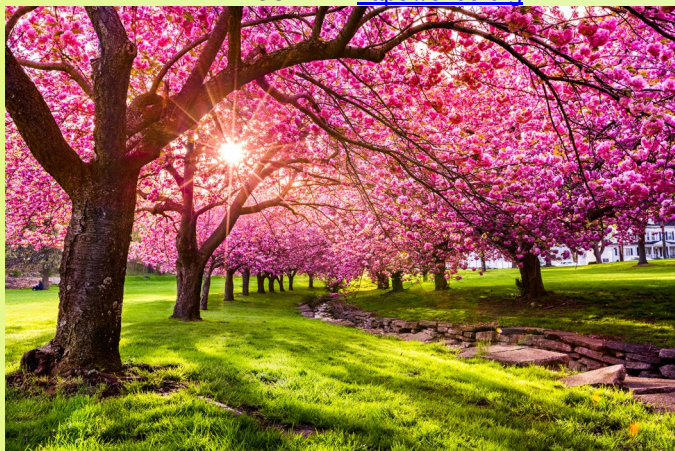




Mission Trail Branch 35, Silicon Valley, California

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



**Guest Speaker: Alice Dang,**

**Alzheimer's Association**



**Alzheimer's disease, dementia, and the Alzheimer's Association's services**

Alice is a Community Engagement Specialist with the Alzheimer's Association. She is passionate about promoting awareness and knowledge on Alzheimer's disease and dementia, and reducing barriers to quality health care. She has worked on the Healthy Brain Initiative and HIV & Aging Program within the County of Santa Clara Public Health Department. Alice holds a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from University of California

Los Angeles and is currently pursuing her Master of Public Health at San Jose State University.

Alice will give an Awareness Presentation covering Alzheimer's disease, dementia, and the Alzheimer's Association's services. Topics include the impact of Alzheimer's disease, risk factors, warning signs, and how others can join the fight against the disease.

Scott Hiller



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

Have you had an opportunity to view the new golf promotion video available on our website? We can thank Les Miles for coordinating the golf storyboard, and Ron Nakamoto and Pat O'Connor for the video production. The next web video

will feature our SIRs bowling group and will be posted soon. These website updates are part of the "Young Guns" initiative aimed at attracting younger new members.

When you get a chance, please congratulate Andy Danver, who received the prestigious SIRs State President's Award for his outstanding seven years of service to the state organization. The award was presented by SIR State President Rich Carlson at the Area 13 SIR quarterly meeting last month in Redwood City. Andy has been active at the state level performing dual roles of Director of Marketing and Communications and Area Representative for Area 13. Way to go Andy!

Our 2025 membership renewal period has now concluded, and the renewal rate reached over 91% this year. With twelve new members in 2025, our total membership is now 290. Due to your excellent recruitment efforts in growing our membership so far this year, we are keeping true to our pledge to help perpetuate the organization. I ask you to keep up the good work and remember to invite your friends to join us at lunch or join in our activities as our guests.

Finally, as you know we are a 100% volunteer-run organization. We need your help and talent. Please consider getting involved with your favorite activities. Many of our activity leads, event chairmen, and operational staff could use your assistance. Specifically, there is a need to assist Ben Gikis in preparing for this year's picnic at Blackberry Farms. Ben could use help in



setting up and staging the picnic area prior to guests' arrival. Please see Ben for details.

Thanks again for all your support in making our SIR Branch 35 one of the best social organizations in the bay area!

Jerry

## SOME ANNOUNCEMENTS



- 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!

## APRIL 2025 MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

**Active Members: 289 Net Monthly Change: -14**

While we had three new members join us in March, seventeen members did not renew for 2025, thus the overall membership dropped. 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)
Brad Ashmore	Mountain View	Hewlett Packard, ATAC
Gary Balsam	Pacifica	Bechtel, EBMUD
Larry Fleischer	Morgan Hill	GE-Hitachi Nuclear, SSL, Litton ATD

## APRIL ANNIVERSARIES: 10+ YRS.

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

John Daines (15)	Jay Jonekait (17)	Harold Kaye (15)
Frank Kiss (23)	Glen Pedigo (14)	Jim Sandstrom (15)
Stan Scardino (16)		

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday this month to the following members:

Mack Asrat	Bob Berry Jr.	Bill Blockie
Dick Henning	Andy Julian	Frank Kiss
Ben Kuckens	Max Lun	Jim Lunt
Neil Miotto	Pat OConnor	Mark Rosenthal
Dan Schettler	Wes Smith	Mark Taylor
Steve Vonderach	Gary Waldeck	

## BOOK CLUB

See our [web page](#)

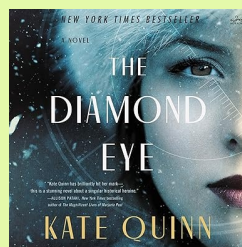
JERRY BELDEN  
650-322-1391

[jerry@gbeldenlrc.com](mailto:jerry@gbeldenlrc.com)



**Next meeting is on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm in the Los Altos United Methodist Church**

The Book Club is an activity where most months of the year, all members read the same book and then meet to discuss it.



