



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)

60th year

Br. 7

December 2023

**BIG SIR**—*Bob Bundy*



We had a very contentious board meeting this past week with Treasurer Al Wuthnow accusing Michael and me of depleting the treasury and spending money like drunken sailors. It would seem that our program of free lunches for guests as well as allowing some speakers to bring additional support staff has caused our balance to drop. Please do not get Al started on the free lunch and bottle of wine I have been giving out to the SIR of the month as he becomes apoplectic when that subject is mentioned. Going forward we will have to limit the SIR of the month to a bottle of wine and ask guest speakers to bring no more than one support person or secondary speaker. That, however, is not enough to get our finances out of a slow downward spiral and due to inflation and the increase in lunch cost at McInnis we will be charging \$38 for our luncheons starting in January. This is above what Erik is charging us but the excess will keep our treasury and treasurer on an even keel going forward. On careful questioning Al does admit to having slightly over \$6,000 in our account but that is down about a thousand dollars from last year at this time.

We also need more involvement from members in the running of the club and I will be asking for

*(Continued on page 3)*

**LITTLE SIR**—*Michael Sommer*



It is the holiday season and Thanksgiving is a time to reflect. As my second term as Little SIR comes to an end and my second stint as Big SIR starts in short order I want to take this opportunity to express how thankful that I am for the people who step up to the plate and deliver their time, energy and knowledge to make Branch 7 work and work well.

All of the officers and the directors deserve a thank you and a round of applause at our holiday luncheon for their efforts on behalf of us all. I want to single out a handful of them and will be thanking others in my articles in the year to come.

Don Beers is always there as a greeter and the keeper of the badges. Thanks Don!

Ralph Scherer maintains our roster and updates it monthly as well as being our photographer. Thanks Ralph!

Ken Kauer is our 'sunshine' monitor who keeps us up on our members' health and wellness. Thanks Ken!

Ted Pullen is our consummate activities chairman without whom we would not have our junquets throughout the year. Thank Ted!

Bob Rigler is the boss of our E-Vite emails without whom we couldn't keep McInnis happy.

*Little Sir (Continued on page 7)*

**2024 DUES**

The dues for 2024 are \$40. Payments will be received starting in November and will be due by year-end. Bring to the luncheon or mail to Al Wuthnow at 214 Melrose Avenue, Mill Valley CA 94941. Thank you for your prompt payment.

**December 7th Christmas Luncheon**

Prime Rib or Chicken Toscana or Grilled Salmon w/Mango Sauce, or Vegetarian

Advance sign-up required by November 30th!!  
**(No Evite sign-up this month)**

<b>MEMBERSHIP REPORT November 2023</b>	
<b>TOTAL ACTIVE MEMBERS - 11/1/23</b>	79
<b>GAINS DURING MONTH</b>	1
John Davis	
<b>LOSSES DURING MONTH</b>	1
#11 Wil Swalberg died 10/31	
<b>TOTAL ACTIVE MEMBERS - 12/1/23</b>	79

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

<b>December 2023 Birthdays</b>		
30	Jack Hartnett	December 4
24	Stephen Crowley	December 14
88	Chuck Schwartz	December 23
38	David Denning	December 24
98	Dick Sullivan	December 26

**IN MEMORIAM**

Sir Wil Swalberg died October 31st at 100 years old. He joined Branch 7 in 1988. He served as branch treasurer for many years and also played bocce with the Sirs.

**BE A FRIEND**


Michael Sommer gave me a gift ... since March I've heard interesting speakers, played billiards, and hiked and biked with new and old friends. Thank you, Michael, I never suspected that your invitation to a SIR lunch would add so much to my life.

Now, Branch 7 members .... it's your turn ... extend the gift of friendship ... ask someone you know who might benefit from the Branch 7 SIR brand of friendship to join us for lunch.

On January 4th we're having a presentation by Gary Gonser and Leonard Weingarten, the president and vice president of the Emeritus Students at College of Marin. These men will share their excitement about adult educational offerings. Go ahead, ask a friend to join us for lunch.

Be a friend ... Renew a friendship  
 ... Have fun ... Grow your club.

