



SIR Branch 176 Windsor Winds Newsletter for October 2025

SIR Mission Statement

The Mission of SIR is to improve the lives of our members through fun activities and events – while making friends for life. Visit our [Branch Webpage](#), or [State Webpage](#):

Windsor Branch 176

Monthly Luncheon Meeting Every 3rd Wednesday
Jimmy’s Lakeside Café 130 19th Hole Dr. Windsor CA
Lunch is \$30.00

Windsor Winds Edition

October 2025
Volume 30 Number 10

Big SIR – Tom Palmer



Elections were held last luncheon and after a count of the secrete ballots, congratulations to Phil Bartell, Bob Wallace and Harold Minkin who are our three new directors. Also thanks to Ward Thompson, Chris Roach and Wayne Lindahl who served in this capacity for the past two years. Each was willing to walk away giving others a chance to serve. Because there was no one running against the proposed Board Officers, those elections were by voice vote. Your next year officers are: Big Sir: Steve De La Montanya; Little Sir: Bruce Okrepkie; Secretary, Larry Doherty; Assistant Secretary, Tom Palmer; Treasurer Garry Trojanowski; Assistant Treasurer, Howard Blethen. In other administrative news, your board voted to make the Little SIR the chairman of the nomination committee. The nomination committee selects

and recommends qualified folks to the General Board positions, perhaps most importantly, the next Little Sir. The consensus is that the Little Sir, who will be the next Big Sir, should be very involved in that process.

Also occurring on the 17th was a meeting between the new owner Jim Goff, the Big Sir and the Holiday Party coordinator, Frank Treanor. The cost of the holiday party has gone up. Specifically 20% for the staff tip. There remains no additional cost for the room, or corkage fees or the planned menu. The result is that the total cost for each of us goes up to \$80.00 per person (that includes our wine, cake and Mr. Music). Since that price is prohibitive, our board has voted to use the picnic raffle revenue to partly subsidize this party. Hence the cost per person is \$65.00 per person. I understand that such price is still high, but I have good reason to believe that your next Big Sir will ensure other alternatives are explored for next year. In any event, it won't be much of a party unless there is a good showing...so save up folks.

Finally, in order to be a bit more visible in the community Sir Mark Nelson addressed the board with the idea that we participate in the Windsor Christmas Tree event on the town green. There were still a few remaining trees out of the 250, so after board approval, he grabbed one. At the board meeting Frank brought up the question as to whether or not our involvement is a "religious" preference or communication, which isn't allowed. I understand how it can be viewed that way, but I'm viewing it from the more ancient traditions in which it symbolized life and hope during the dark winter months, plus this is a town event, not a religious one. Regardless, Mark will be collecting ornaments from us. For future planning, if you don't have any appropriate ornaments, I did see a number of relevant ones for sale on Prime under \$10.00 including bowling, pool, golf, happy hour and even bocce ball. So let's decorate an interesting Christmas tree and have some fun!

Little SIR – Steve De La Montanya



Hello Fellow Windsor SIR Members. The Weather is cooling, and we are moving into fall and soon it will be Winter. We could start to see weather disruptions for Golf and Bocce.

The September Luncheon went off well. A lot of material was covered during the general meeting, and it moved along quickly. Congratulations To the new Board members and welcome aboard.

The lunch was prepared by Greg Long Catering, A long time contractor with the owner of Windsor and Petaluma Golf courses. I thought the Chicken was a bit better than meals served in the past few months. I cut it with a fork, something I could not do in the past.

In October we move to the new Luncheon set up. Lunches will be provided by the new Windsor Golf Course restaurant, Jimmy's Lake Side.

We will be selecting from a limited menu:

Cheeseburger

Hamburger

Impossible burger (Vegetarian Selection)

Club Sandwich

Chicken Salad

The side is Fries or Side Salad.

Please review the selections in advance and be prepared to choose as you enter.

OUR OCTOBER GUEST SPEAKER IS:

Claudio Calvo of Veterans Honor Flight.

Topics: History of Honor Flight, Description of Sites Visited, Volunteers, Opportunities

* Note; I will be missing the October luncheon as a time share vacation is scheduled for the same week.