For our March meeting, we read "The Diamond Eye" by Kate Quinn. In 1937 in the snowbound city of Kyiv, wry and bookish history student Mila Pavlichenko organizes her life around her library job and her young son—but Hitler's invasion of Ukraine and Russia sends her on a different path. Given a rifle and sent to

join the fight, Mila must forge herself from studious girl to deadly sniper—a lethal hunter of Nazis known as "Lady Death." When news of her three hundredth kill makes her a national heroine, Mila finds herself torn from the bloody battlefields of the eastern front and sent to America on a goodwill tour.

Still reeling from war wounds and devastated by loss, Mila finds herself isolated and lonely in the glittering world of Washington, DC until an unexpected friendship with First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, and an even more unexpected connection with a silent fellow sniper, offers the possibility of happiness. But when an old enemy from Mila's past joins forces with a deadly new foe lurking in the shadows, Lady Death finds herself battling her own demons and enemy bullets in the deadliest duel of her life.

Based on a true story, The Diamond Eye is a haunting novel of heroism born of desperation, of a mother who became a soldier, of a woman who found her place in the world and changed the course of history forever. Book club members generally found the book very interesting.

For April, our book is "James" by Percival Everett.

Jerry

**BOOK SWAP**See our [web page](#)TIM TOPOLE  
650-793-0838  
[ttopole@yahoo.com](mailto:ttopole@yahoo.com)

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

Tim

**HIKING**See our [web page](#)JOHN TUCKER  
408-655-5435  
[tuckerjg6@gmail.com](mailto:tuckerjg6@gmail.com)

The March SIR hike was held on Friday, 3/28/25. We had 19 people including several new SIR members and their wives. We hiked the Edgewood, Serpentine, Franciscan and Baywood Glen Trails located in Edgewood Park and Nature Preserve located in Redwood City. The hike was 4.2 miles with an elevation gain of 646 feet. Given all the rain we have had, I was hopeful we would see some wildflowers – which we did, just not as many as we would have liked. Maybe next month.



Some hikers are real turkeys

Some of us ran into rain on highway 280 but the hike was dry, sunny and comfortable. We had 13 people at the after-hike get together which took place at Canyon Inn in Redwood City. It was a fun day.

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 merry band of hikers!

Our next hike will be Friday, 4/25/25. Come join the fun.

John

**BIKING**See our [web page](#)GORDON TONG  
408-242-0557  
[gordy6850@gmail.com](mailto:gordy6850@gmail.com)HANK BOTTINO  
650-207-4320  
[bottinoh@comcast.net](mailto:bottinoh@comcast.net)

**Next ride:** SIR Branch 35 Biking on April 10th, 2025, at 11:00 AM. *Wives and guests welcomed; Helmets required.*

I canceled the March 2025 ride because of heavy rains that day. I wasn't able to reschedule that ride in March so I've re-scheduled the Los Gatos Creek ride for April 10th, 2025.

**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.



Weather? What weather?

**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.

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



## APRIL'S SPECIAL DAYS

PAT O'CONNOR  
[patoconnor61@outlook.com](mailto:patoconnor61@outlook.com)



- 1<sup>st</sup> April Fool's Day
- 7<sup>th</sup> National Beer Day
- 7<sup>th</sup> Public Health Week (start)
- 10<sup>th</sup> PGA Masters Tournament, Augusta, Georgia
- 11<sup>th</sup> World Parkinson's Day
- 15<sup>th</sup> Tax Day
- 19<sup>th</sup> Patriot's Day
- 21<sup>st</sup> Boston Marathon
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Earth Day
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Holocaust Remembrance Day
- 24<sup>th</sup> Take your Son & Daughter to Work Day
- 24<sup>th</sup> NFL Draft (start)
- 29<sup>th</sup> Duke Ellington Day
- 30<sup>th</sup> International Jazz Day

<b>Soccer</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> Quakes vs D.C. United, 2:00pm
	12 <sup>th</sup> Quakes vs L.A. FC, 7:30pm
	13 <sup>th</sup> Bay FC vs Chicago Stars FC, 4:00pm
	19 <sup>th</sup> Quakes vs Sporting Kansas City, 7:30pm
	19 <sup>th</sup> Bay FC vs North Carolina Courage, 4:00pm
	26 <sup>th</sup> Quakes vs Columbus Crew, 4:30pm
	26 <sup>th</sup> Bay FC vs Seattle Reign FC, 7:00pm

Pat

## BRIDGE

MARK LEVI  
 650-305-9132  
[mlevi@comcast.net](mailto:mlevi@comcast.net)



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

ALAN GAUDIE  
 650-964-6510  
[alangaudie@yahoo.com](mailto:alangaudie@yahoo.com)



See our [web page](#)

RUSS AYRES  
 650-776-6391  
[rrayres3@hotmail.com](mailto:rrayres3@hotmail.com)

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.

