



A Non-profit Organization For Retired Men

HOROLOGIUM

Monthly Newsletter - Est. 1963

North Bay Branch No. 7, San Rafael

Website: www.sirinc2.org/branch7

62nd year

Br. 7

January 2025

BIG SIR—*Tom Verkozen*



Three goals for 2025

Goal #1.

You, another Sir, and I have coffee ... SOON ... so call, text or email me NOW, right NOW, before your good intentions slip away ... and let's parlay a bit. (415) 637-7974. verkozen@gmail.com

Goal #2.

Continue to improve Branch 7 ... even if it means I've got to go hit golf balls, be Big and Little Sir for a few months and OD on coffee!

Goal #3.

Continue to be thankful.

Consider this: SIR statewide membership shrunk from 33,000 to 8,500 while Branch 7 grew from a pre-COVID 58 members to 107 ... Thank You! ... and we've added hiking, biking, a book group and Zeffy ... Shout out to Michael, the Bobs, the Toms, the Dicks, Ted, Al, Kelley, Ralph, Paul, Jim, David, Don, Ken ... and you!

Our next great stride depends on you so call and let's do coffee.

LITTLE SIR—*Vacant*

NEW LUNCHEON SIGN-UP PROCESS

The End of Confusion

To eliminate confusion at the desk when you arrive to enjoy a lunch with friends, the leadership of SIR Branch 7 sprang into action by streamlining the process for meal selection and the collection of dues ...

We expect the normal slug of issues and will continue to refine the system, brought to us by Zeffy, but know that Zeffy is used by 50,000 non-profit groups!

To eliminate the inevitable bugs of change, you received an email with instructions on how to pay your dues and for luncheons. We hope you find it easy and if you have any issues that you reach out by phone or text to one of the three volunteers:

Tom Short (415) 300-7457
Paul Elmquist (415) 302-5438
Michael Sommer (415) 264-0166

Assuming all goes well, you'll be receiving your January luncheon invitation shortly.

2025 DUES

The dues for 2025 will be \$50. Bring to the luncheon or mail to Al Wuthnow at 214 Melrose Avenue, Mill Valley CA 94941. You can also pay through Zeffy. Thank you for your prompt payment.

LUNCHEON PRICE INCREASE

The price of our luncheons increases by \$2 to \$40 effective January 2025. Pay through Zeffy (see above).

January 2025 Meetings

Luncheon Thursday January 2
Executive Committee Thursday January 16

January 2nd Luncheon

Beef Stroganoff w/Egg Noodles
Grilled Salmon w/Butter Sauce
Vegetarian

<u>MEMBERSHIP REPORT</u> December 2024	
<u>TOTAL ACTIVE MEMBERS - 12/1/24</u>	105
<u>GAINS DURING MONTH</u>	1
Marty Rayman	
<u>LOSSES DURING MONTH</u>	0
<u>TOTAL ACTIVE MEMBERS - 1/1/25</u>	106

January 2025 Birthdays		
28	Al Selby	January 1
111	Bill McCarten	January 6
52	Lenny Cianciolo	January 14
168	Paul Giambra	January 31

Dick Robinson, Secretary



Minutes of the BEC meeting, December 19, 2024

Treasurer Al Wuthnow gave treasurer's report which showed balance at end of November as \$7,181. We had 80+ members and guests at the December lunch but were \$175 short on amounts collected to cover the costs. Three members were no-shows which had paid to sign up. The Raffle helped out by collecting \$300 more than its cost. We are now using Zeffy to collect dues for next year with about 70 members paid up. Michael had checks and cash for 6 more members' dues so that left ~ 25 members unpaid. We went over the list of unpaid members and board members volunteered to call them. Al said we have 105 members on our rolls that will have to pay to the State Sirs organization.

We are beginning to use Zeffy as our means for signing up for monthly lunches and other events. So far 28 members have signed up for the January 2 lunch and Tom Short showed us how to sign up using the new system. Zeffy requires payment online by credit or debit card with a selection of lunch choice. The deadline for signing up for January 2 is December 30. Only a few members don't have email, but they can be signed up by another member and make payment to that member. Members who bring guests will have to make payment and reservations with Zeffy and be reimbursed for their guests. The choice of meals for the coming year will be the same as previous years (usually a meat dish, salmon or salad). Those who don't make Zeffy reservations will have to take what's ready.