OCTOBER LUNCHEON NEWS:

Our numbers were a bit down last month due to lots of folks being away, but hopefully they will be back up where it's been. This luncheon is the first time that we get to taste the new restaurant's food. Last month we were served by a temporary caterer. I look forward to your input as to the quality of the food. As you know, the price of the meal has gone up from \$23.00 to \$25.00 for the food.... plus a required 20% tip (like most restaurants do for any large group) for a total of \$30.00 Since your Big and Little Sirs can't be there, our former Big Sir Jerry Culver will run the meeting. Sirs Charlie Boyd and Mark Nelson will coordinate the meal.

DRIVERS & RIDERS

THE 3 FOLKS WHO YOU CAN CALL DIRECT IF YOU NEED A RIDE TO THE LUNCHEONS ARE:

Bob Wallace Windsor 707-849-2345

Jon Babich Windsor 707-608-9449 ???

Chris Riggins Santa Rosa 925-354-3593 ???

STEWART ALSO HAS HIS PHONE NUMBER LISTED IN THE BOCCE BALL NOTICES IF YOU WISH A RIDE FOR BOCCE BALL.

Stewart Morgan Windsor 707-545-4957 stwrvmorgan@gmail.com

If you too are available to provide a lift, or if there is a need for additional ride services, please let our friendship director, Chris Roach, know.

chrisroach@sbcglobal.net

A Funny Luncheon Request

Each luncheon we rely on Frank to start it off with a joke of the day. His inventory is petering out. If you have a "story type" of a joke, please email it to Frank at: bcft11@comcast.net.

Chris Roach – Friendship Report



Get Well cards were sent to Dave Schleeter and Greg Smith.

MEMBERSHIP –LARRY D.



It's hard to believe we are closing in on 100 members but maybe not since we have such a great group of guys which influences others to join us. So give yourself a pat on the back or have your significant other do it if you can't reach it. It would be nice to see a few more faces during our monthly luncheon, since this is the one time we get to share all that is going on throughout our branch. And don't forget, if you want to know what the BEC does, we are there at 11, before lunch, and you are welcome to come join us. We will even teach you our secret handshake.

HOLIDAY PARTY

The Holiday Party will be held on December 17 at 1200 hours at what used to be Charlie's, now Jimmy's lakeside cafe. The new owner increased the price by about 12 to 15 %. The cost to you will be \$65 per person with the balance paid by the Branch. There are other venues that might serve us well, but they are not as convenient. So, for this year, we will stay here. This will include menu choices, plated, wine and Mr. Music and of course Chris Roach will bake a wonderful sheet cake.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS OCTOBER TO:

Steve Backman, Allen Cunningham, Larry Doherty, Steve Johnson, and Stewart Morgan

Gary Jensen – Recruitment Coffee (John Fineren & Helpers)

Bringing a guest to coffee for them to get a feel for the group is a simple and great way to recruit. Tuesday Morning 9am coffee session continues to be busy and a fun time.



Coffee at the senior center

Where else can you get a pastry and unlimited coffee for \$1?

Couples Dinner (Not an official SIR Activity) Couples Dinner- Jim Vick

The SIR couple's dinner on 9/17 was at Bollywood in Healdsburg, 13 couples attended. We had a great time visiting. There was only one server for the 24 of us but he was amazing. The food was also very delicious. The conversation flowed and a good time was had by all.





The Sirs dinner for October will be at “Le Gare” , 208 Wilson, Santa Rosa. Wednesday October 22 @5:30 pm. Let Jim know if you wish to attend

Anyone new or who hasn't been receiving Jim's emails and wants to be on the dinner list please contact him at: jvick1497@gmail.com

FOOD BANK VOLUNTEER TEAM PROGRESS:



There were 10 of us there in September and we joined another group to load boxes for seniors. To clarify, this is not a “Sir’s Activity”, it’s a foodbank activity that we assist in, therefore, women are absolutely welcome and encouraged to participate with us.

Continuing on, we will have a group going over once a month on the 1st Thursday of the month from 2-4pm. **The next service opportunity will be on October 2nd, if you did not respond to my email and still wish to volunteer, email me immediately.**

*Also, if someone is willing to lean in and coordinate getting the monthly list of work folks to the foodbank, I would really appreciate that. I'm not trying to be voluble but I adjure someone who is comfortable with emailing to please take this 10 minute a month job.

Golf: Jerry Culver & Frank Treanor



Golf is getting about 12 players each week. Talk to Jerry or I if you would like to play and be at the course by 0730. I can be reached at bcft11@comcast.net.

