



# The Pathfinder

Branch Number 59

Thirty-Seventh Year

March 2012

Bulletin No. 3

**NEXT MEETING at Newark Pavilion - Thursday, March 15, 2012**

## Jottings from Jim by Big Sir Jim Ferez



Hello to my fellow Sirs. About one third of the year is over already, but this is March and it is a great day for the Irish and we are all Irish in March. This month it is corned beef and cabbage and a visit from the SIR Singers. I have asked Sir Bob Benya to get the boys together and give us a few minutes of Irish songs with our lunch. I hope you all have a great St. Patrick's Day.

We have been taking in new members each month and that is wonderful. The continued growth of the organization is important to all of us. I was thinking just last month this is not a bad place to be for a few hours each month. Fellowship, food, and maybe even a drink is not a bad way for a guy to spend a few hours. We need to let more men know about the good thing we have.

I would, again, like to mention that so many of you have such interesting backgrounds and have done so many important things. Many of you can speak with first hand knowledge about the history of our area. What a thrill for people to hear about history from a person who lived it. Please consider setting up a date with Little Sir Skip Mugford to talk to the group and share some of that priceless background.

Remember the May Summertime Fiesta. Bring your lady and your sombrero and have some fun with us. The reservation forms are in this month's Pathfinder. Please keep in mind that we can sure use Door Prizes. Merchant Letters will be available for anyone who needs them.

I would like to remind all the members that Post Office costs continue to go up and, if you can, please sign up to get the Pathfinder via email as opposed to snail mail.

In summary I would like to say thanks for allowing me the privilege of being your Big Sir. I am very proud of this Branch and what it has accomplished and very proud to be part of this organization. It is a great day for the Irish.

*Jim*

## Our Speaker Jim Solar by Little Sir Skip Mugford



A 1965 graduate of Northwest Missouri Jim was commissioned as a Naval Officer in February 1966. His active duty service was spent aboard two ships operating in the coastal waters of Vietnam and in the Mekong Delta. He retired from a 35 year civilian career in industrial metal sales. Jim has served as a docent aboard *Hornet* for five years.

His 20-minute presentation will reveal interesting facts about this magnificent ship while covering the history of the name HORNET; the history of the two aircraft carriers named USS Hornet and how they served our country from 1942 through 1970; and the ship's exploits during World War II, the Cold War, Vietnam, and the Space Program.

**BRING IN A GUEST**

**WE NEED NEW MEMBERS**

### MENU

**Corned Beef or Garlic Chicken**  
Potatoes/carrots, Rice and Cabbage



If you are not coming or if you are bringing a guest or visitor  
**Don't forget to Call on the Monday before the meeting - or earlier**  
Ed Guthrie (510) 659-0498 or email [edguthrie@comcast.net](mailto:edguthrie@comcast.net)



## Branch 59 Officers

Big Sir  
Jim Ferez  
(510) 651-7717

Little Sir  
Skip Mugford  
(510) 656-9017

Secretary  
Frank R. Thomas  
(925) 960-0429

Asst. Secretary  
Peter Angelides  
(510) 797-3570

Treasurer  
Hugh Twomey  
(510) 796-5559

Asst. Treasurer  
Vince Fernelius  
(510) 489-0396

### Directors

Don Gillis  
Nat Lord  
George Perry  
Jerry Sabo  
Ed Thomas  
Roger Wallin

### Branch 59

Meets at Newark Pavilion  
6430 Thornton Avenue  
Newark  
on the 3rd Thursday of  
each month  
10:00 AM  
Executive Board Meeting  
11AM Social Hour  
12 Noon Lunch

A Nonprofit  
public benefit  
corporation for  
retired men



## Sir Frank R. Thomas February Meeting Minutes

Big Sir Jim Ferez called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM and led the assembled group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### ROLL CALL BY SECRETARY

Officers present: Big Sir Jim Ferez, Little Sir Skip Mugford, Secretary Sir Frank R. Thomas, Treasurer Sir Hugh Twomey, Assistant Secretary Sir Peter Angelides. Officers absent: Assistant Treasurer Vince Fernelius. Directors Present: Sir Nat Lord, Sir George Perry, Sir Jerry Sabo, Sir Ed Thomas, Sir Don Gillis and Sir Roger Wallin. Directors absent: None.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the January Minutes as published in the Pathfinder.

