



The PETALUMAN SONS IN RETIREMENT Branch #58

Devoted to the enjoyment and dignity of retirement



SIR Branch #58 meets the third
Tuesday of each month at noon

May 2009

Veterans Building. 1094 Petaluma Blvd. S.
The Board meets at 10:00 a.m.

Big Sir Brian Tolson (707) 778-7278 btolson711@aol.com	Secretary Bill Sovel (707) 762-2387 wmsovel@comcast.net	Treasurer Joseph Augustin (707) 763-5584 josephfa@aol.com	Directors Marvin Dolowitz (707) 763-3502 Bill Allen (707) 762-1857 Bill Lassen (707) 766-9656 Loris Scott (707) 762-8074 Larry Tacherra (707) 526-7509 Len Svinth (707) 763-3254 Art Adams (707) 773-2888
Little Sir Marshall West 707 776-4973 BMarshWest@aol.com	Asst. Tres. Walt Ehlers 707 769-0228 joanehlers@sbcglobal.net		
Newsletter Editor Fred Stoneburner, (707) 763-8150			

Big SIR Report

Sir Brian Tolson

Times are tough for a lot of folks these days, so there are plenty of rascals looking for ways to see you part with your hard earned money. I was reminded of this the other day when I got a call from an operator who said that I had a collect call from my son who was identified by name. Being caught off guard, I agreed to accept the charges. As soon as this person (supposedly my son) got on the line, he said that he must have the wrong number. He hung up and the operator had already gone. Sure enough, a couple of weeks later, I get a bill for a seven dollar phone call from a private billing service purporting to represent a local phone company. On this bill they threaten to pursue collection action if I don't pay. Is this a scam? Absolutely! Are they going to get eight bucks? Absolutely not! Remember that we need to be alert and be aware that all kinds of personal information (such as my son's name) is easily available on the internet. Armed with this information, crooks can be very convincing.

In addition to being alert, there are other things you can do to protect yourself. The next time you order checks, have the bank print initials instead of the first names, so crooks will not know whether you sign with your full name or initials. Place the contents of your wallet on a photocopy machine and make copies of both sides of credit cards, licenses, etc. Then, if your wallet is stolen, you will know who to call to report the loss. Never carry your social security card in your wallet. If you use the internet, be sure that you never open unsolicited e-mails particularly those with attachments. I recently got a bogus e-mail that looked

exactly like one I might receive from my bank. Friends, please pay attention. You have worked hard for your dollars, and new ones don't come easy at our age. Protect yourselves!

Little SIR Report

Sir Marshall West

The speaker for May's meeting will feature a well known Petaluman, Murray Rockowitz. Murray is a professional photographer and has his studio and office in downtown Petaluma. Murray will speak about the **Petaluma Arts Council (PAC)**. Murray is currently President of the Board of the **PAC** and was part of the formation of this group just a few short years ago. So much has been accomplished by this group in this short time frame. You may notice the newly renovated baggage building next to the old Petaluma train depot at Lakeville and D Street. In case you have not seen the inside, it provides beautiful gallery space, classrooms for art students, and houses the headquarters of the **PAC**. This group also successfully lobbied the city to pass the Public Art initiative. I am sure Murray will tell us more about the state of the Petaluma art community and their plans for the future. Plus the May luncheon will feature the ever popular SIR raffle so don't forget to pick up your raffle tickets when you check in. The past three months we have had some happy winners. All of the proceeds help our club to make expenses so your money goes for a really good cause. Also, by the time you receive this newsletter, the May Ladies Day Luncheon will have been held and I want to thank all of those who helped and who attended to make this a great annual event. More about this event will appear in the June *The Petaluman*.

NOW IS THE TIME FOR ALL GOOD MEN TO COME TO THE AID OF THEIR COUNTRY, -- Change that to read , COME TO THE AID OF SIRS 58. Your Sirs 58 nomination committee is now looking for men to be part of the leadership for 2010. It would be great to have you call and say YES, I would be willing to help for next year (2010). We will be nominating the following; Little Sir, Secretary; Asst. Secretary; and three(3) Directors. Please do not just read this and let it go. Consider this opportunity for yourself OR you may know someone who would be willing to help.

Golf:

Sir Steve Tasselmyer

Winners in the month of April were:

April 6th at Adobe Creek, Steve Tasselmyer Net first flight, Art Adams Low Gross 2nd flight.

April 13th at Petaluma Country Club, Steve Tasselmyer Net 1st flight, Ray Anderson Closest to the hole 2nd flight.

