

Next Meeting:
Monday, Jan 17, 2004
1475 Creekside Drive
Walnut Creek

**Call 806-8874 by the
Thursday prior to the
meeting to cancel your
standing reservation or to
bring a guest!**



Trampas Topics



January, 2005

Congratulations to the Branch 116 Leadership Team for 2005



Sayings of 2005 Big Sir, Ron Domer

I'm writing from Tennessee where I have been fortunate to spend the Christmas holidays with my entire family. I hope that all of you have been as fortunate. The period between Christmas and the New Year is a good time to take stock. Being Little SIR the past year has allowed me to see how this branch runs and to see first hand how well it runs.

Things in our branch get done and done well by members who step up and take on responsibility for the tasks that need doing. Things these folks do just appear out of nowhere like the names for the birthday and at-large drawings, monthly membership report, Executive Committee minutes, financial report and many other items which are not apparent to the membership. Others put in great effort to run our golf club, investment club, plan our Ladies Day events in the Spring and at Christmas, publish our Newsletter and on and on.

So, what I want to do is to start this year by thanking Tom Robinson and all those who stepped up and made 2004 a great year for our branch.

Ron Domer

Attention Website Users:

The 2005 Branch 116 On-line Calendar (http://home.att.net/~trampas1/2004_Calendar/) is an on-going, live, printable document that will be updated throughout the year. Please submit SIR activities that you would like included to Floyd Skelton, 116 Web-master, at f.skelton@att.net .

January Birthdays

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

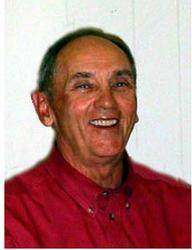
Booth, Donald
Campbell, Douglas
Doyle, Albert
Dygert, Lowell
Eckels, Paul
Eller, Thomas
Fucik, John
Gee, Melvin
Ginter, William
Hagler, Jack
Harold, Kenneth
Hike, Robert
Ratterree, James
Rotunno, Joseph
Sander, Louis
Sicabaig, Henry
Sigvaldson, Arni
Socolich, Richard
Stedman, Donald
Sullivan, William
Williams, Elwyn
With, Merle

Horoscope for Capricorn/Aquarius

This month you will decide to march right in and demand your rights, even if you don't know what your rights are, or who the person is you're talking to. Then on the way out, you will slam the door. In these situations its best to leave the premises quickly.

Branch 116 Leadership for 2004

Executive Committee



Big SIR
Ron Domer
838-8320



Little SIR
Jerry Hunter



Secretary
John Maclay
937-2399



Asst. Secretary
Matt Arena
946-0404



Treasurer
Don Roberts
672-7698



Asst. Treasurer
Bob Shader
939-8421

Board of Directors



Pat Bermingham
930-9477



Doug Brown
825-7475



Ken Harold
932-6259



Terry Miller
686-9298



Tom Eller
939-5897



Dick Thomson
944-1760



Tom Robinson
798-4276

Committee Chairmen

Attendance	Jim Nachtweih	838-7417	Investment	Ben Smith	820-5403
Audit	Dick Thomson	944-1760	Membership	Roland Scrivner	938-9078
	Dan Pope	939-5483	Membership Roster	Dick Thomson	944-1760
Bridge	Milt Greenstein	376-5589	Newsletter Editor	Phil Goff	831-3692
Candy Sales			— Proofreader	John Maclay	937-2399
Chaplain	Harry Shaner	933-2493	Photographer	Ken Miller	256-9419
Christmas Party	Bill McCord	376-5280	Piano	Bob Lake	837-4054
Computers	Dick Thomson	944-1760	Poker	Bill Harrington	935-1625
Fishing	Dick Thomson	944-1760	Spring Party	Bill McCord	376-5280
Golf	Tom Robinson	798-4276	Sunshine	Bill Harrington	934-8391
Golf Handicap	David Harris	672-5543	Travel	Kirk McVean	937-5403
Greeters	Bob Farmer	933-3365		Jim Cobb	689-1504
Historian	Matt Arena	946-0404	Volunteers	Bob Kinser	837-8886
Host	Frank Crua	932-0975	Webmaster	Floyd Skelton	838-2515
Interviewer	Bill Mowris	672-2885			

January, 2005 Sunshine Report

Bill Harrington

Sorry to hear that **John Lemak** passed away on December 4th. A Memorial Service will be held at St. John Vianney Church in Walnut Creek on January 8th at 10:00a.m.

