



## **SIR WESTGATE BRANCH 125**

**A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION FOR RETIRED MEN**

*Devoted to the Promotion of Independence  
and Dignity of Retirement.*

**3rd TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH**

**THREE FLAMES RESTAURANT**

**1547 MERIDIAN AVE., SAN JOSE, CA. 95126**

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING 10:00 AM**

**FELLOWSHIP HOUR 11:00 AM - LUNCH AT NOON**

### **BRANCH OFFICERS**

**Big Sir.....Wayne Stewart**  
**Little Sir..... Milt Howard**  
**Secretary..... Don Johnson**  
**Ass't. Sec'y....Roger Hughes**  
**Treasurer.....Roger Danielson**  
**Ass't. Treas...Pete Morrone**

### **BRANCH DIRECTORS**

**Ernie Gifford**  
**Greg Lynch**  
**Gene Plevyak**  
**Dick Rathmann**  
**Chuck Roberts**  
**Jim Silver**

**State President: James E. Donovan**  
**Region 7 Director: Tom Smith**  
**Area 5 Governor: Dave Rieser**

**20 September 2005**

**Website <http://sirbranch125.org/index.html>**

### **Message From the Big Sir**

Many thanks to Milt Howard for filling in for me at the August meeting. It is always nice to know that there are competent people to back you up and handle the duties when you are gone.

My wife and I headed out on the 1<sup>st</sup> for a three week trip through the Sawtooth Mountains in Idaho, Yellowstone Park, the Grand Tetons, Salt Lake City, and then back on Highway 50, "the loneliest highway in the nation", through Nevada. Before we left the Bay Area however, we parked our 5<sup>th</sup> wheel at the Vallejo Elks parking lot for the day to attend the Annual State SIR Meeting. (Can I get travel allowance for my truck mileage for attending the meeting????? I only drove 2300 miles this trip.)

At the meeting there were some good reports presented on the activities of each of the committees this past year. The new State officers for 2006 were elected and all have very good credentials. Bob Curley is the new President, Tom Ross is the VP, Bob Short is Secretary, and Bob Mannell is the Treasurer. There are a few new rules adopted primarily in the travel area regarding certification and insurance of the travel agencies used by SIRs.

Since a major concern in SIRs over the past few years has been declining membership, the Growth and Management committee report was very apropos. They presented several things we can do to boost the membership in our branch. The committee chairman showed a new video which details some of the ideas to be considered. In the end, it is up to each of us to recruit and retain the new members.

Our Branch 125 officers for 2006 were elected at the August meeting as nominated. Thanks to the nominating committee and congratulations to the new officers. Supporting their activities will be key to the branch success next year. The next major event in 2005 is the "Potluck In the Park" on September 27. This has been a fun time for our families in the past and it should be at the top of each of our agendas this month.

**Wayne Stewart, Big Sir**

### **September SPEAKER .**

Our September speaker is Leigh Weimer's, long time columnist for the San Jose Mercury News. Leigh has had a daily column on the comings and goings of San Jose for at least 30 years. He will retire later this year after a distinguished career. He will share his life as the eyes and ears of San Jose with us.

**Benton White, Program Chairman**

## REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Bill	Adler	28
	Cunning-	
Jerry	ham	12
Jerry	Davis	12
Ron	Duval	14
Tom	Franklin	30
Ernie	Gifford	24
Ed)	Lodi	9
Jerry	Long	20
Ed	Metevia	6
Don	Palermo	14
Wayne	Smith	5
Fred	Souza	25
Tony	Urso	10
Dave	Wessels	30
Benton	White	3

**Chuck Waggoner, Database Manager**

### Treasurer's Report AUGUST

	GENERAL	CUSTODIAL	TOTAL
BEGINNING BAL- ANCE	\$1404.85	\$432.97	\$1837.82
RECIEPTS	235.00	1464.00	1699.00
DISBURSEMENTS	136.28	1464.00	1600.28
ENDING BALANCE	1503.57	432.97	1936.54
MONTHLY CHANGE	98.72	0.00	98.72
 MEMBERSHIP	 ACTIVE	 174	
	INACTIVE	5	
	WAIT LIST	1	

**Roger Danielson, Treasurer**

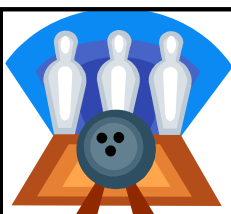
### Website

<http://sirbranch125.org/index.html>



### August Speaker

Mark Gale, a member of our Branch 125. a retired Air Force Colonel and well known for being the SJSU Women's Golf Coach for a number of years. Mark gave a very interesting talk on his very successful coaching career.



