



SIR Solano Branch 88 Newsletter

July
2022

“Live Longer, Live Happier, Join SIR”

State Website – sirinc.org

Branch 88 Website – sirinc2.org/branch88/

P.O. Box 502, Benicia, CA 94510

A Message from Your Big SIR –

David Muth



Hello Everyone.

Our July 14 lunch meeting will again be at Zio Fraedos in Vallejo. Our guest speaker will be Michael Barrington, author and traveler.

In order to help with planning and to give Zio Fraedo's approximate numbers, please expect a call prior to our meeting. A reminder that lunch costs \$25. Let's have a good turnout and we hope to see you there.

New SIR's Covid Protocols were posted in last month's newsletter. Please review.

Hope you had a fun Fourth of July. It looks like our members had a great time at the Torchlight Parade on the 3rd.

The State SIRs organization is having conversations about increasing membership and finding people to lead. There is much talk at the state level about changing our charter to admit women as members. This is not a small change in direction. I am not sure what form or shape (no pun) this will lead us all in the future, but being adaptable to change is key. Retirement can be a lonely and difficult time for some. Friends move away or worse. Finding friendship in our SIRs membership and being part of our activities create enjoyment, comradery and good memories, but developing friendships is probably the most important. I don't think you can ever have too many friends.

All the Best, *David Muth*

Thursday July 14, 2022

Zio Fraedo's

Happy Hour 11:00

Lunch 12:00

Program 1:00

(BEC 10:00am)

**NEXT
MEETING**



Today's Program

Michael Barrington
Author and Traveler



*About our Speaker
July 14, 2022*

Michael Barrington was born in Manchester, England and spent his teen age years at a boarding school in the Lake District.

After living in France, he joined a French Order of Missionary priests, and spent ten years in West Africa, several of them during a civil war when he was stood up to be shot {?}.

On his return to the UK, he spent a year living as a hermit in Northern Ireland. After teaching in Madrid, Spain for a year he taught for four years in Puerto Rico and directed an international student program in Latin America.

He emigrated to the United State States and lives in the San Francisco Bay Area.

*The only time you fail is when
you fall down and stay down.*

- Stephen Richards

My 2 Cents ... Little SIR — Harold Persily

SIR Branch 88 participated in the Benicia July Fourth parade (on July 3rd). We had 18-20 members parading as well as two convertibles ... a fiberglass replica of a 1934 Mercedes Benz model 500K owned by Chuck Maddux and a 1980 SL500 Mercedes owned by Fred Warren. Roy MacGregor sat in the rear of the



Mercedes and became the SIR official Wave'r to the crowd. Many in the crowd returned his wave. Roy had a great time, laughing and feeling like royalty. Members handed out candy to the kids and SIR invites to men who looked like they needed a place to have fun. Thanks to all those members who participated in the parade.

A few months ago, we had a member fall during our luncheon. The paramedics came, took him to the hospital; and he was fine. That led me to believe that we should have emergency contacts for our members to help in situations like this. We will be asking you to provide your emergency contact (be it your wife, daughter, caretaker) and their contact phone numbers.

We will be sending out the latest SIR Branch 88 Directory email. This includes member contact information as well as our smiling pictures. If your mug is not included, we can fix that. If you do not have an email, you can pick up your copy at the next luncheon.

For those members who subscribe to the Vallejo Times-Herald, you will notice the SIR luncheon will now be mentioned in both the Thursday *A&E* section as well as *About Town* on Sundays. SIR member birthdays are also highlighted in the paper.

SIR Branch 88 now has a P.O. Box for correspondence. This is much better than using a member's personal address. The new address is:

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

Thanks for being a Branch 88 member and be safe.

Treasurer's Report

Roy MacGregor



Our treasury is in good shape. We began the year with \$3,192 in the bank. Our current balance is \$5,347, having collected \$2,600 in dues year-to-date ... 130 paid memberships.

The only significant near-term expense is our quarterly assessment of \$240, due this month. Last month the board voted to host a holiday party in December, based in part on our financial solvency.

Luncheon attendance has been down for the past few months, running about 45. I anticipate that we will see better turnout as we move into fall and winter months.