April 20th at Petaluma Country Club, Ray Anderson Closest to the hole 2nd flight.

April 27th at Petaluma Country Club, Ray Anderson Low Net 2nd flight.

The schedule continues as follows:

May 4 Adobe Creek, Regular start 7:30

May 11 Petaluma CC Shotgun Start 7:30

May 18 Adobe Creek Regular Start 7:30

May 28 THURSDAY at Adobe Creek Regular Start 7:30

June 1 Monday Adobe Creek Regular Start 7:30

June 8 Monday at Petaluma CC, Shotgun Start 7:30

The next Area 25 tournament will be on June 11, 2009 at Foxtail North. This is the qualifier for the Area Team Championship and is a Scramble Tournament needing A,B,C and D players. The cost is \$47.00. All entries and money should be in by June 1. Checks should be made out to Area 25 Golf.

The State Golf Committee has a Tournament coming up in Reno, three weeks in June. June 1 to 5, June 8 to 12 and June 15 to 19.

Trips and Tours

Sir Bob Smith

Aloha

July 7-9, 2009 - "Celebrities, Surf and Sanctuary" (Featuring Monterey Peninsula and Carmel). deluxe motor coach; 2 nights at the Carmel Mission Inn; Guided Monterey Movie Tour "Theater O Wheels"; hosted luncheon at the Tap Room (Lodge at Pebble Beach) Guided Tour and admission at Point Lobos State Reserve; hosted luncheon at the Rocky Point Restaurant; Continental breakfast daily at the Mission Inn; luggage handling and driver gratuity. Brochures available. Cost \$498.00 per person double occupancy. Tour is limited to 32 passengers. 30 On board now- can take 2 more.

Sunshine:

Sir Rollie Leeburg

Bring a little cheer into these gentlemen's lives. Give them a phone call or drop them a line.

Dick Weber, Bill Lassen Vern Garzoli, Larry Ashdown, and Harold Genazzi

Look over the names on our inactive list. Find a name of someone you would like to visit. They need our support. If any of them could be brought to a meeting they would be welcome.

September 1-11, 2009 "ALASKA" Ten nights cruise round trip San Francisco aboard the Sea Princess (NO AIR) Ports of call include: Ketchikan, Juneau, Skagway, Victoria. Scenic cruising the Inside Passage and Tracy Arm Fjord. All meals and entertainment aboard ship; deluxe motor coach to/from the ship and Petaluma; driver and stevedore gratuity; port taxes and government fees; Bon Voyage orientation party; luggage handling. Cost from \$1130.00 per person double occupancy depending on the cabin selected. Brochures available

October 21, 2009 - "SOUTH PACIFIC" - This breathtaking new production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's South Pacific swept the 2008 Tony Awards, winning seven honors including best musical revival. Features include: Deluxe motor coach; Hosted buffet luncheon at the Marines' Memorial Club; Orchestra seating at the Golden Gate Theater; Tax, gratuities and driver tip. Cost \$134.00 per person. Brochures available. First come - first served.

November 30-December 1-2, 2009 - Reno - El Dorado Holiday Ice Specular is a fast paced high energy production performed by the shows cast of world class professional figure skaters. Features include: deluxe motor coach; Two nights at the El Dorado; Reserved seating for the Ice Show; Holiday Ice dinner buffet; hosted cocktail party; breakfast buffet; visit CABELA's world famous outfitter; luggage handling, resort fees, taxes and driver gratuity. Cost and brochures available soon. First come-first served.

In the works - April 2010 - Central California . Four or five day trip to visit and enjoy interesting attractions in San Luis Obispo, Solvang, Paso Robles, San Carlos and surrounding areas. Will advise when a #1 tour is put together and brochure is ready.

August 9-20, 2010 - Scandinavia cruise aboard the STAR PRINCESS featuring DENMARK, SWEDEN, FINLAND, RUSSIA, ESTONIA, POLAND, GERMANY. Will advise when brochures are ready with cost and complete details.

If interested in any of the above please call Bob Smith 763-9323 or Derlin German 763-6162 and we will furnish you with a brochure or answer questions etc.

Aloha and Mahalo

Non-Responsibility Declaration

All activities arranged for or by, or sponsored by, Sons in Retirement, Inc. and its branches are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and guests who desire to participate. Sons in Retirement Inc..., and its branches do not assume any responsibility for the well being or safety of the participants or their property, in any matters pertaining to said activities.

