



SIR Branch 176 Windsor Winds Newsletter for September 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
Charlie's Restaurant 130 19th Hole Dr. Windsor CA
Charlie's lunch is \$23.00 (plus \$1 table tip if you wish)

Windsor Winds Edition

September 2025
Volume 30 Number 9

Big SIR – Tom Palmer



First, you have heard or read from my email, Charlies is closed and re-opening under new ownership. The new owner, Jim Goff is the guy who, for 15 years, owned the Sky Lounge Steakhouse and Sushi near the airport. Steve and I talked with him on 8/28. There will be changes; we may need to be a bit flexible and open minded. Steve and I will meet him again on 9/4 and hopefully get more details. Later, Frank and I will also have a meeting with him regarding the Holiday party. We can certainly evaluate on how he does between now and the end of the year and perhaps look for other possible alternatives. Please keep in mind that all food, in all restaurants in Ca. is substantially more expensive than just two years ago and we also get the use of the banquet room & equipment for free.

It is election month. We/You need to elect your Board and general BEC members. About a month ago, I send out a notice to everyone that if they wanted one of the basic board positions (one year positions), they needed to let me (or the Nominating committee) know within 15 days. No one responded which means I expect that those votes will be by a general yes/no group vote. Also up for election are three general voting board member

votes. There are at least four guys who are running for the three open positions. The four guys are, in alphabetical order; Phil Bartels, Harold Minkin, Jim Strange, and Bob Wallace. In an email I asked them to each send me a reply by 8/29 with a few sentences that you guys might want to know, when you are trying to decide their vote. There is a separate segment, just below, regarding their response, if provided. So for election of these board members there is a State corporate policy that gives us guidance. In part it says "Election of the Officers shall be held at the August luncheon meeting(*we are a little behind on that, but so it goes*). Additional nominations may be made from the floor. A nominee from the floor must signify his agreement to accept the office if elected. Voting shall be by secret ballot, provided that for any office for which there is but one nominee, voting may be by voice or by a show of hands. For three or more nominees for office, the candidate receiving the largest number of votes (a plurality) shall be elected".

So what we are going to do is have one "secret ballot vote" for the three positions. Each voting member writes down three different names. The three highest vote getters are the three new officers. The Big Sir, Little Sir, Secretary & Treasurer will count the votes during the lunch and announce the new board members prior to the end of the meeting.

In order to vote, you must be at the Luncheon. See you all there.

Little SIR – Steve De La Montanya



Hello Windsor SIR Members. It looks like we are due for some heat in the next few weeks. Stay Hydrated and don't forget about electrolytes, enjoy the warm evenings. It won't be long before we are running to the warm indoors as winter is quickly approaching.

I hope everyone enjoyed the question-and-answer session provided by Windsor DPW Director Shannon Cotella. I believe Shannon is a guest that we can have return periodically to keep us abreast of the community goings on.

September Luncheon Speakers from the Habitat for Humanity are: Rachel Jeffries with CEO Misty Bastoni.

They will be talking about the things that Habitat for Humanity does for the community and opportunities for our members to contribute.

OUR FOUR MEMBERS FOR GENERAL BEC POSITIONS:



Philip Bartels
Member Since 2019

"I have been Member since 2019 and participate in luncheons and activities on regular basis more than 90 percent of the time thus giving me a good pulse on what members are looking for in everyday work to make the sir's compatible to all members and not the few.

I have been a Moose member for over 50 years and served in many roles of service over those many years and earned the reward of life member before I stepped aside."



Harold Minkin
Member Since 2023

I would like to become a board member as I believe I could add input during the BEC meetings. In the past I have been President of the Healdsburg SIR and also wrote their newsletter.

In the future I might want to become an officer in our club. As a BEC member I would be open to your suggestions, questions, etc., and would look forward to being a new board member!



Jim Strange
Member Since 2013

Jim did not respond to either my email invitation or my follow up reminder.



Bob Wallace
Member Since 2024

I have served on the boys and girls board, the soccer board and ran 7 construction projects in the \$100 million + range. It's very easy for me to think outside the box. My problem solving abilities are way over the top.

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 stwrmtmorgan@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

Chris Roach – Friendship Report



Get Well cards were sent to Jim Strange and Howard Blethen.

MEMBERSHIP –LARRY D.



We now have 94 members. While this is a very strong number for us, please keep inviting your friends and neighbors. We can always use more active guys.

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 a great way to make a visitor feel welcome. Tuesday Morning 9am coffee session continues to be busy and a fun time. If you bring a visitor, please have them sign a “visitor form”; Gary Jensen or John Fineren should have one. We are not handing out our Membership forms right away as we now require a prospective member to attend two activities prior to gaining membership.



