



## SIR Branch 176 Windsor Winds Newsletter for May 2026

### 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday  
Jimmy's Lakeside Grill, 130 19<sup>th</sup> Hole Dr. Windsor CA  
5/20/26 Lunch is \$30.00

#### **Windsor Winds Edition**

May 2026  
Volume 33 Number 5



### **Big SIR – Steve De La Montanya**



Hello fellow SIR members, well we had a cool wet April as predicted. Not much Golf or Bocce. Bowling did roll along to completion. Looks like May is going to be a bit better but a few more showers are predicted. The vegetable plants are off to a pretty good start, and we should see Tomato's by July 1<sup>st</sup>.

The April BEC meeting and Luncheon went well. Jimmies had the room set up and waiting.

The Summer picnic planning continues, and we can expect a genuinely nice affair.

At the BEC we voted Dennis Wilkenson as a new member.

Bruce Okrepkie has worked with City to rehabilitate two Bocce Court courts so we can add capacity to accommodate our membership. The board voted to recommend the two behind Safeway as the best option for our group.

Unfortunately, we were notified of the passing of John Cookus. A few words were said by Jim Tubb and Frank did a terrific job with a bell ringing and some kind words.

Dave Harrison received recognition with the SIR 176 Honorary Life Award. At the Luncheon we enjoyed a side salad and meat loaf entrée with sides served to your table.

Our guest speakers Mark Millen presented a very nice talk supported by visuals regarding water resilience. The future of Water with an emphasis on reclaiming and reusing water.

In May we will be looking forward to adding a few new members as we have had a couple of guest join us recently and expect to have applications in time for a BEC vote.

I Look forward to seeing everyone at the next monthly luncheon on May 20<sup>th</sup>. If you have concerns, please attend the meeting so your voice is heard.



### Little SIR – Bruce Okrepkie

It's May and I hope it warms up.



Last month we had Mark Millan of Data Instincts. He gave an amazing presentation about water and what the future will be for water. I found it unbelievable how many gallons are used to make a pair of jeans or a glass of wine.

This month you do not want to miss the luncheon. **We will have all three candidates that are running for 4<sup>th</sup> District Supervisor, Tom Schwedhelm, Todd Lands and Melanie Bagby.** This will give you the opportunity to hear from each candidate so you can make an informed decision. If you have a question for them please send it to me at [bruceokrepkie@gmail.com](mailto:bruceokrepkie@gmail.com). I will be the moderator and will ask questions for them to answer.

June is our annual picnic.

July, we will have Jose Castaneda speaking to us on his grocery store and the Vets breakfast he puts on.

August, Cal Fire will be here speaking on wildfires and what is new to prevent them.

September, Olivia Lemen will be here. She is the Director of Parks and Recreation.

If you have someone you would like to speak at our meeting, please let me know.



## **Chris Roach – Friendship Report**



The only card sent out was a get well card to Dorothy Fineren.

## **MEMBERSHIP –LARRY D.**



Our branch is starting to climb in numbers again after the normal March fall in numbers due to various reasons. We are currently at 83 members. And a helpful reminder, don't forget Mother's Day is Sunday, April 10. Hope to see you at our April luncheon. The meals provided by Jimmy have been very good!!!

## **HAPPY MAY BIRTHDAY TO:**

JERRY CULVER; JOHN FINEREN; HAROLD MINKIN; RON NORDSTROM; JOCK RADER, LEN SCHWER; TOM VANCAMP, BOB WALLACE.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO SIR DAVE HARRISON:



After nomination by our Branch BEC, Dave was awarded, from the State Level of SIRS, the “Honorary life member award”. The state has stringent requirements for one to receive such an award. The awardee (maximum of two in our branch) must have provided exceptional and extraordinary service, has stepped forward whenever the need arises, and has made improvements to benefit the branch. Dave has been an active member for over 14 years. Two weeks after joining the branch he became a board member due to the passing of the Attendance Chairman (what Ron Nordstrom does). The following year he also accepted the position of “Director at Large”, a two year commitment. In 2015 Dave became the “Little Sir” (Jock Rader was the Big Sir) and the Big Sir the following year. Then Dave took on the position of Assistant Secretary (backing up Phil Anderson). During that time he also assisted in planning the Christmas Parties and coordinating with Branch 17 for our picnics. Dave was also instrumental in the development of our couple’s dinners and assisted Gary Jensen in making the coffee time so popular. Due to Covid, our branch was inactive for a couple of years but when it fired up again, Dave became our Secretary and held that position through 2025. He also learned the program “Front Page” to help with our first webpage. Another significant accomplishment was his planning and organization of our first independent picnic in 2024. Dave with his wife Joy did an amazing job. Dave continues to serve as Bowling Chair, provides input for our next picnic and one can usually see Dave and Joy volunteering monthly during our foodbank service day. Hence, Dave more than met the requirements for one of the most distinguished SIR awards. Dave’s attitude towards all of this volunteering? “My life has been greatly enriched and rewarded by virtue of my participation in our Branch. I have had the privilege of meeting and getting to know a host of wonderful men and women in the process.” *Dave Harrison.*

