



Trampas Topics

MARCH, 2009

SIR Branch 116

Next Meeting: 11:30 am,
Monday, March 16, 2009
Elks Lodge—1475 Creekside Dr,
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

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

Sayings of 2009 Big Sir Frank Crua

Art Donaldson, the Nominating Committee Chairman, will be starting the important process of accepting nominations for the 2010 Branch Officers and Directors. At first I was a little worried since I had only run 2 meetings, but then I realized it was for next year. Please help the team and provide your input for this important process. They will pass out forms for you to nominate someone. You can even put down your own name for one or more of the offices.



I want you to reserve these 2 important dates – May 13th and December 9th. The Spring Fling will be held in the afternoon at the Shadelands Art Center on May 13th. The Christmas Party will be held in the evening at the same location on December 9th. Chairman Robbie Robinson will begin taking reservations for the Spring Fling at the March meeting. Please mark your calendar and sign up for these enjoyable outings.

Hopefully we won't have the parking issue with the lot next to the Elk's parking lot we encountered at the last meeting. Unfortunately our meeting was on President's Day and the parking lot office was closed and the Elk's maintenance man, Reggie, was on vacation. The chain at the entrance should be down at the March meeting.

Some interesting facts about St. Patrick's Day: It has long been recounted that St. Patrick banished all the snakes from Ireland. In fact, the island nation was never home to any snakes. The "banishing of the snakes" was really a metaphor for the eradication of pagan ideology and the triumph of Christianity.

Each year, thousands of Irish Americans gather with their loved ones on St. Patrick's Day to share a "traditional" meal of corned beef and cabbage.

Though cabbage has long been an Irish food, corned beef only began to be associated with St. Patrick's Day at the turn of the century. Irish immigrants living on New York City's Lower East Side substituted corned beef for their traditional dish of Irish bacon to save money. Have a Happy St. Patrick's Day, and don't forget to wear green.

See you at the meeting on March 16th.

Frank R. Crua



**HAPPY ST.
PATRICK'S DAY!**

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**PLEASE CALL 806-8874
by the Thursday prior to
the meeting to
cancel your standing
reservation or
to bring a guest.**

2009 SIR 116 Officers & Directors



Big SIR
Frank Crua
932-0975



Little SIR
Jed Daniel
551-7734



Secretary
Conrad
Robertson
376-6355



Assistant Secretary
Matt Arena
946-0404



Treasurer
Ron Armijo
945-0637



Assistant Treasurer
Bob Shader
939-8421

DIRECTORS



Phil Goff
831-3692



Bob Wolf
935-5439



Bill
Hemmelsbach
458-2511



Ben Smith
820-5403



Bill McCord
376-5280



Art Donaldson
934-8391

2008 SIR 116 Committee Chairmen

Activities Coordinator	Dick Socolich	376-3090	Membership Roster	Dick Thomson	785-7600
Attendance	Jim Nachtweih	838-7417	Newsletter Editor	Floyd Skelton	838-2515
Audit	Dick Thomson	785-7600	Asst. Editor (Interim)	Phil Goff	831-3692
Book Club	Rich Black	283-8376	Nominating	Art Donaldson	934-8391
Bridge	Milt Greenstein	376-5589	Photographers	Ken Miller	256-9343
Candy Sales	Dirk Meyer	820-6878		John Peterson	946-0335
Chaplain	Rotating	#1 See Below	Piano	Bob Lake	837-4054
Christmas Party	Robbie Robinson	798-4276		Miles Maynard	933-8549
Computer & Technology Group	Phil Goff	831-3692	Poker Group #1	Bill Harrington	935-1625
Computer Support	Dick Thomson	785-7600	Poker Group #2	Bob Nilssen	837-4446
Duplicate Bridge	Bob Daily	837-7080	Spring Party	Robbie Robinson	798-7276
Fishing	Terry Miller	686-9298	Storytellers	Rotating	#2 See Below
Golf	Ron Domer	838-8320	Sums In Retirement	Ben Smith	946-0404
	Carlos Xavier	947-6756	Sunshine	Matt Arena	947-6756
Greeters	Tim Hubbard	944-0742	Travel	Tom Eller	939-5897
E-mail Contact	Conrad Robertson	376-6355	Volunteers	Bob Kinser	837-8886
Hiking and Walking	Joel White	964-0994	Webmaster	Floyd Skelton	838-2515
Historian	Matt Arena	946-0404	Welcoming	Dick Socolich	376-3090
Host	Frank Crua	932-0975			
Interviewer	Max Foust	827-9323	#1. Doug Aalders, Ron Domer, Marty Ratterree, Lou Sandor and Ben Smith		
Membership	Lytton DeSilva	254-5289	#2. Ron Domer, Milt Greenstein, Marty Ratterree Ben Smith		

2008 SIR Area 2 (Interbranch) Committee Chairmen

Bowling	Lloyd West (Branch 19)	228-9037	Publicity	Walt Schick (Branch 8)	934-0656
Computer and Technology	Co-Derek Southern (Br. 8)	253-1646	Table Pool	Bill Weinberg (Branch 146)	682-0962
Fishing	Co-Phil Goff (Branch 116)	820-3573	Rubber Bridge	Fred Bolton (Branch 146)	932-1580
Golf	Craig Walton (Branch 8)	937-4876	Speakers Bureau	John Roebuck (Branch 19)	685-8764
	Jim Willey (Branch 19)	689-3199	\$ums Retirement	Dave Munson (Branch 171)	377-5851



Computer & Technology Group

Derek Southern and Phil Goff



Thursday, March 19, Area 2 Computers and Technology group will focus on VHS transfer to DVD.