Alan

<b>Football</b>	49ers are resting....
<b>Basketball</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Warriors vs LA Lakers, 7:00pm 4 <sup>th</sup> Warriors vs Denver Nuggets, 7:00pm 6 <sup>th</sup> Warriors vs Houston Rockets, 5:30pm 8 <sup>th</sup> Warriors vs Phoenix Suns, 7:00pm 9 <sup>th</sup> Warriors vs San Antonio Spurs, 7:00pm 11 <sup>th</sup> Warriors vs Portland Trail Blazers, 7:00pm 13 <sup>th</sup> Warriors vs LA Clippers, 12:30pm *** <b>End of Regular Season</b> ***
<b>Hockey</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sharks vs Edmonton Oilers, 7:30pm 5 <sup>th</sup> Sharks vs Seattle Kraken, 7:00pm 7 <sup>th</sup> Sharks vs Calgary Flames, 7:30pm 9 <sup>th</sup> Sharks vs Minnesota Wild, 5:00pm 11 <sup>th</sup> Sharks vs Edmonton Oilers, 6:30pm 13 <sup>th</sup> Sharks vs Calgary Flames, 5:00pm 14 <sup>th</sup> Sharks vs Vancouver Canucks, 7:00pm 16 <sup>th</sup> Sharks vs Edmonton Oilers, 7:30pm *** <b>End of Regular Season</b> ***

## BOCCE BALL

See our [web page](#)

RICHARD OEHLBERG  
650-823-7720  
[rntheo1@icloud.com](mailto:rntheo1@icloud.com)

MICHAEL MAURIER  
[forest129@yahoo.com](mailto:forest129@yahoo.com)



**Every Friday, 10:00 a.m. to noon when weather permits. Guests are welcome.**

All are invited to join the friendly SIR Branch 35 Bocce Ball players and interact with a great group of people. Guests are welcome and encouraged! Come and meet old friends and make new ones. We welcome all skill levels from beginners who have never played before to those who have been playing for quite a while. We love to coach new players. Come and join us and have fun.

We will begin at 9:45 AM on Friday for court maintenance. SIR volunteers will do court maintenance before we play. Play will begin right after the maintenance is completed. We play at the Los Altos Community Center Bocce Ball Courts located at 97 Hillview Ave, Los Altos, CA 94022.

We will quit around Noon.

"We are privileged to play on the courts by agreement with the Los Altos Community Center that we maintain the court surfaces each Friday morning before play. This means that each of us who plays should come early to help clean off debris, redistribute pushed up oyster shell flour at the ends of the two courts, and brush down all court surfaces with the provided court brush. Our plan is to start play as soon as our maintenance work is completed."

REMINDER: Our next quarterly Lunch and Conversation is tentatively scheduled for Friday May 23 at Fiesta Vallarta, located at 301 State Street in Los Altos. Please mark your calendar. Everyone is welcome, whether you played Bocce Ball or not.

I look forward to seeing everyone on Friday, weather permitting.



SIR Bocce Team enjoying a leisurely roll

Richard & Michael

## BOWLING

See our [web page](#)

BOB TAGGART  
650-321-2654  
[chtaggart@earthlink.net](mailto:chtaggart@earthlink.net)

PRIZES: ALAN GAUDIE

DOUG ANDERSON  
415-407-4000  
[marktinti@aol.com](mailto:marktinti@aol.com)



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

April 1st is the final day of the Winter session, with April 8th the beginning of the Spring 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 --	Bob Froelich, Ron Nakamoto, Larry Low
2nd Place --	Aram Dormanian, Larry Maibaum, Ari Stassart, Perry Brown
3rd Place --	Jim Holman, Bob Taggart, Bob Garten
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 Place --	Karen Soules, Man Tran, Jay Jonekait
8th Place --	Bob Feigelson, Alan Gaudie, Scott Hiller
9th Place --	Harold Kaye, Brian Lin, Venicio Navarro
10th Place --	Ruth Ososkie, Peter Wong, Jerry Ososkie