## PRIVACY & THE WEBPAGE

[WWW.WINDSORSIRS.ORG](http://WWW.WINDSORSIRS.ORG)

**Having your photo and some background information about you on the web page is completely voluntary.** If you don't want it there for either privacy or security reasons, tell or email Jim at [drdelta91@gmail.com](mailto:drdelta91@gmail.com). He will remove it; otherwise if we don't hear from you **we are assuming consent.** Please review the web page <https://windsorsirs.org/> and what is there, and if you want something added, deleted or changed, again let Jim know.

Finally, if you've never provided a full **bio. for the newsletter** and would be willing to do so, please contact Gary Good at [gary.good@comcast.net](mailto:gary.good@comcast.net). Gary is graciously helping Tom Palmer with that segment of the newsletter.

## **SIR's Branch 176 Ladies Day Picnic**

**Wednesday, June 17, 2026**

At Jimmy's Lakeside Restaurant (outside venue) at the Windsor Golf Course, 1320 19<sup>th</sup> Hole Drive, Windsor, California. Social Hour is at 11am and the Buffet Lunch is at Noon. This includes chicken, tri-tip, potato salad, green salad, rolls, dessert, wine, beer, soft drinks, the raffle, Bingo (tentative), Music, Conversation and Fun. And if anyone can donate wine please let us know. Many of the women seem to prefer Sauvignon Blanc or Chardonnay.

All for **Only \$50.00** Per Person

Payment accepted in person by Garry anywhere, including at Coffee, or at the April 15<sup>th</sup> or May 20<sup>th</sup> luncheons. If you cannot make the luncheons or find Garry in person, you can mail your check to Garry Trojanowski, 9575 Wellington Circle, Windsor, CA. 95492. Please make it out to "SIR Branch 176". We have no ticket sales after June 1<sup>st</sup> since we need to notify Jimmy about the number of attendees.

More Details to Follow, but remember this is a fun event for all, even if you're not bringing someone, you are likely to have fun; so everyone, please come and enjoy.

Please help if you can. **We really need raffle items.** Contact Steve De la Montanya (707-529-7522) or Larry Doherty (707-484-5308) if you can help (or can hit up someone). We are limiting the number of raffle items to 25 and none after June 10<sup>th</sup>. Please no two-buck chuck raffle items.

## **WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS:**

### **Dennis Wilkenson**



Dennis is married to Sherryl and is a neighbor of Steve DLM and Charlie Boyd. He is an excellent pool player, and participates in Vegas tournaments, etc. He has also made some very fine wine in recent years. He was born in South Bend Indiana and grew up in Indiana, Wisconsin, Kentucky and Michigan. Professionally, he was a mechanic having attended Denver Auto and Diesel College and Metro State College. He is now totally retired spending his time enjoying billiards, golf, cars and good bourbon.

## **TUESDAY MORNING COFFEE 8:45-9:45**

High attendance at the Tuesday Morning 8:45am coffee session at the Senior Center continues. Now in 2026, the Senior Center has a new time schedule which slightly affects us, hence the time change. Please don't forget to invite a friend.





## **Bocce Ball - Stewart Morgan:**

**The “Spocking shot”** is played more as a powerful shot. It is rolled/thrown with great force to displace the ball/s to either gain the point by displacing the opponent's ball/s or reduce the number of points the opponent is holding.

*All are welcome every Thursday 10am at the Senior Center Bocce Ball Court.*

## **Golf: Paul Hanson & Frank Treanor**



Golf Club is waking up from winter and getting 11-12 players each Wednesday. If you want to play and join the group, please contact Frank at [bcft11@comcast.net](mailto:bcft11@comcast.net).

