

# CHIRPER

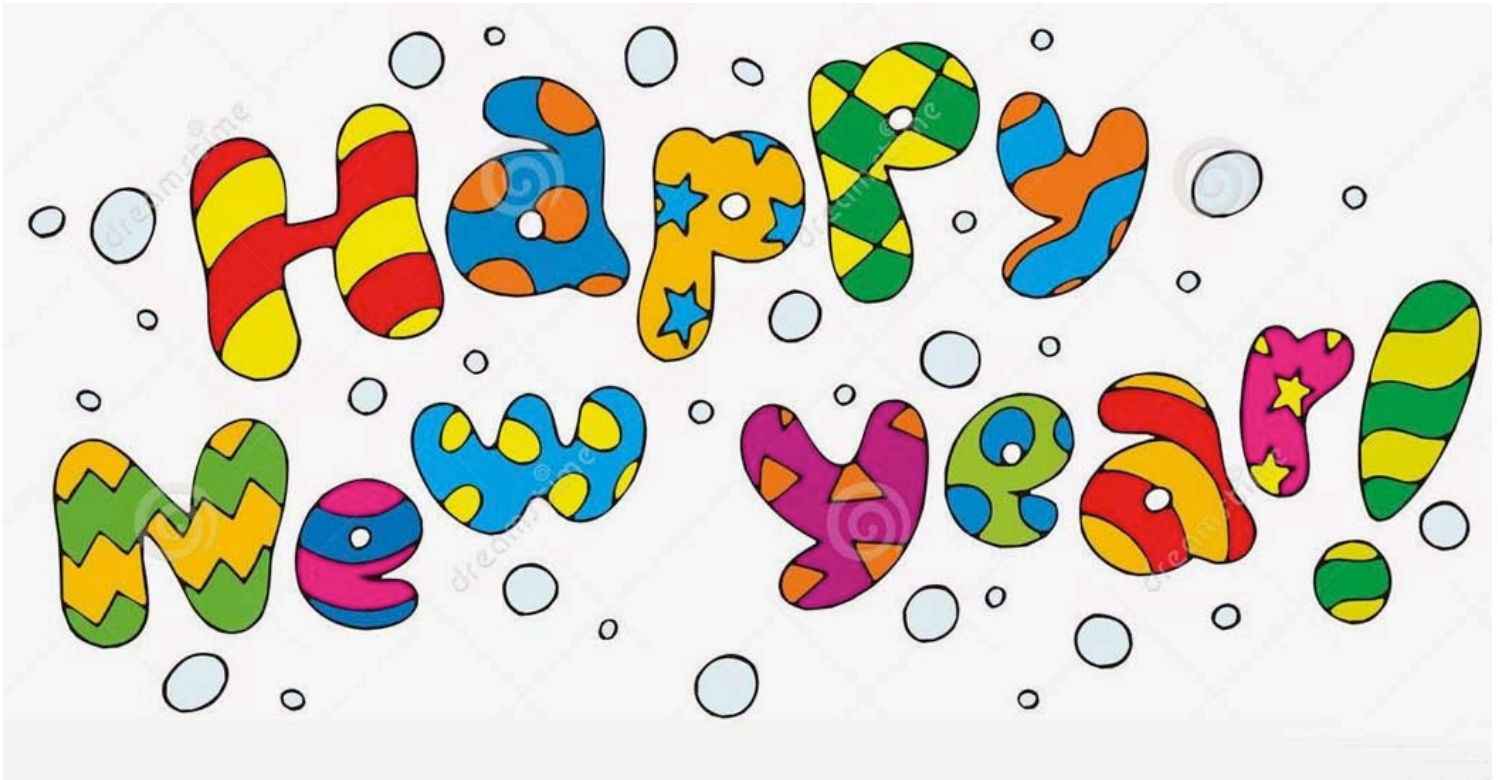


January 2022

Katydid Square Dance Club Newsletter

Volume 59, No 1

START YOUR WEEKEND RIGHT ... DANCE WITH THE KATYDIDS ON FRIDAY NIGHT!