WEEK 15 TOP SCORES			
Scratch Series		Scratch Game	
1st	585 - Larry Low	1st	194 - Marc Haberman
2nd	531 - Bob Garten	2nd	191 - Joe Enos
3rd	464 - Jerry Ososkie	3rd	174 - Jay Jonekait T
		3rd	174 - Man Tran T
Handicap Series		Handicap Game	
1st	674 - Aram Darmanian	1st	240 - Doug Anderson
2nd	647 - Arnie Satterlee	2nd	237 - Ron Nakamoto
3rd	621 - Harold Kaye	3rd	224 Bob Froelich

SESSION'S HIGH SCORES			
Scratch Series		Scratch Game	
1st	625 - Perry Brown	1st	229 - Ron Nakamoto
2nd	611 - Larry Low	2nd	214 - Scott Hiller
3rd	553 - Marc Haberman	3rd	210 - Bob Garten
Handicap Series		Handicap Game	
1st	717 - Jerry Ososkie	1st	260 - Arnie Satterlee - T
2nd	691 - Jim Narva	1st	260 - Joe Enos - T
3rd	689 - Bob Feigelson	3rd	254 - Les Fisher



Scott leads the charge....

Doug



# GOLF

LES MILES 408-528-5473  
Impomi@yahoo.com



BRUCE KARNEY 650-964-3567 LARRY LOW 408-533-2651  
bkarney@comcast.net llow1721@gmail.com

See our [web page](#)

## Fixtures for May – sign up now!

SIGN-UP with John Gerich by Monday April 14			
San Jose Muni (SJM)	Thu May 1	9:30	\$49
	Schutz 408-313-6852 pschutz@comcast.com / Ogle		
Redwood Canyon (RCN)	Mon May 5	9:30	\$47
	Weberg 408-205-9120 cweberg1@gmail.com / ** NEED ATC **		
Pacific Grove (PGR)	Thu May 8	10:00	\$69
	O'Meara 408-506-4714 Omearatimo@gmail.com / ** NEED ATC **		
Crystal Springs (CSP)	Mon May 12	9:30	\$69
	Cioni 650-393-5711 jacioni@yahoo.com / Enos		
Sharp Park (SHP)	Thu May 15	9:30	\$31
	Rittweger 650-740-3156 olygolfjr@gmail.com / Enos		
Spanos Reserve (SPN)	Mon May 19	10:00	\$63
	Gikis 408-802-0794 gikisben@yahoo.com / Mattson		
Villages (VLG)	Thu May 22	11:30	\$83
	Barkey 408-472-7353 stanbarkey@gmail.com / Wilson		
Holiday - Memorial Day	Mon May 26	N/A	N/A
Rancho Solano	Wed May 28	N/A	N/A
SIR STATE			
Paradise Valley	Thu May 29	N/A	N/A
SIR STATE			

## Tran Shoots the Round of the Month

**Man Tran** had the kind of round that most of us can only dream about on February 27 at Moffett Field. He shot 8.1 strokes under his expected score (net 64 on the Par 72 course) and is the early season leader for Round of the Year honors. Well done, Man!

## Scardino's Winning Streak Continues

**Stan Scardino** continued his winning ways in March. He won the Palmer #2 flight on March 10 at Spring Valley. It was his sixth consecutive victory in that flight. He was the lowest handicapper in Palmer Flight #2 (25.7 index) and is only 0.1 strokes from being bumped up to Palmer #1 flight.

## New Golf Rules for U.K. Seniors

*The Veterans Golf Association has negotiated with The Royal and Ancient in St. Andrews to modify the Rules of Golf for seniors in the United Kingdom. These new rules will only apply to men aged 65 and above.*

Rule 1.a.5 A ball sliced or hooked into the rough shall be lifted and placed on the fairway at a point equal to the distance it carried or rolled into the rough with no penalty. The senior should not be penalized for tall grass which groundskeepers failed to mow.

Rule 2.d.6 (b) A ball hitting a tree shall be deemed not to have hit the tree. This is simply bad luck, and luck has no place in a scientific game. The senior player must estimate the distance the ball would have travelled if it had not hit the tree and play the ball from there.

Rule 3.b.3(g) There shall be no such thing as a lost ball. The missing ball is on or near the course and will eventually be found and pocketed by someone else, making it a stolen ball. The player need not compound the felony by charging himself with a penalty.

Rule 4.c.7(h) If a putt passes over a hole without dropping, it is deemed to have dropped. The law of gravity supersedes the Rules of Golf.

Rule 5. Putts that stop close enough to the cup that they could be blown in, may be blown in. This does not apply to balls more than three inches from the hole. No one wants to make a travesty of the game.

Rule 6.a.9(k) There is no penalty for so-called "out of bounds." If penny-pinching golf course owners bought sufficient land, this would not occur. The senior golfer deserves an apology, not a penalty.

