



A Non-profit Organization For Retired Men

# HOROLOGIUM

Monthly Newsletter - Est. 1963

North Bay Branch No. 7, San Rafael

Website: [www.sirinc2.org/branch7](http://www.sirinc2.org/branch7)

61st year

Br. 7

May 2024

**BIG SIR**—*Michael Sommer*



My article this month will be a tribute to our Little SIR Tom (Captain) Verkozen. Tom has great writing skills and has in his past been a guest editorialist for the Marin IJ On April 22nd Captain Tom plied his talent with an editorial titled “Making Friends Through Seniors in Recreation” The article is about SIRs and I will post a link to the article at the end of this paragraph. Tom has received many inquiries by readers as well as good natured ribbing for the title by current SIR members. In his defense, when we attended the State SIR meeting in Lafayette last month it was mentioned that during the pandemic meeting lulls and the consideration of admitting women, the possible change of name to Seniors in Recreation as a way to preserve the acronym SIR was bandied about. In other words, it struck a chord with him and he ran with it in his article on the many benefits to the members of our organization. It will be great to see the number of guests that he brings to our upcoming luncheons and the further increase in our membership

*(Continued on page 3)*

**LITTLE SIR**—*Tom Verkozen*



Our Speaker for May 2 presents you with an opportunity Prepare your questions ... and entice a friend into joining Branch 7 by asking him to share a peek into the future ... and a lunch ‘on the house.’

On Thursday, May 2 our featured speaker will be Morgan Galli, who will entertain and enlighten us on the future of High-Speed Rail in northern California. As a Regional Director for the California High-Speed Rail project Morgan knows all ... and will share insights gleaned as liaison for myriad partner agencies, elected officials, and city/county staff in development of the plan for the high-speed rail section from San Francisco to Merced.

A locally sourced (native) currently living in the east bay, Morgan is a graduate of Whittier College and San Jose State (master’s in Urban Planning). Surely you have a friend who wants to know more about the ins and outs of our transportation future, perhaps even a friend who has strong feelings on this issue?

Who might you invite to hear more about an entertaining, knowledgeable ... and informed ... version of our future?

Be a Friend. Make the call and help us grow Branch 7

**EVITE LUNCHEON SIGN-UP INSTRUCTIONS**

Remember to type your meal preference in the comments section when you say “yes” and will attend. The meal choices are shown nearby. If you are not coming, please say “no” to the Evite so we won’t miss anyone.

**LUNCHEON PRICE INCREASE**

The price of our luncheons increased by \$3 to \$38 effective January 2024. Payment by check is preferred.

**May 2024 Meetings**

Luncheon Thursday May 2  
Executive Committee Thursday May 16

**May 2nd Luncheon**

Tex-Mex Salad,  
Bay Shrimp Louie,  
or Vegetarian

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT April 2024

<b>TOTAL ACTIVE MEMBERS - 4/1/24</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>GAINS DURING MONTH</b>	<b>1</b>
Art Heyman	
<b>LOSSES DURING MONTH</b>	<b>2</b>
#86 Chuck Lomba, to inactive #55 Mark Swartz, moved to Arizona	
<b>TOTAL ACTIVE MEMBERS - 5/1/24</b>	<b>88</b>

Call Don Beers at 332-3926 if you can't attend a luncheon

## May 2024 Birthdays

73	Luke Lucchesi	May 3
40	Tom Verkozen	May 5
19	Gary Gioglio	May 18
55	Mark Swartz	May 19
102	Scott McKown	May 25
65	Ron Radtke	May 25
13	Kirk Beales	May 26
10	Tom Balogh	May 30
71	Ken Kauer	May 30

## SUNSHINE & SHADOWS

Ken Kauer, Chairman, 472-2334  
(No e-mail)

## NON-RESPONSIBILITY DECLARATION

All activities arranged for, or by, or sponsored by, Sons in Retirement, Inc. and its branches are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their guests who desire to participate. Sons in Retirement, Inc. and its branches do not assume any responsibility for the well-being or safety of the participants or their property in matters pertaining to said activities.

## AREA 8 MONTHLY MEETINGS

Branch 7 McInnis Park 1st Thursday  
Branch 22 McInnis Park 1st Tuesday  
Branch 47 McInnis Park 4th Tuesday  
Branch 58 Elks Lodge Petaluma 3rd Tuesday  
Branch 134 Marin Golf & Country Club 1st Tuesday  
Branch 147 Elks Lodge Petaluma 2nd Tuesday

## Dick Robinson, Secretary



Branch Executive Committee Meeting April 18, 2024:

Treasurer Al Wuthnow gave a report showing the current cash balance of \$7,397. All active members have now paid their dues leaving only Chuck Lomba unpaid. We voted Chuck to inactive status.