SIR Branch 176 Bowling Report

Our Monday Morning Mixed Seniors Bowling League for Fall-Winter '25 - '26 is well underway with twelve teams. Our Sir Branch 176 members bowling this season include Al Fiori, Kenny Fewer, Don McCorquodale, Pete Frisch, Phil Bartels, John Campbell, Mark Nelson, Lou Commendatore and myself. In this early part of our season, John Campbell and Don McCorquodale have been performing very well with recognition for high Scratch Game and High Scratch Series. We are always looking for bowlers to fill a few vacancies, and for substitute players to step in when absences of regular bowlers occur.

If you are interested in joining the Fall Monday Morning Seniors league as a regular team player or substitute, please let me know.

Dave Harrison, Bowling Chair
harrisod@sonic.net



Windsor Charlie Brown Christmas Tree Grove

The official event dates are December 4th to December 31st 2025. Mark Nelson who is heading this project will receive an email 2-3 weeks before the December 5th opening night with our tree location and an event map. The theme will be “Enhancing senior men’s lives through fun activities”.

The decorating time for us will be Monday December 1st at 3pm. Mark your calendars. Members may provide decorations consistent with our theme (activities). I am encouraging folks to bring their decorations to the November Luncheon, so we can see what we have. The board may need to purchase some for yearly use, as there are numerous activity ornaments available on Amazon for less than \$10.00 each.

If you have questions or want to help, please contact Mark at:

<mailto:mnelson@santarosa.edu>

Bocce Ball - Stewart Morgan



Bocce Ball at the Senior’s Center Thursdays at 10:00am. All are welcome.

Bocce, also known as Italian lawn bowling, is one of the oldest lawn or yard games. The word “bocce” is a plural of the word “boccia” meaning ball in Italian.



WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS:

Jim Henrikson, Ed Radigue, Peter Frisch



Jim Henrikson

I was born in Hollywood and raised in Culver City. For education I went to North Hollywood High School, UCLA and L.A.C.C. I served in the CA National Guard for six years reaching the rank of Master Sgt.

Professionally, I was a film and music editor for TV, examples include: I love Lucy, Bewitched and Star Trek. Also as a music editor I worked on Movies such as Lord of the Rings (Animated), Ragin Bull, Flash dance, Footloose, Scarface, Little Shop of Horrors and Avatar. I also had the honor of working with great composers such as Alfred Newman, Henry Mancini, Quincy Jones and others.

I am retired, live in Windsor and enjoy walking, reading, cooking, NY Times puzzles and of course, listening to music.



Ed Radigue

I was Born in Tahiti and served in the Air Force from 1953 to 1959.

I am a retired realtor having worked for many different companies. I currently live in Santa Rosa. I enjoy painting and gardening.



Peter Frisch

My wife, Millis, and I live in Windsor. I'm originally from Illinois but moved to California in the mid 70's. We moved up here over 25 years ago from the San Jose area. Now semi retired, I worked in the automobile claims department of State Farm Ins. We also still work occasionally at DeLormier winery in the tasting room.

I have a daughter in Wisconsin; a stepson here in Windsor; and a stepson his wife and 2 children living in Lima, Peru. My neighbor, Wayne Lindahl, introduced me to SIRS. I bowl on Mondays with the seniors at Windsor Bowl. We enjoy traveling and getting together with friends for occasional lunches or "happy hour".

I look forward to participating as a member of SIRS.

ROOSTER GARDEN GUYS



The fall crop in Bed #2 has been planted: Mammoth Melting Sugar Peas (23 September). The peas emerged from the soil, with some reseeding needed, and they have started their ascent of the provided trellis. Again chicken wire surrounds the bed to deter deer. Hardware cloth, donated by Phil Bartels, has been used to cover the central surface of the bed to prevent critters from digging up the kitchen scraps and red worms, added to help amend the poor soil.



LIKE TO PLAY POOL, DARTS, SHUFFLEBOARD?

Game time is every Tuesday from 3pm to 5pm.



Most of us aren't very good at pool playing, but all have a great time. However, they have changed the price. For us seniors it's \$6.00 per hour, so still not a bad buck for the bang; Or if you just want to sit back, have a cold one and enjoy the conversation, that's good too...or play one of their other games. So join us at Racks-N-Cue, 8928 Lakewood Drive Windsor.