Rule 7.g.15(z) There is no penalty for a ball in a water hazard, as golf balls should float. Senior golfers should not be penalized for manufacturers' shortcomings.

*Happy April Fool's Day to all Branch 35 golfers!*

## 2025 Individual Match Play Tournament Results

(If a name is in red it means the player's "over/under" score was -2.0 or better.)

Round	Course	Match	Score	Prize
1	Wente Vineyards	Dave Skarlanic def. Stan Scardino	4 & 3	\$10
1	Spring Valley	Bill Hall def. Martin Virelas	3 & 2	\$10
1	Spring Valley	Chris Weberg def. Paul Lesti	3 & 2	\$10
1	Poplar Creek	Gerry Feeney def. Ron Grace	3 & 2	16GC
1	Corica Park S.	Roy Nakamura def. Ken Cornwell	4 & 2	\$10
1	Corica Park S.	Joe Cioni and Les Miles tied	AS	None

## 2025 Four-ball Match Play Tournament Results

(If a name is in red it means the player's "over/under" score was -2.0 or better.)

Round	Course	Match	Score	Prize
1	Poplar Creek	Weberg & Kalsi def. Gikis & Hiller	2 & 1	16GC@

Moffett Field			Par 72			Feb. 27, 2025		
Palmer Flt. 1	Net	\$	Palmer Flt. 2	Net	\$	Nicklaus Flt.	Net	\$
Joe Cioni	68	\$18	B. Motheany	72	\$18	Man Tran	64	\$24
B. Soules	70	\$14	Bill Hall	72	\$14	Dave Dardis	66	\$18
Bob Garten	73	\$10	M. Haberman	75	\$10	Larry Wall	68	\$12
R. McGrath	75	\$5	Ron Grace	75	\$5	Peter Wong	69	\$8
Shot his age: Joe Cioni, age 85, shot 78								
Low Gross (forward tees): Bernard Soules 87								
Low Gross (back tees): Joe Cioni 78								

Wente Vineyards				Par 71			March 3, 2025		
Palmer Flt. 1	Net	\$	Palmer Flt. 2	Net	\$	Nicklaus Flt.	Net	\$	
Scott Hiller	78	\$18	Bill Hall	71	\$18	Tim O'Meara	72	\$21	
Joe Cioni	79	\$14	Jay Jonekait	74	\$14	Man Tran	74	\$16	
Chris Weberg	79	\$10	B. Soules	74	\$10	Balbir Kalsi	74	\$10	
						Peter Wong	74	\$5	
Low Gross: Rick Wheat 86 (Dave Skarlanic shot 80 in a match)									

Spring Valley			Par 70			March 10, 2025		
Palmer Fit. 1	Net	\$	Palmer Fit. 2	Net	\$	Nicklaus Fit.	Net	\$
Ken Jones	66	\$18	Stan Scardino	70	\$18	Don Mattson	67	\$22
R. Nakamoto	70	\$14	B. <u>Metheany</u>	71	\$14	Peter Wong	67	\$16
Tom Taboada	70	\$10	R. Pattisson	72	\$10	Ben Gikis	68	\$12
Rich McGrath	70	\$5	Jerry Ososkie	73	\$5	Balbir Kalsi	71	\$7
Low Gross (forward tees): Richard McGrath 78								
Low Gross (back tees): Ken Jones and Ron Nakamoto tied at 88. Chris Weberg shot 82 in a match								

Blackhorse			Par 72	March 20, 2025	
Palmer Flight	Net	Prize	Nicklaus Flight	Net	Prize
Bill Hall	74	\$18	Don Mattson	76	\$17
Bob Garten	79	\$14	Ben Gikis	79	\$10
Dave Skarlanic	79	\$10			
Richard McGrath	79	\$5			
Low Gross (forward tees): Richard McGrath 86					
Low Gross (back tees): Dave Skarlanic 89					

Poplar Creek			Par 70			March 24, 2025		
Palmer Flt. 1	Net	\$	Palmer Flt. 2	Net	\$	Nicklaus Flt.	Net	\$
Larry Low	70	24GC	D. Squellati	70	24GC	Dave Dardis	60	25GC
Les Miles	72	19GC	B. Metheany	71	19GC	Sam Im	70	21GC
Joe Cioni	72	18GC	R. Pattisson	74	18GC	Dave Ogle	74	17GC
B. Soules	74	14GC	R. Estrella	74	14GC	Don Mattson	75	15GC
Shot his age: Joe Cioni, age 85, shot 85								
Low Gross (forward tees): B. Soules 88 (Chris Weberg shot 80 in a match)								
Low Gross (back tees): Larry Low 83								

Corica Park South			Par 72		March 27, 2025	
Palmer Flight	Net	Prize	Nicklaus Flight	Net	Prize	
Bob Garten	71	\$18	Peter Wong	74	\$12	
Richard McGrath	75	\$14	(Only 3 players in flight)			
Rick Wheat	79	\$10				
Walt Joyce	81	\$5				
Low Gross (forward tees): Richard McGrath 83						
Low Gross (back tees): Rick Wheat 85						

Bruce



A dreamy view on a misty day!

