

No Meeting in December!



Trampas Topics



December, 2005

A Nonprofit Public Benefit Organization for Retired Men Devoted to the Promotion of Independence and Dignity of Retirement.



Sayings of 2005 Big Sir, Ron Domer

When you read this the Thanksgiving holiday will have come and gone. I hope each of you was able to spend the day with family and friends. I will spend the holiday with Angela's family out here in California. Christmas is coming up and we will spend the holidays with my family in Tennessee.

They will converge on Knoxville from Alabama and Michigan. Of all the holidays we celebrate, Christmas is the one I most want to spend with family. The only one I missed being with Family was when I was in the Air Force in Germany. Silent Night still brings tears to my eyes. I believe Christmas is the most meaningful of all our holidays. People just seem to reach out more than any other time to those less fortunate. The Salvation Army bell ringers, Nativity scenes (at least in Knoxville), people shopping, our church choir singing all those great carols, kids sitting, terrified, on Santa's lap, my grandsons' opening up their gifts (I bought them Erector sets this year – I'm still hoping for another engineer). Anyway, I love Christmas and hope each of you has a very merry Christmas (can you believe that Target Stores have banned the phrase, "Merry Christmas?!") I guess Happy Holidays is as controversial as it's going to get for them).

Well, this is my last column Big SIR so I need to thank a lot of people for helping me this year: especially our Officers Jerry Hunter, John Maclay, Matt Arena, Don Roberts and Bob Shader, our Directors and committee chairs and workers. Some of those are Jim Nachtweih, Roland Scrivner, Dick Thomson, Tom Robinson and David Harris, Phil Goff, Bill McCord, Ben Smith, Floyd Skelton, Bill Harrington, Kirk McVean, Milt Greenstein, Bob Farmer, Bill Mowris, Ken Miller and Harry Shaner. These guys make this branch run and run well. Many of them are invisible to the membership. I apologize for anyone left out. Lastly, I want to thank you all for electing me Big SIR. I have really enjoyed my term.

On a less serious note a last couple of Tennessee stories:

Three brothers from Tellico Plains, TN (where I started fly fishing with my dad) had been working on their dad's farm setting poles for his fence. They saw an ad in the local paper by the telephone company wanting pole setters. So, they went in and applied for the job. They were all three hired and the next day went to work. At the end of their first day they reported back to the office. "How many poles did you boys get set today," asked the boss. "We set three," said the boys. "Damn, you boys're gonna have to do better than that. The other crew set 40 poles." "Give us another chance," the boys implored. The next day the same thing happened. "We're gonna have to let you boys go. You're just not setting enough poles." They said, "well, all right, we'll just go back and work for dad, he never complained about our work." Just after they left, the foreman from the boy's crew came into the office. The boss asked him, "what's the matter with them boys?" "Well, I just came from where they'd been workin' and they only left five feet of them poles stickin' out of the ground!!"

(cont. on page 2)

December Birthdays

**When you see
these members,
wish them a
Happy Birthday!**

Butler, John
Cole, Edward
DeHeus, Marvin
Domer, Ronald
Gibbs, Parker
Harris, David
Hubbard, Timothy
Jenkins, Phillip
Miguel, Clarence
Okeson, Gilbert
Olson, Dennis
Robertson, Conrad
Seguin, Alwyn
Skelton, Floyd
Stoll, William
Wareham, Leslie
Waterman, Douglas



Big SIR Says (cont. from page 1)

One of those traveling circus shows was making the rural circuit in East Tennessee when the truck hauling the elephants overturned on a sharp curve near Madisonville. One of the elephants escaped into the woods. The circus foreman called the sheriff to report the escape of the elephant and to ask for help rounding him up. The sheriff's Aunt Polly lived on a small farm not far from where the elephant was last seen. So, the sheriff decided to check on his aunt first to be sure the old lady was OK. When he drove up to Aunt Polly's she got to his car before he could get out. "Sherf, I've never seen nothin' like it. An animal the size of a barn showed up here. That low down thing went out there in my garden and took its tail – its tail, mind you – and started pullin' up my cabbages." The sheriff said, "well, Aunt Polly, what did he do with your cabbages that he pulled up?" Aunt Pollys; face got red, "sherf, you wouldn't believe me if I told you!!