Jack Hagler has finished chemotherapy and radiology treatments for skin cancer removed from his right temple. He will have a follow up with his Oncologist in January

David Geary is scheduled for a right knee replacement on January 6th. I will give a follow up report at the luncheon on January 17th.

Ernie Gilmore had successful cataract surgery on his right eye on December 14th.

Please contact **Bill Harrington** at 935-1625 if you know of any Sunshine concerns.

Have a healthy New Year.



Attendance

Jim Nachtweih

Attention all SIR Members!

All SIR members have a standing reservation for each of our 10 monthly meetings held on the third Monday of each month. There are no meetings in the months of May or December. If you wish to be excused for any reason, you must call the SIR hot line, 806-8874, no later than midnight on the Thursday prior to our Monday's meeting and leave your name and badge number. If you fail to do so you will be billed for your missed lunch.

If you are bringing a guest to the meeting, call the same number, 806-8874, and leave your name and badge number and your guest name, spelling the last name so a proper name tag can be readied. The above information will help us to come up with the proper head count to give the caterer. If you have any questions regarding the above please call me, **Jim Nachtweih**, at 838- 7417.



Area 2 Fishing Report for December, 2004

Terry Miller

Who's got time for fishing, when there's shopping and Xmas Parties to go to??? That seems to be the quandary facing the SIRS fishing fleet at this time of year. Too much fun and too little time. This keeps the spawners hatching and the little ones growing bigger for next summer's harvest. So, the report is "no fishing" this month.

We've been doing some great planning, though. For the first 3 months we have a Kalmath trip for steelhead in early January (Date open because of water conditions); International Sportsmen's Expo in Sacramento on January 20; day trip to McAvoy's (Pittsburg) for stripers; trip to the Sportsmen's Expo in San Mateo on February 3; day trip to San Pablo Reservoir for trout on February 16 (Tom Hensley is Fishmaster); trip to the International Sportsmen's Expo in Pleasanton on February 25; trip to Oregon for steelhead on March 15-17; and trip to the races (Day at the Races) on March 24. There's also talk of a day trip to Lake Berryessa in March. Much more is planned but this summarizes the first 3 months.

If you want to hear more, please attend one or more of our meetings (usually 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) at 925-686-2627; Dick Thomson, Br.116 Fishing Coordinator at 925-944-1760 or Terry Miller (Secretary/Treasurer) at 925-686-9298.

All SIRS Members and guest are welcomed to attend our monthly Meetings and participate in our fishing trips.

Menu for the January Luncheon

Pork Chops
Wild Rice
Salad
Rolls and Butter





Our Guest Speaker for the January Luncheon is Mr. Larry Comstock. His Topics are Abraham Lincoln and the new Almaden Quicksilver Mine

Larry Comstock was born in Butte, Montana and moved to California when he was ten years old. Larry received a BS in Electrical Engineering from the University of California in 1956 and an MS in 1957. He then joined the Bell Telephone Laboratories. He left Bell labs to attend Stanford University where he earned the Ph.D. degree in Electrical Engineering in 1960. Subsequently, he worked for Lockheed Research, IBM and Maxtor Corporation. He retired in 1993 and has taught at Stanford, Santa Clara and San Jose State Universities. He is presently a Lecturer in the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering at San Jose State. His book: *Introduction to Magnetism and Magnetic Recording* was published by John Wiley in 1999.

Larry and his wife Marilyn have two children and four grandchildren. Larry has had a thirty-year interest in the Civil War and was a past president of the South Bay Civil War Round Table. He and his wife are docents at the New Almaden Quicksilver Park museum.

Membership Summary (cont.)

