



# TRAIL TIPS

Mission Trail Branch 35, Silicon Valley, California

Branch 35 web <https://sir35.org>

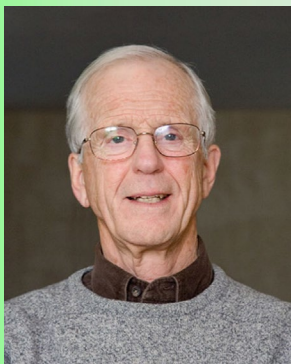


**Next Meeting**  
**Wednesday, March 19th, 2025**  
**11:00am-1:30pm**

Lunch 11:30am      Mountain View  
 Program              Community Center

**Gordon Frierson, MD**  
***Guarding the Golden Gate***

**Guest Speaker: Gordon Frierson, MD**



**Guarding the Golden Gate:  
*The Story of the United States  
 Quarantine Station on Angel  
 Island***

J. Gordon Frierson, MD is a clinical professor emeritus in the Department of Medicine, University of California San Francisco. After a decades long career in the medical field, Frierson continues his long standing interest in the history of

medicine with the publication of *Yellow Fever Vaccine: A History* in the *Yale Journal of Biology and Medicine* 2010 and *Guarding*

*the Golden Gate: The Story of the United States Quarantine Station on Angel Island 2022.* He is a member of the Bay Area History of Medicine Society, the American Osler Society and the American Association for the History of Medicine. He also authored 3 chapters in: Cooper, David, ed., *Doctors of Another Calling* 2013; University of Delaware Press. The chapters are short biographies of Leonard Wood, Sun Yat-sen, and John Harvey Kellogg, all physicians who drifted into non-medical activities.

Gordon will be speaking about the U.S. Government Quarantine Station that used to exist on Angel Island (opened in 1891). The station's function was to quarantine people (largely immigrants) coming to California with diseases such as smallpox, plague, cholera, etc. before they got ashore, at a time when knowledge of how these diseases were spread was still primitive. The talk will cover two plague epidemics in San Francisco, both smallpox outbreaks, and the process of quarantining thousands of people and disinfecting their ships. It is based on his book *Guarding the Golden Gate*, mentioned above.

Scott Hiller



## ***The Big Sir says...***

March, the harbinger of springtime, is here and it is time to renew and invigorate ourselves. I always look forward to this month as it is time for me to start planning and preparing for my vegetable garden. I enjoy growing the fruits of the land, especially heirloom tomatoes. I can thank Bob Garten, one of my SIR friends for life, for his inspiration to start this activity. Bob introduced me to several of the tastiest tomato varieties available. What could compare to a luscious "Ananas Noire" or "Brandywine" tomato?

For Branch 35 members, it is also time for renewal, as we are nearing the end of our 2025 membership renewal period. I would like to thank all who have renewed (over 91%) and encourage the remaining members to sign up at this time. A special thanks to Richard Blackborow, our membership data base chairman, for leading the membership renewal process.

Kudos to Les and Monica Miles and the SIRs golf committee for putting on a wonderful golf banquet at Michaels Restaurant at Shoreline on February 21, 2025. Congratulations to our many

award recipients: Bill Chambers, Ron Nakamoto, Joe Cioni, Chris Weberg, Balbir Kalsi, Larry Low, Mack Asrat and Peter Wong. Also, if you have a moment, check out our new golf video on the Branch 35 web site under outdoor activities.

See you on March 19th for the monthly luncheon at the MVCC.

Jerry

## SOME ANNOUNCEMENTS



- A celebration of Life for Peter Thurston is set for 10:30 AM on Sunday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Los Altos Community Center, 92 Hillview Avenue, Los Altos. SIR friends are invited to attend.
- We have a special article from Pat O'Connor about whale watching in Baja California, see it at the back of this newsletter.
- This month's Golf column includes an interesting path one person took to get to the 18<sup>th</sup> hole at Shoreline!
- A calendar of the coming month's Branch activities is at the back of this newsletter. Print it out and stick it up on your refrigerator!

## MARCH 2025 MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

**Active Members: 303 Net Monthly Change: -5**

We had four new members join us but we lost nine in February. We always welcome new members so bring a friend or neighbor to the lunch as a guest to 'check us out', it's on us!!

Remember, you can search our member database at this link:

[SIR Branch 35 - Membership Directory \(wildapricot.org\)](http://wildapricot.org/SIR_Branch_35_-_Membership_Directory)

## NEW MEMBERS

We had four new members join us in the past month. Welcome!

Name	City	Former Employer(s)
Tony Beech	Los Altos	Private practice
Don Carlson	Foster City	
Eric Chang	Cupertino	Global-BAC, Intel
Carl Christoff	Mountain View	CVC Health Plus Insurance

## MARCH ANNIVERSARIES: 10+ YRS.

How long have you been a member? We have ten members celebrating a 10+ year anniversary with SIR Branch 35 this month! Congratulations guys!

Jerry Belden (10)	Richard Blackborow (10)	Howard Bull (16)
Leland Chan (14)	David Falconer (15)	Les Fisher (18)
Jim Harvey (18)	Carl Hellman (13)	Jim Holman (20)
Bob Jones (15)	Vijay Kumar (10)	Don Lintz (25)
George O'Brien (13)	Carl Plescia (18)	Greg Ross (13)
Skip Ross (28)	Tom Smith (15)	Ed White (10)

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday this month to the following members:

Russ Ayres	Terry Barnhart	Leonard Chan
John Daines	Don Gladstone	Ron Grace
French Harris	Bob Hedges	Dirk Hoekstra
Jim Holman	Paul Lesti	Larry Maibaum
Rick McColloch	Nazeem Noordeen	Lon Sanford
Paul Schutz	B Soules	Bob Steinberg
Ian Thomson	David Tucker	

## BOOK SWAP

See our [web page](#)

TIM TOPOLE  
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[ttopole@yahoo.com](mailto:ttopole@yahoo.com)



The book swap will be open for business at the March Meeting. Bring a book to share that you enjoyed, grab one that piques your interest. See you there!

Tim

## BOOK CLUB

See our [web page](#)

JERRY BELDEN  
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[jerry@gbeldenlinc.com](mailto:jerry@gbeldenlinc.com)



**Next meeting is March 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm in the Los Altos United Methodist Church**

February was "reader's choice" so we each got to read any book we wanted. And at the meeting we each gave a short description of the book and our reaction to it. There were a number of interesting books, but they were all very different.