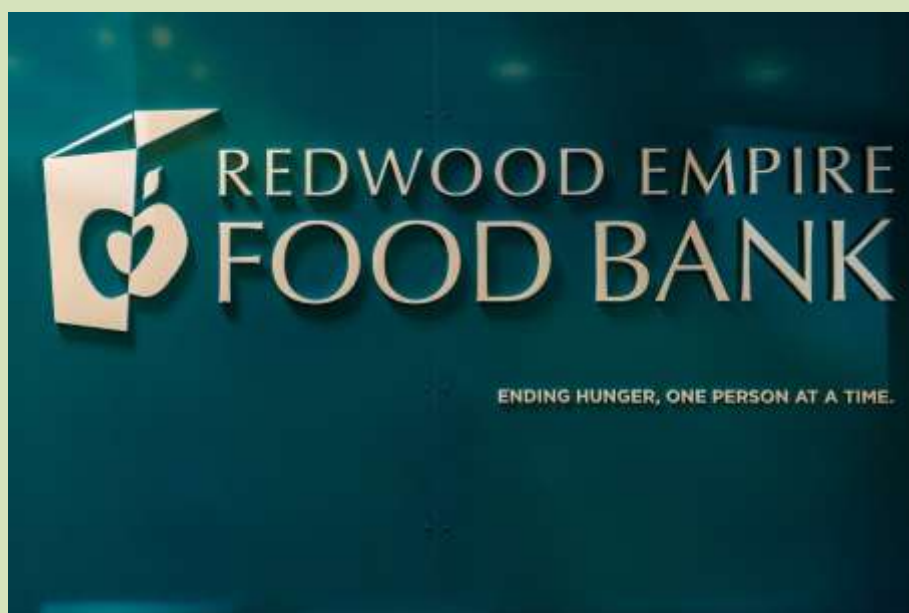
Coffee at the senior center

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS SEPTEMBER TO:

Steve Clifford; Paul Hanson; Bill Hogan; Brett Lee, and Shaun Spiegle

FOOD BANK VOLUNTEER TEAM PROGRESS:



We 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 September 4th.** A request/sign-up notice is sent out about a few days prior (on 8/31 for this month).

****** 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.**

Any Questions, please contact me at: palmer.ts@gmail.com

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.

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

The August Sirs dinner was Thursday August 14 at Cierta Lindo.
12 couples attended for some great food and conversations



The Sirs dinner for Sept will be Thursday, Sept 18 @ Bollywood, 1047 Vine St. in Healdsburg @ 5:30

As of August.25, nine couples are signed up.

Please contact Jim Vick if you want to be on the dinner list. 281-382-4796, jvick1497@gmail.com

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

Golf: Jerry Culver & Frank Treanor



We are doing well with three to four foursomes each week. **September 3rd** will be a **Scramble and lunch** after at Mary's Pizza for the paid membership. Also, please bring \$10.00 instead of the usual \$5. Also, please try to arrive at the course by 0730 so foursomes can be setup.

If you have any questions, please contact Frank at: BCFT11@comcast.net

SIR Branch 176 Bowling Report

We finished our summer No Tap event with all of us receiving some compensation for our efforts, sort of like a months-long tournament. So if you've been thinking about starting to bowl, now is the perfect time. **We are short of participants and can certainty use you.** So please come join us. Anyone interested in participating should make their interest known to one of us or to workers at the Windsor Bowling Center. The absolute best way is to contact/email me. harrisod@sonic.net
Dave Harrison, Bowling Chair

3PM Friday Happy Hour



If you are free, come and enjoy a cold beverage and lively conversation and so-so jokes. **The schedule for September is:** 9/5 Cu'Ver; 9/12 Flavorburger; 9/19 Charlies or whatever it's called; 9/26 Mt. Mikes.

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.

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. For us seniors the price is \$6.00 per hour per person, so 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 or pinball machines. So join us at Racks-N-Cue, 8928 Lakewood Drive Windsor.

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE:



The Activities Committee made up of members Wayne Lindahl (photo above), Chris Roach, Dave Harrison and Phil Bartels are looking for ideas.

The latest idea is **chess**. If anyone is interested in playing we are joining CuVer who already has a chess time. If you look on your weekly announcements you will find *"Thursday 6:30PM : CHESS CLUB@CuVer : **CuVer Belgian Brewery invites us to join them every Thursday for a friendly game of chess while enjoying a delicious craft beer. 7704 Bell Rd.**"*

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

ROOSTER GARDEN GUYS



The pole bean harvest is over. The vines have been removed from Bed #2 and soil amendments of chicken and steer manure have been added. Red worms were added to some buried kitchen produce scraps to encourage building the soil via worm castings.

The fall crop in this bed is Mammoth Melting Sugar Peas, planted 23 August.

The other two beds continue to look a tad sad with no plan for a fall crop yet.