CLUB CALENDAR



[www.katydids.org](http://www.katydids.org)

## KATYDIDS

*Club nights and hoedowns have been cancelled or postponed until further notice. Note: Decision regarding our Annual Sweetheart Special will be made later this month.*

## HOEDOWNS, FESTIVALS & CLASSES

*Most Hoedowns, Classes and Club night dancing have been suspended or greatly altered for the foreseeable future. Call before attending. . . .*

2022 FEELS LIKE THAT  
BOYFRIEND WE'RE ABOUT  
TO TAKE BACK FOR THE  
THIRD TIME BECAUSE HE  
SWEARS HE'S CHANGED.

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

**Skip Stevens .....Jan. 04**  
**Kathy Shaney .....Jan. 22**

.....



**Steven Lehnhoff & Naomi Grubb.....Jan. 17**

.....

**Boy aged 4:** Dad, I've decided to get married.  
**Dad:** Wonderful; do you have a girl in mind?!  
**Boy:** Yes... grandma! She said she loves me, I love her, too....and she's the best cook & story teller in the whole world!!  
**Dad:** That's nice, but we have a small problem there!!  
**Boy:** What problem?!  
**Dad:** She happens to be my mother. How can you marry my mother!!  
**Boy:** Why not?! You married mine!!!!

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Happy New Year Katydids and Friends!

It is surely a different beginning of the new year than I had imagined just a couple of weeks ago. We were very disappointed to need to cancel/postpone our Masked Affair Hoedown. I want to thank everyone who helped get ready for this event: To **Janna** for pulling decorations together, to **Morris** for making and printing a number of posters, to those who signed up to work the event and to those who worked hard to find a sound dampening solution for the gym. THANK YOU, ALL!!

On a happy note, at our annual Holiday Party on 17 December, we were delighted to present **Major Shoshannah**, a pastor at our Salvation Army, Santa Clara Citadel, with gifts and cash totaling at least \$900 for their Youth-Teen-Young Adult program. A huge thank you to Katydids and friends for your generosity!! A thank you letter from Shoshannah is copied below.

Elsewhere in this newsletter is a write up on our good friend, **Irv Martin**, who died 5 December. I especially remember how very proud he was of his military service. I am glad he shared that with us.

For now, Katydids will remain DARK until the current Omicron COVID surge abates. We will, of course, let you all know when we can resume dancing again. In the meanwhile I encourage you to join us via ZOOM on Friday nights.

Some of you have asked about the results of the survey. The Executive Board will be analyzing the results and then we'll have a General Meeting to discuss how the Club wants to proceed.

Please! Stay healthy!! We need everyone of you!

**Stephanie**

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# KATYDIDS' ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

The Salvation Army of Silicon Valley, Santa Clara Citadel  
Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup>



President Stephanie presenting Major Shoshannah with gifts collected for the Salvation Army's Youth-Teen-Young Adult program.



Salvation Army's wish list.



Photos courtesy of Steph Stevens

Los Altos Town Crier  
Wednesday, 22 Dec. 2021

# Community

## Irwin Martin, 96: Longtime resident, American Legion member

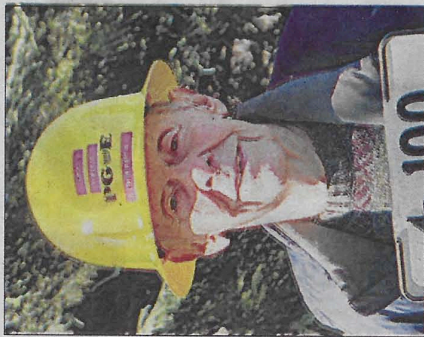
Special to the Town Crier

**I**rwin "Irv" Martin, a 70-year resident of Los Altos, died suddenly at his home Dec. 5, at the age of 96.

The week before his death, Mr. Martin attended American Legion Post No. 558's monthly meeting and also visited friends at his longtime square-dancing club.

Born the son of an Indiana sharecropper, Mr. Martin moved to California in 1948, following World War II service in the Army Air Corps. He and his wife, Lou, set off for the Golden State on the same day they wed. The couple lived in a one-room trailer, dubbed "The Martin Box," at first, and moved into their newly built home on Panchita Way in 1951 – voting for incorporation of the town of Los Altos the next year.