SOME LAST TENNESSEE COLLOQUIALISMS:

Popler: Well thought of. "Boy, maw, since Billie Sue had them implants put in she's right popler down at the school. Shoot, she might be put up fer Homecomin' Queen."

Lanern: A source of light, usually used out of doors. "I tell you maw, that Lonnie's dumber'n a sack o' rocks. Damn fool lit a lanern the other night out at the still. Them revenooers was on us like a duck on a June bug!!"

Grajate: To complete a course of study. "They's a real good chance Billie Sue's gonna grajate now even if she can't cipher worth a damn!"

Grage: A place to store your automobile. "That Lukie thinks he's hot stuff now that he's got a grage to store his boat. I hear tell he's even thinkin' of addin' a bay for his wife's car. Damn, he's gonna' make it tough for all of us!"

Ron Domer



\$ums In Retirement

Ben Smith

"\$ums In Retirement" will not meet in December. I look forward to seeing all of you in January.

If you need information about our meetings please contact SIR Ben Smith (Branch 116), Tel 925-820-5403, email bjssmith@aol.com.



November, 2005 Sunshine Report

Bill Harrington

Sorry to report that **John Nargang** died November 23, 2005 in Walnut Creek at the age of 89.

A native of Kindersley, Saskatchewan, Canada, John came to the United States in 1948 and lived in the Bay Area since 1962. John graduated from the University of Saskatchewan with a BS in Mechanical Engineering. He was a retired Engineering Manager from Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corp where he was granted several patents by the US Patent Office.

All who knew John remember his love for his family and his love of golf. He enjoyed retirement activities with SIRS and the Kaiser Retirees group. Friends and family are invited to a memorial service & tea on Monday, December 19th, at 2PM in the Vista Room at the Hillside Clubhouse in Rossmoor.

Following are other beloved SIRs who left us this past year and are now walking with the angels:

Doug Campbell

Robert Danielson

Bud DeBarr

Art Hirsch

Al Keefauver

Joe Knox

Elwyn Williams

I wish everyone a happy Holiday and a very healthy New Year.



Branch 116 Golfers

David Geary

2006 Golf Memberships are now overdue! Mail your check to the Post Office Box immediately!

Pay in advance golf events for December are:
Monday, 12/19, Bethel Island payment due 12/6 \$22 or \$35
Monday, 12/26, Lone Tree payment due 12/14 \$30 (\$25 with Sr. card)

Thanks in advance, **David Geary**



Area 2 Fishing Report

Dick Thomson

November 2005

Not much fishing this month. A big trip, like our trip to Eagle Lake October 16th to 21st leaves many of our fishermen with repairs to be made. Virtually every one of our boat owners had minor to major repairs to make. And, so, fishing has had to wait. Notwithstanding, much credit is due to Branch 8's **Richard Bal** for his wonderful arrangements on the Eagle Lake trip. Richard thought of everything and his forethought made it a slick trip for all.

The only beneficiaries are the salmon and stripers, which are slipping past us into the Delta and up the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers. Reports are legion of huge striper catches and our guys haven't been able to do any of the catching. Aside from relief from the normal "honey-do-chores", a few days out on the water can do wonders for the attitude of anyone of our members who can get out. For this purpose we've set up a roster of those "who gotta fish" (21 at this writing) with the idea in mind that those, who decide to "go" can readily find a buddy to accompany them. We expect to see more and more guys doing this as the season winds down.