### BOWLING

.. The summer season ended with a sleeper on Aug 22nd.

Team 10 with **Bob Hunt** is League Champion.

Team 11 with Ed Lodi is 8th. Team 4 with Jim Silver, Pete Morrone & Vic Harris is 4th. Team 1 with Rich Madayag is 12th.

#### Season Highlights:

Rich Madayag 10 200 games; 4 600 series

Jim Silver 1 200 game

Vic Harris 2 200 games

Pete Morrone 8 200 games ; 2 600 series

Bob Hunt 14 200 games; 7 600 series

Ed Lodi 2 200 games

Congratulations to all!!

Winter Bowling begins Sept 12.at Cambrian Bowl. Everyone is welcome. No experience necessary

**Vic Harris, Bowling Chairman**

### SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

#### A. Doug Winslow Farm:

This trip is still waiting for a call from Doug Winslow..

#### B. Wings of History Air Museum:

A few of us enjoyed a tour of the Air Museum. We saw an actual full size replica of the 1903 Wright Flyer that Orville and Wilbur Wright flew in 1903 to get our air industry started and we saw a nice memorial plaque of the dedicated volunteers at the museum with Jim Riley's picture! This museum is worth a visit. (And we followed a VIPER home on 101, license VEETENN!)

#### C. Potluck: 27 September at Vasona Park

If you haven't signed up for this special event, please do so at our September luncheon. Roger Hughes will be back in town by then to answer any questions. BBQ chicken and punch will be provided so just sign up and bring your favorite dish and your favorite gal! Guests of members will be free, otherwise cost is only \$5 per person with a \$10 family maximum.



**2005—2006 OFFICERS BRANCH 125**

<b>Big Sir:</b>	<b>Milt Howard</b>	<b>Director:</b>	<b>Ernie Gifford (missing)</b>
<b>Little Sir:</b>	<b>Don Johnson</b>	<b>Director:</b>	<b>Greg Lynch (taking picture)</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Chuck Waggoner</b>	<b>Director:</b>	<b>Ed Hirshfield</b>
<b>Asst. Secretary:</b>	<b>Sam Zuilo (missing)</b>	<b>Director:</b>	<b>Jay Pinson (missing)</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Roger Danielson</b>	<b>Director:</b>	<b>Wayne Stewart (missing)</b>
<b>Asst. Treasurer:</b>	<b>Peter Morrone</b>	<b>Director:</b>	<b>Tom Franklin</b>



Bob Shields & Chuck Roberts at an exact full size replica of the Wright Brother's plane at the **Wings of History Air Museum in San Martin.**



Mark Gale showing Milt Howard, Little Sir, the SJSU NCAA trophy.

**Membership Replacement/Expansion**

**We Need Your Help!!!**

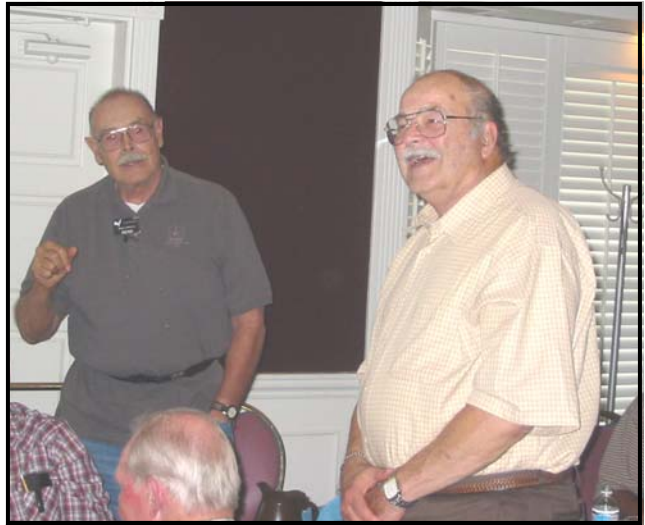
Please be a "Guest Sponsor" and introduce a friend at the next monthly luncheon.