### OFFICERS REPORTS

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Sir Hugh Twomey, presented the Feb Jan 2012 Report and indicated a Check Book balance of \$5603.07.

Secretary's Report: Secretary Frank R. Thomas stated he had nothing to report but it was noted that an updated SIR Manual is available, if needed, at all BEC meetings.

Little Sir's Report: Little Sir Skip Mugford reported that today's speaker would be George Coles. He also indicated he had March's speaker and indicated he would appreciate any help he could get. There was then a spirited discussion concerning future speakers. Big Sir Jim Ferez made a point of congratulating Skip on last month's speaker.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Attendance: Sir Ed Guthrie projects attendance at today's luncheon at 150.

Membership: Sir Fred Gotthardt presented for Sir Ron Brutvan who was recovering from Knee Replacement Surgery. Four new members were proposed. A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the new

members. The new members are: Sir George Prows (# 70), Ken Weiss (# 93), Dick Sullivan (#103) and Ed Nilsen (# 105).

Birthdays: We are celebrating 23 February birthdays ranging from 67 to 95. The Officers and Directors wish these men a very Happy Birthday.

Golf: Sir Bill Leake stated that the Golf group plays at Sunol on Mondays and sometimes on Thursdays. He also indicated that he had handed out Information and flyers for the following tournaments – Las Vegas (in March), Team Competition (May), Scramble Tournament in June in Reno and Scramble/2Man Best Ball Tournament at Solvang in September.

Bowling: Sir Jerry Sabo reported that several tournaments had been held since last month. More information will be in the up coming Pathfinder.

Social: Social Chairman Sir Hugh Twomey reported that the entertainment had been lined up for the May Luncheon. He also indicated that we would have 4 entrée choices to choose from; Chicken Cordon Bleu, Beef Tri Tip, Salmon and Chicken, Mexican Style. He indicated as well, that the caterer had offered to provide Appetizers which led to a spirited discussion leading to a motion being offered and passed not to have Appetizers.

Sunshine: Sir Alan Sprague reported that Sir John Austin was in the ICU.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS: There was no new business.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:42 AM.

Submitted by Secretary

*Sir Frank R. Thomas*

# MEMBERSHIP, ATTENDANCE and BIRTHDAY NEWS

by Sir Ron Brutvan, Sir Ed Guthrie, and Sir Art Winkley

## Birthday Report



**Sir Art Winkley**  
Birthday Chairman

## New Members

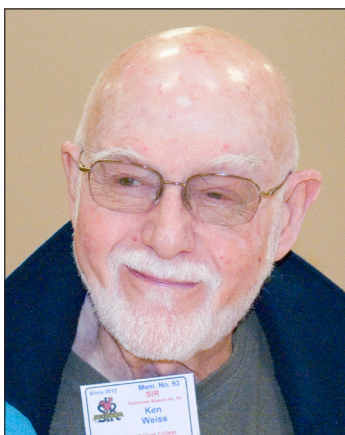
**George L. Prows**  
36284 Casey Court  
Newark, CA 94560-1902  
510-793-6830  
Birthday: 2/11/1935  
Spouse: Marilyn  
Badge No. 70  
Sponsor: Les Addison  
Call me: George

**Ken H. Weiss**  
39622 Buena Vista Terrace  
Fremont, CA 94538-2103  
510-656-5646  
Email: fremontguy@earthlink.net  
Birthday: 12/9/1931  
Spouse:  
Badge No. 93  
Sponsor: Ed Guthrie  
Call me: Ken