- David R Slaby #183, Resigned
- Sheldon Lawrence from #320 Inactive to #074 Active

New Members to be Inducted on January 17, 2005

Gary R. Schoen
335 Castle Crest Rd.
Alamo, 94507
935-7255
Mt. Diablo School District
jlschoen575@aol.com



\$ums In Retirement

Ben Smith

"Sums In Retirement" Investment Group will next meet on **Wednesday, JAN 19, 2005** (Third Wed). This is a change from our normal 4th Wed. meeting date.

The meeting will take place at Diablo Creek Golf Course (Legends Grill Room), located at the northern intersection of Hwy 4 and Port Chicago Hwy. in Concord.

The group will gather for breakfast starting at 7am and the meeting will start at 8am. All SIR's and their guest are welcome to attend. No reservations are required.

Our Guest speaker will once again be Mr. TOM KOPAS. He will be Joined by Mr. JOE TURNER. These two men are Principles in Pring-Turner Capital group, located In Walnut Creek. They have many years of Investment experience between them. Mr. KOPAS will present their insightful observations into the Investment climate in 2005 and offer suggestions as to what areas investors can look to for reasonable returns during the coming year. The Pring-Turner group continually takes a very detailed, conservative and realistic view of market conditions and their forecasts and observations have been pretty much on the mark over the past years. These two men are very knowledgeable and you will not want to miss this presentation and outlook covering 2005.

If you need additional information contact SIR Ben Smith(Branch 116) Tele: 925 820-5403, e-mail bjsssmith@aol.com



Membership Summary for December

Roland Scrivner

Total Current Members — 259
Total in Process — 8
This Month's Inductees — 1
On Inactive Status — 31
Those in Interview Stage — 7
Left the Branch — 3

- Earl Kavert #038 Passed Away
- Craig Gregerson #074, Resigned due To Other Commitments
- J Patrick Tinguely, Transfer from Branch #80 Assigned # 038

(cont.)



Treasurer's Report for 2004

Don Roberts

Branch 116 Cash Flow for 2004

Receipts:	\$41,659.14	
Disbursements:	<u>\$41,943.84</u>	
Balance:		(\$284.70)
Savings Account		\$1,719.44
Petty Cash:		<u>\$250.00</u>
Total for 2004		\$1,684.74



Bridge

Milt Greenstein

The Sirs 116 Duplicate Bridge group met on December 7 at the Pleasant Hill Bridge Center with 20 men attending. The team of **Jack Dodgson/Jai Yee** were the top team with a 63.88 % score , (138 points out of a possible 216 off 27 boards). Second place was held by **Jack Butler/Ali** with 56.48 %. Our next session will be on January 4, 2005 to start off a new year.

Our lunch and bridge group met at Round Hill C.C. on December 14, with 35 men in attendance. Unlike our last session in November, the cards were not falling right, and so we had a low scoring day. High scorer for the day was **Floyd Skelton** with 4680 points (the lowest winning score this year), followed by **Rich Bamberger** (4360), **Paul Floyd** (4140), **Jack Butler** (3970), and **Jai Yee** (3960). The cards overall were so bad that we had the year's lowest individual score of 560 points total for the day !!! What a terrible run of cards !!! Only one small slam was bid and made today by the team of **Bob Anderson** and **Rich Bamberger**.

On December 28, 28 players gathered at Diablo C.C. for lunch and bridge, our final session for 2004. What a difference a day makes ! Today's high score was 8050 by **Bill Sullivan**, the highest score for the year, followed by **Dick Chaffee** with 5010, **Monte Hall** with 4820. **Gene Gould** with 4700 and **Art Donaldson** with 4460. Three small slams were bid and made: **Dick Chaffee** with **Roy Hedtke**, **Bill Sullivan** with **Bob Wolf**, and **Floyd Skelton** with **Bob Daily**.

(cont.)

Bridge (cont.)

Winner of the overall scoring for the year was **Gene Gould** with 86040 points, a combination of excellent playing, good cards and only missing one session during the entire year ! **Bill Sullivan** had the highest average daily score with 4179 points (he just didn't play in as many sessions as Gene did).