If you don't want to drive but would like to come along let me know and I will try to find you a spot in the second seat. Come join us on our next Fun Run to Felton and the Cowboy Bar and Grill on April 2, 2025.

John

## SPORTS CAR GROUP

JOHN TUCKER  
(408) 655-5435  
[tuckerjg6@gmail.com](mailto:tuckerjg6@gmail.com)



Our March SIR Sports Car Group tour and lunch was held on Wednesday, March 5, 2025. We had 11 people and 5 sports cars, a Porsche SUV and a Tesla Model X.



You don't need a sports car to join us on our travels

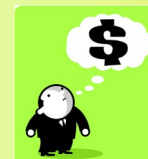
Our destination was the Pilot Light Cafe at the Half Moon Bay Airport. The starting point was Quarry Park just outside of downtown Saratoga. From there we traveled up curvy Highway 9 to Skyline Blvd (Highway 35), then northwest on Skyline along the ridge of the Santa Cruz Mountains.

I would like to tell you that we had a wonderful view of the Bay Area from this vantage point but we did not, the weather was very foggy but we made it safely and we turned onto Highway 92 which took us to Half Moon bay and then north to the Half Moon Bay Airport where we dined at the Pilot Light. Thanks to John McGowan who suggested this cafe and supplied the photos. It was a fun day of driving interesting roads, conversation and social interactions.

## 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 gathered on Wednesday, March 5th at the Moffett Field Museum Library at 1pm but the electricity was out ... no meeting, a real bummer given the number of people who showed up!

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 2nd. There is not a planned agenda but I'm really interested in trying to figure out what our president's "end game" is and how it will affect the market.

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



## 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.



**Bob Trevino Likes It.** This is one of the best movies we have seen in quite a while. Put it on your must-see list. It is a powerful story that is made even better with extraordinary acting. Lily Trevino (Barbie Ferreira) is in her mid-twenties and living a lonely life as a caretaker. Lily never had a mother, and her father

(brilliantly portrayed by French Stewart) is a self-absorbed pain in the ass. Her father cuts off all communication with her. She looks to the internet to try to reconnect with him but instead finds another Bob Trevino (John Leguizamo). The internet Bob turns out to be a stand-up guy who encourages Lily and supports her in many ways. He is the father she always wished she had. The movie will pull on your heart strings, make you cry and then realize how good it feels to be connected. Rated PG-13 for brief strong language, and thematic elements. It is based on the real experience of the film's director, Tracie Laymon. In Theatres. It is a Super Peggy's Pick.



**Snow White.** The Disney Classic is updated for a modern audience. Disney uses live action animation to bring the characters and critters alive. Not only does the film look great, but it is also filled with wonderful music. Classics such as Heigh Ho, Whistle While You Work and Someday My Prince Will Come are mixed in with new tunes. Rachel Zegler as Snow White not only charms but she is a marvelous singer. The Seven Dwarfs are

delightful as they sing and dance while protecting Snow White from her evil stepmother. Gal Gadot as the Evil Queen oozes malevolence. Her costumes are deliciously wicked. Snow White recruits help from the critters of the forest, a band of scallywags and the Evil Queen's Guard to reclaim her title as Queen. Take the kids and grandkids and enjoy. Rated PG for violence, some peril, thematic elements and brief rude humor. In Theatres. It is a Peggy's Pick..

**Audrey's Children.**

This docudrama follows the life of Doctor Audrey Evans, famous pediatric oncologist. Starting in 1969, Dr. Audrey joins the world-renowned

children's hospital in Philadelphia. She encounters sexism, hide bound medical practices and politics as she tries to develop effective treatments for neuroblastoma. She breaks through the white coat curtain. Her treatments proved successful and are still in use today. But more importantly she engineered the purchase of the first Ronald McDonald House allowing millions of families to stay close to their children while under treatment. The story is compelling and the performances powerful. Put this on your must-see list. Rated PG for thematic content, smoking and some language. In Theatres. It is a Peggy's Pick.



**Black Bag.** This film combines three genres in a clever but confusing way. It is a spy thriller, romance, drama that relies heavily on the acting prowess of Cate Blanchett and of Michael Fassbinder. Blanchett is a British intelligence agent, Kathryn. She is suspected of betraying her country with leaks of highly sensitive information. Fassbinder is her husband and boss. He is a master spy and charged with ferreting out

the traitor. They face the ultimate challenge to be loyal to their marriage or to their nation. Watching them sort out their loyalties makes for a good film. Rated R for language including some sexual references, and some violence. In Theatres.