For our March meeting, we are reading "The Diamond Eye" by Kate Quinn

Jerry

# BIKING

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HANK BOTTINO  
650-207-4320  
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See our [web page](#)

**Next ride:** SIR Branch 35 Biking on March 13th, 2025 at 11:00 AM. *Wives and guests welcomed; Helmets required.*

## Los Gatos Creek Trail

**Ride:** The Los Gatos Creek Trail is a scenic ride that we've all ridden many, many times. The ride will start from the Blackford Elementary School parking lot and end downtown Los Gatos at the American Italian Deli on 42 Elm Street - about 7.5 miles. Then, we'll ride back on the same trail for a total of 15 miles.

**Directions:** Go South on I-280 (past Highway 17) to Meridian Avenue (South); turn right. Go to Willow Street (the third stoplight) and turn right. Take Willow Street until it dead ends at Blackford Elementary School. Parking is available in the school parking lot and on neighborhood streets (read posted parking signs). Plug into your vehicle GPS for the Blackford Elementary School 1970 Willow St, San Jose.



### Weather? What weather?

In February, we had to postpone the ride due to weather, but did finally try a relatively new ride starting from the Santa Clara Main Library parking to ride down San Tomas Expressway to the Alviso Marina County Park, a total of 15-16 miles.

If you plan to ride or have questions, please contact Gordon Tong at 408-242-0557 or [gordy6850@gmail.com](mailto:gordy6850@gmail.com).

Gordy

# HIKING

JOHN TUCKER  
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See our [web page](#)

The February SIR Hike took place on Friday, February 28, 2025. We had 15 hikers on the trail at the Bay Area Ridge Trail: Vargas Plateau Regional Park. It was a short hike at roughly 4 miles with a 500 foot elevation change. The weather was in the high 60s to the low 70s. It was a beautiful day, and everyone had a good time with great views of all of the South Bay from our elevated position. After the hike 13 of us retired to BJ's Restaurant in Newark for refreshments and lively conversation.



Fifteen well-wrapped hikers, including the cameraman!



Amazing what a little rain does for the scenery!

SIR's Hikes start at 10 am and usually take 3 to 3.5 hours including a stop to eat our bag lunch along the way. After the hike we go to a local spot to have refreshments and do more talking.

Our next hike will be on Friday, March 28th. If you are looking to meet some friendly folks and get a little exercise, come join us.

John

## MARCH'S SPECIAL DAYS



PAT O'CONNOR  
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- 2<sup>nd</sup> Academy Awards
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Red Cross America Day
- 3<sup>rd</sup> World Wildlife Day
- 4<sup>th</sup> Mardi Gras (Pancake Tuesday)
- 8<sup>th</sup> International Women's Day
- 9<sup>th</sup> Daylight Savings begins
- 14<sup>th</sup> Pi Day
- 17<sup>th</sup> St. Patrick's Day
- 18<sup>th</sup> NCAA Finals March Madness (start)
- 20<sup>th</sup> Spring Equinox (start of Spring)
- 21<sup>st</sup> World Down Syndrome Day
- 21<sup>st</sup> IAAF World Indoor Athletics Championship
- 25<sup>th</sup> World Figure Skating Championships
- 29<sup>th</sup> Vietnam War Veterans Day
- 31<sup>st</sup> Cesar Chavez Day

<b>Hockey</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Sharks vs Ottawa Senators, 4:00pm 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sharks vs Toronto Maple Leafs, 4:30pm 4 <sup>th</sup> Sharks vs Buffalo Sabres, 4:30pm 6 <sup>th</sup> Sharks vs Colorado Avalanche, 6:30pm 8 <sup>th</sup> Sharks vs New York Islanders, 7:00pm 11 <sup>th</sup> Sharks vs Nashville Predators, 7:30pm 13 <sup>th</sup> Sharks vs Chicago Blackhawks, 7:30pm 15 <sup>th</sup> Sharks vs Washington Capitals, 2:00pm 20 <sup>th</sup> Sharks Carolina Hurricanes, 7:30pm 22 <sup>nd</sup> Sharks vs Boston Bruins, 7:30pm 27 <sup>th</sup> Sharks vs Toronto Maple Leafs, 7:30pm 29 <sup>th</sup> Sharks vs New York Rangers, 7:30pm 30 <sup>th</sup> Sharks vs Los Angeles Kings, 7:00pm
<b>Soccer</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> Earthquakes vs Minnesota United FC, 7:30pm 15 <sup>th</sup> Bay FC vs Utah Royals, 4:30pm 15 <sup>th</sup> Earthquakes vs Colorado Rapids, 7:30pm 22 <sup>nd</sup> Earthquakes vs Charlotte FC, 4:30pm 22 <sup>nd</sup> Bay FC vs Racing Louisville, 7:00pm 28 <sup>th</sup> Bay FC vs Washington Spirit, 5:00pm 29 <sup>th</sup> Earthquakes vs Seattle Sounders, 7:30pm

Pat

<b>Football</b>	49ers are resting....
<b>Basketball</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Warriors vs Philadelphia 76ers, 5:30pm 3 <sup>rd</sup> Warriors vs Charlotte Hornets, 4:00pm 4 <sup>th</sup> Warriors vs New York Knicks, 4:30pm 6 <sup>th</sup> Warriors vs Brooklyn Nets, 4:30pm 8 <sup>th</sup> Warriors vs Detroit Pistons, 5:30pm 10 <sup>th</sup> Warriors vs Portland Trail Blazers, 7:00pm 13 <sup>th</sup> Warriors vs Sacramento Kings, 7:00pm 15 <sup>th</sup> Warriors vs New York Knicks, 5:30pm 17 <sup>th</sup> Warriors vs Denver Nuggets, 7:00pm 18 <sup>th</sup> Warriors vs Milwaukee Bucks, 7:00pm 20 <sup>th</sup> Warriors vs Toronto Raptors, 7:00pm 22 <sup>nd</sup> Warriors vs Atlanta Hawks, 4:00pm 25 <sup>th</sup> Warriors vs Miami Heat, 4:30pm 28 <sup>th</sup> Warriors vs New Orleans Pelicans, 5:00pm 28 <sup>th</sup> Warriors vs San Antonio Spurs, 4:00pm

## BRIDGE

MARK LEVI  
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See our [web page](#)



**SIR Bridge Group in action! From left to right; Jack Tooley, Fred Emmenegger, Les Fisher and Mark Levi**

The bridge group is meeting the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at the Los Altos Senior Center from 12:00 to 2:00 for a friendly game. Send me your email address and I'll add you to our mailing list.

Mark

## WINE FINDERS

See our [web page](#)

ALAN GAUDIE  
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RUSS AYRES  
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Alan

This activity is for couples who want to have fun and meet new people. We gather at the home of a host couple to blind taste, grade wines and share appetizers.

