



## SLO RAM BULLETIN

Retired Active Men, Inc.

San Luis Obispo

Website: [retiredactivemen.org](http://retiredactivemen.org)



### BIG RAM BLEAT

**Brad Parkinson**

Well, the reservoirs are filling up and the Seattle-like weather has reduced my use of sunscreen. You all are probably tired of my noting the depth of snow at our cabin in Bear Valley. Currently about 14 feet, with a forecast of 3 to 4 more in the next few days. All is good for our H<sub>2</sub>O supplies of course. Meanwhile, Bob Mott is struggling with our hiking schedule because the local authorities keep closing trails that have been badly eroded!

On SLO RAM business, I would like to call attention to our 27th of April Coffee Cabinet which will be a celebration of 30 years of Coffee Cabinets. It will be a mini-gala. In addition, we are planning a special recognition of the great support we have had from the Madonna Inn. This is scheduled for the Coffee Cabinet on the 4th of May. I hope we have a large turnout for these small celebrations.

### MARCH LUNCHEON

The monthly Luncheons are held in the Madonna Inn Garden Room. They are held on the third Tuesday of the month. Check in starts at 11:00am and **ends at 11:25am** so the check-in team can be seated before the meeting starts. The meeting is called to order at 11:30am, concluding at 1:00pm. SLO RAM Members and invited guests are welcome.

**Luncheon cost is \$31 for 2023.**

The next Luncheon meeting will be on March 21<sup>st</sup>. The featured speaker will be **Penny Borenstein, MD**, Director of the SLO County Public Health Department. Dr. Borenstein will discuss *Public Health Matters*.

The luncheon meal will be Italian Lasagna (with Italian sausage, marinara, parmesan and mozzarella cheeses), baby red potatoes, and berry pie. A vegetarian option is available.

### COFFEE CABINET

**Alan Henderson**



Things continue to go well at the Coffee Cabinet and the support for this meeting is wonderful.

Bob Mott and the program committee continue to provide excellent speakers. We have a full program schedule for March so we are looking forward to great attendance.

Craig Perry will continue in the Big Bean role through March. We are still looking for members who will be Big Bean for a three month stint. We have substitutes to cover for personal needs of our Big Bean during the stint, to minimize the obligation. Plus, Big Beans have a great time as mc's for each meeting.

Anyone interested in volunteering to be the "Big Bean" in 2023 please let me know ([ahenderson44@gmail.com](mailto:ahenderson44@gmail.com)). Also, all of us need to invite friends to get to know us.

The Coffee Cabinet is held at the Madonna Inn in the Garden Room. Meetings are held every Thursday. They are called to order at 8:30am and adjourned at 9:30 am.

### March Coffee Cabinet Programs

**March 2, 2023 – Nick Franco**, Superintendent, SLO County Parks. Nick will provide an *Update on Projects and Plans*.

**March 9, 2023 – Jeff Railsback**, Customer Accounts Manager, California Independent Systems Operator (ISO). Jeff will discuss the *California Independent Electrical Power Grid*.

**March 16, 2023 – Clement Salvadori**, Vietnam Vet, State Department Advisor. Clement will present *Experiences in the Vietnam War*.

**March 23, 2023 – Don Maruska**, Coach, Climate Activist. Don will present *Solve Climate Change NOW*.

**March 30, 2023 – John B. Goodrich**, Attorney (ret.), SLO County Rancher. John will present *Population in the West – and in Los Osos*.

## HIKING GROUP

**Bob Mott**

RAM on the Active Hike list will receive a reminder the week before. **PLEASE LET BOB KNOW IF YOU PLAN TO TAKE THIS HIKE: 1-805-748-0573 (cell) or [rbmott30@gmail.com](mailto:rbmott30@gmail.com)**



## Active Hikes, March 2023

Check out our website [www.ramhikes.org](http://www.ramhikes.org)

**Friday, March 3, 8:30 am** – Eagle Rock & Oak Woodland Trails plus extension, El Chorro Regional Park, SLO Area (c. 3.0 mi, + 408-450 ft., 2 hr. Approximate data: Trail guides and Kiosk postings are very contradictory.) We walk up Dairy Creek Road to the trailhead. The Eagle Rock Trail skirts the oaks, passes by a Chumash acorn-grinding area and cuts across a meadow to Eagle Rock with views of the morros and Camp SLO (but not the National Guard eagle emblem, out of sight around the hill). We then return 0.3 mi. to the junction with the Oak Woodland Trail, following it for a mile through the oaks and a meadow to Dairy Creek Rd. Back at parking, we will extend the hike by crossing the creek bridge and camping area to the AIDS Living

Memorial Grove, with markers naming 40 victims of AIDS.