Dick Robinson procured 5 additional Sirs hats for Kelley Reid to give to new members. Dick also got 3 polo shirts with Sirs logo for Michael, Tom, and Ted. The board approved the \$55 expense for these. Dick will bring a sign-up sheet to lunch for members wishing to buy these polo shirts with Sirs logo.

Kelley Reid presented an application for Art Heyman as a new member. Art was approved for membership. Kelley also said he is talking up Sirs membership to his Marin Barbershop friends.

Ken Kauer said there were no illnesses to report. Bob Giachino recovered from a heart procedure.

Bob Bundy reviewed our lineup of speakers for future meetings. In May we'll have a representative from the California bullet train project. June we'll have a NASA astronaut speaking to us. July speaker is not yet set. The July meeting date was moved from the July 4th holiday to Thursday July 11th. For the August meeting, Ted Pullen and Ken Kauer are working to set up a picnic at a local park.

Tom Verkozen briefed us on his plans for being Big Sir in 2025. That included updating our website, making it possible to pay online for lunch, get better participation and find a replacement for Al Wuthnow as Treasurer. Dick Robinson is currently the assistant Treasurer with signing authority but does not want to become Treasurer. A nominating committee needs to be set up by summer to start working to find members to fill various positions including Little Sir for the following year.

For the May Meeting Tom Martindale will assist Treasurer Al Wuthnow in selling lunch tickets. Ken Kauer will sell raffle tickets. Kelley Reid will assist Don Beers in welcoming members at lunch.

Michael talked about visiting the Lagunitas brewery in Petaluma. They can host a tour with beer tasting for 30 people for a fee of \$450. If we could get 20 people or more to attend that would be an

(Secretary continued on page 3)

## Welcome a new member! Stuart 'Cogito Ergo Sum' Keirle

One of our newest members is Stuart Keirle, who hails from England and is deep into the logistics of living well and expressing it ... Here's a man who loves family, travel, debate, history, culture and banking ...

How do we start to know this complex man? Ask questions and you'll witness his British love of language, conversation and debate ... beware, Stuart is a member of the SF Society of Cogers a 'Society of Thinkers'. (Cogers, the world's oldest debating society, originated in 1755 in London ... notable members included Charles Dickens and Benjamin Disraeli) ... Stuart is also member of the former Marvelous Marin Breakfast Club (now known as the Romeos) ... sponsors the British film festival ... and yet makes time to gather the far-flung family together.

Stuart and his wife Gillian's life has revolved around banking with exotic postings in the far east, Manhattan, Chicago and San Francisco ... Stuart's currently president of the Asian American Association of Bankers and even at his ripe young age (three years older than me) he continues to serve a loyal group of clients as a director at Preferred Bank ... talk to him and you will discover, his love the art of banking trumps any desire to retire. Retired or not, SIRs welcomes his addition as a contributing member.

So how do the Keirle's find time to play with their 6 grandchildren (I'm worn to a nub by my two) ... travel, actively engage in and support myriad organizations and historical societies??? When Stuart returns from his current adventures to join us in June introduce yourself and find out how the energizer bunny of banking does it all!

## SIR OF THE MONTH

Dave Bernardi

When you walk, bike or drive in Marin County you are probably making use of a path, street or tunnel that was improved under the guidance of our locally raised and educated civil engineer, Dave Bernardi. Dave served 33 years in San Rafael's Public Works division ... and for most of those years was the director.

Locally sourced, Dave attended St Ignatius and went on to shine in civil engineering at USF. Last year, when he was considering becoming Little Sir, Rita, his wife spoke up ... saying, we have too many travel adventures planned ... so while Dave is May's SIR of month he's celebrating in Greece (if I remember correctly) and will take his bows in June.

Public Works, Rotary, his own consulting company, Marin Builder's Association, SIRs director ... Dave's a busy man but he took time to do a libation check in at Lagunitas Brewery ... he gives it a thumbs up as a SIR adventure. Let's all go and make that trip a hit!

I mentioned tunnels but do you know how many there are in Marin? Sure, you know Robin Williams Tunnel (bless Robin's loving heart) and if you ride a bike you've ridden 'Dave's Tunnel' which was originally a narrow-gauge line that is once again connecting Larkspur and San Rafael ... ask Dave about the recycled redwood ...

