



## Big Sir Report

My fellow Sirs:

I first want to thank Heber Slusser for his service as Big Sir this past year. Among many other things, he helped us to transition to our new lunch venue at Macara. He and others before him give me challenging examples to follow as your 2024 Big Sir. I also want to thank Bruce Edmundson for taking on the role of Little Sir and for all our leaders who continue to support Branch 62.

Second, thank you all for making our dinner at Café Vitale last month a huge success with 36 attending.

For many of you who don't know me, I am a retired engineer. My wife Nancy and I moved from Minnesota 54 years ago on a job transfer to where we have raised our 3 kids and 7 grandkids here in Sunnyvale. I am proud to be a member of the Sunnyvale community and a member of Sunnyvale Branch 62.

We have a few challenges ahead this New Year. Our declining membership leaves us at 38 members. 38 who help fill what I count to be 65 positions, including officers, directors, committees, and our many activities. Which means that many of you have taken on more than one role in our branch, for which I am deeply grateful.

So, I believe one of our goals this year is to continue increasing our membership. I'd like us to reach 50, another 12 active members as early as we can in 2024. Our outgoing Big Sir has volunteered to take on the task of working with Jeff Bautista to achieve this goal. This can't happen without your help, so please consider it your personal goal as well.

I look forward to the coming year and ask that you continue to support your new Big Sir as you did Sir Heber this past year.

Best regards,  
Mike Miller  
Your 2024 Big Sir

# January 2024

## The ROOSTER

The Monthly Newsletter of  
Sunnyvale Branch # 62

### SONS IN RETIREMENT

**A Non-Profit Organization of Retired Men  
Devoted to the Promotion of Independence and Dignity  
in Retirement**

We meet on the 2nd Thursday of the month.

### Macara Restaurant

605 Macara Avenue at Sunnyvale Golf Course  
Sunnyvale, CA 94085

**Next Meeting is Thursday January 11, 2024**

Social Hour 11 AM Lunch 12 Noon

**Zoom Link: Zoom is available on request. Contact  
Heber Slusser a few days in advance of the meeting.**

### Lunch Ordering Information

Tickets are sold in advance of the monthly lunch. If possible, please buy your lunch ticket at the luncheon meeting preceding the one you plan to attend. For those who have not purchased an advance ticket for the luncheon, please contact Barry Boole via email or call him to indicate your intent to attend the luncheon. Payment (\$25) may be made at the door.

Barry Boole

### OFFICERS

Big Sir	Mike Miller		
Little Sir	Bruce Edmundson	Asst. Little Sir	Barry Boole
Secretary	Bob Pastorino	Asst. Secretary	Dave Riopel
Treasurer	Roger Falberg	Asst. Treasurer	Jim Hohenshelt

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John Dieckman	Steve Burnham	Jack Pettygrove	Heber Slusser
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### COMMITTEES

Attendance	Tom Birley	Lunch Tickets	Roy Jordan
Audit	Mel Waldman	Membership	Bob Byers
	Wally Anderson	Newsletter	John McGuire
	Heber Slusser		John Dieckman
Awards	Bob Byers		Mike Miller
	Tom Birley	Nominations	Phil Thomas
	Mike Miller		Heber Slusser
Bocce Ball	Wally Anderson		John Dieckman
Book Swap	Lynn Grilley	Photographer	Bob Pastorino
Bowling	Tom Birley	Program	John Dieckman
	Phil Thomas		Bruce Edmundson
	Lynn Grilley	Property	Henry Crossfield
Bridge	John Dieckman	<b>RAMP</b>	
Chaplain	Hugh Moore	Chair	Jim Hohenshelt
Poker	Mel Waldman	<u>R</u> ecruitment	Jeff Bautista
Condolence	Wally Anderson	<u>A</u> ctivities	<b>Need Volunteer</b>
Directory	Heber Slusser	<u>M</u> embership	Bob Byers
	Mike Miller	<u>P</u> ublicity	Heber Slusser
Fishing	Heber Slusser	SIR Logo Items	Phil Thomas
	Wally Anderson	Songster	Roger Falberg
Golf, 9 Hole	Tom Birley	Special Events	Bob Byers
	Dave Riopel	Sunshine	Wally Anderson
Golf, 18 Hole	Paul Goodwin	Transportation	<b>Need Volunteer</b>
Greeter	Dave Riopel	Travel	Jim Hohenshelt
Guests & Visitors	Dave Riopel		Roy Jordan
Historian	Wally Anderson	Wine Tasting	Dave Riopel
Humorist	Don Coletti	Webmaster	Mike Miller

### STATE OFFICERS

State President: Dale Decker

Area 11 Representative: Phil Thomas

### SONS IN RETIREMENT, INCORPORATED

Sunnyvale Branch #62 Rooster is published monthly.