## 3PM Friday Happy Hour



Join us as our Galère gathering in a snugger with the telic of badinage and raillery, inosculate with quaffing. You may notice the schedule has changed for the summer. For the month of **MAY**:

5/1: Flavorburger (near Mt. Mikes)

5/8: Jimmy's

5/15: Russian River (outside & fit the best we can)

5/22: El Galo Negro (outside bar area)

5/29: Barrel Brothers (near Olivers, best to bring a credit card)

### LIKE TO PLAY POOL, DARTS, SHUFFLEBOARD?

Game time is every Tuesday from 3pm to 5pm. at Racks-N-Cues 88928 Lakewood Dr.



## SIR Branch 176 Bowling Report

As I write, we have just completed the first session of the Monday Morning Mixed Seniors Summer No-Tap League. ("No Tap" means that a first pitch pin score of 9 pins down is counted as a strike (as well as the conventional 10 pins down)).

We have only eleven teams with three players each. This means that each of the eleven will rotate through a phantom team in place of the missing twelfth team. The phantom team individual score will equal 150 per game. Each team playing the phantom team will have to have a three member score in excess of 450 in order to win a particular game. So, basically it is a contest for the active team bowlers to score higher than the phantom team fixed average. Of course, a better solution would be to find three more bowlers and field a real twelfth team.

The Tuesday Morning Mixed Seniors Summer No Tap League is skipping April 27th, and starts on May 5th. We have a number of our Sir Branch 176 members who are part of that league.

Please contact me if you are interested in joining our bowling team(s).

Dave Harrison, Bowling Chair  
harrisod@sonic.net



**NEXT OPPORTUNITY IS 5/7 @2PM\***

We had a great turnout in March (16 folks). Let's keep it up.



To clarify, this is not a “Sir’s Activity”, it’s a foodbank activity in which we assist, therefore, women/friends are absolutely welcome and encouraged to participate.

We will have a group going over once a month on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of every month from 2-4pm. **The next service opportunity will be on April 2nd, if you haven’t been getting my foodbank sign-up emails and wish to volunteer, please email me immediately at: [palmer.ts@gmail.com](mailto:palmer.ts@gmail.com)**

### **Couples Dinner Jim Vick**

The April Sirs Dinner was April 23 at Spinster Sisters in Santa Rosa. 14 people attended, good food and conversation.

For May, the dinner will be on **May 14th @5:30 at Quimura** in Windsor. If you wish to attend, please email Jim immediately at: [jvick1497@gmail.com](mailto:jvick1497@gmail.com)





**Ed Radigue**

Ed Radigue was born in Tahiti in 1936 and has carried the spirit of the islands with him throughout a remarkable life of service, family, and adventure. His journey began in the U.S. Armed Forces, where he served two years in the Navy, followed by four years in the U.S. Air Force. As an Aviation Machinist's Mate, 3rd Class, he worked aboard the aircraft carriers USS Kearsarge (CVA-33) and USS Valley Forge (CV-45). He later served proudly with the 99th Bomb Wing and 9th Bomb Wing under the Strategic Air Command, contributing to missions during a pivotal era in American military history.

After completing his military service, Ed attended San Francisco State College, laying the foundation for a long and successful professional life. He began his business career with Sears, serving as both Home Fashions Manager and AB Manager (a department manager responsible for both A-line and B-line merchandise) in San Francisco and Concord. He went on to work with Bertolone Realty in Concord before retiring at age 65.

Beyond his career, Ed has devoted himself to community and relationships. A 17-year member of Rotary, he has always believed in putting service above self. His personal motto — "Treat others as they would like to be treated" — reflects the kindness and emotional intelligence that have shaped his life.

Ed was married for 59 years until the passing of his beloved wife in 1999. Theirs was a partnership defined by love, humor, and mutual devotion. Together they raised four children, and for Ed, the greatest joy of his life remains the love and closeness of his family. "Life is good when you have a good, loving family."

In retirement, Ed virtually embraced the world, traveling to more than twenty countries with his wife and children. His passport tells the story of a man who longed to travel — from Austria to Argentina, Cambodia to China, Tanzania to Thailand, Egypt to Ecuador, and to countless destinations in between. Each trip offered a new chapter for shared discovery and adventure.

For years, Ed has made his home in Larkfield, California, where he enjoys gardening, Pinochle, Bingo, and Rummikub. These simple pleasures reflect the contentment he finds in everyday life and the gratitude he has for the people around him.