Indeed, there are several other tunnels along the tracks of the old North Pacific Coast Railroad line ... in fact more than half of the west Marin towns are along the old tracks, including my favorite town of Marshall.

Dave, you have brought life to Branch 7 as a stand-up guy and in recognition of the joy you have brought ... and the service you have provided 90 guys say, "Thank You ... when you return from your adventures abroad, your lunch is our treat!"

numbers.

**GREAT JOB TOM!!! YOU ARE INCREDIBLY TALENTED AND AN ASSET TO SIR BRANCH 7!!!**

The link to the article: <https://www.marinij.com/2024/04/22/making-friends-through-seniors-in-recreation/>

attractive outing. Lunch is also available at the brewery, which would probably be a good idea. The idea of a bus for transport was mentioned but might be too expensive. The hiking group led by Ladd Sievenpiper meets every Thursday mornings and the Lucky 7 golf group plays at various golf courses every Wednesday through the summer.

# LUCKY 7 GOLF



## Chardonnay (Scramble)—April 3rd

1	Haight, Miller, Balogh & Lytle	62.65
2	Erlingsson, Pullen, Land & Aleshire	64.05
<i>Closest to Hole 5</i>		<i>Closest to Hole 16</i>
Dan Edwards	41'7"	Dan Edwards 18'1"

## Blue Rock East (Scramble) - April 10th

1	Edwards, Miller, Robinson & Leonard	57.60
2	Moresco, Gioglio, Phillips & Troya	58.35
<i>Closest to Hole 2</i>		<i>Closest to Hole 11</i>
Lenny Cianciolo	2'0"	None

## Foxtail North (Individual) - April 17th

<i>A Flight Net</i>			<i>B Flight Net</i>		
1	Ron Radtke	73	1	Ted Pullen	TB 76
2	Mike Campas	76	2	Dick Robinson	TB 76
<i>Closest to the Hole 6</i>			<i>Closest to Hole 15</i>		
Paul Giambra	13'1"	Dick Robinson	6'9"		

## Bennett Valley (Scramble) - April 24th

1	Edwards, Giachino & Balogh	59.5
2	Radtke, Erlingsson, Phillips & DeCook	60.0
<i>Closest to Hole 6</i>		<i>Closest to Hole 16</i>
Ted Pullen	13'5"	Dan Edwards 3'1½"

## STENZEL CONTEST STANDINGS

1	Ted Pullen	1'5"	2	Lenny Cianciolo	2'0"
3	Ron Moresco	2'5"			

## 2024 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**Big Sir:** Michael Sommer **Little Sir:** Tom Verkozen  
**Secretary:** Dick Robinson **Asst Secretary:** Vacant  
**Treasurer:** Al Wuthnow **Asst Treasurer:** Dick Robinson  
**Directors:** Dave Bernardi, Ken Kauer, Ted Pullen,  
 Kelly Reid & Ralph Sherer  
**Advisor:** Bob Bundy  
**Publisher:** Kirk Beales — 415-492-2686,  
 bear38@outlook.com  
**Webmaster:** Vacant

## Humor Section – Crime doesn't pay...

So, a burglar broke into the house...I put the red dot on his chest and the cat did the rest...

Remember how when you were little you could just rip off your diaper and run around naked and everyone thought it was so cute and funny? Anyway, I need bail money.

So now, cocaine is legal in Oregon, but straws are not. That must be frustrating.

I was mugged by a thief last night on my way home. Pointing a knife at me...He asked me "your money or your life!" I told him I am married...so I have no money and no life... We hugged and cried together. It was a beautiful moment...

## True Stories

Police in California spent two hours attempting to subdue a gunman who had barricaded himself inside his home. After firing ten tear gas canisters, officers discovered that the man was standing beside them in the police line, shouting, 'Please come out and give yourself up.'

An Illinois man, pretending to have a gun kidnapped a motorist and forced him to drive to two different automated teller machines, wherein the kidnapper proceeded to withdraw money from his own bank accounts.

A man walked into a Topeka, Kansas Kwik Stop and asked for all the money in the cash drawer. Apparently, the take was too small, so he tied up the store clerk and worked the counter himself for three hours until police showed up and grabbed him.

Police in Los Angeles had good luck with a robbery suspect who just couldn't control himself during a lineup. When detectives asked each man in the lineup to repeat the words: 'Give me all your money or I'll shoot', the man shouted, 'That's not what I said!'

In California, a man was arrested for trying to hold up a Bank of America branch without a weapon. He used a thumb and a finger to simulate a gun. Unfortunately, he failed to keep his hand in his pocket.