



SIR Solano Branch 88 Newsletter

October 2023

"Live Longer, Live Happier, Join SIR"

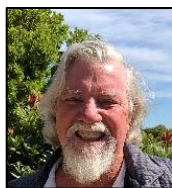
State Website – sirinc.org

Branch 88 Website – sirinc2.org/branch88/

P.O. Box 502, Benicia, CA 94510

Big SIR ... My Two Cents

– Harold Persily



Hi everyone. Happy October. Summer is gone. I guess it was here ... I may have missed it.

In July we had two speakers from Solano Land Trust who talked about a new park off Rockville Road near Fairfield ... Patwino Worrta Kodoi Dihi Open Space Park. They also mentioned that the park would be featured on Channel 3's Open Road.

Well turns out the episode was also the first return of long-time host Doug McConnell who has been on medical leave. It also shows how flat/simple the new hike path is. Link is: <https://www.nbcbayarea.com/news/local/open-road/openroad-episode-89/3294582/>

It showed an easy a walk to an overlook was. It is a half mile out and I guess same back. David Muth tried to get a group together to visit to the park, unsuccessfully. But I think we should try to coordinate another one since we can see how easy and beautiful it is.

The SIR State Activities Committee sponsored a visit to Golden Gate fields. We had been there pre-covid and were looking forward to the 'final' visit to this horse racing treasure. The racing was great (no big winners) but the food was a disappointment ... more like 'cafeteria food' rather than a Las Vegas buffet. Oh well, it was fun seeing all the members from around the Bay Area.

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NEXT MEETING

*Thursday,
October 12, 2023*



Zio Fraedo's

23 Harbor Way

Happy Hour 11:00

Lunch 12:00

Program 1:00

(BEC 10:00am)

Lunch \$25

Speaker

Richard DeGraffenreid

About our Program October 12, 2023

– David Muth

Hello Everyone.



Our Guest speaker for October is Richard DeGraffenreid. Richard is going to speak about Native people's village sites in Solano and Contra Costa Counties.

If you know of anyone who would like to be a guest speaker for our lunches, contact me.

Big SIR ... My Two Cents



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We have not had any new members for a few months. Remember, the branch is only as good as its members. Let's bring in new members and find new activities to keep us all moving and happy.

We nominated our new branch officers for 2024. There will be a vote later in the year by our members:

- Big SIR: Wayne Burdick
- Little SIR: Steve Hazelton
- Treasurer: Karl Stemmler
- Assistant Treasurer: Brandon Wroblewski
- Secretary: Jim Lessenger

Welcome gentlemen and thank you very much for supporting our branch.

Everyone be safe and take care.

Harold

I started out
with nothing...
I still have
most of it.



October

- Jim Burcham
- Herman Bustamante
- Gregory Daly
- Edwin Gibson
- Scott Johnson
- Randall Loe
- Cel Naraval
- Francis Potato
- Rodney Smith
- Donald Landry



Little SIR –

Just Saying...

Wayne Burdick

Hello all. Another month has gone by. We had a little rain and it is sure beginning to feel like fall. September was a busy month for SIR88, we had great ladies' day luncheon. The Hawaiian dancers put on a great show and even taught some of us the dance moves. Also, there was a contest for the best Hawaiian dressed woman and best men's Hawaiian shirt.

September also saw the season end for Bocce ball, and the start of winter bowling. We had two excursions, one to an oyster farm on the coast and another to the Golden Gate Fields organized by Lee Moy of SIR State Sports Activities. I have been to Golden Gate Fields many times, but never to the Turf Club. It is beautiful, with the most brass rail imaginable, and a buffet lunch overlooking the finish line.

I have been going to the Vallejo Farmers Market the past Saturday mornings to do a little advertising for SIR Branch 88. It is also good for people watching. I always see people I know but haven't seen in a while. I hope to see you at Zio Fraedo's on Thursday October 12.

Sunshine –



John Lawson



Our get-well wishes for a quick recovery go out to John Hilsenbeck who had carpal tunnel surgery September 29.

Condolences to the family of Paul Troxell who passed away in early September.

If you know of any of our members who are sick or having problems, please let me know (707-853-6972).

Pool League – Ed Drosch

Work at the Rancho Benicia clubhouse wrapped up and we are back there playing again. Several guys were swayed by the lure of the SIR event at the Golden Gate Racetrack last Monday and went to play the races. The few who played enjoyed the lack of competition and racked up some wins.



Editor's View – Carl Mason



This has been a very active month. I realized last week that my whole week was taken up by SIR activities. Sunday night we hosted Pop the Cork, with ten tasters. Monday, we went to Golden Gate Field, where we watched the horses (I won \$9). Wednesday, I played bridge in the morning with SIR members, and that night I played poker with more members. Thursday, I participated in the State SIR Board of Directors meeting, and Friday I played co-ed bocce ball. My life would not be as full without SIR.

We are lucky to have a branch with so many opportunities to have fun. Many branches have only one or two activities, some are Golf branches, some are Bowling branches, but the thriving branches have a variety of activities. We have eight different activities and are adding more as we go. Do you have a suggestion? In addition, this month our activity chair, David Muth, arranged two special events, one visiting an oyster farm in Bodega Bay, and the Hawaiian theme lady's day with Hawaiian dancers and music. If you were bored or lonely this month, don't blame us.

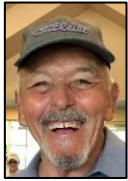
As far as the State goes, they are concerned at the loss of members in SIR. We need to recruit more members. I was at a garage sale last Saturday and talked with the one of the workers. He seemed perfect for SIR. I suggested he would enjoy SIR. He said he was already a member of the Danville branch. Darn!