Last summer, Mr. Martin was



Mr. Martin

hospitalized for several weeks, but he was making his "ump-teenth" comeback, as he put it, before his quick and peaceful death.

The father of eight children – seven of whom are living – Mr. Martin was staunchly independent until the end, despite requiring support from caregivers,

### Obituary

especially his sixth child, Geri Martin Wilson of Palo Alto, to maintain his active life.

Those who knew him said Mr. Martin was gifted with a nearly magical mechanical aptitude. He could seemingly understand the way a thing worked by looking at it, fix anything from a car to a dishwasher, and build from scratch with exactitude and flair.

At 18, before finishing high school, Mr. Martin was selected to become a flight engineer with the country's new Air Force.

"They couldn't fool me on the manual dexterity tests," he said, reminiscing with satisfaction in a video made for Post 558, where he was the longest-serving member.

Mr. Martin worked at PG&E for 35 years, where he was nicknamed "Dude" from the start. He was proud of his role in wiring San Antonio Road, and he kept a road sign he'd acquired on that job hanging outside his

### MARTIN From Page 11

The Martins square-danced with numerous Bay Area clubs, and they toured in Europe and China as dancers. Even after Lou died 10 years ago, Mr. Martin danced several times a week, sitting out only at age 95.

Mr. Martin was named Elk of the Year in 2018 at the Palo Alto club, where he exercised and regularly took his dinners. His breakfast spot was It's A Good Morning on San Antonio Road,

where he and the staff treated one another like family.

Daughter Terri recalled sitting with her father as he sorted through family photos on his computer a year or two ago.

"I've lived a good life," he said. "I've been lucky to do all the things I've done."

Mr. Martin is survived by children Toni, Steve, Terri, Michelle, Michael, Geri and Jonathan; 11 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Son Patrick predeceased him in 1987.

See **MARTIN, Page 14**



Thank you, Lee Vojvoda of the Bows and Beaus , for sending this article along . . .

Irv with his daughter, Geri, on the occasions of Irv's birthday of 1 November 2021.

received from Ed Wayne

12 November 2021

## Homographs

Homographs are words of like spelling but with more than one meaning. A homograph that is also pronounced differently is a heteronym. You think English is easy? I think a retired English teacher was bored. This took a lot of work to put together!

1. The bandage was *\*wound\** around the *\*wound\**.
2. The farm was used to *\*produce produce\**.
3. The dump was so full that it had to *\*refuse\** more *\*refuse\**.
4. We must *\*polish\** the *\*Polish\** furniture.
5. He could *\*lead\** if he would get the *\*lead\** out.
6. The soldier decided to *\*desert\** his dessert in the *\*desert\**.
7. Since there is no time like the *\*present\**, he thought it was time to *\*present\** the *\*present\**.
8. A *\*bass\** was painted on the head of the *\*bass\** drum.
9. When shot at, the *\*dove dove\** into the bushes.
10. I did not *\*object\** to the *\*object\**.
11. The insurance was *\*invalid\** for the *\*invalid\**.
12. There was a *\*row\** among the oarsmen about how to *\*row\**.
13. They were too *\*close\** to the door to *\*close\** it.
14. The buck *\*does\** funny things when the *\*does\** are present.
15. A seamstress and a *\*sewer\** fell down into a *\*sewer\** line.
16. To help with planting, the farmer taught his *\*sow\** to *\*sow\**.
17. The *\*wind\** was too strong to *\*wind\** the sail.
18. Upon seeing the *\*tear\** in the painting I shed a *\*tear\**.
19. I had to *\*subject\** the *\*subject\** to a series of tests.
20. How can I *\*intimate\** this to my most *\*intimate\** friend?

Let's face it - English is a crazy language. There is no egg in eggplant, nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in a pineapple.

English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France.

Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat.