Larry Muth (Branch 171) will present his experiences, supported with a short video clip, of transferring VHS tapes to DVD's. He will explain what options are out there, the problems with software, and why it is not a simple process. He will also talk about down loading from a video camera and getting ready to do some editing. Larry has offered to present "How to Edit in Premiere Elements 4", with a hands-on demonstration, in a later session.

Following the presentation, Dick Curry will lead an informative Computer Q&A session, so bring your tough questions!

Whether you are a beginner or a seasoned user, we try to offer something for everyone. We serve coffee and pastries and all SIR members and their guests are welcome.

Meetings of the Area 2 Computer and Technology Group are held the 3rd Thursday of each month



Bob Testa (Branch 116) participated in the February SIR Area 2 Computer and Technology meeting giving his "Genealogy Personalized: The Sicilian Connection." an informative talk on his experiences tracking his family roots. (Phil Goff Photo)

(except June and December) from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., at the **Walnut Creek Elks Lodge**, 1475 Creekside Drive (just off South Main.) Check out our website at <http://sir-web.org/computer> for copies of previous presentations and details of upcoming meetings..



Special SIR Events for Your Calendar

April 23 — Spring Ladies Day Bridge

October 20 — Fall Ladies Day Bridge

Diablo Country Club, Diablo, CA

Contact: Milt Greenstein, 376-5589

May 13 — Ladies Day Spring Luncheon

The Shadelands, 11:30 am-3 pm, Walnut Creek

Contact: Robbie Robinson, 798-4276

September 9, 10, 11, 12 — Carson

City Golf Outing

Carson City, Nevada

Contact: Tim Hubbard. 944-0742

December 9 — Christmas Dinner Dance

The Shadelands, 4:30 pm—10:30 pm, Walnut Creek

Contact: Robbie Robinson, 798-4276

State 'SIR Happenings'

Sir Happenings (our State Web Newsletter) is now in its fifth year of publishing

Enjoy reading SIR Happenings, our State Newsletter, and find out about all the fun things that are going on throughout our organization. You can easily find Happenings on the SIR State Website:

www.sirinc.org/sirhappenings

Don MacGregor donmac95@comcast.net

Sir Happenings Editor

"We don't like their sound, and guitar music is on the way out,"

-- Decca Recording Co. rejecting the Beatles, 1962.

This Month's Luncheon Speaker

By Little Sir Jed Daniel



"100 years in Shanghai, 1850-1950"

Matook "Mat" Nissim was born in Shanghai, China in 1923. His family originated in Baghdad in the early 1800's and migrated to India with the Sassoon Banking Empire. His grandfather was born in Alahabad, India and his grandmother was born in Shanghai, China. Mat was raised and educated in Shanghai and lived through the 1932 and 1937 Sino-Japanese Wars.

After the Boxer Rebellion, he witnessed the influx of Russian Jews escaping from the pogroms of the Tsarist regimes and later the arrival of Eastern Europeans that were able to flee the Hitler persecution in 1939-1941.

Mat together with his family and other British nationals were interned by the Japanese in Yangchow, China during World War Two. After the war he was forced to leave China and embarked on a

pursuit of travel which took him to the Middle East and Paris, France where he resided until he immigrated to the United States in 1952. This history describes his adventures along the way and it sheds light upon a small clan of families that, by dint of force majeure, lived their lifestyle on three continents.

Mat has recently retired from the Brokerage industry. At present he sits on the Board of Directors of the Bank of the Orient, is senior Trustee of a Charitable Foundation, and is involved with his favorite charities. Mat and his wife Jackie enjoy traveling all over the world to experience new adventures and to visit family and friends.

Mat's archive is at the Hoover Institute Stanford, California.

March Luncheon Menu



Corn Beef & Cabbage served w/ Red Roasted Potatoes, Desert, Coffee

Nominating Committee News

By Art Donaldson



The 2010 Nominating Committee is beginning its work this month. As part of our effort to identify all qualified and interested candidates for Branch Executive Committee positions next year, we will be handing out suggestion forms to all members at the March 16 luncheon meeting. Please take a moment to let us know your recommendations for these positions, including yourself.

Thanks for helping us pick the best available candidates for all open positions.

2010 Nominating Committee (Art Donaldson, Tom Eller, Al Hutchko)

Lunch Attendance

Jim Nachtweih



Attendance at the February 16th, 2009 meeting totaled 200 persons. This includes 187 members, 1 visitor, 1 speaker, and 11 guests. There were 14 excused members and 17 un-excused members. The un-excused members will be asked to pay for their missed lunch.



116 Book Club

Rich Black

Are We Happy Here?