**Note:** The winning wine from our February meeting was Sobon Estate 2021, Zinfandel, Amador County "Rocky Top", from Total Wines at \$21.99

## BOCCE BALL

See our [web page](#)

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MICHAEL MAURIER  
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**Every Friday, 10:00 a.m. to noon. Guests are welcome.**

The SIR Bocce Ball group meets and plays every Friday morning at the Los Altos Community Center Bocce Ball Courts. (97 Hillview Ave, Los Altos, CA 94022), weather permitting!



SIR Bocce Team enjoying a leisurely roll

All are invited to join this friendly group of SIR Branch 35 Bocce Ball players and interact with a great bunch of people. Emphasis is on an active but leisurely time, to engage with old friends and make new ones. There are no regular teams. We are happy to include and coach new players. Come and join us and share some easygoing fun.

We met for a quarterly Lunch Meet-up after Bocce Ball on Friday, February 28, for Lunch and Conversation. We went to Yoshi Sushi around Noon after Bocce Ball finished. Yoshi Sushi is located in Los Altos at 250 3rd Street. I am not big on Sushi and normally get a Bento Box, which they serve on a plate - the Salmon is particularly good.

Richard & Michael

## BOWLING

See our [web page](#)

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PRIZES: ALAN GAUDIE

DOUG ANDERSON  
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**Every Tuesday, at 1:00 p.m. (for a couple hours), at Homestead Bowl, Homestead & Stelling, in Cupertino.**

These are the scores of the 11th week of the Winter Session. If you have been considering joining the league, this would be the perfect time. We bowl every Tuesday (1:00 PM for a couple hours) at Homestead Bowl in Cupertino. Call Bob or Doug if you have any questions.

FINAL PLACES - Winter 2024 / 25	
1st Place	-- Jim Holman, Bob Taggart, Bob Garten
2nd Place	-- Bob Froelich, Ron Nakamoto, Larry Low
3rd Place	-- Aram Dormanian, Larry Maibaum, Ari Stassart, Perry Brown
4th Place	-- Les Fisher, Chris Weberg, Joe Enos
5th Place	-- Jim Narva, Arnie Satterlee, Marc Haberman
6th Place	-- Gordon Frierson, Doug Anderson, Fred Emmenegger, Ken Allen
7th Places	-- Karen Soules, Man Tran, Jay Jonekait
7th Places	-- Ruth Ososkie, Peter Wong, Jerry Ososkie
9th Place	-- Bob Feigelson, Alan Gaudie, Scott Hiller
10th Place	-- Harold Kaye, Brian Lin, Venicio Navarro

WEEK 11 TOP SCORES			
Scratch Series		Scratch Game	
1st	575 - Joe Enos	1st	212 - Larry Low
2nd	521 - Bob Taggart	2nd	190 - Marc Haberman
3rd	494 - Bob Garten	3rd	184 - Jay Jonekait
Handicap Series		Handicap Game	
1st	663 - Bob Froelich	1st	238 - Joe Enos
2nd	661 - Peter Wong	2nd	227 - Chris Weberg
3rd	603 - Ron Nakamoto	3rd	225 - Les Fisher

SESSION'S HIGH SCORES			
Scratch Series		Scratch Game	
1st	611 - Larry Low	1st	229 - Ron Nakamoto
2nd	600 - Perry Brown	2nd	214 - Scott Hiller
3rd	553 - Marc Haberman	3rd	206 - Joe Enos
Handicap Series		Handicap Game	
1st	705 - Arnie Satterlee	1st	260 - Joe Enos
2nd	691 - Jim Narva	2nd	256 - Bob Garten
3rd	680 - Bob Feigelson	3rd	254 - Les Fisher



There's always time for banter between shots....

Doug

**GOLF**

LES MILES 408-528-5473  
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 LARRY LOW 408-533-2651 [llo1721@gmail.com](mailto:llo1721@gmail.com)

See our [web page](#)

**Fixtures for March – sign up now!**

SIGN-UP with John Gerich by Monday March 17			
Eagle Ridge (ERG)	Thu Apr 3	10:00	\$83
<small>Garten 408-253-5860 xonon1@comcast.net / Asrat</small>			
Seascape (SCP)	Mon Apr 7	10:00	\$83
<small>Miles 408-264-1899 Impomi@yahoo.com / Hall</small>			
Villages (VLG)	Thu Apr 10	11:30	\$83
<small>Barkey 408-472-7353 stanbarkey@gmail.com / Wilson</small>			
Santa Teresa (SNT)	Mon Apr 14	10:00	\$76
<small>Weberg 408-205-9120 cweberg1@gmail.com / Cornwell</small>			
Bridges (BRI)	Thu Apr 17	9:36	\$71
<small>McGrath 408-307-8056 richard.mcgrath@yahoo.com / ** NEED ATC **</small>			
Callippe (CPR)	Mon Apr 21	10:02	\$68
<small>Jones 650-492-1461 crusingken@gmail.com / ** NEED ATC **</small>			
Chardonnay - SIR State	Wed Apr 23	-	-
<small>N/A</small>			
Eagle Vines - SIR State	Thu Apr 24	-	-
<small>N/A</small>			
Dublin Ranch (DRN)	Mon Apr 28	9:30	\$45
<small>Garten 408-253-5860 xonon1@comcast.net / ** NEED ATC **</small>			

**Scardino Has the Round of the Month**

Stan Scardino was 4.1 strokes “under” on Feb. 3 at Sunnyvale Muni. Not only did he have the “Round of the Month,” as you’ll read in the next article, he had the “Month of Month”!

**Five Wins in a Row for Scardino**

Stan Scardino is on an unprecedented winning streak in Palmer flight #2. He’s not winning by just a shot or two - his average margin of victory is 5.4 strokes! Here’s the tally:

- Jan. 27 at Los Lagos Eclectic Round 3 he won by 4 strokes (and won his flight for the Eclectic as a whole).
- Jan. 30 at Callippe Preserve by 3 strokes
- Feb. 3 at Sunnyvale by 5 strokes
- Feb. 10 at DeLaveaga by 5 strokes
- Feb. 19 at Baylands by 10 strokes!

When he started his victory streak on Jan. 27 Stan’s handicap index was 27.4. By Feb. 24 (Crystal Springs) he had lowered it to 25.7. Read on to find out how he did it!

**How I Improved My Golf Game – by Stan Scardino**

(Bruce asked Stan to share the secret of his recent success.)