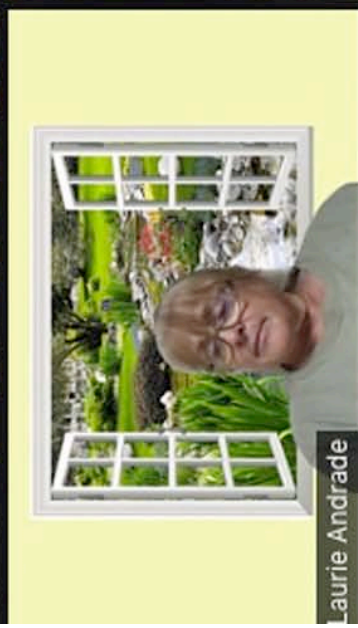
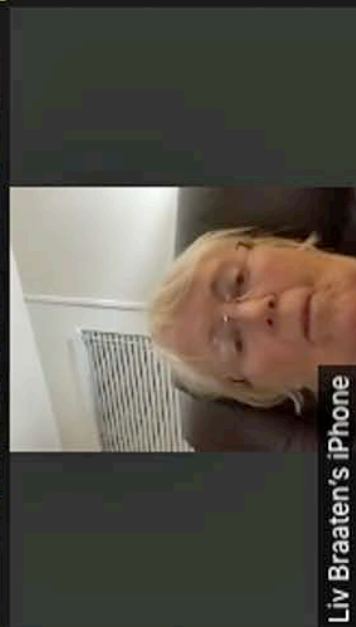
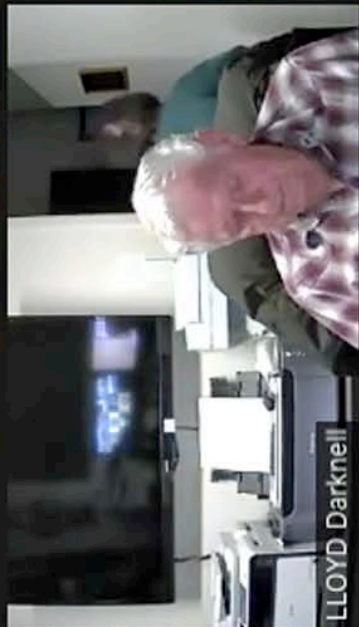
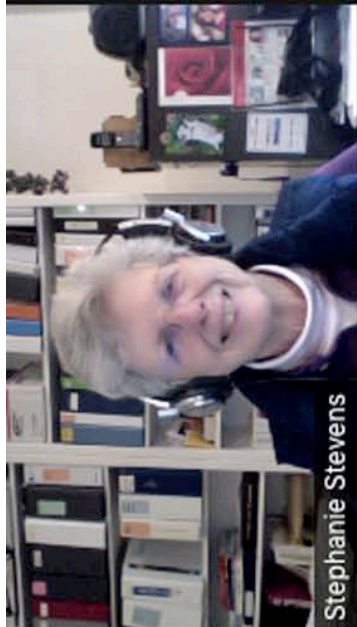
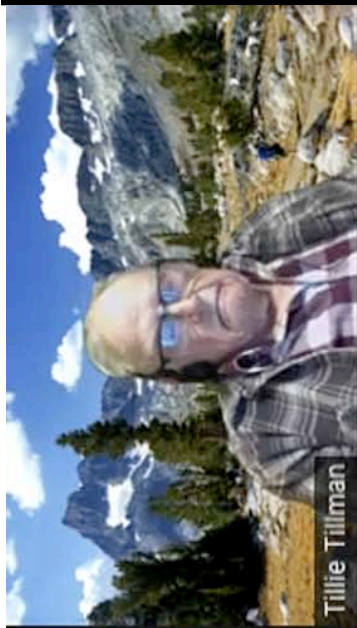
We take English for granted. But if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.

And why is it that writers write but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham? If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth, beeth? One goose, 2 geese. So one moose, 2 meese? One index, 2 indices? Doesn't it seem crazy that you can make amends but not one amend? If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it?

If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught? If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat? Sometimes I think all the English speakers should be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane. In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital? Ship by truck and send cargo by ship? Have noses that run and feet that smell? How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites? You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out and in which an alarm goes off by going on.

English was invented by people, not computers, and it reflects the creativity of the human race, which, of course, is not a race at all. That is why, when the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible.

PS. - Why doesn't 'Buick' rhyme with 'quick'? and If a male goat is called a ram and a donkey is called an ass, why is a ram-in-the-ass called a goose?



Katycids' Meeting via  
ZOOM on 7 January 2022