Informational brochures and membership applications are available at the Luncheon Ticket table.

**NOTE: 1st Time Guests will receive a Free Lunch Ticket courtesy of our Branch.**



**New members and Sponsors:  
Harry Warne, Benton White, Lou Bottini,  
Steve Jensen.**



**Sir Rene Marfull with guest Robert Mann**



**Sir Sid Tiedt with guest Ed Lewis**



**Guest Dave Roberts with Sir Gene Plevyak**



**Guest Rob Robinson with  
Sir Bob Stephens**



**"Pop" and his puppy "Calin" with the 5th wheel  
at Redfish Lake near Stanley, Idaho.**

**Website**

**<http://sirbranch125.org/index.html>**

**Wednesday 3 August 2005 – Spring Valley- 2 Best Ball**

1st Place- John McManus, Milt Howard, Jerry Long, Doug Wood 110  
 Ed Metevia, Gene Plevyak, Tom Franklin, (Larry Peck-BD) 110  
 2nd Place Chuck Wagner, Bill Avery, Roger Danielson, (Fred Hernandez BD) 118  
 3rd Place Gene Carson, Bob Johnson, Fred Sousa, Pat Brennan 119  
 4th Place Edgar Linn, Phil Olavarri, Elbert Turner, Ed Hirshfield 120  
 Closest to the Pin #4 ( 1 shot) Joe Gerarge #7 (2 shot) Pete Haket (birdie)  
 #11 (2 shot) Fred Souza (birdie), Jay Pinson (birdie) #16 (2 shot) Dick Fenton (birdie)

**Wednesday 10 August 2005 – Sunnyvale- 2 Best Ball**

1st Place- Phil Olavarri, Ed Metevia, Roger Danielson, Dick Fenton 114  
 2nd Place tie Tom Davis, Jerry Cunningham, Doug Wood, Don Williams 116  
 Tom Dapice, Joe Gerarge, Al Smith, Carl Vollersen 116  
 3rd Place Chung Song, Pete Haket, Ebert Turner,(Roger Danielson BD) 118  
 4th Place Gene Carson, Rudy Lopez, Gene Plevyak, Pat Brennan 120  
 Closest to the Pin #4 (1 shot) Pat Brennan #7 (1 shot) Joe Gerarge  
 #13 (2 shot) Dick Fenton (birdie), Bob Norbutas (birdie) #16 (2 shot) John Guarino

**Wednesday 17 August 2005 - Pajaro Valley - 2 Best Ball**

1st Place - Gene Plevyak, Tom Franklin, Fran Andreson, Bill Avery 122  
 2nd & 3rd Place - Lou Bottini, Martin DeVries, Doug Wood, Jerry Long 125  
 Chuck Waggoner, Dick Rathmann, Don Williams, Jim Smith 125  
 4th Place - Roger Danielson, Pete Morrone, Ed Hirshfield, Elbert Turner 126  
**Closest to the pin:** # 3 (2shot) Jerry Oliver # 7 (1shot) Bill Avery  
 # 11 (2shot) Chung Song # 14 (2shot) Lou Bottini

**Wednesday 24 August 2005 - Moffett Field - 2 Best Ball**

1st Place - Fred Hernandez, Rudy Lopez, Carl Vollersen, Bob Ramirez 115  
 2nd Place - Gene Carson, Bob Johnson, Sam Zullo, Jerry Cunningham 116  
 3rd, 4th, & 5th Place - Neal Atchison, Larry Peck, Ken Sohn, Don Fontes 122  
 Paul Myers, Bob Schlossareck, Bill Tippin, Lane Tronson 122  
 Roger Danielson, Pete Morrone, Jim Harvey, Bill Wada 122  
**Closest to the pin:** # 5 (2shot) Chuck Waggoner # 7 (1shot) Jerry Cunningham  
 # 13 (2shot) Lane Tronson # 15 (1shot) Chuck Waggoner

**Wednesday 31 August 2005 – Coyote Creek/Valley- 2 Best Ball**

1st Place- Gene Plevyak, Tom Franklin, Ed Wendler, Elbert Turner 115  
 2nd Place Dick Rathman, Jim Smith,J, Chuck Wagner, Bob Fowler 123  
 3rd Place Fred Hernandez, Rudy Lopez, Sam Zullo, Bob Ramirez 126  
 4th place Gerry Maddams, Joe Gerarge, Tom Davis, Mike Moffet 127  
 Gene Carson, Bob Johnson, Fred Souza, Wayne Stewart 127  
 Bob Goldman, Al Smith, Bob Fraka, Carl Vollersen 127  
**Closest to the Pin:** #2 (2 shot) Pat Brennan #4 (1 shot) Pat Brennan  
 #8 (1shot) Pat Brennan #16 (2 shot) Joe Gerarge