**George Prows**



**Ken Weiss**



## Membership Report



**Sir Ron Brutvan**  
Membership Chairman

**Guests:** **Guest of:**

**No Guests**

**Visitors:**  
**George Coles** Speaker

**Change of Status:**  
**Earl Evans** Resigned  
**Herb Epstein** to Inactive

**Membership Total**  
(as of February 2012)

**205** — Active Members  
**18** — Inactive Members

## March Birthdays

Bruno Orsetti	03/05/1921	91
John Austin	03/21/1922	90
Manuel Silva	03/16/1923	89
Norman Silveira	03/19/1923	89
Jim Owens	03/24/1923	89
Sylvan Farrell	03/07/1925	87
Alvin Dockter	03/17/1925	87
Lyle Kingery	03/17/1926	86
Gus Anastole	03/25/1926	86
Peter Sodini	03/06/1927	85
Arnold Mozzetti	03/25/1929	83
James Putler	03/28/1930	82
Robert Benya	03/19/1931	81
Sam Mitchell	03/04/1932	80
Thomas Russo	03/20/1934	78
Allen Sprague	03/13/1935	77
Nathaniel Lord, Jr.	03/26/1935	77
Sergio Zilli	03/08/1936	76
Gerald Hensel Jr.	03/09/1936	76
Howard Thompson	03/22/1936	76
S. Edward Barnes	03/26/1936	76
Richard Lightholder	03/29/1938	74
Gary Bennett	03/21/1939	73
David Tanner	03/12/1940	72

**Bring in a Guest**  
**We need new**  
**Members**

## Attendance Report



**Sir Ed Guthrie**  
Attendance Chairman

**Attendance Report**  
(For February 2012)

Members	150
Guests	0
Visitors	1
<b>Total =</b>	<b>151</b>
28 excused	27 unexcused



You can get this issue of the Pathfinder or earlier issues by going to the Branch Website:

<http://branch59.sirinc2.org/>

# SIR BRANCH 59 ACTIVITIES

## Strikes and Spares by Jerry Sabo

So far this year, we have only received tournament results from the Stockton Tournament of January. Even those results are unofficial, because the SIR operations manager has not given the go-ahead to post them on our bowling website referred to below. We did receive prize funds for **Don Henry**, **Jerry Sabo**, Dick Sofield (Br. 6), and Kasey Warner (Br. 6). That is a good sign because those bowlers were predicted to place. The bowlers that we sent to Sonoma and to the Livermore tournament also did pretty well overall. I hesitated to say too much at our last luncheon, but for some reason or other the bowlers we have from Branch 6 seem to be coming on strong. Branch 6 is a much smaller SIR Branch, but we have had four new bowlers from Branch 6 and only one new bowler, **Ron Sternal**, from Branch 59. I just wish that more Branch 59 bowlers would give us a try. Not everyone goes to tournaments, but this is a wonderful opportunity to meet new friends from many other SIR Branches.

Upcoming tournaments include:

Petaluma	Mar 5, 7	Mon, Wed	Boulevard Bowl
Concord	Mar 19, 21	Mon, Wed	Diablo Lanes
Carson City	Apr 16-19	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu	Gold Dust West

Earlier this year it was announced that the Bowling Tournament Calendar would now include South Lake Tahoe. It seems that the Black Oak Casino Tournament will be reinstated soon. We previously lost our Tournament Manager for that tournament, but a new manager has volunteered. All that is needed is a coordinated date and that tournament will be announced. A total of 20 tournaments are listed for 2012, and the Black Oak Tournament would give us 21. Possibly another tournament will come through from Tracy. We have a busy year with or without tournament play.

None of our bowlers are going to the Nationals in Baton Rouge, LA this year, but we are planning to attend the Nationals in 2013 when they return to Reno.