The SIR Book Group—(Richard Black, Art Donaldson, Al Reynolds, Lytton DeSilva, Jack Butler, John Frazier, Bob Daily, Jim Pick, Tim Tinnes) discussed Eric Weiner's *The Geography of Bliss* on Monday, February 23 at Orinda Books. Weiner writes with wit and erudition about the relative happiness of people in ten different nations, including the US. Book group members reflected on the accuracy of his observations and then opined on what had made them happy in the course of their lifetimes.

On Monday, March 23, the group will discuss *The River of Doubt*, by Candice Millard. It is the tale of Theodore Roosevelt's journey of Amazon exploration undertaken after he had lost the Bull Moose campaign for the American Presidency. All SIR members and their guests are invited. Discussion begins at 10:15 am at Orinda Books and generally winds up at about 11:30.

SIR Website Addresses

SIR 116 Web Site

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

Branch 116 Golf

— <http://www.sir-web.org/116-golf/>

Trampas Topics

<http://www.sir-web.org/trampas/>

Computer and Technology

<http://www.sir-web.org/computer/>

SIR Happenings State Newsletter

www.sirinc.org/sirhappenings

State SIR Web Site

<http://www.sirinc.org/>



Luncheon Bridge

Milt Greenstein, Chairman

On February 10th, the luncheon/bridge group met at Roundhill C.C. with 20 men attending. After an excellent lunch, we sat down to 3 hours of fun bridge. Our high scorer for this session was Norm Schonfeld with 5,030 points. Second place went to Ron Wohlberg (4,930), followed by Fred Massaro (4,800), Lee Travis (4,410) and Milt Greenstein (4,330). We had only one small slam made today by Joe Ostler / Milt Greenstein. This was an overall low scoring day with an average score of only 3,356 points.

On February 24th, 21 men gathered at the Diablo C.C. for lunch and bridge. Today's winner was Bud Grissanti, a guest from Branch 8, with a score of 6,950 points. Second place went to Ron Wolberg again with 5,960 points followed by Jack Butler (5,570), Ali Aghaiepour (4,950) and Jai Yee (4,880). Jai and Ali bid and made the first grand slam of the year. A small slam was made by Jack Butler / Ron Wolberg.

Our first LADIES DAY lunch and bridge event for 2009 is scheduled for Thursday, April 23rd, at the Diablo C.C. The cost for this event is \$ 40 per couple for lunch, plus \$ 5 for prize money. Now is the time to sign up by giving me a call - 925.376.5589. The ladies all love this day, and you will make lots of points if you treat her for the day.

Trampas Topics Contributors Please Note e-mail Address

Please send articles to: trampastopics@gmail.com
The reason this is important is to establish that all of your contributions arrive at a single e-mail address. This will ease the collection of items, help insure we don't miss important information, and allow assistant editors access to the data when needed.



Sunshine Report

Matt Arena

Tim Hubbard is recovering from Bypass and valve replacement surgery at Concord Campus of John Muir Hospital. His dear wife Kathie and his children are by his bedside helping him during the recovery process. Following the surgery Tim needed another surgery the following day to clear up some circulation issues but the doctors are pleased with the results.

Hal Deisem was injured in the golf cart which was hit by a car at Rossmoor last year. After a chat with him I learned that he was banged up rather badly. He was fortunate to have walked away with out any head injuries. Hal is improving and is trying his hand at golf again .He reports that it takes a 7 iron to hit a wedge shot.

Ed Regalia is continuing to improve following his stroke. His speech is improving as is his mobility. Ed's spirits are good and he says he is making progress every day.

Marty Ratterree is out and about following gall bladder surgery. You will see his shining countenance at the next luncheon.

Dan Pope continues to improve at Stone Brook in Concord. It has been a slow recovery for Dan but he is getting excellent treatment at the rehab center.

Don Seaton has had a successful hip replacement. He has a memory of waking while the surgeon hammered the appliance into his hip. The pounding woke him up. Fortunately he went right back to sleep. For more on this story you can check in with him at our next luncheon.

In Memoriam
Mel Gee
Dan Ghelfi

Membership

Lytton DeSilva



NEW MEMBERS — (l to r) Sponsor Bob Donohue and new member Bernie Wroblewski; new member Bill Best, and sponsor Joe Stralovich; and new member Pat Birmingham sponsored by Carlos Xavier.

(Phil Goff Photo)

March Birthdays

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

Allen, Douglas G.
Babcock Jr., William J.
Belden, Peter
Feay, Darrell C.
Fend, Werner
Harrington, William
Johnston, Robert R.
Lake, Robert D.
Lennon, Joe A.
Leschot, Ronald
Lockwood, Frank N.
Loder, Robert

McCord, William
Mix, Robert W.
O'Connor, Charles S.
Peterson, John
Plank, Lloyd G.
Radakovich, Ronald
Schoenfeld, Norman
Sherman, David T.
Story, John L.
Tinguely, J. Patrick
Welsh, Don
Zurich, Bob A.

Want a Free Lunch ? Sponsor a New Member !