Branch 146's **Sal Costanza** reported at our regular fishing breakfast on the results of three of his own "gotta fish" expeditions. Several great eating 5-9 pounders were caught near the old Port Chicago Docks, and, for a bonus, he was able to launch at the Martinez Marina (just a short boat ride away from the fishing grounds). Sure beats the 6-7 hour ride up to Eagle Lake. Branch 128's **Jack Helbert** reported also on results of a 9 passenger "Combo trip" out of Emeryville and out the Gate for salmon and crab. They limited on salmon (2 fish per pole) and he netted 6 Dungeness Crabs for the pot as a bonus. Great trip and they were home early. (He didn't say that, when they went out, they left the pier at 5:30 a.m. in the dark). Fishing isn't for sissies.

As far as further events for this year, the Group expects to have, at least, one more trip to Oregon for steelhead - date uncertain - depends upon the water flow in the rivers. Then, we'll go into next year's events, which will start with group trips to the Sacramento, San Mateo and/or Pleasanton Boat and Out-

Door shows. Always interesting (sometimes members come home with "stuff" they never expected to buy) and all part of the fun.

If you want to hear more, please attend our meetings on the 4th Thursday of the Month at the Legends Sports Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course at 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Meetings start at 8:30 a.m. For further information, please contact **Bill Hooy** (Big Fish)(925-686-2627); **Dick Thomson** (Branch 116 Fishing Coordinator)(925-785-7600) or **Terry Miller** (Treasurer/Secretary) (925-686-9298). All SIR members and guests are welcome and, indeed, encouraged, to participate in the fishing trips as well as attend the monthly meetings.



Attendance

Jim Nachtweih

Attendance at the November 21st meeting totaled 209 persons. This includes 198 members, 1 speaker, 1 visitor and 9 guests. There were 48 excused members, and 16 unexcused members. The unexcused members will be asked to pay for their missed lunch.



9 Hole Golf Group

Dick Chaffee

On November 2, 14 golfers participated in the 9 hole tournament at Buchanan Fields. The team title was won by the team of **Bob Shader, Chuck Cuny, Joe Ostler, and Plato Grivas** with a net 23.

Scoring honors was won by **Joe Ostler** with a 38 followed by **Al Leschot** with a 39.

Closest to the Pin:

Hole 3: no prizes awarded. no one hit the green!

Hole 5: **1. Al Leschot 2. Bob Shader 3. Jim Nachtweih.**

On November 23rd, 14 golfers participated in the 9 hole tournament. The team title was won by the team of **Troy Powell, Bob Daily and Jai Yee** with a net 22. **Troy** also won the individual scoring honors with a 39.

Closest to ther Pin

Hole 3: **1. ? 2. Troy Powell 3. Bill Turnquist**

Hole 5: **1. Dick Chaffee 2. Bill Stoll 3. ?**

? = I lost the closest to the hole cards. If you won, please let me know. Thanks.



Membership Summary for November, 2005

Roland Scrivner

November Membership Statistics:

Total Current Members — 257

This Month's Inductees — 3

Those in Interview Stage — 2

Total in Process — 6

On Inactive Status — 29

Left the Branch — 3

- Elwyn Williams #039 passed away
- David Hyland #126 Resigned – Moved to Arizona
- Mike Morse #217 Resigned

New members inducted in November



Linton D Carlson, Julie Ann
 1098 Miller Dr.
 Lafayette, 94549
 284-7547 ldavecarls@aol.com
 Linton Paper & Supply Inc



Toshiro Suwa, Mieko
 1857 Las Ramblas
 Concord, 94521
 672-6274
 Restaurant Owner



Michael E Abbott
 372 Marshall Dr.
 Walnut Creek, 94598
 Mail to PO Box 4861
 Walnut Creek, 94596
 934-5948 Meabbott3@sbcglobal.net
 Chevron



December - The SIR Area 2 Computer Group will not hold a meeting in December.

January 19 - "Using Your Digital Camera Effectively" Have a new digital camera and wonder where do I go from here? Phil Goff (Branch 116), Chairman of our new Digital Photography Group, will review: (1) Basic functionality of all digital cameras, (2) Most important features on your camera, (3) Downloading pictures to your computer, and (4) making prints from your digital images. Phil will conduct a Digital Photography Q&A session following his presentation.

