenings

The November luncheon featured Mr. Kevin Hertell, Zoo and Interpretive Services Manager for the Micke Grove Zoo and the Oak Grove Nature Center. Mr. Hertell began his career in Animal Welfare related work over 38 years ago and has worked in all levels of government, in the private sector and also in not-for-profit. He began his position with San Joaquin County in January of this year. According to Mr. Hertell, the Micke Grove park started in 1938, and the zoo started in 1957. In the early years they housed large animals and featured a polar bear and lion. However, in later years, the main mission of the zoo emphasized enrichment of the animals which really meant “making them happy”. The larger animals were obviously stressed due to their limited space and had to be transferred from the zoo.



Kevin Hertell and John Doisy

Today the zoo has 170 animals and the largest is a snow leopard. If the zoo has a particular animal species that is going extinct on the outside, they will contact other zoos to initiate a breeding program. He emphasized that they do not take animals out of the wild to add to their zoo population. Instead they will contact accredited agencies to get new animals. Also at the luncheon, three branch members were approved unanimously as Branch 46 Officers for 2018. These are: Treasurer: John Doisy; Assistant Treasurer: Duke Wilkinson; and Secretary: George Snider. Also at the luncheon, Branch 46 members brought in a significant amount of food (canned and packaged) plus monetary donations for the Stockton Food Bank. This is an excellent response considering the short notice (2 days) and very rainy weather on the luncheon day. Big Sir John Doisy loaded up the back of his car and delivered everything to the Food Bank. Finally, new member James “Jim” Sepiol was introduced. Jim’s roster information is presented below. Jim was sponsored by Dave Palmer and John Mendonca.

Jim Sepiol (#28) (Janet) (11-13)
3532 Harpers Ferry Dr BD Aug. 08
Stockton, 95219 Ph 951-4073
SOS_Dr.Sepiol@SBCglobal.net
Physician // Bridge, Orchids, Gardening, Golf



Jim Sepiol

WELCOME TO BRANCH 46, JIM!!

MERRY CHRISTMAS



BRANCH 46 WEBSITE <http://branch46.sirinc2.org>

Remember, to access the website, just use the CTRL, click feature on the above link.

Computer -The Computer link on the main website page features the December edition of Bill Bromiley's Computer Newsletter. Interesting write-ups that we can relate to are described briefly below. Numbers are the paragraph numbers in the newsletter

1. Electric airplanes. A Colorado company called Bye Aerospace is developing an electric airplane by modifying a Cessna 172 to operate with an electric motor. This is a lengthy article written by the company's president; however, there is a lot of good technical data on their motor and electric airplanes in general. They expect to fly sometime this year. Some of the interesting facts are: (1) The motor is only 30 cm in diameter and 10 cm high, weighs 45 pounds, and operates on lithium-ion batteries. (2) When the aircraft is descending with no power required the engine is "windmilling". In this mode it becomes a generator and can recharge the battery by an additional 13 percent.

7. and 8. Two articles on driverless cars. They are already operating around Chandler, AZ and are projected to appear in California around June 2018, depending when all of the State statutory requirements are met.

9. Laser Weapon on Jet Fighter Aircraft: Lockheed Martin is developing one that can be put on a fighter aircraft. Lasers travel at speed of light so a fighter jet flying at supersonic speed would be able to shoot down a supersonic missile. Unlike bullets, bombs or missiles, they sizzle instead of boom and can limit damage to a specific target – no collateral damage. The main problem is the enormous amount of power required. To date, the AF has put lasers on several vehicles ranging from helicopters to dune buggies. General Atomics is developing one that can be put on a drone.

10. Digital Pill approved by FDA. Millions of patients do not take medications as prescribed. Digital sensor will be prescribed along with medications. Stomach fluid activates pill which transmits data to doctor.

13. FCC Attacks Robocalls. Phone companies can now block calls they know are fraudulent. The article tells what criteria the companies will use to block calls such as calls from area codes that do not exist or from calls purporting to be from invalid numbers.

14. Tesla's Electric Big Rig Truck. Available for delivery in 2019 and can travel 500 miles on a single charge. No engine, no gears, no transmission, no differential – just 4 independent electric motors. The article doesn't say where or how the motors are mounted or any other significant details, but it does say that Wal-Mart has ordered five Tesla units for the U.S fleet and six for Canada.



DECEMBER 2017 BIRTHDAYS & WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

**SIR BRANCH 46
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR - RON KOROCK**

OUR 2017 BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO...

Bob HAMERNIK	Jim PICKERING	John SEFRIED
John BAYLEY	Frank RUBINO	Don YERIAN
Walter NICHOLS	Art KINNEY	John MENDONCA
Elvin TYLER	Mike SATHER	

OUR BEST WISHES TO THE FOLLOWING SIRs AND THEIR WIVES ON THEIR WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES ...

Janet & Paul WAGNER	married	December 31, 1995
Janet & Greg YOUNG	married	December 03, 1994
Elfie & Jim BROADWATER	married	December 08, 1973
Susan & Mike SATHER	married	December 27, 1969

and to those SIRs married 50 or more years ...

Rachel & Frank MARTINEZ	married	December 13, 1964
Elaine & Bill WERNER	married	December 15, 1962

and very special greetings to two couples married more than 60 years ...