That's right! Sponsor a new Branch 116 member in 2009 and get a free lunch. Sponsor another and , get another free lunch. No limit on this deal!



SIR Fishing Group

Terry Miller

All SIR members and guests are welcome and, indeed, encouraged to participate in fishing trips as well as attend the monthly meetings. Next meeting will be Thursday, March 26th, at the Legend Sports Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course at 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Meeting starts at 8:30, Carl Moyer will conduct a show and tell on jigging metal for fresh and salt water fish.

Fishing the past weeks has been oddly quite dismal, despite some good weather, followed by not so good weather. An armada of 4 boats manned by 10 eager SIR' fisherman anchored in warm sunny weather on the Sacramento River in early February, but all the great and formidable skills of Craig Walton, Joe Peterson, John Hayes, Bob Olson, Carl Moyer, Al Brunner, Harry Sherinian, Dick Thomson, Tom Boltz, George Shultz, and Joe Karg could only land 5 keeper stripers all released. Joe Peterson weighed a nice 7 pounder, but only after everyone else had long departed. Excursions to Shadow Cliffs Reservoir and Los Vaqueros Reservoir were cancelled due to weather. Unscheduled trips were taken by Harry Sherinian and Carl Moyer to Shadow Cliffs, and Dick Thomson and Carl to the shores of Contra Loma Reservoir, but neither venture produced even a bite. Paul Dubow and Carl Moyer fished near the Ozol Pier for no sturgeon or

stripers. Kent Cremolini worked the Smith and Chetco rivers for 2 steelhead from the Chetco. Don Mittlestaedt also caught some fine steelhead on the American River, and John Wall and Tom Hensley had a banner outing on the Klamath catching and releasing many steelhead from 12 inches to 12 pounds.

We will be very busy in the future with trout fishing in the Eastern Sierras; tuna and bill fish in Mexico, a long range ocean foray from San Diego, delta fishing for striped bass and sturgeon, trout fishing in our local lakes, and several party boat trips for halibut and rockfish to also include those who rarely fish but would like to try. If you haven't been fishing in a while, but might like to test drive an adventure, come on down to our next meeting, or call Carl Moyer.

Next meeting will be Thursday, March 26th, at the Legend Sports Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course at 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Meeting starts at 8:30 am. For further information, please contact Craig Walton (Big Fish) (925-937-4876); Terry Miller(Branch 116 Coordinator) (925-686-9298); or Joe Peterson (Treasurer/Secretary)(916-777-5363.)

Poker Group #2

Bob Nilssen



Poker Group #2 plays on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at Diablo Country Club in Diablo, from 1-4 p.m. It's a small stakes game, and socializing with fellow SIR members the primary purpose.

If you would like to join us call Bob Nilssen at 837-4446 or send an e-mail to Bob at: nilssen@aol.com to become a member of the group.



SIR Branch 116 Treasurer's Report

Ron Armijo, Treasurer

	February 2009	2009 YTD
Contributions	\$2,765.00	\$6,630.76
Disbursements	-(4,067.10)	-(7,367.87)
*Net (gain/loss)	\$(1,302.10)	\$(737.11)

February Cash Balance \$7,007.64

*Loss is due to prepayment of Spring Ladies Day down payments. Ticket sales will offset the expense plus damage deposit refund.

See's Candies 2009 Easter Discount Sale

This sale provides group discount prices to SIR Branch 116 members. IT IS NOT A FUND RAISER.

- Mail candy orders by **Wednesday March 18** to:

Dirk Meyer, 112 Castleford Circle, (phone 820-6878)
Danville, CA 94526

- or **Order at the Monday March 16** SIR 116 Luncheon.

- Make check payable to "Sir Branch 116 - Candy".

- Orders and checks must be from SIR members, *but you may include family and friends in your order.*

- Pick up candies in Elks Club parking lot on

Friday March 27, 9:00 to 10:30 am.

Your Name _____ Telephone _____

Size	Item	Retail	How Many	Discount	Total \$
11.3 oz	Easter Ribbon Box	\$ 19.40		\$ 17.50	
6.2 oz	Large Novelty Egg	\$ 9.65		\$ 8.70	
11.7 oz	Easter Assortment	\$ 11.85		\$ 10.75	
13.5 oz	Choc Butter egg w pecans	\$ 14.75		\$ 13.30	
9.5 oz	Rocky Road Egg	\$ 10.30		\$ 9.30	
6 oz	Choc Butter Egg <i>no nuts</i>	\$ 6.55		\$ 5.90	
4.8 oz	Marshmallow Eggs 6 pack	\$ 4.95		\$ 4.50	
4.5 oz	Choc Butter Eggs 6 pack	\$ 5.20		\$ 4.70	
8 oz	Egg Quartet	\$ 9.20		\$ 8.30	
12.6 oz	Easter Treat Basket	\$ 14.95		\$ 13.75	
1 lb	Milk Choc Foil Eggs	\$ 11.00		\$ 10.00	
1 lb	Dark Choc Foil Eggs	\$ 11.00		\$ 10.00	
10 oz	Choc Foil Rabbit	\$ 8.80		\$ 7.90	
12 oz	Jelly Beans	\$ 3.50		\$ 3.15	
7.5 oz	Bunny & Carrot Box	\$ 5.85		\$ 5.25	
8 oz	Truffles	\$ 8.95		\$ 7.60	
1 lb	Truffles	\$ 17.90		\$ 15.20	
1 lb	Gold Fancy	\$ 20.50		\$ 17.70	
2 lb	Gold Fancy	\$ 37.90		\$ 33.70	
4 lb	Gift of Elegance	\$ 75.90		\$ 66.80	