V2jmcg

### ***Sick Call & Condolence Notification:***

Please report illnesses or the passing of any Branch 62 Member to the Sunshine Committee: Wally Anderson, so that Branch 62 may respond.

### ***Rooster:***

If you haven't received the "Rooster" by mail by the 10th of the month, call John McGuire. If you haven't received the "Rooster" by e-mail, let John McGuire know.

***BE A SIR!!.. BE COMMITTED!!***

***BE ACTIVE!!.. HAVE FUN!!***

## Bocce and Cornhole

Please contact Wally Anderson if you would like to play. It is more fun if we can get at least 4 players at the courts so come on out. Bocce is normally held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of each month. The next date is January 5<sup>th</sup> at Almaden Lake.

*Wally Anderson*

*Bocce and Cornhole Coordinator*

## Bridge

We meet the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of the month at Roger Falberg's home, 751 Silver Pine Court in Sunnyvale to play in person. On the other Tuesdays, we play online using Bridge Base Online browser app.

We play every week on Tuesdays at 1:30. Roger Falberg organizes the play and sends each player the table positions and hosts prior to our gathering time for either online or face to face play. If you want to join us, let Roger know ahead of time so he can arrange the player tables.

*John Dieckman - Bridge Publicist*

## THE TOM CHATFIELD WALK

Roy Jordan

The January 2024 Tom Chatfield walks will be on the first and third Fridays, January 5 and 19. For this month **the walk will be through Central Park in Santa Clara.** The meeting place will be the parking lot on the east side of Kiely just north of Homestead at 9:30 AM. If you would like a nice walk on either of these days, or have questions, please contact Roy Jordan. You could just show up, but if you make contact beforehand, we can tip you off for cancellation (such as for rain). **Walking is good for you.**

# 18 HOLE GOLF

Walt Marwitz – Golf Reporter



## SIR December 18 Hole Golf Review

Yes, we can't quite turn back as far in our abbreviated backswing and the speed of our downswing just isn't quite the velocity it was years ago. Maybe our drives are not as long or straight anymore nor can all of us see where they land, even if in the fairway. We ride an electric cart instead of pushing along our bag of gently aged clubs. And maybe, just sometimes, we forget how many strokes it actually took to get the ball down into the hole that seems to get smaller every year. But we are seniors and amateurs and that's all good because we have had a boat load of fun on the golf course for a year of Mondays.

We took our clubs this past month to the Area Tournament at Spring Valley; the Los Lagos course, where the foxes now proudly sport their winter coats, and to San Jose Muni in almost shirt sleeve weather. Then it was back to Spring Valley to search for the balls we lost there the last time. Unfortunately, the round scheduled for December 18<sup>th</sup> had to be canceled due to rain. Christmas pushes us back to Wednesday on the 27<sup>th</sup> at Los Lagos and New Year's will move us to Wednesday the 3<sup>rd</sup>, again at Los Lagos. Monterey Pines will then be followed by Spring Valley and Santa Teresa.

Walt Marwitz



**Welcome  
2024**

**BRANCH 62 TRAVEL**  
**Chairman: Jim Hohenshelt**  
**Assistant: Roy Jordan**

## **Ruby Hill Winery – January 24, 2024**

This trip features a tour of the vineyard in an old school bus which once transported the Grateful Dead Rock Band and was obtained by the winery and converted for vineyard tours by replacing the seats with cut out wine barrels, fully cushioned and swiveling for good views. There is also wine tasting and snacks. To keep it simple and inexpensive, we plan to drive to the winery – perhaps arranging carpools.

We have now filled one session of this trip (14 people) and additional people have indicated interest. We are considering setting up a second trip, either later the same day or the next day. (This might mean some of the present people moving to the other trip.) We will decide about an additional trip at the January 2024 luncheon. If you are interested, please contact Jim and specify your preference about when you would like to go and arrange to send in your payment (\$45) or bring it to the luncheon. There are pictures from a previous visit on our web site (see link below).