I can offer 2 reasons:

1. My index. It had climbed to a point of embarrassment over the past 3 years. I decided that there was not a fix. I needed a process.
2. The Process. Like many golfers of my vintage, I had tried getting my game “fixed” with any number of itinerant golf instructors you can find at any public course. They would move your hands, change your stance and take your money. It works for some, but it wasn’t working for me. I realized I needed to acquire a repeatable process to work with.



**Stan Scardino measures up at Crystal Springs**

A few years back I had watched **Bob Garten** improve his game fairly dramatically. He told me about Golftec, a “process” golf school headquartered in Colorado with facilities around the country. Their professionals are trained in the Golftec process. I started with Golftec in 2019. It worked and I won the SIR “Most Improved Golfer” in 2021. (My index had dropped to 18).

In 2022 I took on a sizable volunteer Job that kept me out of golf for a couple of years. As they say in the Star Wars movies, the “force” was no longer with me -- index back to 28!

So, I re-engaged with Golftec and now feel like I am coming out of the doldrums with a lot of time on the driving range and swing adjustments which have led to confidence to compete.

Consequently, with my mental state believing the process works, my golf has improved, and I am playing better than my index. So, in conclusion, I would recommend a process over a fix! (Bruce adds – Golftec has facilities in San Jose and Foster City.)

**Small Plane Lands on Shoreline Golf Links**

The incident happened just after 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22. The pilot was the sole occupant of the plane; his injuries were not considered life-threatening. According to police, the pilot was flying from Palm Springs to San Carlos when his airplane began experiencing fuel issues, prompting him to make the emergency landing. The National Transportation Safety Board is investigating the incident. (From the Mercury News, Feb. 25).



**A Cessna Skylane aircraft made an emergency landing at the Shoreline Golf Links, in Mountain View, near the 18th hole.**

### John Hall and Marc Haberman Share an Eagle

On the 2nd hole at Shoreline during the ABCD Scramble, **John Hall** holed a wedge from 80 yards to give his team an eagle 2. **Marc Haberman** hit the drive that set it up. All that teammates **Joe Enos** and **Bruce Karney** had to do was watch and cheer!

### The Golf Museum at Cinnabar Hills in South San Jose

There was a nice article about the Museum in the Feb. 22 edition of the Mercury News. You can read it online here: <https://tinyurl.com/GOLFMUSSJ>

### January's Golf Results:

Callippe Preserve						Par 72			Jan. 30, 2025		
Palmer Ft. 1	Net	\$	Palmer Ft. 2	Net	\$	Nicklaus Ft.	Net	\$			
Michael Kern	74	20GC	S. Scardino	72	20GC	Jim Narva	72	25GC			
Walt Joyce	77	17GC	Martin Virelas	75	17GC	Man Tran	74	20GC			
R. McGrath	79	13GC	J. Rittweger	78	13GC	Balbir Kalsi	75	15GC			
Larry Low	82	\$7	H. Petersen	80	\$7	Peter Wong	75	\$9			
Inside Putter Length: <b>Joe Enos</b> on #4 (\$15)											
Low Gross (forward tees): Walt Joyce, Richard McGrath and Bill Chambers tied at 89											
Low Gross (back tees): Michael Kern 90											

Sunnyvale						Par 70			Feb. 3, 2025		
Palmer Ft. 1	Net	\$	Palmer Ft. 2	Net	\$	Nicklaus Ft.	Net	\$			
<b>N. Noordeen</b>	<b>66</b>	\$22	<b>Stan Scardino</b>	<b>66</b>	\$22	<b>V. Navarro</b>	<b>67</b>	\$25			
Jim Thorne	69	\$16	M. Haberman	71	\$16	John Ray	71	\$19			
B. Soules	72	\$12	Ken Jones	75	\$12	Dave Dardis	71	\$14			
Larry Low	74	\$7	Bill Hall	76	\$7	W. Stephens	73	\$9			
Shot his age: Delete row if none.											
Low Gross: Jim Thorne 76											

DeLaveaga						Par 70			Feb. 10, 2025		
Palmer Ft. 1	Net	\$	Palmer Ft. 2	Net	\$	Nicklaus Ft.	Net	\$			
Jeff Almon	75	\$18	Stan Scardino	70	\$18	Dave Dardis	74	\$18			
Rick Wheat	76	\$14	Bill Hall	75	\$14	Sam Im	77	\$14			
Scott Hiller	76	\$10	B. Soules	76	\$10	Jim Narva	77	\$10			
Low Gross (forward tees): Sam Im 94											
Low Gross (back tees): Rick Wheat 85											

Baylands						Par 72			Feb. 19, 2025		
Palmer Ft. 1	Net	\$	Palmer Ft. 2	Net	\$	Nicklaus Ft.	Net	\$			
Chris Weberg	70	\$22	<b>Stan Scardino</b>	<b>69</b>	\$22	Man Tran	72	\$18			
Rich McGrath	73	\$16	Gerry Feeney	79	\$16	Sam Im	74	\$14			
Don Carlson	73	\$11	Ken Cornwell	80	\$11	Balbir Kalsi	80	\$10			
Joe Cioni	73	\$6	Mark Taylor	80	\$6						
Shot his age: <b>Joe Cioni</b> , age 85, shot 84 from the white tees \$25											
Inside Putter Length: <b>Ken Cornwell</b> (#14) \$15											
Low Gross (forward tees): Chris Weberg (78)											
Low Gross (back tees): Richard McGrath (82)											

Shoreline ABCD Scramble				Par 72			Feb. 20, 2024		
Team							Prize		
Bob Garten, Bernard Soules, George O'Brien, Jim Narva							\$18@		
Chris Weberg, Tom Taboada, Bob Booth, Joe Glynn							\$14@		
John Hall, Marc Haberman, Joe Enos, Bruce Karney							\$10@		

Crystal Springs						Par 72			Feb. 24, 2025		
Palmer Flight	Net	Prize	Nicklaus Flight	Net	Prize						
Larry Low	76	\$21	Balbir Kalsi	75	\$22						
Stan Scardino	78	\$16	Venicio Navarro	77	\$16						
Bob Garten	78	\$10	Peter Wong	78	\$12						
Joe Cioni	78	\$5	Man Tran	78	\$7						
Inside Putter Length: <b>Stan Scardino</b> (#13) \$15 and <b>Venicio Navarro</b> (#13) \$15											
Low Gross: Larry Low 89											

## SPORTS CAR GROUP

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For February the SIR Branch 35 Sports Car Group had a twofer, meaning we had two events in February.

First we had our regular FunRun on 2/5/25 where we drove from Quarry Park in Saratoga over the mountains to Boulder Creek and down to Santa Cruz on Highway 9 and then to Capitola for lunch at Gayle's Bakery. We had 11 people on this outing.