Captain Tom , co-chair, membership

**Dick Robinson, Secretary** 

Branch Executive Committee meeting, November 16, 2023:

Ken Kauer reported that Ladd Sievenpiper suffered complications in preparation for a colonoscopy. Dr Bundy clarified Ladd's situation and said he had to have corrective surgery but now is recovering. Ken showed us the obituary for long-time member Will Swalberg who recently passed away at age 100. A memorial service for Will is planned at Sleepy Hollow Presbyterian Church on Saturday December 9.

Minutes of the last Board Meeting of Oct 19 were approved as reported.

Al Wuthnow gave the treasurer's report. He said our bank balance is \$6,300 but is decreasing due to not covering the lunch expenses with money collected. In addition, Erik Jensen, manager of Club Restaurant, will be increasing the cost of our lunches to \$35/pp starting in January. Ted Pullen moved to increase the amount we charge members for monthly lunches to \$38. This motion was approved.

Kelley Reid presented an application for membership from John Davis, a civil engineer. His membership was approved. Dick Robinson has ordered a supply of hats and pins for Kelley to give to new members. Dr Bundy and Michael Sommer are working on a sign to post outside the restaurant during our monthly meetings. The idea is to promote membership in our Branch of Sirs.

Ted discussed plans for the Christmas Lunch on December 7 which will include ladies. He is taking reservations and checks for this party. Ted also asked for donations of prizes for the raffle. Ken Kauer will be selling raffle tickets at 6 for \$5, 13 for \$10 and 30 for \$20. Wine and drinks will be available to purchase before lunch and wine will be provided at the tables. The cost is \$55/pp for prime rib and \$45/pp for salmon or pasta. Ted is also planning a Valentine's Day party in February to include ladies. The choices for the meal and cost for Valentine lunch will be the same as the Christmas party.

Bob Phillips started an off-road bicycle group to ride twice a month. Contact Bob for details. Ladd Sievenpiper has started a walking/hiking group to meet at 9 am on lunch and Board meeting days. Scott McKown reported on work to improve our

*(Secretary continued on page 3)*

# BRANCH 7 ACTIVITIES

## ROAD BIKING

Anyone for road biking? I regularly ride with a group of friends on Friday starting at 9:30 from various locations in Marin. A leisurely pace but about 20-25 miles and some significant hills on some routes. E-bikes are used by some and welcomed on the ride. For more information contact Bob Bundy at [bundyworld@comcast.net](mailto:bundyworld@comcast.net).



## GENTLE OFF-ROAD BIKING

Contact Bob Phillips, at 415-301-1906 ([Bob.phillips3@gmail.com](mailto:Bob.phillips3@gmail.com)) if you are interested in off-road bike rides or want more information. We can set up several weekly or bi-weekly rides in advance with a meeting time and place to go on a ride together. The intent is to establish this as a SIR Branch 7 activity.



## HIKE EVERY FIRST & THIRD THURSDAY AT 9:00 AM

For November 2<sup>nd</sup>, meet at the Hamilton levee entrance in front of the former Airfield Control Tower for a group hike on the levee. For November 16<sup>th</sup>, meet at the Las Gallinas settling ponds parking lot. Water bottle, walking sticks, speed, and duration at your discretion.... +/- 60-90 min. More Information and to get onto notifications list contact Ladd Sievenpiper, [Ladd7piper@gmail.com](mailto:Ladd7piper@gmail.com)

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volunteers to help at the front tables to take in meal checks and to help sell raffle tickets. Buying raffle tickets would also be a good way to help our club treasury as 50% of the take goes to the bank. We would also like to see more members step up with some activities they would take the lead on and/or consider joining the board as we are getting a little long in the tooth and fresh blood would really be helpful. We are also working on our speakers list for next year and if you know of a friend or have attended a lecture where an interesting topic was presented by a dynamic speaker, please forward the name and contact info to me at [bundyworld@comcast.net](mailto:bundyworld@comcast.net)

## CHESS

Come to the Chess Club on Friday afternoons at 2 pm at the College of Marin Kentfield Campus in the Humiston Reading Room of the Student Services Building. Usually there's about 8 players with room for more. Call for more information. Bob Phillips 415-301-1906. Or email at [bob.phillips3@gmail.com](mailto:bob.phillips3@gmail.com). This is not a SIR Club. Rather it is a club within ESCOM (Emeritus Students College of Marin).