Size	Item	Retail	How Many	Discount	Total \$
1 lb		\$ 15.60		\$ 11.70	
2 lb	Assorted Chocolates	\$ 31.20		\$ 23.40	
3 lb		\$ 46.80		\$ 35.10	
5 lb		\$ 78.00		\$ 58.50	
1 lb	Milk Chocolates	\$ 15.60		\$ 11.70	
2 lb		\$ 31.20		\$ 23.40	
3 lb	Dark Chocolates	\$ 46.80		\$ 35.10	
1 lb		\$ 15.60		\$ 11.70	
2 lb	Dark Chocolates	\$ 31.20		\$ 23.40	
1 lb	Soft Centers	\$ 15.60		\$ 11.70	
2 lb		\$ 31.20		\$ 23.40	
1 lb		\$ 15.60		\$ 11.70	
2 lb	Nuts & Chews	\$ 31.20		\$ 23.40	
3 lb		\$ 46.80		\$ 35.10	
1 lb	Bridge Mix	\$ 15.60		\$ 11.70	
1 lb	Victoria Toffee	\$ 15.60		\$ 11.70	
1 lb	Toffeeettes (can)	\$ 15.60		\$ 11.70	
1 lb	Almond Royal (can)	\$ 15.60		\$ 11.70	
12 oz	Salted Nuts (can)	\$ 8.30		\$ 7.50	
1 lb 8 oz	Peanut Brittle	\$ 14.70		\$ 12.80	
8 oz	Awesome Peanut Brittle Bar (8 pack)	\$ 7.80		\$ 5.50	
12 oz	Awesome Nut & Chew Bar (8 pack)	\$ 7.80		\$ 5.50	
12 oz	Awesome Walnut Square Bar (8 pack)	\$ 7.80		\$ 5.50	
8 oz	Molasses Chips	\$ 7.80		\$ 5.85	
8 oz	Assorted Peppermints	\$ 7.80		\$ 5.85	
8 oz	Little Pops, Assorted	\$ 7.40		\$ 4.85	
8 oz	Little Pops, Café Latte	\$ 7.40		\$ 4.85	
1 lb 5 oz	Lollypops, Assorted	\$ 14.70		\$ 11.70	
1 lb 5 oz	Lollypops, Chocolate	\$ 14.70		\$ 11.70	
1 lb 5 oz	Lollypops, Butterscotch	\$ 14.70		\$ 11.70	
1 lb 5 oz	Lollypops, Café Latte	\$ 14.70		\$ 11.70	
1 lb 5 oz	Lollypops, Vanilla	\$ 14.70		\$ 11.70	
1 lb	Gift Certificate	\$ 15.60		\$ 12.40	
Mailing Cartons for all items (except those in <i>italics</i>). List items on a separate sheet.					\$ 1.00 for each carton
TOTAL ORDER - Both Columns					-

\$ums in Retirement

David Munson



The March 25 meeting will be held at the Diablo Creek Golf Course starting at 8:00am with breakfast available from 7:00am in the restaurant.

Our speaker will be Mr. Axel G. Merk, President & Chief Investment Officer, Merk Investments and manager of the Hard and Asian Currency Funds. Axel has a unique ability to distill complex economic issues into easy to understand concepts. He has been involved with managing currency funds for many years and has been a regular guest on CNBC, frequently quoted in Barron's, the Wall Street Journal, Financial Times, Bloomberg and other financial publications. Whenever currencies become a major topic of the day Axel Merk is likely to be interviewed by the financial press for his views and opinions. Accompanying Axel on the presentation will be Mr. Kieran Osborne, Merk Senior Financial Analyst.

This presentation should be very interesting and informative as Axel will provide us with his insight on current economic conditions and the effect on the global currency markets. This should be a very interesting and unique presentation.



February \$ums Meeting presenters from Matthews Asia Funds discussed the outlook and opportunities for investing in Asian countries."

More information on the Merk currency is available at their web site at www.merkfund.com.

Also be sure and visit the \$ums in Retirement website at: <http://sir-web.org/sums/>

Cheers,

Dave Munson,

Area 2 Chairman \$ums In Retirement Investment Group



Duplicate Bridge

By Bob Daily

The Branch 116 Duplicate Bridge group met on February 3rd, with 10 teams playing (20 players). The winning team was Marv DeHeus / Dan Green with 66 points out of a possible 108 or 61%, second was Art Donaldson / Gene Gould with 65 points or 60%, third was Dick Long / Conrad Robertson with 61 points or 56% and fourth was Lytton DeSilva / Marv Ellenberg with 56 points or 54%.

