



SIR Solano Branch 88 Newsletter

May
2023

"Live Longer, Live Happier, Join SIR"

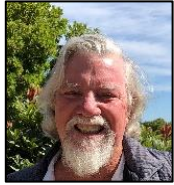
State Website – sirinc.org

Branch 88 Website – sirinc2.org/branch88/

P.O. Box 502, Benicia, CA 94510

Big SIR ... My Two Cents

– Harold Persily



Well, May is here, and we are getting some nice weather for a while. Bocce has started so that is well timed.

So, I missed the luncheon last week. I hear it was quite an event, not all in a good way. Food was late for some members, and some did not take it well. This is not the first time this has happened. We are talking with Zio Fraedo's and they say they are committed to improving.

I have one request, to keep our meeting on time. When you have the microphone, limit your comments, jokes, or whatever to two minutes or less. That will give other members an opportunity to speak and help us get out on time.

We still have several regular members who have not paid their dues yet. Hopefully by the end of May luncheon we will have everyone signed up. We do not want to drop anyone who enjoys SIR. Please pay your dues.

David Muth is organizing a walk in Solano Preserve on June 5. See article on page 7.

State SIR is organizing a Sacramento River Cats baseball game on June 11. Both should be fun. See more information on page 8.

Spring continues. We finally got a few tomatoes into their garden barrels. Planted 9 of the 11 different varieties. The other two

continued on page 2 ...



NEXT MEETING

Thursday,
May 11, 2023

Zio Fraedo's

23 Harbor Way

Happy Hour 11:00

Lunch 12:00

Program 1:00
(BEC 10:00am)

Lunch \$25



Menu –
Corned Beef
& Cabbage

Today's Program

Aubrey Matthews

Past President, Lee A. Archer Jr. Chapter,
Tuskegee Airmen Inc. at Travis Air Force

About our Speaker May 11, 2023

– David Muth

Our Guest speaker for May is
Aubrey Matthews.



Aubrey is an expert on the history
of the Tuskegee Airmen.

He is a Vietnam veteran and
served as an airframe technician
with the U.S. Air Force.

Aubrey has spent years traveling to exhibits
and meeting Tuskegee Airmen in order to
collect information and knowledge about their
legacy.

I am excited to have Aubrey as our May
Guest Speaker.

Big SIR ... My Two Cents



... continued from page 1

were not ready to be moved outside yet. We moved the remaining tomatoes plants from red beer cups to 1-gallon containers. My wife has promised some to friends, but we still have a few to share. So, she allotted two for me to share - the Chocolate Cherry (dark small tomato) and the Delicious Tomato (red regular size). May have more as time moves on. Let me know if you are interested.

That's about it for *My Two Cents* this month. Be safe and stay healthy.

Harold

Treasurer's Report –

Roy MacGregor



So far, of the 142 members on our records, 108 have paid. So, there are 34 of our members who have not paid their dues. I you have not paid yet, please do so, otherwise you will not be eligible to participate in any Branch sponsored events such as Bocce, Golf, and our monthly luncheons, etc. Please pay your dues at the May 11 Luncheon or mail your check for \$20 dues, payable to:

SIR Branch 88
P.O. Box 502
Benicia CA 94510

Thanks!



Hundred bucks says there's a coyote under there!



Little SIR –

Just Saying...

Wayne Burdick



There are many benefits to belonging to SIR. You meet new people, forge new friendships, you might learn a new skill, or hone one that you have.

You may improve your leadership skills by accepting a position on the board. The few responsibilities we accepted when we joined SIR were to be friendly, bring friends and guests, and assist in the running of the branch.

Another area I consider equally important is attending meetings. The luncheon to me is important, when we bond with fellow members, and just enjoy having fun with each other. It has never been about the "food". Remember, this is your organization. What you think is important?

I will see you on the 11th.

P.S. \$20.00 for your annual membership dues. It's the best deal in town.

Sunshine –



John Lawson



Steve Smith had knee surgery and is recovering at home. Good healing Steve.

Fred Warren is having some health issues. We hope they will turn out to be minor.

If you know of any of our members who are sick or having problems, please let me know.



Timothy Farrell
 John Flanagan
 Lou Fuhrer
 Vernon Hayes
 Charles Heitz
 John Hertia
 Al Johnson
 Dennis Meade
 Steve Pressley
 Gary Savelli
 Dayton Smith

Editor's View – Carl Mason



I was recently in a meeting with the State Area Representatives (AR). Each reported on their Areas. Our AR said he had three very strong branches, and three not too strong. We were one of the very strong ones.