Area 2 Computer User Group

**Floyd Skelton
& Dick Curry**



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 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. All SIR members are invited to attend these informative sessions.

Our next scheduled meeting will be held January 20, 2005. At this meeting we will have a presentation on database technology. In addition to an introduction in this subject our speakers will cover in some detail the subject of relational database management systems and provide us with an example of how to prepare a simple database program using Microsoft's Access program.

Whether you are an expert or a beginner in your knowledge of database programming there will be something to learn for all of us. We'll also have time to talk and hopefully resolve your computer problems and talk about some interesting web sites.

For more information please visit our web site at: <http://home.att.net/~area2computer/>.

Thanks,
Dick Curry and Floyd Skelton, Co-Chairmen
You may reach Dick at 376-5541 or
(racorinda@pacbell.net)
Floyd may be reached at 838-2515 or
(f.skelton@att.net)

Photo Memories of the Branch 116 December Holiday Party





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.

January 12, 2005

Preview a trip to **Australia and New Zealand** scheduled for Sep-Oct, 2005. A Presentation will be held at the Walnut Creek Elks Club, 1475 Creekside Drive at 11:00a.m. Refreshments will be served. Call Bob Hagler at 934-7620.

January 24 - 28, 2005

Bright Lights of Broadway. A four night stay at the Renaissance Times Square Hotel. Dinner at Tavern on the Green and at the Center Stage Café'. Attend performances of "Reckless", "Wicked", and "Little Women"'/ Includes a Radio City Back Stage tour. Air fare, tax, and luggage handling included. Meet with a "Wicked" cast member. Full American breakfast daily. Cost—\$1563 per person, double occupancy. Call Bill Hansen at 925-937-4951.

February 8-10, 2005

Snow Train Special. All aboard for our annual trip to the High Sierras and the Biggest Little City in the West. Trip cost includes Amtrak round trip from Martinez to Reno, two nights at the elegant Silver Legacy Hotel, cancellation insurance (see flier for details), winners book with discounted food and gaming credit, a show at Harrahs, beverages on the way to Reno and a deli lunch on return. Pick up a flier and lets go. Cost is \$230 pp. Call Kahuna Raaka at 254-0482.

March 31 - April 11, 2005 — SOLD OUT!!!

Traditional and Modern Japan. A 12 day tour featuring 10 nights in Japan. Cities visited are Osaka, Hiroshima, Okayama, Kyoto, Toyohashi, Hakone, Nikko and Tokyo. Trip includes:

- Round trip airfare from SF to Osaka
- Transfers to SF Airport
- First and Deluxe class accommodations for 10 nights
- Tickets for the "Bullet Train" Osaka to Hiroshima
- All meals hosted (3 meals daily)
- All applicable air and land taxes
- Tips for driver & tour manager

Tour price is \$3165 per person double occupancy. \$750 single supplement. Number one hundred eighty one.

May 19, 2005 A Day at the Races.

Includes r/t coach transportation to Golden Gate Fields, Turf Club Admission, Lavish Luncheon Buffet and program. Cost is 35.00. Contact Charlie Kiser Br 146 @274-1575

May 23 - June 2, 2005

Branson and Barging. A unique combination of the entertainment world of Branson and casual cruising aboard the River Explorer. In Branson deluxe accommodations, 9 meals, 8 shows, including Japanese fiddler Shoji Tabuchi, Mississippi Barge Cruising from Memphis to St. Louis, all meals and shore activities. Cost is \$2605 pp dbl occ. Call Charlie Kiser Br. #146 at 274-1575.

September 29 - October 10, 2005

Black Sea Cruise. Discover the beauty of Eastern Europe on a new deluxe River Cruise Ship starting in Budapest and ending in Bucharest. Cruise includes r/t air, 25 meals, shore excursions and transfers. Two pre-cruise nights in Budapest and one post cruise night in Bucharest. Cost is \$3295 pp dbl occ. Call Bob Spellman, Branch #146 at 934-8428.