On the bowling part of the SIR website <http://sirinc.org/bowling/> there is always a posting of upcoming tournaments, tournament results, tournament applications etc. The State Bowling Webmaster is yours truly.

We meet at Cloverleaf Family Bowl; located in the shopping center at the corner of Grimmer and Fremont Blvd. Just show up and be ready to start practice bowling at 12:45 P.M. Cost is \$13.00 to bowl. We normally are finished before 3:00 P.M.

*Jerry Sabo*



## Golf Notes by Bill Leake

Welcome to the Branch 59 golf column.

We are approaching our first state tournament – **Las Vegas April 22-26** – 4 days and 5 nights at the Palace Station and you play Angel Park and Painted Desert. Can't drive – no problem – transportation is provided to and from courses. I had fliers at the last meeting. If still interested download it from [sirstategolf.com](http://sirstategolf.com) or call me. We still do not have new members – do you know a retired friend who plays golf but is not in SIR – invite them to a meeting. Ho hum – **Forrest Lusher** got another birdie since the last article – hole #11 on Cypress. Drive/chip and bingo – in the hole... Wait – one more – Ben Fernandez shot an 88 at Cypress. With his 25.8 index makes a net 62.2 – Way to go! **Ben Fernandez** -- take a bow!

For Mondays at Sunol we have been booking 4 tee times—but only 8 to 12 golfers are showing up. We have cut back the # of tee times to 3 (12 golfers) for Monday only and if we do not get 12 golfers on a consistent basis we will cut it back to 8. If you are a regular at Sunol and have your group playing on a particular Monday but not at Sunol let me know please so I can cut the # of tee times back.

We have the schedule for 2012: Las Vegas – April 22-26 – noted above. **Team qualifying tournament** on May 24 at Sunol. Do you have a team yet? We use May handicaps so it is still early – (See separate flier) – with the team championship at Brentwood on August 6 (Shadow Lakes)... **Reno** (2 weeks this year) – week 1 June 11-15 and week 2 June 18-22. Call in to sign up for Reno is the first week in March. Circus Circus will mail instructions to all SIR NCGA golfers... the **area 8 individual state qualifier** August 29 at Boundary Oaks. No info has been sent out yet... and finally we have the **Solvang classic** September 9-13. . There are no results as there were not any tournaments this past cycle.

Do you want to stay abreast with SIR state activities – visit [www.sirstategolf.com](http://www.sirstategolf.com) and it will tell you more than you need to know?

**Suggestion Box** – Do you have a suggestion to improve SIRS golf? Call Bill Leake (793-6561) for details. You could win a case of golf balls.

**Regular play** for SIR Branch 59 – We play every Monday (3 tee times) and Thursday (1 tee time) at Sunol. Join us – to find out the tee time, please call Sunol at 925-862-0414. The reservation is made under LEAKE. Post – post your score.

**Please – we need more members for SIR and also SIR golf.**

Thank you for reading this article.

*Bill Leake*



## CYBERGEEZER MEETING

Our meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, March 20th** in the **Fukaya B room** at the Fremont Main Library. Note that this is one week later than usual.

Jerry plans to discuss passwords and other security notions a bit more because of a lot of recent hacking etc. He also would like to spend a lot more time answering your questions before I bring up other topics.

Topics are usually varied, and generated by group interest. All SIR members and friends are always welcome to attend. If you have a laptop computer or notebook, please bring it next time.

**Jerry Sabo** – 510-790-3135

## WRITING YOUR LIFE STORY

Join us for an hour at the Creative Writing Class at the Fremont Senior Center every **Tuesday at 10:00 AM**.

During that hour, instructions are handed out for writing (but not required); writings are read (if you want to read what you wrote) and discussed. It is an active class with some great people.

**Don Gillis** - 510-490-1978

## BRIDGE GROUPS

The Bridge activity includes 2 night time couple's groups and a daytime group following the monthly luncheons. The diners are encouraged to join the latter card sharks in order to overwhelm the noise of tables and chairs being moved by Pavilion's staff.