For detailed board by board information log onto: <http://tbc.bridgeforyou.com/tue-mrn-sir/index.htm>

Our Duplicate Bridge is on the first Tuesday of each month played at the Bridge Center At 9:30 am in Pleasant Hill. Our next game is on February 3rd. It is a game that is sanctioned by the ACBL with Master Points awarded to the winners.

We welcome new players (we'll provide a partner) and we have an excellent instructor to help both new and old players.

If you are interested in playing please call Bob Daily (837-7080).

**Want a Free Lunch ?
Sponsor a New Member !**

That's right! Sponsor a new Branch 116 member in 2009 and get a free lunch. Sponsor another and , get another free lunch. No limit on this deal!

SIR Travel

By Tom Eller, Travel Chairman



Pick up brochures, forms, etc., at the travel desk at the luncheons. If we run out of these and you are



still interested in the trip, please ask your travel chairman and he will have one sent to you. Payment should be made to the travel agency arranging the event unless otherwise stated.

Local Trips

Mar 6, 2009 SIR Day at the Races. It's another chance to visit you money at Golden Gate Fields. The Turf Club SIR package includes: Valet parking, admission and reserve seating, daily racing program, prime rib buffet, tax/tip for the food servers and a race named in honor of our group. This is a fun day well worth the \$25.00 cost. Contact Ken Richter @ 925-689-6217

May 12, 2009 A Day At The California Academy of Sciences. Visit the Academy of Sciences- the only place on the planet with an aquarium, a planetarium, a natural history museum, and a 4 story rain-forest all under on roof. Whatever your interests, the new Academy is designed to engage and inspire like no other museum on the planet. Cost \$56.00 per person. Contact Bob Hagler, Branch 8, 925-934-7620

Overnight and Longer Travel

Jun 30, 2009 Patti Page at the Grand Sierra Resort. Best selling female artist of the 1950s and one of the first female artists to cross over from country music to pop, brings her silky smooth voice to the Grand Sierra. The trip includes deluxe Motorcoach, overnight accommodations at the Grand Sierra Resort, Casino stop with bonus \$6 food credit, \$5 cash Tickets to Patti Page in the Grand Sierra Showroom, Baggage handling and driver tip. Cost \$142.00 per person. Contact Bob Spellman, @934-8428

Aug 8-23, 2009 Romantic Rhine & Moselle Rivers. Explore Holland's colorful capital as you cruise through Amsterdam's enchanting canals. Sail past the famous Laorelei rock and through the dramatic

Rhine Gorge on this 14-night cruise from Amsterdam to Basel on board Avalon Waterway's brand new ship, the MS Affinity. Trip includes all meals on board, round trip airfare and airport transfers. Port charges, air taxes, driver tips are also included. Cost runs from \$6270 to \$8669 depending on state-room. Contact Ken Richter @ 925-689-6217.

Sep 13-25, 2009 The Essence of Ireland. What separates Ireland from its neighbors is the arresting beauty of the land, the turbulent history and the broad smile that welcomes your arrival. This 13 day trip covers Belfast, Londonderry, Westport, Galway, Killarney, and Dublin. The trip cost is \$3780 per person and includes: daily breakfast, nightly hosted dinner, coach driver, guides, baggage handling airfare and transfers, Plus gratuities. Contact Bob Hagler Branch 8 @ 925-934-8428.

Sep 24, 2009 Highlights of South Africa. On this comprehensive 19 day trip you'll discover the cultural and natural wonders of South Africa. The trip will take you to Johannesburg, Kruger National Park, Swaziland, Zululand, Wilderness, and Cape Town with optional trips to Pilanesberg National Park for a big five bush safari and Victoria Falls. Cost of the trip is \$4795 per person which includes all airfares, 17 night hotel stay, 32 meals, and 13 sightseeing tours. Space is limited so contact Bob Spellman to make reservations @ 925-934-9428

Additional SIR Travel Opportunities on State Web

The quarterly State SIR Happenings Web Site at: <http://www.sirinc.org/sirhappenings/> offers additional SIR travel options. The current edition (February) travel page is on Page 11. Take a look, you just may find the trip your dreaming of, and the web site is pretty cool too.

SIR Branch 116 Golf

By Ron Domer, Golf Chairman



We have an active golf organization consisting of 18-hole and 9-hole groups. A small annual donation is required to play in either group. The 18-hole group plays once a week in a tourna-

Using the Golf Hotline

For Non-Pay-In Advance SIR 116 Golf Events (9-Hole and Boundary Oak 18-Hole) You may sign-up via the Branch 116 Hotline — 906-5355

Deadline for 18-Hole, the Thursday before and 9-Hole, the Sunday before.

Please indicate if you want a cart.

ment format with play alternating between local courses and courses that may be 10 to 50 miles away. Those playing in the 18-hole group must be

Nine Hole Info

Dick Chaffee, 9-Hole Chairman



SIR 116 9-Hole Golf Club membership is open to all Branch members and guests regardless of your golfing ability. We play every Wednesday starting at 10:00am. We rotate playing Buchanan Fields, Concord, Pine Meadows, Martinez and Diablo Hills, Walnut Creek.