Jim



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/>



## MOVIE AND MUSIC HISTORY

RON NAKAMOTO

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*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*



### Movie: "The Sand Pebbles", December 20, 1966

Baby Boomers will likely remember this movie from 1966. The movie was the fourth highest grossing film that year at \$30 million and was nominated for eight Academy Awards, winning none. This movie from our past, was selected for review principally because of the performance of Steve McQueen and Candice Bergen. Here are some background facts

before we spotlight these actors.

The movie was based on the book, "The Sand Pebbles" authored by Richard McKenna, a former U.S. Navy sailor and engineer aboard a gunboat, plying the Yangtze and other rivers in China in the 1930's. The U.S. had emerged as the newest member aligned with a small group of European powers that controlled and exploited China during this period. The villains in the movie are the Nationalists under Chiang Kai-shek, not the Communists as they were in the minority, but aligned with the Nationalist's goal to kick the Imperialists out of their country.



**Jake Holman readies to shoot his Chinese mechanic, caught and being tortured by Chinese Nationalists. McQueen was a lefty; however, he's holding this rifle as a righty.**

Robert Wise directed this film and shepherded the project for four years before he was ready to film it. The creation of a suitable script from the book, finding suitable locations for various shoots, creating and building the "San Pablo" ship prop, and many other production challenges created the lengthy constipation period.

Wise was fortunate during this period as he was offered another project that was ready to go, "The Sound of Music". He did so and that of course became a huge success. This and his previous direction of "West Side Story" gave him carte blanche for this film project.

Following that shoot, he led a Hollywood cast and crew numbering more than one hundred to Keelung, Tam Sui and Taipei on the island of Taiwan, for on-location filming. Principal filming began November 22, 1965, but the two-month planned shoot kept going until May 1966. As he took so much film, the theatrical release ran quite long at 182 minutes, and the extended "roadshow" version was even 14 minutes longer.



**Movie premiere with Robert Wise, Steve McQueen and their companions, December 20, 1966 at the Rivoli, New York City**

Paul Newman was originally offered the role of Jake Holman but turned it down because the character was "not redeemable". (Editor's note: Newman felt the character's flaws and actions were too extreme and lacked the potential for positive change or growth, making him unsuitable for him to portray.) Isn't this a movie and not real life? Hollywood can't seem to separate fiction from nonfiction.) He was the bigger star at the time but over the two years that it took to get the film started McQueen's stardom grew to rival Paul's. They did share a rivalry and dislike for each other in life more because McQueen always sought top billing and attention in acting as well as racing. An interesting fact is McQueen was offered the part as Sundance with Paul Newman in "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid" but turned it down because Paul had top billing. Of course, that role was the big break for Robert Redford.

Now, let's focus on the actors:

Steve McQueen was the consummate antihero who fit in with America's turbulent evolution during the 1960s counterculture era. He was not the full-fledged lead man at the time he was approached and agreed to be in the film. He had worked his way up the popularity ladder with his first lead start in the television



series "Wanted Dead or Alive" 1958-61, then to his first big break on the big screen with "The Blob" in 1958, followed by "The Magnificent Seven" in 1960. Over the two years it took to get to the on-location shoot for Sand Pebbles, he solidified his stardom with his role in "The Great Escape" released in 1963.

McQueen was nicknamed the "King of Cool" after "Sand Pebbles", as he continued to play lead characters that were cool characters in action-dominated roles with some dialogue sprinkled in here and there. Remember "Bullitt" (1968), "The Thomas Crown Affair" (1968), "Le Mans" (1971), and of course, "Papillon" (1973). He portrayed authentic, he exulted cool.

Candice Bergen was 19 years old when she took on her role as Shirley, an assistant schoolteacher in the movie. She was the daughter of Edgar Bergen the famous ventriloquist, so she had a privileged childhood. Even at such a young age she demonstrated her maturity that complemented her natural, innocent beauty. She attended the University of Pennsylvania where she was selected Homecoming Queen. Unfortunately, she acknowledged that she did not take her education seriously and failed out of school.