On the road to Gayle's Bakery in Capitola

Then on Thursday, 2/13/25 13 people went to San Francisco for the Academy of Art Auto Museum Sale Preview. One Hundred and Five cars from their museum were sold for \$14,500,000. It's sad the cars are gone but we got to see a beautiful group of cars mostly from the 1930's and 40's. And then we had lunch - this is what we do, drive cars and then go to lunch. All in all it was a busy, fun month. Come join us.



1934 Packard - Yours for only \$357,000!

Bruce



1933 Chrysler Custom Imperial



1949 MG TC

planning in an environment of uncertainty. Please join us if you have specific topics you would like to discuss on these topic or others.

If you wish to be added to our email distribution list, please send Andy Danver an email ([adanver@ix.netcom.com](mailto:adanver@ix.netcom.com)).

Andy



Part of the group at lunch after the show

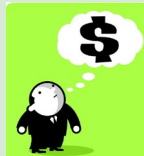
Our next Sports Car Group activity will be on Wednesday, 3/5/25. We will drive from Saratoga to Half Moon Bay on Skyline Blvd (Highway 35) where we will have lunch at the Half Moon Bay Airport.

John

### PERSONAL FINANCE

CHAIR: BOB BOOTH  
408-307-3274  
[booth19@gmail.com](mailto:booth19@gmail.com)

DISTR'N: ANDY DANVER  
650-906-3747  
[adanver@ix.netcom.com](mailto:adanver@ix.netcom.com)



The Branch 35 Personal Finance group will meet on Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at the Moffett Field Museum Library beginning at 1pm. It's a great site with plenty of parking. Typically, we have 10 to 15 attendees with varied financial backgrounds.

Last month Bob Booth asked each attendee (there were 12) about what they would like to discuss today and in future meetings. Not surprisingly, most wanted to get other's opinion on what impact the Trump Administration actions, especially tariffs, and would have on their personal investments. Other topics we plan to discuss in the future include expected changes in taxes and changes in homeowner's insurance, short v. long term bond strategies, Roth conversions, the future of crypto and precious metals, the impact on shipping by terrorist states, and a more in depth discussion on a few specific stocks like Palantir, Vantiv, and Centerpoint.

This month we will begin our around-the-table discussion on topics raised by DODG and its impact on investments and tax

## MOVIES

### MOVIES

JIM QUILLINAN  
408-838-4379  
[jvquill@pacbell.net](mailto:jvquill@pacbell.net)

See Jim's [web page](#)

Our Movies group will meet on Zoom on Tuesday, March 18th at 3 pm, the day after St. Patrick's Day. If interested, contact Jim Quillinan.

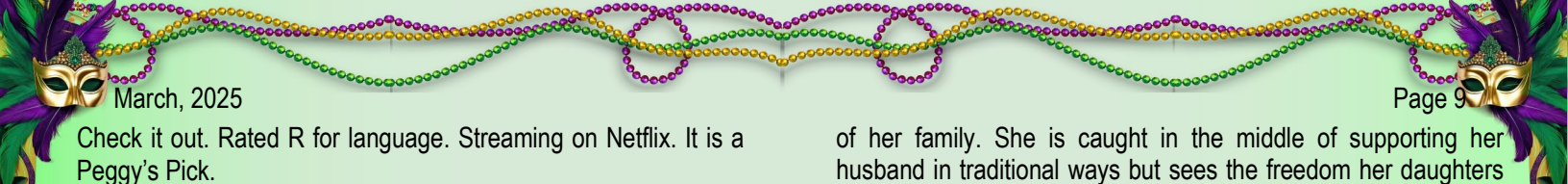


**Paddington in Peru.** A wonderful live action/animation that kids will love as Paddington the bear is cuddly and fun. There is enough subtle humor and clever writing to keep the parents engaged too. When Aunt Lucy goes missing, Paddington sets out on a search for her in the jungles of Peru. They get sidetracked on a search for gold. They find Aunt Lucy in the Retirement Home for Bears. The film uses the talents of many British and one Spanish thespians. The bears are beautifully animated and seem to be real in the live action sequences. Pack up the youngsters and enjoy. Rated PG for action, mild rude humor and some thematic elements. In Theatres. It is a Peggy's Pick.



**Will and Harper.** This is the ultimate road trip flick. Will Ferrell, the comedian, takes off from New York City with Harper Steele, a long-time friend and one of the writers from Saturday Night Live. They plan to take about 16 days to drive cross country to California. The trip is planned for them to discuss a sea change in their lives. Harper Steele is transitioning from Andrew Steele and is now living her life as a woman. Harper has a thing for seedy bars, cheap beer and greasy spoon restaurants. So they find a few, drop in and see how Harper is accepted in her new life. Will Ferrell is easily recognized by the great unwashed, so tempers the encounters. The film is full of jokes, SNL lore and real friendship.





Check it out. Rated R for language. Streaming on Netflix. It is a Peggy's Pick.



**Lincoln Lawyer. Season 3** of the Netflix series is now complete. Manuel Garcia-Rulfo is back as iconoclastic lawyer, Mickey Haller. Based in LA, Mickey's Hispanic roots and savvy are useful. In Season 3 his client is accused of murdering a call girl. A new DA is prosecuting the case who seems a dufus but is quite clever. Mickey's team is very capable and assists him in tracking down the real culprits. The real criminals are on the inside of law

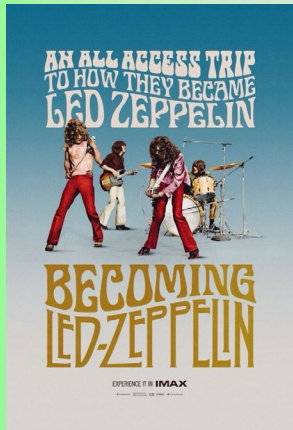
enforcement. They prove very hard to expose. Each episode layers in new complexities that keep our interest. This is one to see, maybe even binge, but each episode (of ten) is about 1 hour. Rated TV MA for language and sexual content.

of her family. She is caught in the middle of supporting her husband in traditional ways but sees the freedom her daughters want and deserve. The film has dramatic changes of tone that build to a strange climax. It handles issues of honesty and integrity in a world full of lies and irrational conflict. This is a very well-made film that is deserving of its award nominations. Check it out. Rated PG-13 for disturbing violent content, bloody images, thematic content, some language and smoking. In Theatres. In Persian with subtitles. It is a Peggy's Pick.