9 Hole Golf Group December 15 Results

Dick Chaffee

Our participation in the 9 Hole Golf Group continues to grow!

21 golfers participated in the December 15, 2004 Buchanan Fields 9 hole team event.

The team of **Chuck Cuny, Jerry Kaplan, Floyd Skelton** and **Bob Daily** won the team honors with team net of 20. **Chuck Cuny** carried the team with a birdie 2, net 0, on the third hole.

David Geary won the individual scoring honors with an even par 31.

Closest to the Pin

Hole 3: 1. **Bill Stoll** 2. **Joe Ostler** 3. **Jerry Kaplan**

Hole 5: 1. **David Geary** 2. **Chuck Cuny** 3. **Jerry Kaplan**



9 Hole Best Ball Winners December 15

(from left), **Bob Daily, Chuck Cuny, Jerry Kaplan** and **Floyd Skelton**. **Chuck Cuny** led the charge with a birdie 2 on the 3rd hole for a net 0!

Attention 18 Hole Golfers!!

1. All checks for Paradise Valley have been torn up.
2. Lone Tree will be played Tuesday 1/18. Check payment deadline is 1/6! \$30 includes cart, but only \$25 if you have the Lone Tree Senior Card.
3. Bethel Island will be played Monday 1/24. Check payment deadline is 1/11! Advance payment is now required for Bethel Island, \$27 to walk, \$40 to ride. This is a team event and fees include \$5 prize money.
4. Franklin Canyon will be played Monday 1/31. Check payment deadline is 1/19! \$31 includes cart.

Note New Mailing Address is Shown on Bottom of Page 11!!!

A Short Story about Aunt Bessie

Aunt Bessie loved to visit her nieces and nephews. However, she had relatives all over the country. The problem was that no matter how much she enjoyed seeing them, she hated flying. No matter how safe people told her it was, she was always worried that someone would have a bomb on the plane.

She read books about how safe it was and listened to the stewardess demonstrate all the safety features. But she still worried herself silly every time a visit was coming up.

Finally, the family decided that maybe if she saw the statistics she'd be convinced. So they sent her to a friend of the family who was an actuary.

"Tell me," she said suspiciously, "what are the chances that someone will have a bomb on a plane?"

The actuary looked through his tables and said, "A very small chance. Maybe one in five hundred thousand."

She nodded, then thought for a moment. "So what are the odds of two people having a bomb on the same plane?"

Again he went through his tables.

"Extremely remote," he said. "About one in a billion."

Aunt Bessie nodded and left his office.

And from that day on, every time she flew, she took a bomb with her.

Roddy Ranch on December 13, 2004



Notable Quotes from the Sitcom "Cheers"

Sam: What'll you have Normie?

Norm: Well, I'm in a gambling mood Sammy. I'll take a glass of whatever comes out of that tap.

Sam: Looks like beer, Norm.

Norm: Well call me Mister Lucky.



Chairman
Tom Robinson
18 Hole Golf

Handicap & Scoring



David Harris



Jed Daniel

18-Hole Results

By David C. Harris

Boundary Oak - December 6, 2004

Flight 1			Flight 2			Flight 3		
D Meyer	68	3	T Powell	69	3	H Honstein	69	3
F Crua	69	2	H Walden	72	2	J Ostler	69	3
P Marks	72	1	D Chaffee	73	1	B Kinser	72	1
Low Gross			Low Gross			Low Gross		
F Crua	84		T Powell	96		H Honstein	103	
P Marks	84							
D Meyer	84							

Closest to: Hole #2 - L Randall, H Honstein --- Hole #12 - J Hunter, P Jenkins

Roddy Ranch - December 13, 2004

Flight 1			Flight 2			Flight 3		
F Crua	67	3	M With	67	3	P Jenkins	67	3
F Dillon	70	2	D Socolich	69	2	E Cole	73	2
D Geary	71	1	P Goff	70	1	K Miller	73	2
B McCord	71	1						
D Meyer	71	1						
A Yasuda	71	1						
Low Gross			Low Gross			Low Gross		
F Crua	83		M With	92				
			D Socolich	92				
			P Goff	92				