My point is don't hesitate to invite men you meet to come to our luncheon. You will be doing them a service. I don't know where they can get so much for so little.

See you next month.



I've found marriage to be very educational. For example, I had no idea there was a wrong way to put milk in the fridge.



Golf – Jim Jewell / Dick Schumacher



The SIRS 88 golf schedule is approaching it's final three rounds of tournaments.



17-Oct Rancho Solano
31 Oct Hiddenbrooke, scramble
14 Nov Blue Rock East

This is the final round to determine SIRS FedX championship.

There is almost \$500 in prize money to be distributed.

- \$100 for 1st place and
- \$50 for 2nd place in both A and B groups - for winners of the FedX rounds
- \$120 regular prize for final round

There will be a Plus -"Bonus" prize after final round.

NOTE- You may not have the Rancho Solano tournament on your schedule. If not, please call Jim or Dick to be placed on the player list, or just sign up at the luncheon meeting on October 12.



Bridge – Tim Tarazi



Bridge practice play supervised by Mr. Wayne Miller, is continuing every Wednesday at

10:00am at the Benicia Senior Center. Many thanks to Al Switzer for helping out with the intermediate players.

I would welcome more players to join this activity. Perhaps we can put together another set of lessons for the interested beginners. Please contact me.



Bocce Ball (Men) –

Steve Hazelton



The 14-game Bocce Ball season at Veterans Park in American Canyon ended on September 7, 2023. The season started with five teams, as it did last year. After a couple of weeks, it was obvious we did not have enough players for five teams, so we agreed to four teams. This allowed all players to play each week instead of having a bye week.

The team names were the Ball Busters, Golfers, Wats A Matta U"s, and the Over the Hill Gang. We picked up three new players, allowing us to have substitutes available at most games.

The final standings were:

- #1 Ball Busters, 35 wins
- #2 Golfers with 28 wins
- #3 Wats A Matta U"s with 22 wins, and finally
- #4 Over the Hill Gang with 16 wins.

After the last game on 9/7, all the players met at Mountain Mike's in Vallejo for pizza, salad, soda, and beer. All had a great time. Wait till next year!



"Of course you never lose your ball ... you never hit it more than a few feet."

Hog Island Oyster Farm Tour

The Hog Island Oyster Farm Tour was on September 11 at the Marshal site at Bodega Bay. We learned about how oysters grow, how they are harvested and to how to shuck them. They were delicious even at 10:00 in the morning. A very fun day!
 – David Muth



"Stay away from negative people. They have a problem for every solution."
 - Albert Einstein

If jealousy had a face.



Bocce Ball (Co-Ed) –

Tim Tarazi



Congratulations to Team 8 for coming in first place this year. We presented a trophy to their Capo Fred Warren before the Women vs. Men game last Friday.

The final standings for the 2023 season were:

1st Half Results			2nd Half Results		
Team	Won	Lost	Team	Won	Lost
8	22	8	8	24	6
6	18	12	6	21	9
5	18	12	2	19	11
2	18	12	5	16	14
3	14	16	3	13	17
7	11	19	1	12	18
1	11	19	4	10	20
4	8	22	7	5	25

FINAL Standings

Team	Won	Lost
8	46	14
6	39	21
2	37	23
5	34	26
3	27	33
1	23	37
4	18	42
7	16	44

Our Men vs. Women game last Friday ended with the Men winning 7 games and the Ladies winning 5. All in fun, of course.

Next Friday, October 6, we will have our traditional potluck organized by Harold Persily at 11:00am. We will have some non-competitive games starting at 9:30 with the following teams:

Court #1: Team 8 vs Team 6

Court #2: Team 3 vs Team 1

Court #3: Team 2 vs Team 5

Court #4: Team 4 vs Team 7

I would like to personally thank everyone who participated in this year SIRs 88 Coed Bocce. It was a lot of fun and I hope many of you will join us for season 2024 starting next April.

Ladies Day Hawaiian Luau

September 14 was Hawaiian Ladies Day at Zio Fraedo's, with 74 attendees. We had Hawaiian dancers perform, had games and prizes, and lots of fun with island music. Sanford won the best Hawaiian shirt contest, and we had several winners in the mango spoon walk. We had a great bunch of SIRs members along with wives, partners, and companions. During the Hawaiian dance lessons, we discovered that most of our members lack both rhythm and moves (except perhaps Jim Jewel) but we are all good sports. Thanks to all those who attended and helped put on this event.

WE HAVE FUN PARTIES!
- David Muth

Today's Guests
Na Pua Lehua



Hawaiian
Shirt
Contest



Mango
Races



Hawaiian
Dresses
Contest



We can
do that!



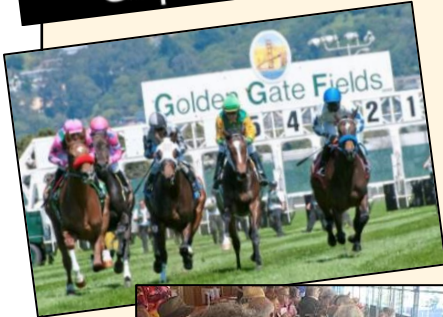
October 2023



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

**IF A WOMAN SAYS
 “DO WHAT YOU WANT”
 DO NOT DO WHAT YOU WANT.
 STAND STILL. DO NOT BLINK.
 DON'T EVEN BREATHE.
 JUST PLAY DEAD.**

SIR Day at the Races September 25, 2023



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.hzltn@gmail.com
Bocce Co-Ed	Tim Tarazi	297-5957	timtarazi@gmail.com
Bowling	Don Ramsay	644-2194	donram2@comcast.net
Chaplain/Sunshine	John Lawson	853-6972	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	masonguy@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