**Jim's Top 10 Picks for 2024** (as it is Oscar Season!):

- |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. I'm Still here     | 6. A Real Pain        |
| 2. A Complete Unknown | 7. Here               |
| 3. September 5        | 8. Sing Sing          |
| 4. Emilia Perez       | 9. Anora              |
| 5. Wicked             | 10. The Last Showgirl |

Jim



**Becoming Led Zepplin.** If you are a fan of the band or of the music of the 1960s this is a must see. Led Zepplin exploded on the music scene in 1968, but the members had earned their chops earlier in the decade. The film takes a deep dive into rock'n'roll and Led Zepplin in particular. The documentary includes new interviews with Jimmy Page, Robert Plant and John Paul Jones. They are still active in music. There are even archival interviews

with the band's late drummer John Bonham who died in 1980. The band disbanded with his demise. This is quite a treat so be sure to see and hear it where the sound is exceptional. Rated PG-13 for some drug references and smoking. In Theatres. It is a Peggy's Pick.



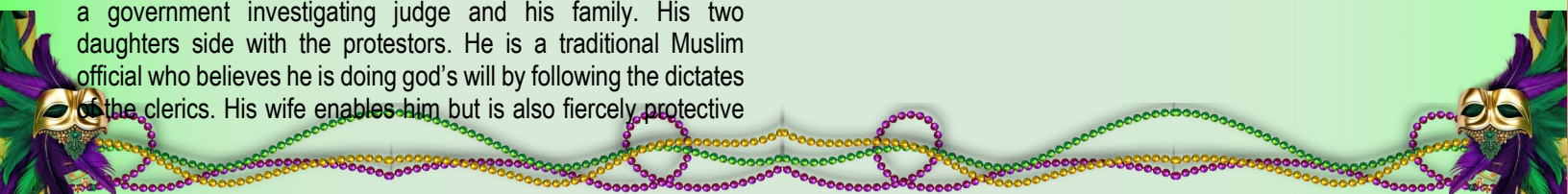
Our State SIR Organization publishes a quarterly bulletin highlighting SIR events, branch activities and state-wide activities. It's called SIR Happenings, and you can read the latest issue here: <https://sirinc.org/newsletters/>

There is also some marketing material you can use to help when encouraging a friend to come check us out. You can see it at <https://sirinc.org/sir-branded-marketing-materials/>



**The Seed of the Sacred Fig.** Writer/Director Mohammad Rasoulof brings us a powerful indictment of the political/religious reality in today's Iran. He was sentenced to eight years in prison and flogging for making films critical of the current regime but was able to escape to the West. This entire film was made in secret. Set in Iran during the protests after a young woman was killed for not wearing her

hajib properly. It is a fictional drama about a religious man who is a government investigating judge and his family. His two daughters side with the protestors. He is a traditional Muslim official who believes he is doing god's will by following the dictates of the clerics. His wife enables him but is also fiercely protective



# MOVIE AND MUSIC HISTORY

RON NAKAMOTO  
[RONANDELAINE@COMCAST.NET](mailto:RONANDELAINE@COMCAST.NET)



*There are few constants in life. Turbulence, ever changing, "as time goes by" are phrases we typically cast to describe periods that we lived through. This monthly article hopes to spur those memorable moments in your life when you first saw the movie or heard the song from your youth. What were you doing ... in days of yore? Ron*



**Walken and De Niro amp up the tension**

Here are some lesser-known facts about the director, the actors, and the movie.

- The Director, Michael Cimino said in an interview with The New York Times that he served in Vietnam as a medic with the Green Berets. This is False.
- Cimino claimed that Washburn's script was like "...written by somebody who was... mentally deranged" and so he wrote the entire screenplay himself. This is False.

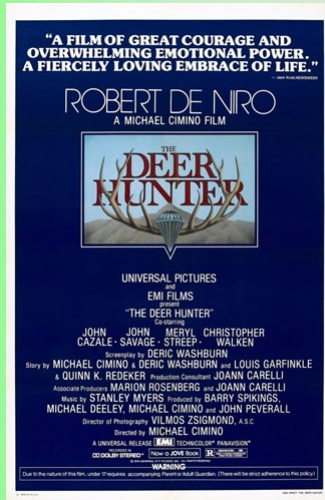


**A young Michael Cimino on-set**

- The scene where the Viet Cong forced their prisoners to play Russian roulette with each other as they placed their bets was dramatic but False.
- In the post war Russian roulette scene, Cimino convinced Christopher Walken to spit in Robert De Niro's face. Walken did it in a close-up shot. De Niro was surprised and completely shocked, as evidenced by his reaction. At the end of the shot, he was furious and nearly left the set. Cimino later said of Walken, "He's got balls!" This is True.
- So how do you shoot a cold, rainy, autumn segment in the Pittsburgh steel mill area in the middle of a hot summer? Well, the Cimino (Hollywood) method was to spray the grass with weed killer and go around stripping the leaves off the trees. To make it more autumn like they filmed in the early mornings and evenings after the sun set (what's called the magic hour) and used blue filters on the lenses and film coloring to get that winter look. The actors were in full winter clothing even though the temperatures were well over 100 degrees. They finally brought in a large air

## Movie: "Road to Singapore" Bing Crosby, Dorothy Lamour, Bob Hope, March 14, 1940

Remember this movie? It was released on December 8, 1978, in two theaters, one in New York and the other in Los Angeles so it would qualify for Oscar consideration. The marketing strategy worked, and it garnered nominations in nine Academy categories and won in five, including Best Picture, Best Director, and Best Supporting Actor for Christopher Walken. It



was Meryl Streep's first Oscar nomination. Robert De Niro's tour-de-force performance should have won the Best Actor Oscar, but John Voight won for his role in "Coming Home". (Editor's note: Coming Home was another Vietnam war movie that dealt with a damaged marine returning home. It was nominated for eight Academy Awards and won in three for Best Actress (Jane Fonda), Best Actor (John Voight), and Best Original Screenplay.)

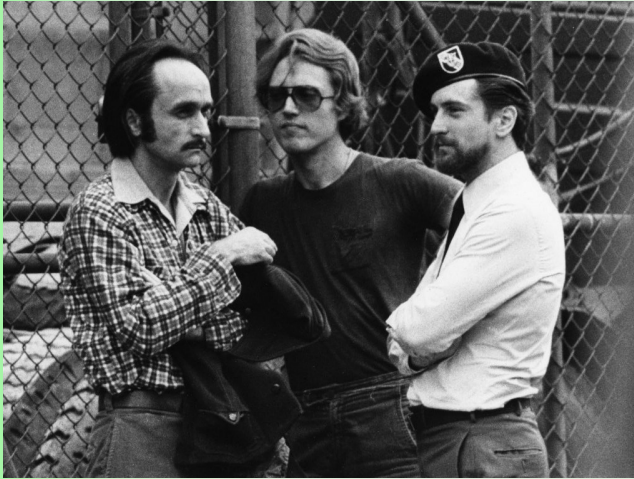
I don't usually dwell into the plot of a film, but this one is an exception as much of it brings back memories of the daily television and front-page news stories about the Vietnam War.