At the heart of Ed's story is a deep appreciation for family and his desire to serve others. "Every birthday I celebrate is one more reason to rejoice," he said — with a gleam in his eye.

### **UPCOMING STATE GOLF NEWS:**

We have two more upcoming spring tournaments in the North Bay area: Fairfield (May 20–21) at Paradise Valley and Rancho Solano. This event was extremely popular last year, so be sure to get your entry in soon—the deadline is May 9. The format will again be 4-man / 2 best ball, with both Team and Individual prizes awarded. The final Spring tournament will take place at Blue Rock Springs in Vallejo on June 24–25, featuring both the East and West courses in the same 4-man, 2 best ball format.

For more information and entry forms, please visit the State SIR website ([www.sirgolf.org](http://www.sirgolf.org)). You'll also find the full second-half schedule posted there, including:

- Team Scramble at Hiddenbrooke
- Two-day Sacramento event in September at Lincoln Hills and Turkey Creek
- State Individual Championships at Teal Bend on Thursday, October 1
- The season finale: Monterey tournament at BlackHorse and Bayonet courses at Fort Ord on November 10–11

P.S. The State Golf Committee is looking for additional volunteers to help run these events. If you're interested, please contact Ben Gikis, SIR State Golf Chairman, at [gikisben@yahoo.com](mailto:gikisben@yahoo.com) or 408-802-0794.

## **TRAVEL FROM STATE SIR:**

**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](mailto:Kathig@shipsandtripstravel.com) 916-337-1623. LINK: [Great Lakes and Niagara Falls on the Viking Octantis](#)

**Golf in Hawaii, June 1-5 (approximate dates) Maui Join us for 5 days, 4 nights at the Outrigger Kaanapali Beach Resort.** We have reserved golf tee times at the Royal Kaanapali and Kaanapali Kai Golf Courses. 4 nights at the Outrigger Kaanapali Beach Resort – newly renovated facility. Deposit of \$1931.32 is due at time of booking, remaining balance is due April 17, 2026. Single rates are available. Contact Michael or Katherine Gervais, Ships and Trips Travel Agency. (916) 337 1623 or [kathig@shipsandtripstravel.com](mailto:kathig@shipsandtripstravel.com)

**16 Night Hawaiian Island Cruise aboard Ruby Princess round trip from San Francisco: Oct. 23 thru Nov. 8 '26** From \$3,750 to \$6,055 pp. depending on cabin. Ports of call Hilo, Kahului, Maui, Honolulu, Oahu, Nawiliwili, Kauai, and Ensenada Mexico. Contact John Cardoza area 18 branch 143 209-483-7722 [john@storageauctionexperts.com](mailto:john@storageauctionexperts.com)

**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](mailto:bill.britton@comcast.net) (925) 200-1062.

LINK:

[Christmas on the Danube | Collette](#)



# OTHER COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS:

(Non SIR Activities)

## HOT DOG THURSDAY-MAY 7TH

**Hot Dog Thursday** is a family-friendly event held on the field at the Pacific Coast Air Museum, where visitors from around Sonoma County and the Bay Area enjoy our famous PCAM Hot Dogs, refreshing drinks, and tasty chips—all surrounded by aviation history. Held the first Thursday of each month from April and October. Admission & Meal Combo: \$10.00 includes museum admission, one all-American Beef or Polish dog, a drink, and chips. Opens at 11 AM and runs until about 1 PM; or they run out of hot dogs.



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 Marketplace. This month **18 May** is Mexican Monday.

Last month, Jose treated us to a preview tasting of his chicken mole that would be the filling in his tamales that week.



## **SATURDAY FREE BREAKFAST FOR VETS**

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. [Consider supporting his efforts through his Veterans Table Program a 501(c)(3) non profit.



## **DID YOU KNOW?**

The Spanish national anthem has no words. The "Marcha Real" is one of only four national anthems in the world to have no official lyrics.

## **FOR THE LIGHT HEARTED:**



Realized I had to use the bathroom.

Got up and walked across the house, to the pantry.

Couldn't remember why I was in the pantry.

remembered I had to use the bathroom.