SPECIAL PROFILE:



JOHN CAMPBELL

I was born outside of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and moved to Healdsburg, California when I was 5 years old. I was the second oldest with an older sister and 3 brothers.

After High School, I decided to join the Army. The Navy could not guarantee me the MOS I wanted, Military Police, but the Army could and so I joined in 1973. Initially I just was going to complete my 3 year stint and get out. But as fate would have it, I met my beautiful wife Romy in Germany, got married in 1976 and stayed in the Army until 1993.

I attended Healdsburg High School and also studied while I was in the Military. I would say my favorite job was the Army. Traveling around the world and meeting so many folks from all walks of life was the experience of a lifetime.

My biggest accomplishment is marrying my beautiful wife and being a Dad to two grown sons. I have been married for 49 years to my wife Romy. You may have seen her name on Real Estate signs in Sonoma County as she's been very successful for 24 years. Several Sirs members have been her clients already and continue to do so. Then there is Flex, our 14 year old mixed

breed dog. Our sons are 48 and 33 years old, both were born in Germany and the oldest is fluent in German. We have 3 grandchildren who live in Sonoma County and 2 great grandchildren.

We have lived in Windsor since 1995. Once I retired from the Army, we settled in Healdsburg for a year and a half. We were going to buy a home there but soon realized you could get much more house for your money in Windsor. We are glad we made this decision and have never looked back.

My current hobbies include playing Poker; I bowl several times a week, play Bocce ball and billiards with the Sirs. I would love to go fishing if I had a fishing buddy.



DAVID LUNING

DECKA 9 HOUSE CONCERTS
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2025
5:00PM

Please join us for our last show of the summer.

Potluck beginning at 5:00pm
Music starts at 6:00pm

Suggested donation is \$25 per person, collected at the show. 100% of donations go to the artist.

Please RSVP to barbraboyd12@gmail.com or by text to 707-529-4093. Address will be provided after RSVP.

With the intuitive sense and emotional depth of a filmmaker, Americana artist David Luning looks deeply into the human condition in his music. He spent a few years studying film scoring at the Berklee College of Music, then John Prine changed his life. "Some friends shared Prine's music with me... I discovered there were other ways to express emotions and make you feel things. There are layers in lyrical content in a song, and with the right lyric you can create a thousand images in your head."

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/davidluninglive>

Website: <https://www.davidluning.com>

TRAVEL FROM STATE SIR:

Vietnam/Cambodia Trip Update: 12 SIRs are going. Only **2 slots** now available. Please inform if you are interested, before this trip sells out. See below for details.

New Trip Announced: Many SIRs have mentioned interested in going to **CUBA** on 3/12/26 for a 7-day tour. If you are interested, then please let Glenn know at glennbreslin@gmail.com.

Vietnam/Cambodia (Price/Price with Air)	Australia/New Zealand (Price/Price with Air)	Japan/Korea (Price/Price with Air)
10/19/25 to 11/7/25 (3495/4695) <ul style="list-style-type: none">Angor Wat Post-Trip Included availableLINK HEREGroup code is G5-30339	1/7/26 to 1/25/26 (5295/7645) <ul style="list-style-type: none">Both Melbourne Pre-Trip and Fiji Post-Trip availableLINK HEREGroup code is G6-30339	4/1/26 to 4/16/26 (7495/9095) <ul style="list-style-type: none">Hiroshima post-trip availableLINK HEREGroup code is G6-30339

...If anyone is interested in traveling to Cuba, please contact me asap. The travel group is forming and I would like to hear your related preferences

NOTES

- 1. If you able to book Vietnam/Cambodia trip by May 4th, please use Group Code G5-30339 and pay your \$500 deposit. This will qualify you for this below discount
 - à Please convey Discount Code **ADVENTURE25**, when booking for \$500 per person for an immediate discount. This discount expires 5/4.
- 2. OAT/Grand Circle is saving space, exclusively, for SIRs Travelers until April 15th
 - After April 15th, the general public can book these previously saved SIRs slots on the Vietnam/Cambodia, Australia/New Zealand and Japan/Korea trips.
- 3. Any 2026 reservations by 4/15/25 will be *price-protected* against any OAT future price increases over the year.

TRAVEL NOTES

- 1. If interested, in any of these trips, please ask Glenn Breslin for the current Overseas Adventure Travel (OAT) discounts.
- 2. All 2026 reservations by 6/15/25 will be *price-protected* against any OAT future price increases over the year.
- 3. For the FLYER ON CUBA, you can also check our local web page at the bottom of the travel page: <https://windsorsirs.org/travel.html>

Please let **Glenn know** if you have any questions or comments.

Glenn Breslin
SIR146 Travel Chair
glennbreslin@gmail.com
925-788-6520



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 September is on the 4th.**



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 **22 September** 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.