We have a lot going for us. We have a great activities chair constantly coming up with interesting "field trips". We have a lot of activities, with new ones coming all the time. We have a fun luncheon, with minor exceptions, and a lot of visitors and new members willing to take leadership roles.

Last month we had some issues with the food running out before the people did. While the food finally arrived, a delay like this was not what we expect of a quality restaurant. We can sympathize to a point ... they had a staff shortage, the group in the other room had twice as many guests as expected. But still, I complained to the owner, and she has agreed to put two vs. one pan of protein out for our future luncheons. I hope this solves the issue. We will see.

Our coming May 11 luncheon should be both fun and informative. Our speaker will talk on the Tuskegee airmen. I have heard his talk before, and it is very interesting to hear about the amazing achievements of this group.

By the way, I have talked to Zio Freado's and asked if we could have the corned beef and cabbage we missed (my bad) in March. I am looking forward to it.



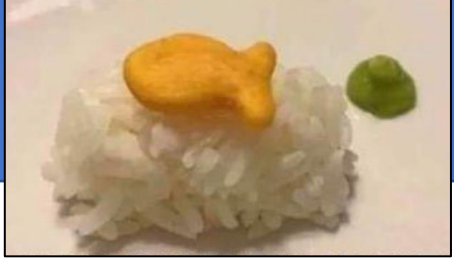
Golf – Jim Jewell / Dick Schumacher



The 2023 SIRS golf schedule is well under way. We had a first ever Hiddenbrooke Golf Course scramble to start the season followed by three tournaments at Paradise, Chardonnay and Franklin Canyon. With all the rain, the golf courses are in fantastic shape and some of the more "senior" SIRS golfers have taken advantage of course conditions to post epic low scores. I'm sure I saw Dick Schumacher searching the PGA SUPER SENIOR site for golfing opportunities, and Tom Aldinger searching around for a larger bucket to carry all his winnings.

Our next tournament is on 5/16/23 at Blue Rock West. Call Dick or Jim to sign up or join the SIRS 88 golf group.
 Jim (707-373-6598) / Dick (707-745-1571)

BUDGET SUSHI



Cribbage – Michael McCamish

Cribbage is still going strong. We fluctuate between five and nine players each week. But no matter the number, it is always a fun crowd.





Bocce Ball (Co-Ed) –

Tim Tarazi



Season successfully started on Friday 4/28/23. Congratulations to Team #3 for coming in first place.

I will be on a one-week vacation from 5/5 to and including 5/12. Fred Warren graciously accepted covering for me in my absence. Thank you, Fred.

Next game is May 5, at 9:30am. Good luck to all and have fun.

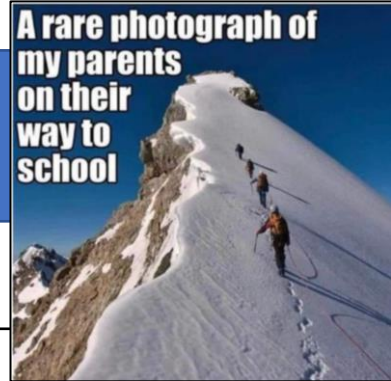
Men's Poker –

Steve Smith



Our poker group still meets every other Wednesday. It's a good time with lots of games that somewhat resemble poker ... lots of wild cards and wild dealers!

A rare photograph of my parents on their way to school



Bowling – Don Ramsay



Well, the bowling league is over for this winter season and the next winter season starts on September 6, 2023.

The league champs who won both halves were the THREE PLUS ONE'S (Barbara Battin, Don Landry, Rodney Bush and Gordon Dinsdale).

The two runners-up for each half were the THREE MEN & A LADY (Nita Calhoun, Jim Calhoun, Rey Andres and James "J.R." Little) and the ONE AND DONE (Michelle McCamish, Arline Fuhrer, Lou Fuhrer and Mike McCamish). We had a roll-off for league runners-up with ONE AND DONE the winners.

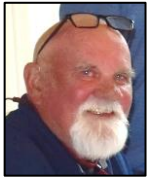
A league meeting was held and officers were re-elected and rule changes were made for the upcoming season.

Team awards, individual awards were given out for: HHS: 1ST: Rodney. Bush 792 , 2ND Mike McCamish 757, and T-3RD Juliet Swin and Phil Less with 745. HHG: 1st Mario Pimentel 299, 2nd Jhun Patricio 295 and 3rd Wayne Burdick

285, HSS: 1st Ed Aleman 656, 2nd Gordon Dinsdale 638, and 3rd Jim Swindle 604, HSG: 1st Dalton Cox 258, T-2nd JR Little and Rey Andres with 235. 1st place winners \$50, 2nd place winners \$40 and 3rd place winners \$30.