**Arnold George** - 510-797-9524

## PATHFINDERS WALKING AND HIKING GROUP

Meet Wednesday mornings at 8:00 AM at the Park at Paseo Padre and Isherwood. Everyone welcome and bring a friend.

**Don Henry** at 510-656-5659.

**Vince Fernelius** at 510-489-0396



## READERS AND BROWSERS

Bring your magazines and books to share, take books home to read.

**Wayne Adams** 510-797-7611



<http://sirinc.org/sirhappenings/>

## Area 8 SIR Travel Adventures

**Emile Lassalle**

**APRIL 14th, 2012**

### BEACH BLANKET BABYLON IN SAN FRANCISCO

We will board our bus at 3:15pm in the parking lot for our trip to San Francisco to a fine Italian Dinner. After dinner we will most likely walk to the Beach Blanket Babylon Theater for the show. The reason for the walk is that it is only about a block away and parking in San Francisco is bad.



Price for this trip will range between \$130.00 and \$140.00 depending on participation of members, friends and guests. Also we are trying to negotiate a lower rate for the bus to help lower the fare. We need more than 32 persons to make this trip a go. Please sign up A.S.A.P as the signup period is only about 30 days. This show production is always a sell-out.

**COST: \$130-\$140 PER PERSON,**  
Escort Emile Lassalle, 510-538-7463

**September 28 to October 13, 2012**

### PANAMA CANAL CRUISE

This is a 15 night cruise aboard the ISLAND PRINCESS, San Francisco to Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. Return flight home to San Francisco included. All transfers between airport, ship and pier and Driver/Porter gratuities included.

**COST: \$2695 TO \$3385 plus insurance if selected.**

Escort Lou Pagni, 510-276-5025.

**June 15 to 21, 2012**

### AMERICAN QUEEN CRUISE NEW ORLEANS

Roundtrip airfare to New Orleans is included. Embark the American Queen in New Orleans. Visit the towns of St. Francisville, Baton Rouge, Oak Alley and then return to New Orleans.

**COST: \$2679 to \$3905 plus insurance if selected.**

Escort Lou Pagni, 510-276-5025.



Call Travel Chairman Emile Lassalle  
for more information 510-538-7463

**Bring in a Guest**  
**We need new Members**

# SUNSHINE REPORT

by Sir Allen Sprague and Sir Dave Marymee



Allen Sprague



Dave Marymee

**LES ADDISON** was scheduled for eye surgery in late February to remove a membrane and cataract in his right eye.

**FRED ANDERSON** is getting “better” according to caretaker Litoo.

**JOHN AUSTIN** was admitted to ICU at Washington Hospital, on January 7th, and remained in a coma until he passed away on February 28th.

**EDWARD BALDINI** is “worn out and exhausted” from chemo to treat cancer which has spread to the bones from his prostate but is “hanging in there”, according to wife Claire. Sir Ed and Claire did see the movie “The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo” in late February.

**RICHARD HOLMES** reports that he got back home in late February, and is “doing OK.” Sir Richard hopes to get back to Branch 59 meetings.

**MANUEL SILVA** reports that he is doing “pretty well” recovering from tongue surgery, and is gradually getting his sense of taste back, and going for therapy twice a week.

**CARL SHANER** reports that he got home on February 19th, and is receiving chemo twice a week for the painful leg ulcer that he suffers.

*In Memoriam*  
John Austin  
Dean Olsen

Three members of Branch 59 reached the age of 90 and were presented with the State President’s Senior Awards at the February Luncheon. From left to right Big Sir Jim Ferenz, Sir Harlan Werner, Sir Bob McCall, Sir Ray Carlson and Little Sir Skip Mugford.



# SUMMERTIME FIESTA



Trio Sol de America Mariachi Band.