Meetings of the Area 2 Computer Users Group are held at the Social Hall of the Walnut Creek United Methodist Church, 1543 Sunnyvale Ave. (off N. Main, one block north of the Treat/Geary/N. Main intersection). Meetings are held the 3rd Thursday of each month (except December) from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Visit our web site at: <http://www.sir-web.org/computer/>.

Thanks,
 Dick Curry and Floyd Skelton, Co-Chairmen



TRAVEL— Kirk McVean and Jim Cobb

Pick up brochures, forms, etc., at the travel desk at the luncheons. Payment should be made to the travel agency arranging the event unless otherwise stated in the announcement.

Local Travel

December 21, 2005

Irving Berlin's White Christmas. Meet at Heather Farms for a motorcoach to San Francisco. Enjoy a no-host lunch at Pier 39. Continue to the Orpheum Theater for a performance of White Christmas with center orchestra seating. Tour price is \$110 per person. Call Ed DiBetta at 228-5606.

Not So Local Travel

December 30, 2005—January 9, 2006

Mexico and the California Coast. Cruise round trip from San Francisco for 11 days on the Dawn Princess. Stops include Catalina Island, Cabo San Lucas, Mazatlan, Puerto Vallarta and San Diego. A gala New Year's eve celebration will be provided on board the Dawn Princess. All inclusive price ranges from \$1605 pp for an Interior Stateroom to \$2035 pp for an oceanview room with balcony. Contact Fred Stammen at 925-283-1956.

May 16-26, 2006

Alaska Cruise via the Inside Passage A 10 day cruise on the Regal Princess sailing round trip from San Francisco via the inside passage. Stops are at Ketchikan, Juneau, Skagway and Victoria. All inclusive price from \$1193 pp for an inside stateroom to \$2043 pp for an oceanview room with balcony. The trip will be escorted by Carl Raaka. Contact Moraga Travel at 376-2700 for more details.

May 20 - June 3, 2006

Shamrocks to Thistles. A 15-day tour of Scotland and Ireland. Fly from San Francisco to Dublin, Ireland. Travel via deluxe motorcoach to cities such as Waterford, Killarney, Sligo, Glasgow, and Edinburgh. Trip includes round trip transfers to San Francisco airport and roundtrip airfare to Dublin. We will stay in First Class hotels with a daily breakfast buffet. Seven hosted dinners are included. All entrance fees and baggage handling are included. Price is \$3653 pp double occupancy. Contact Bob Spellman of Branch 146 at 925-

934-8428. Member 36.

October 23—November 5, 2006

Eastern Mediterranean and the Greek Isles. A 12 night Greek Isles cruise sailing from Istanbul, Turkey to Athens, Greece on board Oceania Cruises' Nautica. Ports of call in Turkey are Istanbul and Kusadasi. In Greece ports of call are Rhodes, Delos, Mykonos, Santorini, Katakolon, Corfu and Athens. There is also a stop in Croatia at Dubrovnik. Prices include airport transportation to SFO and roundtrip airfare to Istanbul, Turkey with a return from Athens, Greece. Prices begin at \$3364 pp double occupancy. Contact Bob Hagler at 934-7620.



Bridge

Milt Greenstein

November 1st had 20 men show up for the Duplicate Bridge Session. The team of **Ali Aghaierpour / Dick Chaffee** came in first with a score of 125 points (61 %) followed by **Art Donaldson / Conrad Robertson** with 122 points (59 %), and a tie for third place between the teams of **Bill Sullivan/Jai Yee** and **Milt Greenstein/Paul Weiby** with 116 points each (56 %).