**Bergen was uneasy around McQueen, found him friendly but challenging, 'though no sign of it here!**

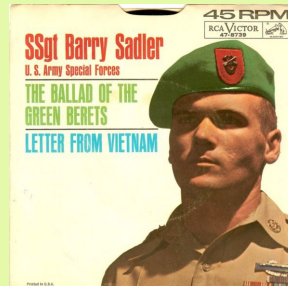
- Bergen capitalized on her beauty and became a fashion model. Successful in that profession she enrolled in acting school. Her role in Sand Pebbles was her second film role. From this success she went on to parts in many movies that generally did not do well. She finally found her acting success as Murphy in "Murphy Brown". That television series ran for ten seasons garnering her five Emmy Awards and several Golden Globes.
- Why was "Sand Pebbles" so memorable and impactful? One can only speculate, and many have, saying that it created a buzz at the time because of its parallel to the ongoing Vietnam War, where imperialism was pitted against nationalism. Steve McQueen was the alienated and disillusioned sailor trying to live his life in the engine room he loved but was forced out of his shell, first to defend his boat and later, the naïve missionary and teacher he had just met. Ultimately, he sacrificed his life for a cause he questioned. "I was home ..., what happened? ... WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED?", as the story ends.



**Bergen and McQueen on-deck**

Here is the official movie trailer for "The Sand Pebbles".

<https://www.amctheatres.com/movies/the-sand-pebbles-1966-48450/videos?videoid=6165669201001>



**Music: Ballad of the Green Berets by Staff Sergeant Barry Sadler – 1966**

This was the most popular song of 1966 reaching #1 on the Billboard Hot 100 for over five weeks. It was written by Staff Sergeant Barry Sadler, a Green Beret soldier.

The story goes that Sadler enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1958. In the Air Force, he was trained as a radar technician stationed in Japan. After a short stint as a civilian he enlisted in the U.S. Army and volunteered for Airborne and Special Forces. (Editor's note: The Green Berets are a part of U.S. Special Forces Command. Their mission is to train foreign forces to conduct direct action, special reconnaissance, and unconventional warfare. The training they undergo is extensive, lasting over a year with specialty training to include airborne parachute jumping, and foreign language. The Green Berets are organized in twelve men teams for stealth and maneuverability.) Sadler became a Green Beret, specialized as a medic and was deployed to Vietnam in 1965. In May 1965, he was on a combat patrol near Pleiku when he suffered a knee length wound from a punji spike (sharpened stick, tipped with a poison or contaminant (feces) to cause infection, injury or death). He dressed his wound and completed the patrol, but the wound became seriously infected, so he was evacuated to Clark Hospital at the U.S. Air Base in the Philippines for treatment. He was stabilized and then sent back to Ft Bragg, home of the Green Berets for rehabilitation.





While there he worked on his song. He met Robin Moore at Fort Bragg when Robin was an author who wanted to write about the Green Berets so was enrolled in the training program. Moore did finish and published "The Green Berets" in 1965 which became a best seller in 1966. Moore was instrumental in helping Sadler finish his ballad and get it published. The song was one of the few popular war songs during the Vietnam period. Some of his Green

Beret comrades resented that he profited while they fought and died in the meat grinder that was Vietnam.

The song is played in a choral rendition in the 1968 movie "The Green Berets" which was only memorable because John Wayne was in it.

Here is an original video of SSgt Barry Sadler singing his song in 1966. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ZXHsiFaUFM>

I had never heard this version sung by Dolly Parton and released in 2003. She is an authentic professional singer, and her version evokes patriotic emotion as you listen to it. It is also a longer version with additional verses, lyrics, and ending.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rzNCkM17QIA>

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

Ron.



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

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#### 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 - April 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
		Bowling 1:00pm Homestead Bowl	Sports Car Group Felton 10:30am Pers. Finance 1:00pm Moffett Field Museum Library	Golf 10:00am Eagle Ridge \$83	Bocce Ball 10:00am Los Altos Community Ctr.	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Golf 10:00am Seascape \$83	Bowling 1:00pm Homestead Bowl	Bridge 12:00pm Los Altos Senior Center	Golf 11:30am Villages \$83	Bocce Ball 10:00am Los Altos Community Ctr.	
			Book Club 1:30pm Los Altos Utd. Methodist Church	Biking 11:00am Los Gatos Creek Trail		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	Golf 10:00am Santa Teresa \$76	Bowling 1:00pm Homestead Bowl		Golf 9:36am Bridges \$71	Bocce Ball 10:00am Los Altos Community Ctr.	
		Movies 3:00pm Zoom Meeting	Branch 35 Lunch Mtg 11:00am - 1:30pm Mountain View Community Center			
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	Golf 10:02am Callippe \$68	Bowling 1:00pm Homestead Bowl	Bridge 12:00pm Los Altos Senior Center	Golf - SIR State Eagle Vines	Bocce Ball 10:00am Los Altos Community Ctr.	
			Golf - SIR State Chardonnay		Hiking 10:00am Location TBC	
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
	Golf 9:30am Dublin Ranch \$45	Bowling 1:00pm Homestead Bowl				