This story started with the screenplay "The Man Who Came to Play" involving Las Vegas and Russian roulette, a term coined to describe a game of gambling with death. The script was purchased by Michael Deeley who hired Michael Cimino, to direct it. He in turn hired Deric Washburn to write the screenplay embedding the game of chance into his Vietnam war story.

You recall the controversy with this movie as critics wrote that the Russian roulette scene was a gimmick to add drama. Vietnam veterans protested the sensationalism of the fictitious scene and how the movie undermined the real trauma and tragedy that veterans experienced, later diagnosed as PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder).

conditioner to get the temperatures down to 80-85 degrees. True.

- John Cazale (Best known for his role as Fredo Corleone in "Godfather") was weak from lung cancer when filming began so Cimino knew to film his scenes first. When the studio found out, they wanted to replace him but Meryl Streep, who was in love with him, threatened to quit if they did. Cazale was 43 when he died, shortly after filming was completed. True.



Cazale, Walken and De Niro; the three friends

- Editor's note: John Cazale was a close friend of Al Pacino who he grew up with and helped get him discovered in Hollywood. He later did the same for Robert De Niro and Meryl Streep. All six feature films he acted in were nominated for an Academy Award. He so impressed Francis Ford Coppola in Godfather I that Coppola wrote a much bigger part for him in Godfather II.
- French director Francois Truffaut said in an interview with BBC, that "There's no such thing as an anti-war film." Truffaut observed that the inherent spectacle of cinema means that any on-screen portrayal of war will inevitably end up glorifying warfare instead of criticizing it. The depiction of the savagery of American soldiers is topped by the depiction of even more callousness and cruelty by the Viet Cong. The tit-for-tat behavior of both sides when war has no rules but one ... win. True.



Streep and De Niro with some good magnetism

- Meryl Streep was 28, Robert De Niro was 34, Christopher Walken was 35. True.

Here is the original movie trailer for the movie Deer Hunter.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UWXIOeYKjXo>

Here is Christopher Walken's Oscar winning performance from the movie. It is intense with hardly any dialogue from Walken.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SUYrXURFDHU>

As a bonus I found this YouTube video of Walken dancing to this hip-hop tune "Fatboy Slim ft. Bootsy Collins – Weapon of Choice". It is so funky; it is mesmerizing as only Walken could do it.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wCDIYvFmgW8>



**Music: Karen Carpenter, March 2, 1950 – February 4, 1983**

The very first thing you recall when you hear her name is how sad that she died so young. She was 32 when her body could no longer function from her many years of suffering from a condition known as Anorexia

Nervosa, little known at that time. I usually focus on a song and its impact at the time of its popularity, but it is her body of work that is worthy of recall and her life that is worth remembering.

Karen might best be described as an All-American Girl. She was unpretentious and her smile was friendly and sincere. Normally dressed and well mannered, the sister-brother team were easy to like. She had a contralto voice (lowest of the female vocal range) with a three-octave range and that is where she normally sang, but she also had the rare ability to transition to a much lower range – something she called her "basement". This range of her voice was used masterfully by her brother selecting and arranging songs that tended toward the melancholy. Listen to the loneliness in her voice along with the solitary harmonica in "Rainy Days" and the harp in "Superstar". Karen's voice, always a little mysterious and distant in these types of songs, made one feel pensive and reflective. Listen to what Karen and a piano created in the opening verse of "Solitaire". There are moments like that on just about every song the Carpenters recorded.



The Carpenters, live on stage

Here is Karen singing "Solitaire".

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=senfWltCbQs>

Her songs were described as light pop, nice, clean, not rebellious, with the most common theme of young people in love. Another article described her voice "... as smooth, warm, and controlled." The arrangement and instrumental riffs were technically flawless due to her brother Richard and the countless hours of rehearsals.

Paul McCartney said she had "...the best female voice in the world: melodic, tuneful and distinctive." Elton John said she has "one of the greatest voices of our lifetime." Rolling Stone magazine ranked her No 94 on its list of 100 Greatest Singers of All Time", describing her voice as "...impossibly lush and almost shockingly intimate", adding "...even the sappiest songs sound like she was staring directly into your eyes."

Here is a video review on "What made Karen Carpenter A GREAT Singer?" It is an unpretentious review with clips of many of her songs.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ri0uFoJKOvM>

If you really want to go deep, here is a comprehensive review of the rise of the Carpenters and the sad end of Karen Carpenter, titled "The Wonderful, Brief, and Tragic Life of One of the Greatest Voices in History".

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qmNJKenuihc>

*As Paul Harvey is quoted as saying, "And now, ... you know the rest of the story."*

Ron.

**SPECIAL MEMBER FEATURE ARTICLE**  
**A WHALE OF A TALE**  
**WHALE WATCHING AND CAMPING IN BAJA CALIFORNIA**

By Pat O'Connor



In February, my wife, Birdie, and I joined a few friends in a camping, driving and whale watching outing in Baja California. For those who haven't experienced Baja outside of the major resorts, it is rural, remote, unspoiled and beautiful. People are friendly and welcoming. Hotels and restaurants are simple but good, camping on the beaches is legal and largely free and the food is excellent.



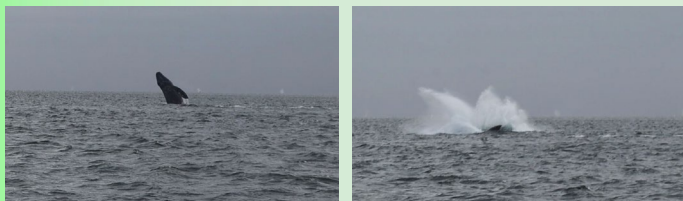
**We camped at Bahia Armenta, near Mulege**

It's hard to describe how good simple, fresh, natural food tastes to us who are so used to eating preserved, highly processed and often bland food in the US!



**Pat & Birdie soaking up the beauty of Bahia de Concepcion**

While the scenery is beautiful and camping on the beaches is a memorable treat, the highlight of the trip was a whale watching tour we did out of Guerrero Negro in a protected lagoon on the West Coast. This highly salinated, warm, shallow lagoon is several miles in diameter and has very few predators, as orcas and sharks prefer colder waters. For this reason, it is where grey whales bring their young to learn to swim and strengthen up before attempting the long migration north. It has been a whale preserve since 1972, one of the earliest whale preserves in the world.