2025 Mill Run Dates

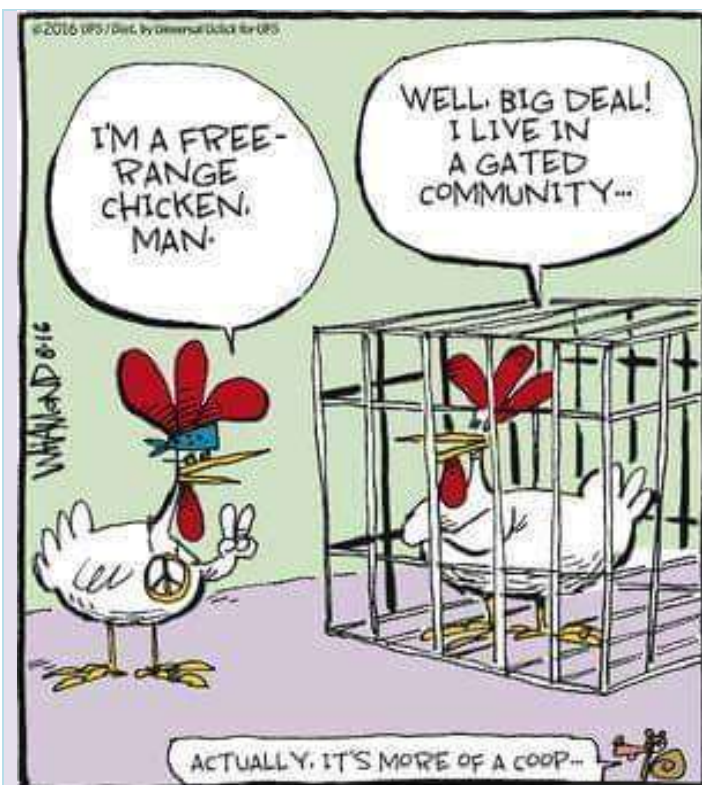
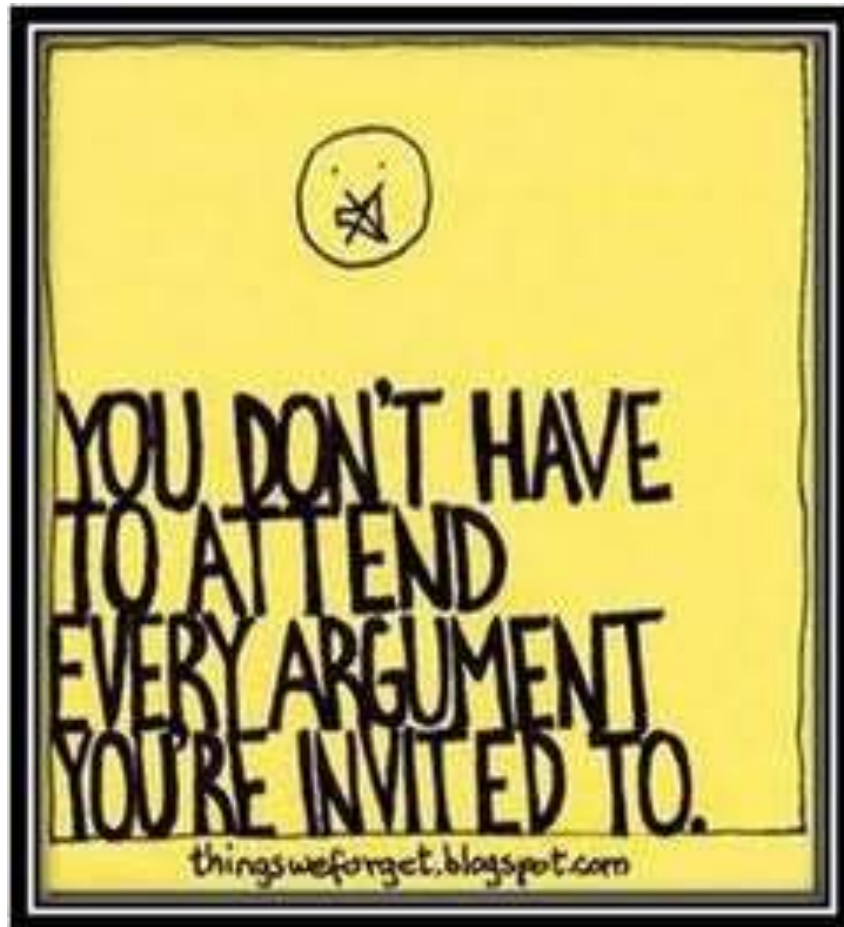
Saturday and Sunday 10am - 3pm

May 17 & 18, June 14 & 15

Aug. 2 & 3, Sept. 13 & 14

Step back into history at
our working museum!

FOR THE LIGHT HEARTED:



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					
<i>1 Year Term</i>			<i>2 Year Term</i>		
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		