**To Get There** – On Hwy 1 head toward Morro Bay. Opposite Cuesta College turn right at the Hollister Ave. signal into El Chorro Regional Park. Follow Dairy Creek Rd. to the right past an entrance shed (no charge until April). Park in the Mariposa parking area opposite the Botanical Garden main building. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> lot past the restrooms on the left.

**Friday, March 17, 8:30 am** – Stagecoach Road to Cuesta Pass (5.6 mi, + 900 ft., 3.0 – 3.5 hr.) This historic road was formerly the Old Padre Trail dating back to the 1700's. We hike the road through a shaded canyon that parallels Hwy 101, from the base of Cuesta Grade to the pass and back again.

**To Get There** – From SLO, drive north on the 101 to a left turn pocket at the base of Cuesta Grade. Turn left onto Stagecoach Rd. Parking is soon, on the right. Be patient while waiting to turn let off 101 to Stagecoach Rd. Most vehicles are traveling 70 – 80 mph down the grade!

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

**Bob Lever**

Our Membership Committee recently met and agreed on various strategies for attracting new members. Some of these include:

- Advertising by explaining/answering questions at public gatherings such as Farmers Markets.
- Providing recruitment brochures to guests who attend activities.
- Placing RAM information on selected social media sites.

The Committee has several other avenues it is discussing which will be presented at various Coffee Cabinet/Luncheon meetings.

We're pleased to announce that a new member has joined our Committee -- Welcome Carl Kleinman!! We still have room for more so we can implement all our strategies.

Ball-caps (\$15) and Name-tags (\$11) are available and may be purchased at any time. Shirts (\$25) may be ordered now and will be submitted to the printer once we reach a minimum order of 20.

Bob Lever, Chair (213) 760-5512

[rlever@charter.net](mailto:rlever@charter.net)

Ernie Dossa (408) 892-3114,

Alan Henderson (805) 439-1720,

Phil Keys (805) 547-1715,

Ed Benson (805) 264-7852,

Carl Kleinman (805) 448-6075

## SLO RAM DAY TRIPS

**Hal Thilmony**

On March 8th at 1:00pm there will be a special RAM tour of the Central Coast Veterans Memorial Museum on Grand Avenue in San Luis Obispo. If you haven't been there recently, they have a couple of new exhibits. The Museum is also one of the sponsors of the traveling 3/4 size replica of the Vietnam Memorial Wall known as the "Wall That Heals". If you would like to see the Wall That Heals (on your own), it will be on display at Madonna Meadows from March 16-19.



And then, on April 1st we get a guided tour to the Painted Rock in the Carrizo Plain National Monument. The tour officially begins at 11am at the Goodwin Education Center. In addition to the Painted Rock this will be a great opportunity to see the wildflowers that may be in abundance given the recent rainfall. It is a 69-mile (90 min) trip from San Luis Obispo to the Education Center. We have 25 slots allotted to our RAM group. Twenty-two are already filled.

If you would like to attend either of these outings, contact me at [hthilmon@yahoo.com](mailto:hthilmon@yahoo.com) or 510-604-2025.

## SLO RAM GOLF

**Dave Martindale**

**SLO RAM Golf** meets each Wednesday at the Laguna Lake Golf Course. Players check in at 8:30am and tee off shortly thereafter. Electric carts are available for renting.

Regardless of skill level, all RAMs and guests are welcome. For information contact Dave Martindale, 1-805-550-6500.



## SLO RAM TASTERS

**Gus Wassel**



Our March tasting will be held on March 2<sup>nd</sup> at Moonstone Cellars in Cambria. This winery visit is coordinated by the son of Muril Clift, a new member.

The tasting is open to dues paid members and invited guests.

## THE BOOK CLUB

**Phil Keys**

The SLO RAM Book Club meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month at 2:00pm.

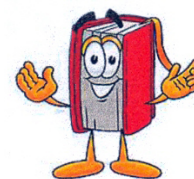
Meetings are held at Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church, 1701 Fredericks St., San Luis Obispo.

Directions: Take the Grand Ave. exit from Hwy 101. Proceed towards Cal Poly and turn left at the next street. Park against the fence next to the freeway and enter through the doors to the left on the other side of the courtyard. Go straight ahead to the meeting area.

**March 28**, *Brave Men* by Ernie Pyle.  
Presented by Bill Long

From [goodreads.com](http://goodreads.com):

"Europe was in the throes of World War II, and when America joined the fighting, Ernie Pyle went along. Long before television beamed daily images of combat into our living rooms, Pyle's on-the-spot reporting gave the American public a firsthand view of what war



was like for the boys on the front. Pyle followed the soldiers into the trenches, battlefields, field hospitals, and beleaguered cities of Europe. What he witnessed he described with a clarity, sympathy, and grit that gave the public back home an immediate sense of the foot soldier's experience."