Great fun - saw many friends. Jim Jewell

Benicia 4th of July Parade 2022

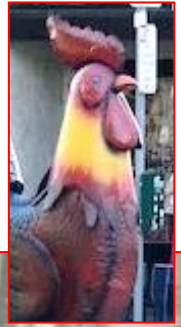


Photo by Harold Persily

That certainly was a lot of fun. Looking forward to next year. Tim Tarazi



Photo by Pat Valine



Photo by Harold Persily



Photo by Harold Persily



I believe that a good time was had by all. Karl Stemmler



Photo by Harold Persily





Bocce Ball (Men) –

Steve Hazelton



Sirs 88 Bocce ball players of Vallejo and American Canyon continue their play at the

American Canyon Veterans Bocce courts each Thursday. Weather has been cool in the mornings so we have adjusted courts according to the sun in the mornings.

At week 10 of the season, the “Ball Busters” team is leading the series with 17 wins, led by team leader Mike McCamish. Only a game behind, with 16 wins is, “Whats A Matta You”, led by Gary Savelli. In third is my team of “Over The Hill Gang”, with 9 wins, led by Ron Gervasoni. In fourth , with 7 wins is the “Bocce Warriors”, led by Harold Persily. In fifth , with 5 wins is the”Late Bloomers”, led by Fred Warren.

I just picked these players off the roster, so next month I will have official leaders to list in the newsletter. Camaraderie is great at each event, with all helping to set up and score. I am getting to know the group and they are getting to know me. A video of our June 30 game can be found by clicking below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zq6puCziAGk>



Bocce Ball (Co-Ed) –

Steve Smith



The first half of SIR's COED Bocce will resume Friday, July 8.

After calibrating the scores from the beginning of the season, there was a change in the top tier of the league. Team #3 (EZ Does It) is in 1st place, followed by Team #2 (Inch by Inch), and in 3rd place is Team #5 (Casinos).

As per our league history, the final week of the first half is completed July 8. The league's second half starts July 15 with all teams starting at zero wins and zero losses.

Hopefully, there is hope for all teams to improve in the second half.



Bowling – Don Ramsay



We are POT BOWLING on Wednesday mornings at 10:15am and anyone is welcome to attend. This is not a SIR'S ACTIVITY and one is welcome to bowl, the more the merrier.

POT BOWLERS WINNERS - JUNE 2022

Week 6

1 st place	Jim Calhoun	750
2 nd place	Arline Fuhrer	708
3 rd place	Loyd Holbrook	696
4 th place	Jim Swindle	675

Week 7

1 st place	Jim Swindle	686
2 nd place	Mike McCamish	677
3 rd place	Phil Less	666
4 th place	Don Landry	648

Week 8

1 st place	JR Little	758
2 nd place	Lou Fuhrer	697
3 rd place	Loyd Holbrook	630

Week 9

1 st place	Erika Meyers	677
2 nd place	Lou Fuhrer	666
3 rd place	Don Landry	
4 th place	Arline Fuhrer	632

Week 10

1 st place	Jim Swindle	669
2 nd place	JR Little	667
3 rd place	Wayne Burdick	644

I AM STARTING TO FORM TEAMS FOR THE WINTER LEAGUE.

Please let me know if you plan on bowling and which team you expect to bowl with. The goal is to have four bowlers per team.

We restart the league on Sept 7, 2022. We will need some bowlers to replace the bowlers who moved out of the area and some other bowlers who dropped out for medical reasons.

Sunshine –

Mike McCamish



If you know of any of our members

Who are sick or having problems, please let me know (707-747-9416),



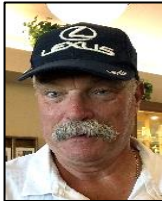
Golf – George Fuller

SIRS88GOLF@gmail.com

Golf is moving right along with a full group - 28 players - scheduled for Paradise Valley. Next tournament will be Tuesday, July 19, at Blue Rock West.