3PM Friday Happy Hour



If you are free, come and enjoy a cold beverage and lively conversation and so-so jokes. **The schedule for October is:** 10/3: El Gallo Negro (Bar side only); 10/10:

The Publican; 10/17: Barley & Brine; 10/24: Lupe's; 10/31 Jimmy's Lakeside Café, aka Charlies.

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE:



The Activities Committee made up of members Wayne Lindahl (photo above), Chris Roach, Dave Harrison and Phil Bartels are looking for ideas. This group will have the responsibility of checking with our members for the level of interest in the new activity, identify the local resources available for that activity and if there is a member willing to step up and chair the activity.

Here are some of the activities that other SIRs groups participate in;

- Bridge
- Computers
- Genealogy
- Hiking
- Investments
- Ping Pong

If you have an idea or want to start an activity, please contact any of these committee members.

Wayne: wlindahl@sonic.net

Chris: chrisroach@sbcglobal.net

Phillip: pcbartels@aol.com or Dave: harrisod@sonic.net

SPECIAL PROFILE JOHN HANDCOCK:



I was born in Wasco California. When I was about three we moved to Illinois.

At the age of ten I was introduced to the game of baseball. I played the game until the year I enlisted in the Army. I was told I could ask for my duty assignment. I chose Germany and was sent directly to Vietnam where I met a lot of interesting people.

Arriving back in the States I was stationed in Kansas. I played baseball at Fort Riley. This was where I also fought the wars of boredom and tedium. I took some business classes at Kansas State University to keep my sanity. This is when I decided to be in business for myself. When my enlistment was up. I joined the active Army Reserves for 3 more years as an instructor.

After my madness ended I went to work for an insurance agency. Later I purchased the business. The business prospered. Someone eventually made an offer I couldn't refuse. During this time, I was married and had two boys. I kept the boys and got rid of the wife.

My neighbor and I started our own business from scratch. He was a contractor/engineer. I was the business and marketing guru. Later I sold my half of our company to my business partner.

My boys were older and on their own, so I moved to Las Vegas where I went into the mortgage business. I met my wife there 23 years ago. We have now been married for 21 years. Together we have 3 boys 2 girls, 6 grandchildren, 4 Great grandchildren and 4 children who adopted us as their grandparents. When I retired for the first time, I was bored, so I went to work as a tour guide for a friend of mine who had the Las Vegas franchise with Pink Jeep Tours out of Sedona Arizona. My wife was missing her family in California. So, we moved to Santa Rosa California where I promptly went into sticker shock at the price of homes. I therefore gave up on the idea of an easy retirement and went back into the mortgage business at a bank in downtown Santa Rosa.

As good parents, my wife and I decided to help our oldest daughter start her own floral business. I decided it was more important to help her than work for the bank. The business became very successful. Now she has both retail and wholesale business.

I'm retired again and loving it.

TRAVEL FROM STATE SIR:

Australia/New Zealand Jan 7, - Jan 25, '26. Australia: Cairns, Great Barrier Reef, Sydney Arrowtown, Queenstown, Rotorua, Auckland. New Zealand : Te Anau. Starting from \$6,495 including air. Free Single Supplement. Pre-trip 5 nights to Melbourne & the Outback from \$2,395. Post trip 4 nights to Fiji from \$1,995 SIR Group Code is G5-30339. Contact Glenn Breslin glennbreslin@gmail.com Branch 146 for more information. Or call direct 1-800-955-1925 Be sure to use the SIR Group Code. LINK: Australia & New Zealand | Grand Circle Travel

Cuba – March 12- 2026. It is legal to travel once again, open the a link and check it out, if interested contact Glenn Breslin glennbreslin@gmail.com ASAP as he is putting an online Q&A together. LINK: Cultural Cuba Experience | Mayflower Cruises and Tours

South Korea & Japan: Temples, Shrines & Seaside Treasures. Korea: Seoul, Japan: Tokyo, Toba, Kyoto. April 1 - April 26, '26. Starting from \$7,495 including air. Pre-trip Mongolia: Ulaanbaater & the Gobi Desert. 9 nights from \$1,495. OR...Vietnam: Hanoi & Halong Bay Cruise 5 nights from \$1,495. SIR Group Code G5-30339 For more information contact Glenn Breslin glennbreslin@gmail.com Branch 146. LINK: South Korea and Japan | Travel to East Asia | Overseas Adventure Travel