Closest to: Hole #3 - W Sandelmann, J Cobb --- Hole #17 - J Daniel, B Vetro

Bethel Island - December 20, 2004

Flight 1			Flight 2			Flight 3		
J Hunter	69	3	T Powell	68	3	B Vetro	73	3
L Randall	70	2	D Socolich	71	2	P Jenkins	74	2
F Dillon	75	1	J Daniel	74	1	F Lockwood	77	1
D Geary	75	1						
C Xavier	75	1						
Low Gross			Low Gross			Low Gross		
J Hunter	87		D Socolich	92		P Jenkins	101	
L Randall	87							

Closest to: Hole #3 - D Meyer, P Jenkins --- Hole #16 - D Meyer, P Jenkins

Paradise Valley - December 27, 2004 - cancelled - rained out

Branch 116 Golf Leader Board Yearend 2004



FLIGHT 1		FLIGHT 2		FLIGHT 3	
NAME	POINTS	NAME	POINTS	NAME	POINTS
Hunter, J	38	Robinson, T	37	Jenkins, P	64
Crua, F	37	Powell, T	34	Honstein, H	27
Geary, D	28	Goff, P	27	Lockwood, F	26
Marks, P	28	Cobb, J	17	Vetro, B	26
Harris, DC	27	Chaffee, D	16	Grivas, P	22
McCord, B	20	Sequin, A	16	Hemmelsbach, B	17
Xavier, C	19	Walden, H	14	Arena, M	16
Meyer, D	18	Daniel, J	13	Kinser, B	16
Robertson, C	16	Story, John	13	Brown, D	15
Yasuda, A	16	Eckels, P	12	Morison, P	13
Domer, R	14	Hutchko, A	12	Maclay, J	11
Watanabe, B	9	Thede, W	12	Cuny, C	9
Smith, B	8	Contestable, P	11	Kallas, P	7
Birmingham, P	6	Schnieder, W	11	Miller, K	6
Eller, T	5	Testa, B	11	Walsh, F	6
Belden, P	4	Fend, W	10	Cole, E	4
Clizbe, J	4	Socolich, D	8	Harriss, Don	3
Hicks, J	4	With, M	7	Hubbard, T	3
McInnis, C	4	Doyle, L	6	Mix, B	3
Altomare, J	3	Egbert, L	6	Ostler, Joe	3
Dillon, F	3	Kay, N	5	Booth, D	2
Leschot, A	3	Lutkus, A	5	Maffei, R	2
Benz, A	2	Johnson, L	4	Turrin, A	2
Brandreth, R	2	Ghelfi, D	3	Aalders, D	1
Randall, L	2	Laird, L	3	McKenna, G	1
Morgan, J	1	Rinkert, Otto	3	Regalia, E	1
		Ginter, B	2		
		Lucido, P	2		
		Roberts, D	2		
		Serafino, A	2		
		Welsh, D	2		
		Bryant, F	1		
		Greenstein, M	1		
		Shader, R	1		
		Vollmer, J	1		

Remember: Sir Branch 116 Golf Hotline is 906-5355
Golf Checks should be made out to: "SIR Golf, Branch 116"

Note New Mailing Address!!
Mail Golf Checks to: P.O. Box 55, Moraga, CA 94556-0055

**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

Non-Responsibility Declaration:

All activities arranged for or by, or sponsored by, Sons in Retirement, Incorporated, and its Branches, are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their 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.

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 7 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).

Non-Responsibility Clause: All travel events and other activities sponsored by Sons in Retirement, Incorporated, or its Branches, are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their guests who desire to participate. Sons in Retirement, Incorporated, and its Branches do not assume any responsibility for the well being or safety of the participants or passengers, of their property or any damages whatsoever, in any manner pertaining to said travel activities.

Checks for trips of 3 nights or less must be made payable to the Branch conducting the trip. Checks for trips in excess of 3 nights must be made payable to the travel agency involved.