Our Tuesday lunch and bridge group met at Round Hill C.C. on November 8th with 28 men enjoying a good lunch, but the bridge wasn't all that great. High scorer was **Jack Butler** with a very good 6580 score. In 2nd place was **Gene Gould** with 4940, then **Bob Wolf**, 4590, **Hal Wolf**, 4440, and **Warren Westrup**, 4250. Today's average round was 467 for 4 hands, the lowest average round of the year!



Hole-in-One!!

Bill Hemmelsbach

Our very own Bill Hemmelsbach scored a Hole-in-One at Brentwood Golf Club on Monday, November 28.

Bill hit the ace on the 160 yard hole number 8 on the Hillside Course. He used a 5 wood which is soon to be gold plated. He promises to bring the club to all future golf meetings and demonstrate his now famous swing.

Bill collected \$156 from the Hole in One Insurance fund and will probably win closest to the Hole also.

Way to go Bill!



Chairman

Tom Robinson

18 Hole Golf



Handicap & Scoring

David Harris

Brentwood - November 28, 2005										
Flight 1			Flight 2			Flight 3				
Dirk Meyer	66	3	Al Hutchko	69	3	Bob Vetro	71	3		
Lon Randall	67	2	Dick Chaffee	70	2	Bill Hemmelsbach	72	2		
Bill McCord	69	1	John Story	73	1	Frank Lockwood	74	1		
Carlos Xavier	69	1								
Low Gross			Low Gross			Low Gross				
Bill McCord	80		Al Hutchko			Phil Jenkins	103			
Closest to: Hole #6 - J Clizbe, B Vetro --- Hole #17 - B McCord, B Hemmelsbach (hole-in-one)										
Rancho Solano - November 22, 2005										
Flight 1			Flight 2			Flight 3				
Dirk Meyer	67	3	David Carlson	68	3	Paul Morison	69	3		
Jerry Hunter	73	2	Troy Powell	72	2	Art Turrin	70	2		
Dick Socolich	73	2	Lee Egbert	73	1	Herman Walden	74	1		
Low Gross			Low Gross			Low Gross				
Dirk Meyer	85		David Carlson	91		Herman Walden	103			
Closest to: Hole #5 - Jerry Hunter --- Hole #12 - Dirk Meyer, Frank Lockwood, Troy Powell										
Boundary Oak - November 14, 2005										
Flight 1			Flight 2			Flight 3				
Bill McCord	67	3	Troy Powell	70	3	Joe Stralovich	68	3		
Frank Crua	70	2	David Carlson	71	2	Bill Hemmelbach	70	2		
Carlos Xavier	70	2	Dan Ghelfi	71	2	John Maclay	71	1		
			Al Hutchko	71	2					
			Will Schnieder	71	2					
Low Gross			Low Gross			Low Gross				
Bill McCord	78		Al Hutchko	92		Phil Jenkins	98			
			Will Schnieder	92						
Closest to: Hole #2 - Will Schnieder, Bob Vetro --- Hole #12 - Frank Crua, Jai Yee										
Boundary Oak - November 7, 2005										
Flight 1			Flight 2			Flight 3				
Dirk Meyer	63	3	Dan Ghelfi	66	3	Joe Stralovich	63	3		
Pillip Marks	64	2	Lee Egbert	66	3	John Peterson	68	2		
Lon Randall	69	1	David Carlson	69	1	Jai Yee	69	1		
Low Gross			Low Gross			Low Gross				
Pillip Marks	79		David Carlson	91		Darrel McClaughry	95			
Closest to: Hole #2 - Phil Jenkins, Troy Powell --- Hole #12 - Jerry Hicks										
Bethel Island - October 31, 2005										
Flight 1			Flight 2			Flight 3				
Carlos Xavier	69	3	Pat Contestable		3	Matt Arena	65	3		
Bill McCord	70	2	Al Hutchko		2	Bill Hemmelsbach	69	2		
Jerry Hunter	71	1	Troy Powell		1	Bob Kinser	69	2		
Dirk Meyer	71	1	John Story							
Lon Randall	71	1								
Low Gross			Low Gross			Low Gross				
Bill McCord	81		Al Hutchko	90		Matt Arena	96			
Closest to: Hole #3 - Al Hutchko, Matt Arena --- Hole #14 - Bill McCord, Kirk McVean										