Shirley & Ellis WEEKS	married	December 21, 1957
Mava & Fayne WOLFORD	married	December 23, 1954

Membership: 88 Active members, 19 Inactive

November Meeting Attendance: 56 = 64%



SIR Travel Opportunities 2017/12

Note: If you decide to book one of these trips or cruises, please go through the branch Travel Chairman shown in the listing. He has spent a great deal of time and effort setting up these opportunities for SIR members, and you will be able to socialize with a group of your fellow Sirs.

Note: Once again, by request, we are showing travel info starting in 2018 and extending to 2019 in this edition. Check the website for travel listings in 2017.

<http://branch46.sirinc2.org>

Dec 29- Jan 2, 2018: New Year's in Memphis at New Graceland Guest House. Highlights include 4 nights at the New Graceland Guest House, Gala New Year's Eve Dinner, Tour of Graceland, Rock n Soul Museum, Memphis Music Hall of Fame, The Cotton Museum, Lorraine Motel & Nat'l Civil Rights Museum. Fabulous Memphis Farewell Dinner & entertainment. Tom Duncanson, Br 20, Santa Cruz, 831-662-8605. or Lee Suess, 209-296-2235.

Jan 12-22, 2018 Cruising the Mexican Riviera. A 10-night cruise from SF on the Grand Princess with ports of call in Puerto Vallarta, Manzanillo, Mazatlán, Cabo San Lucas and back to SF. Cost ranges from \$1565 to \$2375 depending on cabin and includes all taxes and fees, all tipping for drivers, pre-trip orientation, home pick up and return and all shipboard meals. Rollo Parsons Br.141, 408-268-5245 or Brian Serpa, 408-227-7658.

Feb 8-16,2018: Tropical Costa Rica. Highlights of this trip include, air, insurance, 13 meals, gratuities and guides. You will visit the unique ecosystem of the Monteverde Cloud Forest, the Doka Coffee Estate, the Arenal Volcano the Cano Negro Nature Preserve and much more. Cost is \$3299. Jim Stoner, Br 114, 408-238-8458 or Larry Martinson, 408-528-0746.

Mar 4-8, 2018: Giants Spring Training. 5- day trip to Scottsdale to see three MBL Cactus league games. Reserved seats, R/T air for SFO, Accommodations at the Hilton Garden Inn including breakfast. Hosted dinner at Talking Stick Resort/Casino and more for only \$1445.00pp. Contact Derlin German, Br. 58, Petaluma, 707-763-6162

Apr 4-14, 2018: Tulip Time in Holland. A 7-night Cruise R/T to Amsterdam aboard AMA Waterways. Celebrate the beauty of the Netherlands and Belgium in the springtime. You will visit the legendary Keukenhof Gardens, and pass colorful row houses and houseboats, See Ann Franks home then indulge in culinary bliss via Belgium chocolates and stroopwafel. Cost ranges from \$4830.00 to \$6195.00 based on cabin choice and includes complimentary bikes, unlimited complimentary fine dining and wines, all guides, gratuities and taxes, R/T air, choice of excursions, and river view staterooms or suites. John Pletsch, Br.32, 408-274-2992 or Mike Console, 408-246-1080.

Apr 18-27, 2018: Spring Tulip River Cruise. 10-day Cruise featuring Dutch and Belgium Waterways. Highlights include Amsterdam, Volendam, Hoorn. Arnhem. Middelburg, Ghent, Bruges, Antwerp, Kinderdijk windmills. Utrecht and Keukenhof Gardens. Cost \$4376 to \$7176 and includes RT Air, Insurance, Air Taxes, Hotels and transfers. Bill Britton, Br121, 925-443-9913.

May 12-18, 2018: Southern Charm Discovery. Trip features Jekyll Island, Savannah & Charleston, Jacksonville, St Simons Island, Andrew Low House, and choice of Boone Hall Plantation or Patriots Pt. Naval Museum. Cost is \$2836.00 covers air taxes & fees, hotel & transfers, gratuities and R/T air, Bill Rodman, Br 38, 408-274-4521 or Alan Patmore, 408-867-4197.

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.

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 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.

Sep 23-Oct 2, 2018: American Queen St Louis to Memphis. The cruise begins with overnight stay in St Louis and ends with another overnight in Memphis, including tours in each city. The trip includes all transfers, R/T Air, port changes hotel cost, shore excursions, all meals on board ship, complimentary beer and wine. Ports of call include Alton, Chester, Cape Girardeau, Paducah, Dover, New Madrid, Ashport Landing, and Memphis Cost is \$3300 to \$5960 depending on cabin. Mike Console, 408-246-1080 Br 32. San Jose.

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.

Feb 15-Mar 2, 2019: Cruise from San Francisco to Ft Lauderdale. 15 day cruise aboard the Coral Princess with port stops at Cabo San Lucas, San Juan Del Sur, Puntarenas, Fuerte Amador, cruising through the Panama Canal, Cartagena, and Ft Lauderdale. Cost ranges from \$3390 to \$4190 depending on stateroom and includes, home pickup, shipboard meals and entertainment, R/T airfare, luggage handling, transfers, all drivers and porters, gratuities, all applicable taxes and travel gift .Arkady Belogolovsky, Br. 54, 408-253-3956, or Joe Salamida, 408-767-2838.

Send your brief trip information to Bob Spellman at bobnjo@astound.net by the 25th of the month. Only trips of at least 4 days or more in length will be listed.