The Valentine lunch on February 6 will include ladies as guests this year. The menu choices will be the same as the Christmas lunch (prime rib, salmon, chicken or pasta). Costs will be probably be \$50 for prime rib and \$40 for the other choices. Reservations and payment will be made online with Zeffy. Ted Pullen will be given access to the sign ups to handle table assignments and Ken Kauer will purchase roses for the ladies. A notice about the Valentine lunch will be sent out to all members in early January.

Kelley Reid will induct 3 new members at the January meeting: David Pell, Irv Schwartz and Zee Skyvara. Marty Rayman sponsored by Bob Bundy was approved for membership. Officers for the coming year will be installed at the January lunch by Dr Bundy. Officers for '25 will be: Big Sir-Tom Verkozen, Little Sir open, Treasurer -Al Wuthnow, Secretary - Dick Robinson and other board members in their continuing positions.

Speakers for the coming months are as follows: Ron Rosano, an astronaut from the Galactica space mission, in January, Jason Balderama from Marin Count IT Security, in February, Michael Dybeck from the Boy Scouts in March and Kent Fortner from Mare Island Brewing in April.

Ted Pullen is working on a group trip to attend the show "Mamma Mia" in San Francisco in May. It would include the bus ride, lunch and the show. He'll work out cost for the package and use Zeffy for signing up.

The Lucky 7 Golf group concluded its season with an award lunch at McInnis on December 17. The 2nd Tuesday book club will be meeting on Tuesday January 7 to discuss the book "Black Raven". The pool group meets on Thursdays following the monthly lunch and Exec Board Mtg.

LUCKY 7 GOLF AWARDS LUNCHEON



Our Lucky 7 Golf group enjoyed another amazing awards luncheon this year. We met for our annual awards meeting at McInnis and celebrated another year of playing golf. Ron Radtke our golf chairman announced the winners for the following awards.

1. The "Hammer" (Gordon Haight). winning the most Long Drive contests
2. The "Fox". (Ted Pullen). winning the most points on CTH
3. The "Scrambler" (Steven Berg) winning the most points in SCRAMBLE
4. " low net". lowest low net score (Paul Donohue)
5. " low gross" lowest gross score (Paul Giambra)
6. " B flight Champ", (Ted Pullen).
7. " A flight Champ" (Ron Radtke)

The " Rooster" (Ted Pullen). Most total points in all categories.

We are grateful for our sponsors who support our golf group. As the result we were able to offer a Raffle which included rounds of golf at the courses we play during the season.



JANUARY SPEAKER

Ron Rosano is a "graduate" of Richard Branson's Virgin Galactica Space Program. He is Galactica astronaut 017 on Galactica flight 04 which seems to be a culmination of a lifelong interest in astronomy and space flight.

Watching the Apollo Moon landing as a child initiated his interest in space and space travel. He pursued an interest in astronomy with a passion for educating youth about the wonders of space and where our fragile planet fits into the solar system. He has served as an ambassador to public schools where he has brought his enthusiasm for space to thousands of students.

Since 2008 he has given over 70 presentations as a NASA Solar System Ambassador about the Mars Rover, James Webb telescope, moon landings and the possibilities of commercial space flight. As you might expect he has also given many presentations about his own experience on his Galactic 04 space flight. We are fortunate to have him start our 2025 luncheons with his incredible story.

VALENTINE'S LUNCHEON

SAVE THE DATE—February 6th—spouses and significant others are welcome, too!

Menu will be the same as the Holiday luncheon in December.

See Ted at the January luncheon.



SUNSHINE & SHADOWS

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



SIR ON THE INTERNET

www.sirinc.org
www.sirinc.org/wearesir-2/

Gives SIR history, organization, locations, activities, travel programs etc.. Also the State newsletter, SIR Happenings. Suggested for those thinking of joining for an early orientation.

2024 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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

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

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.