**A grey whale breaching. They likely do it just for fun!**

Whale watching is done in 30' open boats with small engines, but once in the general vicinity of whales, the engines are cut to idle and we wait. Before long, whales come up to the boat to check us out, unafraid and unwary of us.



**Two whales come to check us out in our boat**

I was swept with emotion as whales twice the size of the boat came alongside, gently rubbing against the boat without bumping, feeling our hands as we rubbed their heads.



**One bejeweled beauty coming to say hello!**

Their heads are covered in gold-tinted barnacles that look like jewels. They often roll to the side and we make eye contact as we check each other out, equally curious and attracted. I imagine they consider us cute little things, like kittens or something!



**Note the eye just clear of the water taking a look at us!**

We booked the tour with Whale Magic Tours, <https://www.whalemagictours.com/>, who do research and guide these unintrusive tours into the Ojo de Libre lagoon by Guerrero Negro. You can check their website to see more amazing photos.

I hope you enjoy my bad photos, taken in haste in a rolling boat as we leaned too far over to touch these beautiful creatures.

Pat

**Your SIR State and Branch 35 Officers and Leaders**

**SIR State Officers**

State President	<b>Rich Carlston</b> (925) 324-0838	State Vice President	<b>Lee Lamp</b> (530) 921-1375
State Secretary	<b>Jeff Chin</b> (209) 602-3912	State Dir. of Branch Support	<b>Jim Gragg</b> (916) 708-5154

**Branch 35 Executive Committee (BEC)**

Big Sir (President)	<b>Jerry Ososkie</b> (408) 219-6924	Little Sir (Vice President)	<b>Scott Hiller</b> (408)568-9625
Secretary	<b>Leland Chan</b> (510) 490-5369	Asst. Secretary	<b>Dave Squellati</b> (408) 334-7988
Treasurer	<b>Larry Low</b> (408) 533-2651	Asst. Treasurer	<b>Jim Narva</b> (408) 930-3353
Chairman (Awards, Young Guns)	<b>Ron Nakamoto</b> (408) 440-2330	Chairman (Special Events)	<b>Ben Gikis</b> (408) 802-0794
Senior Advisor	<b>Andy Danver</b> (650) 906-3747	Chairman (Nominations)	<b>Peter Wong</b> (408)921-4884
Chairman, Parliamentarian	<b>John Rittweger</b> (650) 740-3156	Senior Adviser	<b>Paul Schutz</b> (408) 313-6852
Senior Advisor	<b>Richard Blackborow</b> (408) 314-2378	Director (Membership)	<b>Joe Enos</b> (408) 499-9614
Director (Communications)		Director (Activities)	

**Staff Chairmen**

Attendance	<b>Bill Young</b> (650) 493-1710	Audio/Visual Support	<b>Ron Schoengold</b> (408) 309-9830
Auditing	<b>Gerry Feeney</b> (408) 515-8604	Beverage Service	<b>Ben Gikis</b> (408) 802-0794
Historian/Photos	<b>Frank Crossman</b> (650) 493-9182	HLM	<b>Bob Garten</b> (408) 253-5860
Luncheon Host	<b>Dave Squellati</b> (408) 334-7988	Medical Emergency Resp.	<b>Dave Ogle</b> (650) 704-2130
Membership Roster	<b>Jerry Belden</b> (650) 207-6280	New Member Orientation	<b>Paul Schutz</b> (408) 313-6852
Trail Tips Editor	<b>Pat O'Connor</b> (408) 480-0409	Wellness & Comfort	<b>Pat O'Connor</b> (408) 480-0409
Website Maintenance	<b>John Ray</b> (408) 386-3573		

**Activity Chairmen**

Bicycling	<b>Gordy Tong</b> (408) 242-0557	Personal Finance	<b>Bob Booth</b> (408) 307-3274
Bocce Ball (Co-Chair)	<b>Richard Oehlberg</b> (650) 823-7720	Bocce Ball (Co-Chair)	<b>Michael Maurier</b> (650) 384-5754
Book Club	<b>Jerry Belden</b> (650) 207-6280	Book Swap	<b>Tim Topole</b> (650) 793-0838
Bowling	<b>Doug Andersen</b> (415) 407-4000	Bridge	<b>Mark Levi</b> (650) 305-9132
Chess	<b>Ben Kuckens</b> (650) 400-0353	Golf	<b>Les Miles</b> (408) 528-5473
Hiking	<b>John Tucker</b> (408) 655-5435	Movies	<b>Jim Quillinan</b> (408) 838-4379
Trail Birds	<b>David Skurnick</b> (650) 796-5314	Wine Finders	<b>Alan Gaudie</b> (650) 575-4332
Dining In (interim)	<b>Andy Danver</b> (650) 906-3747	Sports Cars Group	<b>John Tucker</b> (408) 655-5435

**Wellness and Comfort**

Death or illness of a fellow Sir should be reported to **Pat O'Connor**. He will express condolences of our Branch and communicate memorial announcements among the BEC and members via email.

### SIR Branch 35 Activities - January 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 Golf 10:00am Wente Vineyards \$100	4 Bowling 1:00pm Homestead Bowl	5 Sports Car Group HMB via Skyline Blvd 10:30am Saratoga  Pers. Finance 1:00pm Moffett Field Museum Library	6 Golf 10:20am Cinnabar Hills \$91	7 Bocce Ball 10:00am Los Altos Community Ctr.	8
9	10 Golf 10:00am Spring Valley \$49	11 Bowling 1:00pm Homestead Bowl	12 Bridge 12:00pm Los Altos Senior Center	13 Golf 10:16am Salinas Fairways \$39  Biking 11:00am Stevens Creek Trail & Shoreline Park	14 Bocce Ball 10:00am Los Altos Community Ctr.	15
16	17 Golf 9:27am Los Lagos \$37	18 Bowling 1:00pm Homestead Bowl  Movies 3:00pm Zoom Meeting	19 Branch 35 Lunch Mtg 11:00am - 1:30pm Mountain View Community Center Book Club 1:30pm Los Altos Utd. Methodist Church	20 Golf 10:00am Blackhorse \$95	21 Bocce Ball 10:00am Los Altos Community Ctr.	22
23	24 Golf 10:00am Poplar \$47	25 Bowling 1:00pm Homestead Bowl	26 Bridge 12:00pm Los Altos Senior Center	27 Golf 9:30am Corica Park South \$97	28 Bocce Ball 10:00am Los Altos Community Ctr. Hiking 10:00am Venue TBC	29
30	31 Golf 10:00am Boulder Ridge \$85					