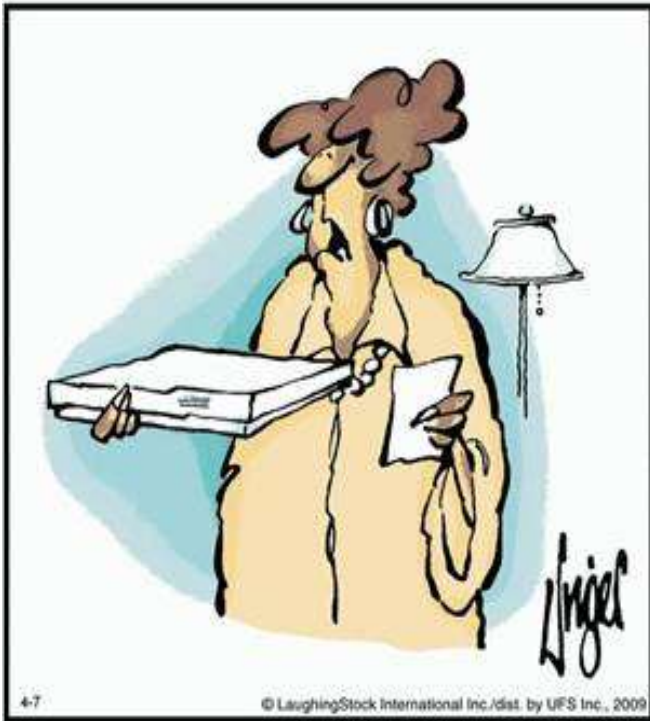
Walked across the house to the bathroom.

Sitting on the throne I remembered why I went to the pantry...

Toilet paper.

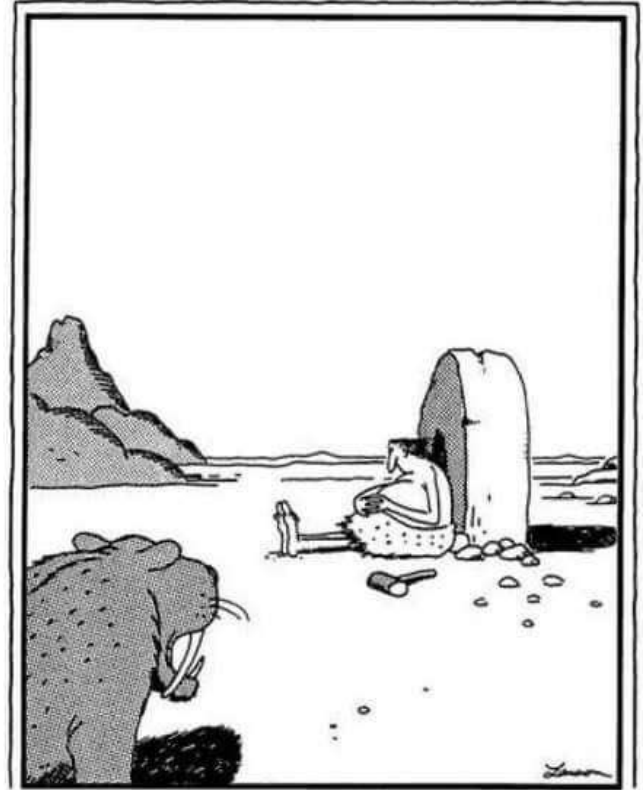
**My kids and grandkids  
keep laughing about  
me losing my memory.**

**They won't be laughing at  
Christmas when there's no  
eggs under the tree!**



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"I don't want to worry you, but the guy who delivered the pizza was your financial planner."



Thag Anderson becomes the first fatality as a result of falling asleep at the wheel.



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<b>2026 SIR Branch 176 Officers:</b>					
<b>Big SIR</b> Steve De La Montanya 707-529-7522		<b>Little SIR</b> Bruce Okrepkie 707-484-0869		<b>Secretary</b> Larry Doherty 707-484-5308	
<b>Assistant Secretary</b> Thomas Palmer 619-920-9175		<b>Treasurer</b> Garry Trojanowski 203-988-5366		<b>Assistant Treasurer</b> Howard Blethen	
<b>2026 Directors</b>					
<i>1 Year Term</i>			<i>2 Year Term</i>		
Jerry Culver	Ron Nordstrom	Jim Tubb	Bob Wallace	Phil Bartels	Harold Minkin
<b>2026 Activity Coordinator</b>					
Pool-Game Night 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	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 707-484-7890	COFFEE COORDINATOR John Fineren 707-838-3686		
<b>SIR State President</b> Fred Serena			<b>SIR Area 13 Representative</b> Chris Nelle 916-205-1717		