The sweeper winners were 1st Place; Arline Fuhrer 675 \$29, 2nd Place Gordon Dinsdale 669 \$24, 3rd Place Abbie Orr 666 \$19, 4th Place Juliet Swin 662 \$17, T-5th Place JR Little 658 \$15, T-5th Place Loyd Holbrook 658 \$15, 7th Place Ed Aleman 656 \$13 and 8th Place Jhun Patricio 648 \$11.

I want to thank everyone for a wonderful, uneventful year. I hope everyone returns next year along with any new members who would like to bowl. The rumor is that we will be bowling what is called ten pin string bowling. This is where the pins are set on the lanes attached to a string instead of being set by a mechanical bridge. The reason for this is two-fold: the mechanics are retiring in the near future with no replacement in site and it's an electrical usage reducer.



Bocce Ball (Men) –

Steve Hazelton

Men's Bocce 2023 is underway.



Under cloudy skies, 13 SIR Branch 88 members started the season at the Veterans Park Bocce Ball courts on May 4 in American Canyon.

The five teams are the same as last year, as well as their members. Looking for more to join the fun. Season schedule is being sent out to current members.

If you are interested in joining, give me a call (707-501-3535).



Pop-the-Cork –

David Muth

Experience a bit of Italy

In April, we changed the format of the wine group a little bit and selected a country for our focus. We tasted various wines and foods native to Italy, the first country we selected. Our group of eight sipped Chianti, Prosecco, and Dolcetto.



The foods ranged from Bruschetta to Cannoli. We talked and laughed a lot and played a game called "Guess My First Job".

We will continue our theme in the upcoming months of tasting wine and appetizers from foreign lands as we experience the friendships and relationships with our group members.

Our next meeting date is May 28. Please let me know if you would like to join us.



Bridge – Tim Tarazi



Bridge lessons are still scheduled to begin on Monday, May 15, at the Benicia Senior Center. We now have 15 members interested

in giving Bridge a try.

If more players are interested to join us, please send me an email at: timtarazi@gmail.com.

Here are the names of interested members:

Wayne Burdick, Jim Lessenger, Randy Loe, Carl Mason, Dave Krenzke, Marvin Turner, Dave Muth, Steve Hazelton, Brandon Wroblewski, Steve Smith, Roy MacGregor, Dick Schumacher, Tom Aldinger, Dennis Meade, Scott Johnson.

Over-all a great group!

Branch Manager & Assistant Branch Manager



Member Spotlight Karl Stemmler



For those who do not know me, my name is Karl Stemmler. I was born and raised in Fairfield. My father was a butcher and a fire chief, and my mom was a stay-at-home mom for me and my brother and two sisters. I attended Green Valley and Fairview Elementary Schools and Armijo High School.

After receiving numerous scholarship offers to play football, I decided on Boise State College. There, I received my BS in Secondary Education, and I met my future wife, Barbara. After college, I taught and coached in the Meridian School District in Idaho for junior high and high school for six years.

At this point, I decided I needed a change. We packed up our family and moved to Orovada, Nevada, to work with my in-laws on their 800-acre farm. This adventure lasted three years, I knew I wanted to get back into education.

I returned to teaching and coaching, this time in Anderson, California, at Anderson High School and stayed there for ten years. I also attended Chico State, earning a CA Credential, a master's degree and an Administrative Credential.

Next, I moved to West Valley High School, still in Anderson, as an administrative career, lasting until I retired 19 years later. During this time, I was honored as the CA State Athletic Director of the Year (Northern Section), Secondary Principal of the Year, and received a CA Interscholastic Federation Distinguished Service Award.

After 36 years in Shasta County, Barbara and I decided to move to the Bay Area (Benicia) to be closer to our family. We have four children and seven grandchildren in the Bay Area. We couldn't be happier! Our whole family lives within 25 minutes.

When we aren't attending family/sporting events or traveling, I am busy pursuing my hobbies: fishing, golfing, reading, and watching the Giants, the 49ers and the BSU Broncos. We've made many new friends, and I count the SIRS group among them. Thank you for making me feel so welcome.

Pool League – Ed Drosch


The Spring League will be shortened somewhat, due to management's decision to update the clubhouse facilities. The billiard room will be closed for renovations sometime in June, with no end date known.