**SIRS Players of the Month August-05**

Flight	Name	Hcp Idx	Score	Date	Net Over/Under	Course
A	DAVIS, TOM	9.9	74	10-Aug	-4.2	Sunnyvale
B	WAGGONER, C.	17.3	83	24-Aug	-5.5	Moffett Field
C	PLEVYAK, GENE	23.0	93	31-Aug	-4.7	Coyote Creek V (W)
D	METEVIA, ED	28.3	90	10-Aug	-6.8	Sunnyvale
E	HOWARD, MILT	29.1	90	3-Aug	-5.9	Spring Valley

## COMPUTER CLUB

The August 2005 Computer Club Meeting was well attended by 17 members. Several were new attendees. The meeting opened with the discussion of problems that members brought to the meeting. Then, Ed Metevia presented a discussion of ways to speed up the operation of one's computer. His first suggestion was to run the defrag program frequently to eliminate the necessity of the computer to search the hard disk excessively when running a program. The second suggestion was to get rid of program parts that run in the background by going to msconfig or ctrl-alt-delete to find what programs are in the startup and eliminate those from the startup that are rarely used or not essential to the computer operation. The 3rd suggestion was to run your anti-spy programs to eliminate hidden programs that are slowing the computer operation. Then, frequently delete cookies and Internet temp files. Many times the Norton System Works program needs to be used to clear up problems on the hard disk that are slowing the computer operation. John Feemster brought to the members' attention that computer technology is changing so rapidly that many older programs can no longer be used on the newer computers, and that we should check to see that older documents that we have stored can still be read with our newer computers. We need to make sure we have hard copies of those documents that can no longer be read with a newer computer. The next computer meeting will be on Thursday September 22, 2005 from 3pm to 5pm at our usual meeting place at the Saratoga Senior Center.

**Norm Martin**

## "An Ode to America"

Why are Americans so united? They would not resemble one another even if you painted them all one color! They speak all the languages of the world and form an astonishing mixture of civilizations and religious beliefs. Still, the American tragedy turned three hundred million people into a hand put on the heart.

Nobody rushed to accuse the White House, the army, and the secret services that they are only a bunch of losers. Nobody rushed to empty their bank accounts. Nobody rushed out onto the streets nearby to gape about. The Americans volunteered to donate blood and to give a helping hand. After the first moments of panic, they raised their flag over the smoking ruins, putting on T-shirts, caps and ties in the colors of the national flag. They placed flags on buildings and cars as if in every place and on every car a government official or the president was passing.

On every occasion, they started singing their traditional song: "God Bless America!" I watched the live broadcast and rerun after rerun for hours listening to the story of the guy who went down one hundred floors with a woman in a wheelchair without knowing who she was, or of the Californian hockey player, who gave his life fighting with the terrorists and prevented the plane from hitting a target that could have killed other hundreds or thousands of people.

How on earth were they able to respond united as one human being? Imperceptibly, with every word and musical note, the memory of some turned into a modern myth of tragic heroes. And with every phone call, millions and millions of dollars were put in a collection aimed at rewarding not a man or a family, but a spirit, which no money can buy.

What on earth can unite the Americans in such a way? Their land? Their galloping history? Their economic Power? Money? I tried for hours to find an answer, humming songs and murmuring phrases with the risk of sounding commonplace. I thought things over, but I reached only one conclusion...Only freedom can work such miracles.

Cornel Nistorescu, "**C**"ntarea Americii, meaning "Ode To America") in the Romanian newspaper Evenimentulzilei.

**Thanks to my daughter, Stephanie, for sending the "ODE"— Editor.**

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## **SIRS WESTGATE BRANCH #125**

**GREG LYNCH - Editor**

**Chuck Waggoner — Database**

**Ed Metevia — Asst. Database &  
Photography**

**Jim Silver — Associate**

**George Watson — Associate**

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**SEPTEMBER 2005**