## BOWLING

We just completed the summer session of bowling at AMF Boulevard Lanes in Petaluma. The Winter league starts September 6<sup>th</sup>. Anyone can join after the beginning date. Ralph Sherer



website. It can be reached at [SIRinc2.org/Branch7](http://SIRinc2.org/Branch7).

Michael reviewed our plans for speakers in the coming months. We won't have a speaker at the Christmas lunch in December. In January we'll have speakers from College of Marin learning programs. In February we will be asking our new member Peter Robinson, who has a program on NPR to speak. We are open for speakers in March, April, and May but possibilities include: the Fire Chief of Southern Marin, High Speed Rail spokesman, Joan Ryan (sportswriter) and Dick Spotswood.

Bob Bundy reminded us that we need to file the list of officers for the coming year with the Sirs state organization. Bob will send Dick Robinson the form to be filled out and submitted to the state Sirs organization. Bob says he'll be stepping down from Big Sir position to serve as Little Sir and Michael Sommer will take another turn as Big Sir. Al Wuthnow, Dick Robinson, Kelley Reid, Ted Pullen and other board members will continue to serve in their current positions.

Doug Good thought that we need to welcome those who seldom attend lunch meetings and inactive members to give them encouragement to improve their participation. Al Wuthnow reminded him that we cut our rolls by dropping those who didn't pay dues in 2022.



**SIR BRANCH 7 CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**THURSDAY DECEMBER 7TH AT 11 O'CLOCK  
THE CLUB AT MCINNIS PARK  
SIRS, SPOUSES AND GUESTS  
NO-HOST COCKTAIL BAR AND RAFFLE**

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**MENU ENTRÉE CHOICE**

**Prime Rib at \$55 or Chicken Toscana at \$45  
or Salmon with Mango Sauce at \$45  
or Risotto at \$45**

**Wine on each table and Dessert is included**

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**ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE PREPAID  
AND ENTRÉES SELECTED!**

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**Send checks and Entrée selections to Ted Pullen!**

**Seating will be pre-assigned**

**Raffle Prize donations will be appreciated!  
All reservations must be completed by November  
30th!**

**THIS IS NOT A SIR-SPONSORED EVENT  
IF INTERESTED, SIGN UP WITH THE TRAVEL AGENT**

## **JOIN THE LUCKY 7 GOLF CLUB**

# **& Sail Roundtrip San Francisco to the Mexican Riviera**



**ABOARD THE CROWN PRINCESS SAILING FEB 7-17, 2024**

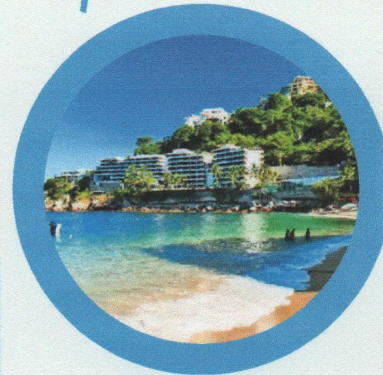
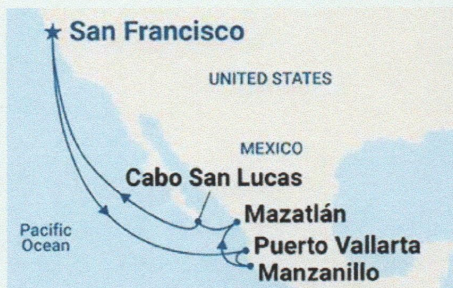
Sail roundtrip from the heart of San Francisco, to the Mexican Riviera for a 10 night cruise aboard the Crown Princess. Experience the stunning beauty and vibrant culture of Mexico as you explore sandy beaches and indulge in delicious cuisine! You will visit popular destinations such as Puerto Vallarta and Cabo San Lucas all while enjoying luxury and comfort aboard the Crown Princess!