## **Columbia and Snake River Cruise**

**April 28 – May 6, 2024**

This trip is now filled. If you would like to try to get on a wait list, please contact Jim. There is a description on our web site (see link below).

## **Lower Mississippi River Cruise**

**Sept. 13 - 21, 2024**

We are investigating an American Cruise Line cruise from New Orleans to Memphis. This trip starts in the lively city of New Orleans (jazz, sites to see) and ends in Memphis, TN (music history,

(Continued on page 5.).

## SIR Bowling

**President**  
Tom Birley

**Vice President**  
Phil Thomas

**Publicist**  
Lynn Grilley



We have completed the 2nd quarter. Team 7 won the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, as predicted.

The members on Team 7 are Bob Byers, Marlys Byers, Armond King, and Jay Mark.

We will not be bowling for the next 2 weeks so I won't send any updates until 1/09/2024. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to All.

Season High scores are listed below.

Men

Women

Scratch Series Lynn Grilley 628 Donna Diehl 492

Scratch Game Steve Bishop 236 Pat Hutton 189

Hncp Series Jay Mark 696 Ruth Pettygrove 676

Hncp Game Jack Pettygrove 262 Helen Rossler 256

Check the Branch 62 Bowling website for current team standings.

<https://www.branch62.sirinc2.org/Bowling/Bowling.php>

*Lynn Grilley*

### December Report

Membership 38  
Dinner Party Attendance 38  
New Members 0

### IN MEMORIAM



#### Jim Mellinger 1938-2021

Jim was a member of Branch 62 from 1999 to 2021. For several years he was a member of the team that produces the monthly Rooster. Following the onset of cancer, he moved to Tempe, AZ for treatment and to be near his two sons. A Memorial Mass will be held at Church of the Resurrection, Sunnyvale at 10:30 AM on February 12, 2024.

### Wine Tasting

We will have a wine tasting event in the Spring. Watch for an announcement in your email.

*Dave Riopel – Wine Publicist*

### Branch 62 Web Site

Have you visited our web site lately?  
Want to read the joke from the luncheon?  
Forgot the luncheon's speaker details?  
Want to read back issues of the Rooster?  
Read meeting minutes and Treasurer Reports?

Get all of this and more on our Web Site at:

<https://sirinc2.org/branch62/index.php>

**(Travel, continued from p. 3)**

museums, Elvis’s Graceland). Along the way are grand estates, quaint and cozy towns like St. Francisville and Natchez, and Civil War history in Vicksburg. The cruise boat features a daily cocktail hour, hors d’oeuvres, delicious meals, and evening shows with regional entertainers. Price will be around \$5400 to \$6000 PP/dbl. occ.. **Contact Jim to get on the list of possibly interested parties.** We need a minimum of 10 people (5 cabins) committed by about the end of January for the trip to go and we are not there yet.

**State SIR – Prague to Budapest Cruise**

**Nov. 6 - 20, 2024**

Roy just received notice of a river cruise organized by State SIR travel, prices from \$4295 to \$5095 pp/dbl. occ including air. Contact Roy for more information or possibly see our web site link below.

Check our web site for up-to-date travel information.

[www.branch62.sirinc2.org/Travel/Travel.php](http://www.branch62.sirinc2.org/Travel/Travel.php)

**January Birthdays**

Bud Collinson      John Dieckman      Hugh Moore      Rick Simpson

A \$25 cash birthday award is drawn at our Monthly Luncheon Meeting. Birthday boys must be present on Zoom or in person to be eligible to receive an award.

There was no December winner!

SUNNYVALE BRANCH 62  
BRANCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
*No meeting in December.*

**January Guest Speaker**

The Luncheon Speaker for January will be Tom Kramer from Branch 51 (a neighbor of Jim Hohenshelt). His topic is “The History of Golf—Origins and Evolution of Golf, Equipment and Courses”. Tom will share his knowledge and some antique equipment that he has collected over the years.

**Annual Member Dues**

It is time to pay your annual SIR Membership dues of \$25.00. Send your check (payable to SIR Branch 62) to Treasurer Roger Falberg.

Or, bring your check to the January meeting.



Our 2023 Christmas Dinner at Café Vitale



**Sons in Retirement  
Sunnyvale Branch 62  
1639 Benton Court  
Sunnyvale, CA 94087**