Treasurer's Report

Sir Joseph Augustin

Here is the Treasurer's Report for the month of April

Beginning month cash:	\$2,617.60
April cash in:	
Contributions	70.00
Raffle Proceeds	112.00
April luncheon	1125.00

Ladies Day Luncheon	2,106.00
April cash out:	
Newsletter	80.00
Postage	43.55
State SIR assessment	85.00
Vet's rent (April and May)	360.00
Caterer -April luncheon	1,039.91
Ladies Day Expense	411.00
Ending month cash balance	\$4,011.14

I want to thank the Assistant Treasurer Walt Ehlers for assuming my duties during the months of February and March in my absence due to other activities. Thanks Walt

Our regular contributor to the member biography, Sir John De Jong, has written all of the articles you have seen here before. It is only fitting that this dedicated and long time fellow SIR be awarded the same opportunity. The information was assembled by his wife and daughter at our request.



MEMBER BIOGRAPHY

JOHN DE JONG Badge # 105

Born February 24, 1926 in Hanford, California, eighth child of a family of eight sons and one daughter, at age 4, John De Jong and his family moved from Hanford to the Ripon, Salida area. John grew up in the Modesto, Salida, Ripon, Calif., area. He attended elementary and high school in the small town of Ripon, where he was active in FFA and Sports as well as the required subjects. He enjoyed his football playing days (still has his red and white football jacket) and graduated from Ripon Union High School in 1943. John grew up on a dairy farm, so it was only natural that he wanted to continue the family tradition of being a farmer.. He began his own dairy – on the same farm he grew up on--with two heifers (one of which was a registered Holstein calf awarded by Sears & Roebuck) from his FFA School Project. In 1951 he moved the grade A Dairy enterprise to Escalon, Ca.. Some years later, due to health difficulties, John heeded the Doctor's recommendation to find a less strenuous type of livelihood. What Next? Former dairy rancher prepares for another branch of work in the agricultural field. In 1957, after 14 years in the dairy business, John sold his 125 dairy herd and was

ready for the next adventure -- becoming an Agriculture teacher. At age 31, with a wife and 3 children, John attended Modesto Jr. College and later Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, earning his Bachelor of Science Degree, Master of Arts Degree and Agriculture Teaching Credential.

One of John's favorite anecdotes: 'The story of two frogs who fell into a pool of cream. One thought the paddling for survival too difficult and decided the task was too rough, and quietly slid to his death at the bottom of the pail. The other frog had determination and a will to succeed. He kept paddling, and soon the cream turned to butter and he stepped out of the pail to freedom and success'. It took a lot of determination and paddling to reach John's goal. In 1962, John moved his family (now increased to four children) to Petaluma on a one year assignment and ended up staying at Petaluma High School for 29 years, where he built an Ag Department with a low enrollment into a three man active department. The men behind the successful Agriculture Program at Petaluma High School were John De Jong, Bill King and Ron Head, and the Board of Education for recognizing the value of a solid agriculture program, and leadership training of the FFA. The three men had a combined 75 years of teaching together when John retired in 1991. John enjoyed his work as an Ag teacher and has guided thousands of young people into agriculture related careers. "Agriculture isn't only about cows and plows and definitely more than just gathering eggs and milking cows".....In 1966, the state of California selected John as a Teacher of Excellence, and in 1972 the National FFA Association awarded him the Honorary American Farmer Degree . In 2003, the California Ag Teachers Association inducted him into the Agriculture Hall of Fame. John and Connie were married in 1946, and have four children, Dave, Deedee, Duane, and Don; eight grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. Currently, John serves as Membership and Attendance Chairman for SIRS #58. He is active in and serves on the Board of Elders in the Petaluma Community Church. He also stays active managing rental properties with two of his sons. And there's always the summertime vegetable garden !



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**Next Meeting Tuesday
 May 19th 2009.**
 Menu - Pork sirloin roast w/scallop potatoes

**Need a ride to the meetings?
 Want to offer a ride to those in need?**
 Call me. Fred Stoneburner 763-8150

Save this day for the Christmas Party on
 Friday, December 4th.

May Birthdays

Herb Carlson	Charlie Matteri
Doc Musser	Chuck Phillips
Van Puska	Dick Royce
Dwayne Sogis	Mervyn Zimmerman
Jack Schipper	

ATTENDANCE

April 21

Members Present	76
Members Excused	11
Members Unexcused	10
Members ill	7
Total	104
Deceased	0
Visitors	1
New Member	0
Resigned	0
Inactive	0
Re-instated	0

**Save the day for the SIR picnic. This
 years annual SIR #58 barbeque will be
 Sunday, July 26th hosted by our own John
 Fomasi.**