The 9 Hole Golf Club is organized into a single flight. The weekly Champion is the player with the lowest net score. The weekly Champion is awarded 3 points, 2nd place 2 and 3rd place 1. The 2009 Champion will be the golfer with the highest point total.

In December, we will again hold our 9 Hole Golf Championship Tournament. The Tournament will be 3 rounds of golf. One round at each of the courses we play. The Tournament Champion will be the golfer with lowest net total for 2 rounds. If a participant plays all 3 rounds, he can choose which 2 rounds will count.



Resourceful SIRS Escape the Rain at Brentwood. (Team #2: Bill McCord, Frank Crua & Bob Donohue)

(John Peterson Photo)

members of the Northern California Golf Association (NCGA) and establish a handicap index. You may join the NCGA through our SIR club or through another club. The 9-hole group also plays once a week and alternates play between local courses. Foursomes club. The 9-hole group also plays once a week and alternates play between local courses. Foursomes are arranged so that players can meet and enjoy playing with most, if not all, the other players in the branch. All our events are listed in our annual golf book, the Trampas Topics and on our web site at <http://www.sir-web.org/116-golf>. Join up with us and enjoy outings with a great bunch of guys at some great courses with reason-

March 9-Hole Schedule

Wed 4	10:00	Buchanan Fields	Dick Chaffee
Wed 11	10:00	Pine Meadow	Joe Ostler
Wed 18	10:00	Buchanan Fields	Dick Chaffee
Wed 25	10:15	Diablo Hills	Doug Alders



18 Hole Results

By David Harris

Dublin Ranch - February 23, 2009

<u>Flight 1</u>		<u>Flight 2</u>		<u>Flight 3</u>		<u>Flight 4</u>	
David Harris	58 3			Bob Donohue	64 3	Art Vogl	63 3
Jim Clizbe	66 2					Bernie Wroblewski	65 2
Lonny Randall	75 1					Chuck Gilliam	66 1
Low Gross				Low Gross		Low Gross	
David Harris	72			Bob Donohue	87	Bernie Wroblewski	91

Closest to: Hole #3 - David Harris, Bernie Wroblewski --- Hole #15 - David Harris

Brentwood - February 17, 2009

Event canceled due to bad weather

Silverado South - February 9, 2009

<u>Flight 1</u>		<u>Flight 2</u>		<u>Flight 3</u>		<u>Flight 4</u>	
David Harris	76 3	Al Hutchko	76 3	Bob Conlon	76 3	Chuck Gilliam	73 3
Lonny Randall	78 2	John Canane	77 2	Jim Videle	77 2	Ron Armijo	74 2
Neil Schmidt	78 1	Dick Socolich	80 1	Conrad Robertson	80 1	Dan Ghelfi	76 1
Low Gross		Low Gross		Low Gross		Low Gross	
Neil Schmidt	92	John Canane	97	Jim Videle	100	Dan Ghelfi	108

Closest to: Hole #3 - Paul Kim, George Kohut --- Hole #15 - David Harris, Phil Jenkins

Boundary Oak - January 5, 2009

<u>Flight 1</u>		<u>Flight 2</u>		<u>Flight 3</u>		<u>Flight 4</u>	
Bill McCord	76 3	Phil Goff	75 3	Bob Donohue	73 3	Paul Eckels	69 3
Lonny Randall	76 3	Pat Tinguely	75 3	Carl Langhorst	78 2	Max Foust	73 2
Frank Crua	77 1	Jerry Hunter	76 1	Al Serafino	79 1	Dan Ghelfi	73 2
David Harris	77 1	Robbie Robinson	76 1				
Low Gross		Low Gross		Low Gross		Low Gross	
Bill McCord	91	Pat Tinguely	94	Bob Donohue	100	Paul Eckels	100

Closest to: Hole #2 - Lonny Randall, Max Foust --- Hole #12 - Lonny Randall, Chuck Gilliam

SIR 116 Web Site Now Offers New Features

The SIR 116 Web Site has been updated and some new features added. Roster updates (changes after the printed 116 Roster is published) are now added to the web site throughout the year. In addition the new SIR 116 Procedures and Guidelines Manual is now available on the site. Take a look at:

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

Your comments, suggestions and contributions to the site are welcome.

2009 18 Hole Leaders

As of Dublin Ranch -- February 23, 2009

By David Harris

FLIGHT 1		FLIGHT 2		FLIGHT 3		FLIGHT 4	
NAME	POINTS	NAME	POINTS	NAME	POINTS	NAME	POINTS
Randall, Lonny	12	Goff, Phil	10	Donohue, Bob	12	Foust, Max	8
Harris, David	7	Hunter, Jerry	7	Robertson, C.	6	Gilliam, Chuck	8
McCord, Bill	7	Carlson, David	6	Serafino, Al	5	Vogl, Art	8
Clizbe, Jim	6	Hutchko, Al	3	Jenkins, Phil	4	Ghelfi, Dan	7
Cherepy, Steve	3	Kim, Paul	3	Conlon, Bob	3	Arena, Matt	3
Crua, Frank	3	Tinguely, Pat	3	Daniel, Jed	2	Eckels, Paul	3
Marks, Phillip	3	Canane, John	2	Langhorst, Carl	2	Hemmelsbach, Bill	3
Domer, Ron	2	Robinson, Robbie	2	Videle, Jim	2	Armijo, Ron	2
Meyer, Dirk	2	Socolich, Dick	2	Peterson, John	1	Wroblewski, Bernie	2
Schmidt, Neil	1			Powell, Troy	1		