Remember: Sir Branch 116 Golf Hotline is 906-5355
Golf Checks should be made out to: "SIR Golf, Branch 116"
Mail Golf Checks to: P.O. Box 55, Moraga, CA 94556-0055

18 Hole Golf Leader Board as of November 28, 2005



FLIGHT 1		FLIGHT 2		FLIGHT 3	
NAME	POINTS	NAME	POINTS	NAME	POINTS
Hunter, Jerry	33	Powell, Troy	37	Jenkins, Phil	38
McCord, Bill	29	Hutchko, Al	34	Hemmelsbach, Bill	30
Harris, David	26	Story, John	34	Arena, Matt	27
Schmidt, Neil	24	Tinquely, Pat	28	Maclay, John	24
Meyer, Dirk	22	Chaffee, Dick	18	Lutkus, Alex	20
Socolich, Dick	20	Testa, Bob	18	Kinser, Bob	19
Goff, Phil	19	Eller, Tom	17	Cobb, Jim	18
Xavier, Carlos	18	Robertson, Conrad	17	Serafino, Al	16
Crua, Frank	15	Schoen, Gary	17	Vetro, Bob	15
Clark, Bill	14	Schnieder, Will	15	Walden, Herman	15
Geary, David	12	Daniel, Jed	12	Honstein, Harry	11
Robinson, Robbie	12	Egbert, Lee	12	Morison, Paul	9
Randall, Lon	10	Sequin, Al	9	Hoban, Bill	8
Marks, Phillip	9	Ghelfi, Dan	8	Ostler, Joe	8
Altomare, Jim	8	Fend, Werner	7	Lockwood, Frank	7
Cherepy, Steve	8	Carlson, David	6	Grivas, Plato	6
Domer, Ron	7	Contestable, Pat	5	Stralovoch, Joe	6
Yasuda, Art	7	Ratterree, Marty	5	Turrin, Art	4
Nichols, Bob	6	Ginter, Bill	2	Yee, Jai	3

The Golf Website has a New Address and More Info.

The Golf Website has a new address,

<http://www.sir-web.org/116-golf/>

Please bookmark the change in your "Favorites" list of websites.

Also, the new website contains much more information. Highlights of the new features follow:

- 2005 Golf Schedule: Dates, times, and courses as well as detailed information on costs, payment information, deadlines, and special event facts.
- 18-Hole Pairings: Weekly, usually on the Friday or Saturday prior to the event, showing captains, teams, starting times, and handicaps.
- 18-Hole Leaders and Results: Weekly, usually

within a day or two of the event.

- 9-Hole Results: Bi-weekly, also usually within a couple of days of the event.
- Paid-In-Advance Sign-Ups: Weekly, showing checks that have been received for the next 3 or 4 pre-paid outings.
- Boundary Oak Sign-Ups: Weekly, shortly following 18-hole events, and the monthly luncheon when most signups occur. This listing will show who has signed-up for the next two Boundary Oak sessions, and whether they have indicated using a cart.

All SIR 116 members are encouraged and invited to offer comments, additions, suggestions, and corrections to the site. Please send your e-mail to: sir116.golf@sbcglobal.net

**Las Trampas
Branch #116**



**A non profit Organization for Retired Men
devoted to the Promotion of Independence
and Dignity of Retirement**

RETURN TO: Roland Scrivner
3300 Tice Creek Drive #4
Walnut Creek, CA 94595-4105

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Please Remember our Rules of Attendance and Membership for Branch 116

Regular members missing 3 consecutive meetings without notifying their attendance chairman or attending less than 6 meetings within the last 12 months, shall be notified by form letter of their membership termination. Certification of attendance at another Branch meeting will be considered a credit to the attendance record. (Maximum of 2 visits per calendar year).

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