EL Ballet Folklórico de James Logan High School.

Save the Date – May 17th “Summertime Fiesta”  
Take your wife or a friend to lunch

The Sweetheart Luncheon has firmed up. The Social committee working with the caterer has chosen four meal choices: Beef – Tri Tip Strips with Special Sauce, Fish – Poached Salmon, Chicken – Chicken Cordon-Bleu and a Mexican Plate – Chicken with Special Red Sauce.

Trio Sol de America Mariachi Band will be entertaining during the Social Hour.

EL Ballet Folklórico de James Logan High School will be our entertainment after lunch.

Tickets will be sold at the March and April Luncheons.

Your Name & No. \_\_\_\_\_ Partners’s Name \_\_\_\_\_

Tickets will also be sold at the March and April Luncheons

Number in Party \_\_\_\_\_ x **\$22.50** per person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Make out check to **SIR Branch 59**  
and mail to: **Sir Ed Kurtz, 2688 Sunnycrest Court, Fremont, CA 94539**

Ticket orders must be received by May 10th

Indicate Meal Choice & No:

Beef:

Chicken:

Fish:

Mexican:

Be sure to enclose a self-addressed and stamped envelope.

No refunds after May 10th.

Requests for Table Reservations must be submitted on a **TABLE RESERVATION REQUEST FORM** with a list of Sir Member names and their Partner names. Forms will be available at the March and April Luncheons and also on the Branch Website.

## PATHFINDER BRANCH NO. 59

John Skarpelos, Editor  
1636 Vernal Avenue  
Fremont, CA 94539-4736

< john@mediaart.com >

Return Service Requested



# FIRST CLASS MAIL



## Happy Saint Patricks Day

FIRST  
CLASS  
POSTAGE

### COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN AND ASSISTANTS

#### ACTIVITIES

Rob Ingebretson - **Chairman**

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Ed Guthrie - **Chairman**  
Bill Pruner - Assistant  
Tom Sullivan - Assistant  
George Vlastelica - Assistant

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Ben Fernandez - Assistant

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Sheldon Schwartz - Assistant

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Fred Ilg - Assistant

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#### GOLF

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#### LIBRARIAN

Wayne Adams - **Chairman**  
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Fred Gotthardt - Assistant

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Frank Campos

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Nat Lord

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Dave Marymee - Assistant

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### STATE OFFICERS

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Don Graff

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David Marymee

#### Honorary Life Members

Louis Bufkin

Fred Gotthardt

Nat Lord

John Skarpelos

### PATHFINDER DEADLINE

Copy deadline for the next issue of the *Pathfinder* will be Thursday a week after the monthly luncheon meeting.

### PAST BIG SIRs

1976 Peter Clark\*  
1977 Karl Heine\*  
1978 Harry Cooper\*  
1979 Kenneth Foster\*  
1980 Larry Varblow\*  
1981 Guido Milano\*  
1982 Alex Fulton\*  
1983 Stephen Epler\*  
1984 George Herman\*  
1985 Ray Crosby\*  
1986 Loran Coburn\*  
1987 Robert Davis\*  
1988 Robert Klindt\*  
1989 Martin Annen\*  
1990 Lee Updegraff  
1991 Fred W. Fretter\*  
1992 Lyle Kingery  
1993 LeRoy J. King\*  
1994 George Hubach\*  
1995 Clyde Killion\*  
1996 Bill Schwan\*  
1997 Nat Lord  
1998 John Buchanan\*  
1999 Art Lampert\*  
2000 Harry Heyen\*  
2001 Bob Beam  
2002 Rollin Cunningham\*  
2003 Don Henry  
2004 Tom Sherba  
2005 Howard Thompson  
2006 Les Addison  
2007 Ted Bresler  
2008 Richard Holley  
2009 Don Gillis  
2010 Frank R. Thomas  
2011 Hugh Twomey

\*(deceased)