Explore the Great Lakes and Niagara Falls, May 3-11, 2026: From urban skylines to uninhabited islands, discover North America's wilderness alongside renowned cultural attractions aboard a small expedition ship. 378 passengers. Led by experts. Balcony staterooms \$6170-8295pp. Contact Michael & Kathi Gervais Br. 98. Kathig@shipsandtripstravel.com 916-337-1623. LINK: Great Lakes and Niagara Falls on the Viking Octantis

Christmas on the Danube with a 2 day Christmas Markets of Prague extension. Nov. 27-Dec. 8, 2026

Six night Danube River Cruise including Christmas Markets in Vienna, Wurzburg, Rothenburg, Nuremberg, Regensburg, Passau, Wachau Valley, Gluhwein Party. Pricing: \$5896-\$7497 pp, double occupancy. Contact: Bill Britton Br. 101 bill.britton@comcast.net (925) 200-1062. LINK: Christmas on the Danube | Collette

OTHER COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS:

(Non SIR Activities)



HOT DOG THURSDAYS

The first Thursday of every month (May through October) the Pacific Coast Air Museum serves their famous PCAM Hot Dogs, drinks, and chips to visitors from around Sonoma County. Cost: \$10.00 will get you into the museum, a hot dog, a drink, and chips. The first Thursday in October is on 2nd.



Once a month (date varies) all SIR and their spouse (SIR+) are welcome to start the “work” week with Mexican Monday – a chance for SIR couples to gather. Starts sharply at 4PM Castaneda’s Market Place. This month **20 October** is Mexican Monday. The frozen margarita machine is now making frozen horchata -- a refreshing non-alcoholic beverage popular in Mexico and Latin America made from white rice, water, cinnamon, and sugar; two sizes large \$7 and small \$5.



Every Saturday morning starting at 8AM Jose Castaneda serves a free breakfast for veterans, i.e. “Castañeda’s Breakfast Brigade,” he provides veterans a place for connections, camaraderie & friendship.



FOR THE LIGHT HEARTED:



Six great confusions Still unresolved

1. At a movie theatre, which arm rest is yours?
2. In the word scent, is "S" silent or "C"?
3. If people evolve from monkeys, why are monkeys still around?
4. Why is there a 'D' in fridge, but not in refrigerator?
5. Who knew what time it was when the first clock was made.



So I was in a shoe shop this morning trying on a shoe, I said to the assistant "It's too tight".

She said "Try it with the tongue out"
I said "It'th nho ghooood, it'th thtill thoo thight".

*The older I get,
the earlier
it gets late!*

2025 SIR Branch 176 Officers:					
Big SIR Thomas Palmer 619-920-9175		Little SIR Steve De La Montanya		Secretary Dave Harrison 707-838-8155	
Assistant Secretary Larry Doherty 707-484-5308		Treasurer Garry Trojanowski 203-988-5366		Assistant Treasurer Howard Blethen	
2025 Directors					
1 Year Term			2 Year Term		
Chris Roach	Wayne Lindahl	Ward Thompson	Jerry Culver	Ron Nordstrom	Jim Tubb
2025 Activity Coordinator					
Pool-Game Time Bob Wallace 707-849-2345	ATTENDANCE Ron Nordstrom 707-338-6363	MEMBERSHIP Larry Doherty 707-484-5308		FRIENDSHIP Chris Roach (707) 490-8510	
TRAVEL Stewart Morgan 707-545-4957	GOLF Frank Treanor 707-322-7217	BOWLING Dave Harrison 707-638-8155		COFFEE CLUB John Fineren 707-838-3686	
COUPLES DINNER Jim Vick 281-382-4796	BOCCE BALL Stewart Morgan 707-545-4957	RECRUITMENT Gary Jensen 707-337-8380		GREETER John Fineren 707-838-3686	
SONG LEADER Tom Hasco 707-544-4445	NEWSLETTER Tom Palmer 619-920-9175	WEB PAGE Jim Tubb 707-4847890		COFFEE COORDINATOR John Fineren 707-838-3686	
SIR State President Rich Carlston			SIR Area 13 Representative Chris Nelle 916-205-1717		