**April 25**, *Shantaram* by Gregory David Roberts. Presented by Bob Dignan.

From [goodreads.com](http://goodreads.com):

"It took me a long time and most of the world to learn what I know about love and fate and the choices we make, but the heart of it came to me in an instant, while I was chained to a wall and being tortured."

So begins this epic, mesmerizing first novel set in the underworld of contemporary Bombay. *Shantaram* is narrated by Lin, an escaped convict with a false passport who flees maximum security prison in Australia for the teeming streets of a city where he can disappear. ...

Burning slums and five-star hotels, romantic love and prison agonies, criminal wars and Bollywood films, spiritual gurus and mujaheddin guerrillas—this huge novel has the world of human experience in its reach, and a passionate love for India at its heart. Based on the life of the author, it is by any measure the debut of an extraordinary voice in literature."

**May 23**, *Roughing It* by Mark Twain.

Presented by Robert Hammond

From [goodreads.com](http://goodreads.com):

"*Roughing It* is a book of semi-autobiographical travel literature written by American humorist Mark Twain. He wrote it during 1870–71 and published in 1872 as a prequel to his first book, *The Innocents Abroad* (1869). This book tells of Twain's adventures prior to his pleasure cruise relayed in *Innocents Abroad*."

**If you are interested in participating in the Book Club Meeting or want to be added to the club's email list, please contact Phil Keys at [philk557@gmail.com](mailto:philk557@gmail.com).**

## POKER GROUP

Ernie Dossa

The next meeting of the Poker group is TBD.

If you are interested in joining in, contact Ernie Dossa: [dossae33@gmail.com](mailto:dossae33@gmail.com).



## LUNCH BUNCH

We are looking forward to restarting the Lunch Bunch. Anyone interested in taking over the Lunch Bunch, please contact Brad Parkinson, at (805) 594-1529, or by email at [bradp@Stanford.edu](mailto:bradp@Stanford.edu).



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Phil Keys

**Jim Irwin**



I graduated from Salinas High School in 1961 and entered Cal Poly in 1961. I majored in Ag Business Management and participated in swimming and wrestling. I joined the US Navy in 1963 for three Westpac Tours to Vietnam. I started working for Air Vol Block Co. in 1971 as a Project Engineer developing new styles of concrete block and methods of production (Allen Block, Concrete Pavers, Split Face Block and Slumpstone). I constructed a cement sacking operation (Quickcrete products and sacked cement) and a rebar fabrication plant.

Retiring from Air Vol Block in 1988 I continued my lifelong traveling adventures with my wife of forty-five years, Janice Guerra, a SLO native. Besides traveling, hobbies include fishing, hunting and golf. I do skiing and scuba diving not so much now! Janice has three great boys as well as my two. Between us we have numerous grand and great-grandchildren. They keep us hopping!

## John Goodrich



I was born in Upland, California in August of 1941, was an Eagle Scout, graduated from Stanford University with a BA in Economics, University of Southern California Juris Doctor, and a law degree in Federal Taxation from New York University. Practiced corporate law in

Palo Alto in the firm of Wilson, Sonsini, Goodrich & Rosati for 38 years, starting in 1973 at the birth of Silicon Valley. Ran a private corporation in San Jose for five years and “retired” to San Luis Obispo in 2010 to raise avocados. I have 5,000 flight hours as PIC (Pilot in Charge). I and my wife, Janice Odell, also a pilot, enjoy cycling and skiing.

### ARE YOU UP TO DATE?

If your contact info or other SLO RAM data or status has changed, let us know. Just click *CONTACT* on the SLO RAM website (<http://retiredactivemen.org/>). You can also click *CONTACT* if you have a question about SLO RAM or any of its activities.

### MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Last Name	First Name	Date
Berney	Carl	3/5
Henderson	Alan	3/16
Hendrickson	Rich	3/29
Hillery	Richard	3/25
Howard	Jim	3/24
Kleinman	Carl	3/24
Larson	Jerry	3/14
Long	Bill	3/15
Sicanoff	Steve	3/16

### MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Name	Date	Yrs
Asp, Wayne & Jan	3/21	53
Campbell, Hank & Mary Ann	3/19	57
Gilbert, John & Marian	3/29	36
Mullin, Gordon & Nancy	3/13	13
Sander, Charles & Diane	3/27	69
Sereque, Chris & Maria Ciamaichelo	3/28	4
Werner, David & Suzanne	3/23	6
Wright, Mike & Kathy	3/21	42

### CALLER DIRECTORY

#### Terry Whittaker

A-B	Jerry Larson	805-788-0269
C:	Hal Thilmony	510-604-2025
D-F:	Mike Dilallo	805-489-5172
G-I:	Terry Whittaker	805-773-3964
J-L:	David Werner	909-702-8787
M-N:	David Prigge	805-773-3532
P-R:	David Prigge	805-773-3532
S:	Nick Higgins	559-289-1586
T-Z:	Terry Whittaker	805-773-3964