*Sail  
Away*



### **PORTS OF CALL:**

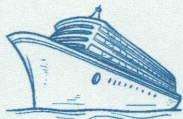
4 Ports: San Francisco,  
Puerto Vallarta, Manzanillo,  
Mazatlan, Cabo San Lucas,  
San Francisco



**BALCONY STATEROOM DOUBLE OCCUPANCY STARTING AT:  
\$3433.00 CABIN TOTAL**



**OCEAN VIEW ROOM DOUBLE OCCUPANCY: \$2723.00 CABIN  
TOTAL**



**FOR MORE PRICING &  
INFORMATION CALL:**

**Lisa at TravelCenter Tours and Travel  
at: 925-937-2223**

*All trips and tours are arranged for your pleasure. Ted Pullen and TravelCenter, Tours and Travel, assume no responsibility for any passengers or their possessions. Specific conditions apply. CST#1002945-40*

**TravelCenter, Tours and Travel, 1936 Oak Park Blvd., Pleasant Hill, CA 94523  
Phone: (925) 937-2223**

# **SIRS VALENTINE LUNCHEON**

## **THURSDAY FEB 1**

McInnis Golf Center, 350 Smith Ranch Road, 11:30

Spouse and Guests are welcomed to  
our regular February luncheon.  
Bring your sweetheart and let's celebrate  
Valentine's Day together.



Speaker: Peter Robinson—From Broadway to Hollywood – the Golden Age of American Musicals - featuring clips from Ginger Rogers and Fred Astaire, The King and I, My Fair Lady, and other toe-tapping excerpts

### **MENU**

Choice of either Salmon, Chicken or Pasta at \$45  
or Prime Rib at \$55 pp. Dessert included

### **RESERVATIONS**

Ted Pullen (415-499-4610 or [tedpullen@comcast.net](mailto:tedpullen@comcast.net)) will be taking reservations during the December and January luncheons. Seating will be pre-assigned. All entrees must be pre-selected and prepaid not later than 1/25/24.

# LUCKY 7 GOLF



## Rancho Solano (Scramble)—November 1st

1	Cooper, Erlingsson, Giachino & Bearg	59.40
2	Saroni, Gioglio, Pullen & Land	62.55
<i>Closest to Hole 5</i>		<i>Closest to Hole 15</i>
Mark Cooper	24'6"	Dan Edwards 11'4"

## Valley of the Moon (Individual) - November 8th

<i>A Flight Net</i>		<i>B Flight Net</i>	
1	Cosmo Violante 71	1	Stephen Bearg 73.5
2	Ron Moresco 73	2	Ted Pullen 76
<i>Closest to the Hole 8</i>		<i>Closest to Hole 16</i>	
Jens Erlingsson	34'0"	Cosmo Violante	17'0"

## Foxtail North (Scramble) - November 22nd

1	Radtke, Moresco, Robinson & Troya	60.65
2	Giambra, Erlingsson, Miller & Lytle	61.65
<i>Closest to Hole 6</i>		<i>Closest to Hole 15</i>
George Sarantakis	14'7"	Paul Giambra 12'2"

## STENZEL CONTEST STANDINGS

1	Jens Erlingsson 2'4"	2	Stephen Bearg 3'7"
3	Paul Giambra 3'8"		

(:Little Sir continued from page 1)

Thanks Bob!

Al Wuthnow is the bean counter of all bean counters and keeps our books as well as collecting the \$\$ and checking us all in every month. Thanks Al!

There is nothing nicer that you can do than to give a pat on the back and a warm thank you to these stalwarts that keep us sailing smoothly throughout the year. Surprise them at the December luncheon. They can also use some help and it would be even nicer if from time to time you could volunteer to help Al at the check-in table or Ken with the raffle ticket sales.

## December 2023 Meetings

Luncheon Thursday December 7  
Executive Committee Thursday December 21

## SIR OF THE MONTH

Slowed only slightly by decades of body smashing rugby, the active and engaged 82 years young Kelley 'Everyone's Friend' Reid, who lives his life with Iowa farm-country values, has been selected as SIR of the Month of December.

Kelley is constantly paying it forward as he co-chairs our SIR membership committee and volunteers his expertise at Vivalon sorting legal issues for those in need. In his spare time this father of three rugby playing youngish men, former council member, two-time mayor, and current treasurer of the town of Ross exemplifies the SIR motto, 'Friends for Life'.

Kelley, your January lunch is on the house as SIR Branch 7 thanks you for filling our lives with leadership, laughter, song, bon homie and friendship.

## SUNSHINE & SHADOWS

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

## 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

## 2023 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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

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