Please note the e-mail I sent out regarding the SIR State Tournament to be held later this year at Blue Rock Springs. I should have some free time by then so I will attempt to put together several foursomes. Unlike past SIR State Tournaments, you will be able to select your playing partners both days of the event. If there are any changes, I will let you know. I will also have a sign-up sheet for the State Tournament at all our local tournaments so I can get a sense of how many foursomes we will need to reserve.

Hit 'em straight and hit 'em long ... just make sure it's a golf ball first. Take care everyone.



Cribbage – Michael McCamish

Cribbage is going strong.

With the American Canyon Adult Center's permission, we are moving our starting time to 10:00am. So ... Cribbage is now 10:00am -1:00pm on non-holiday Mondays. This allows the pool players to get to Benicia by 2:00pm on the newly recovered pool tables (see Pool Article).



Wayne Burdick



Richard Craig



Roger Ford



John Hilsenbeck



Jim Jewell



Phil Less



James Little



Garland McClure



Rene Millado



Frank Pasley

Good dental hygiene is important for the whole family ... but flossing your cat was probably a bad idea.



Pool League –

Ed Droesch



The league took a break on 6-20 to allow the professionals to perform pool table maintenance – re-leveling and re-covering. We

were back at it last week. I am currently in the lead, at 7 weeks, with Roger Ford a surprising second spot. From relying on blind squirrels at the start to make shots, he's been constantly improving his game.



Our next wine group gathering is Sunday, July 31.

June's Pop the Cork was a lot of fun in our two groups with a total of nine couple (18 people). Unfortunately, one host had a death in the family so some members missed this month. We all drank wine ... Syrah ... ate some good food and laughed a lot. My group all agreed the Tait Syrah (Costco) was the best.

It isn't necessarily about knowing wines. It's about being your own judge ... Is this a wine I like?



I have found the main benefit is getting to know our members and their partners better. We have a lot of interesting people out there. Thank you to June's hosts. Life is good.



State Officers 2022

SIRS President
Richard Kindle

Region 3 Director
Dennis Pangburn

Area 7 Governor
Jerry Stabile

SIR BRANCH 88

P.O. Box 502, Benicia, CA 94510

Officers 2022

Big SIR	David Muth	332-3352	david66muth@gmail.com
Little SIR	Harold Persily	554-2380	halpers@yahoo.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 2022

Bocce Men	Steve Hazelton	501-3535	steve.hzltm@gmail.net
Bocce Co-Ed	Steve Smith	750-5545	syorksmith@gmail.com
Bowling	Don Ramsay	644-2194	donram2@comcast.net
Chaplain/Sunshine	Michael McCamish	373-7395	bfmilkman@aol.com
Golf	George Fuller	648-3225	tbog707@aol.com
Golf Handicap	Vacant		
Membership	Harold Persily	554-2380	halpers@yahoo.com
Newsletter	Carl Mason	746-1347	masonquy@aol.com

Board of Directors 2022

Sanford Gladding	745-6430
Bill Hester	648-3958
Carl Mason	746-1347
Gary Savelli	552-4200
Ron West	208-9077
Fred Warren	552-7261

Past Big SIRs

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

Editor's View – Carl Mason

Parade

As can be seen from the attached photos we had a great turnout for the Benicia Torchlight Parade. We handed out candy to the kids and some cards to the grey-hairs. We ran out of candy again this year after handing out over 600 pieces. We had some 20 members and two antique cars moving down Main Street.



Branch Activities

This month has been active, with all our activities in full stride ... Bocce (both men and co-ed), Golf, Pool, Pop-the-Cork, etc. We even had time to walk in the torchlight parade. We have an active branch.

News from the State

The State is still wrestling with how to increase members. The question of potentially inviting women to be members is very controversial. Those in favor and those opposed are in about equal numbers. It is still under consideration, and it will be sometime before a decision will be made, so let's just enjoy being a mens group for now.

The State Board, after a lot of discussion, decided that each member still needs to signed COVID waiver to participate in SIR activities. The decision was based mainly on our potential legal liability.

We hope to see you all at the July 14 luncheon. It is a good time to catch up with friends and hear a good speaker ... and hear some really bad jokes.

See you there.




Who remembers



the first search engine?

July 2022



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



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