My new SUV has a button that says "rear wiper". I'm afraid to push it. 🤔

May 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 10:00 – Cribbage 2:00 – Pool	2	3 10:00 – Bowling	4 9:00 – Men's Bocce	5 9:00 – Co-Ed Bocce	6
7	8 10:00 – Cribbage 2:00 – Pool	9	10 10:00 – Bowling 6:00 – Men's Poker	11 10:00 BEC 11:00 – Luncheon	12 9:00 – Co-Ed Bocce	13
14 	15 10:00 – Cribbage 2:00 – Pool	16 9:00 – Golf Blue Rock Wst	17 10:00 – Bowling	18 9:00 – Men's Bocce	19 9:00 – Co-Ed Bocce	20
21	22 10:00 – Cribbage 2:00 – Pool	23	24 10:00 – Bowling 6:00 – Men's Poker	25 9:00 – Men's Bocce	26 9:00 – Co-Ed Bocce	27
28 4:00-6:00 – Pop the Cork	29  10:00 – Cribbage 2:00 – Pool	30	31 10:00 – Bowling	27 9:00 - Men's Bocce	28 9:00 - Co-Ed Bocce	29

SIR'S Branch 88 Special Event – David Muth

Patwino Wortlla Kodoi Dihi Open Space Park

Coming June 5 ...

We have the opportunity to go on a docent-led tour of a Solano County Land Trust property called the Patwino Wortlla Kodoi Dihi Open Space Park.



We are scheduling this walk for **Monday, June 5**. With all the rain we have had, Solano County should look great. We will meet at **9:00am** at the property (2061 Rockville Road, Fairfield CA 94534).

The hike will be moderate and led by Solano Land Trust staff and volunteer docents. This tour is handicapped accessible. There is no charge.

Wear hiking boots and or reasonable walking shoes. Bring water, although some will be provided. Hats and sunscreen are recommended. We should finish before 11:00am.

Please go to their website for additional information about the park: solanolandtrust.org

If you want to go on the walk, please contact me: David Muth (707-332-3352 / [david66muth@gmail](mailto:david66muth@gmail.com))

Las Vegas Aviators vs River Cats



June 11, 2023
1pm game
Sunday



SIR Day at the Park

Mobile Tix - Buy your own individual tickets
OR

Have your branch activities/event chairman collect monies from each person and send in a check for a group rate.

20 people constitutes a group
Group rate price is \$24; individual tickets \$29

For group sales contact: Henry Weiss
(916) 376-4998; hwiiss@rivercats.com

Parking is \$15/car; encourage carpooling

For SIR grouping, we are suggesting section 106
Further up the rows the more likely shaded area.

Local boy Debut

CalHISports, "Since last summer, baseball scouts...have been going nuts over local upstart Turlock High hitting/catching
MLB draft prospect **Tyler Soderstrom**

Of note, former SIR President Rick Kindel is a personal friend of Tyler. He is asking for our area support of this MLB talent.



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State Officers 2023

SIR President
Dave Gonzales

Area Representative
Jerry Stabile

SIR BRANCH 88

P.O. Box 502, Benicia, CA 94510

Officers 2023

Big SIR	Harold Persily	554-2380	halpers@yahoo.com
Little SIR	Wayne Burdick	642-7808	wburdick205@gmail.com
Secretary	John Lawson	853-6972	johnjhawk@msn.com
Treasurer	Roy MacGregor	297-6153	macgregor.roy@gmail.com
Asst. Treas.	Jerry Millard	642-8144	millardvallejo@aol.com

Committee Chairmen 2023

Bocce Men	Steve Hazelton	501-3535	steve.hzlt@gmail.com
Bocce Co-Ed	Tim Tarazi	297-5957	timtarazi@gmail.com
Bowling	Don Ramsay	644-2194	donram2@comcast.net
Chaplain/Sunshine	John Lawson	373-7395	johnjhawk@msn.com
Golf	Jim Jewell	745-3086	bfd@earthlink.net
Golf Handicap	Dick Schumacher	745-1571	dickschu@aol.com
Membership	Harold Persily	554-2380	halpers@yahoo.com
Newsletter	Carl Mason	746-1347	masonquy@aol.com

Board of Directors 2023

Jim Burcham	746-8645
Sanford Gladding	745-6430
Dave Krenzke	648-1308
David Muth	332-3352
Fred Warren	552-7261

Past Big SIRs

David Muth	2022
Fred Warren	2020-21
Jim Burcham	2019
Carl Mason	2018
Gary Savelli	2017
Ron Darling	2016
Dick Schumacher	2015
Stan Turrini	2011-14
Tom Hebson*	2010
Bill Hester	2009
Richard Stone*	2008
Don Waterbury*	2007
Ed Sweet*	2006
Ed Bradley*	2005
Gerald Davis	2004