18-Hole Pay In Advance Deadlines

Event Date	Location	Deadline	Amount
Tuesday March 17	Delta View	6-Mar	\$29
Monday March 23	Lone Tree	10-Mar	\$35
Monday March 30	Paradise Valley	20-Mar	\$44
Wednesday April 15	Silverado North	15-Mar	\$49 / 44
(Silverado North: \$49 for members, \$44 for guests)			
Tuesday April 21	Blue Rock - East	7-Apr	\$35
Monday April 27	Rancho Solano	17-Apr	\$44

Send checks made out to SIR Branch 116, Golf
to PO Box 3246, Walnut Creek, CA 94598-9991

Latest SIR 116 Golf Info Available on Our Golf Web Site

The Golf Website address is: <http://www.sir-web.org/116-golf>

Please bookmark it in your "Favorites" list of websites to access information on the following:

2008 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.
- 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.

SIR Sacramento Jazz Jubilee

Many of our members have been enjoying the special SIR offer for Sacramento Jazz Jubilee tickets. The Jubilee has again offered a special discount for SIR members this year. I have copied their flier below.

Dave Reiser
President, SIRinc

**A special invitation to Sons In Retirement to celebrate with friends the music of their era!
To find out more go to www.sacjazz.com**

Sons In Retirement Discount Rates
36th Annual Sacramento Jazz Festival/Jubilee May 22-25, 2009:

Four Day All Events Admission Badge
\$95 Through April 12, 2009 Discounted to \$81.00
\$110.00 as of April 13, 2009 (Includes Program Discounted to \$95.00)
\$50 Youth (ages 7-20) Discounted to \$45.00

One Day Admission Bracelets:

\$40.00 Friday only Adults all performances Discounted to \$35.00
\$15.00 Friday only Youth (age 7-20) all performances Discounted to \$13.00
\$45.00 One Day Adults Sat. or Sun. Discounted to \$40.00
\$20.00 One Day Youth (age 7-10) Sat. or Sun. Discounted to \$17.00
\$25.00 Monday Only Adult Admission No Discount
\$10.00 Monday Only Senior No Discount
\$10.00 Monday Only Youth (age 7-20) No Discount

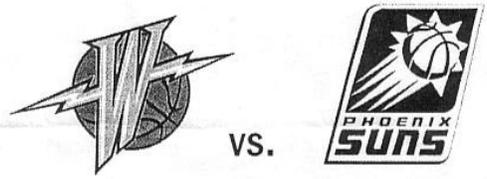
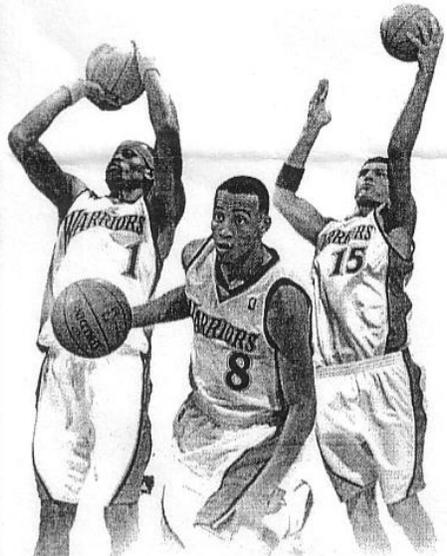
When ordering by check, make out to the Sacramento Jazz Festival/Jubilee and mail to the address below. The SJS also accepts Visa and MasterCard. Upon receipt of order, Fusaro will provide tickets, which can be exchanged for either badges or bracelets at the Admission Trailers located in Old Sacramento and other locations.

Contact Jim Fusaro for tickets or information:

Group and Tour Sales Coordinator
449 Cedar River Way
Sacramento CA 95831-2462
Phone: 916-428-5719
E-mail: jim4jazz@comcast.net



SIR'S NIGHT WITH THE GOLDEN STATE WARRIORS!



Sunday, March 15, 2009
6:00 p.m.
ORACLE Arena

- Enjoy a specially discounted Warriors game for the family and friends of SIR's Members!
- Every ticket purchase includes a food voucher good for a hot dog, chips, and a drink

It's A Great Time Out FOR GROUPS!

For more information, please contact Troy Corti at 510-986-5408 or via e-mail at tacorti@gs-warriors.com

Mail order form to: Golden State Warriors Ticketing Department
Attn: Troy Corti - 1011 Broadway · Oakland, CA 94607-4019 or FAX to: 510-663-9192

Deadline for Mail Delivery Orders: 10 days before game date
All orders received after mail-in deadline will be left at Will-Call.
 Check box to leave at Will-Call regardless of date received

# Tickets	Ticket Price	Seat Location	Total
Suns: _____	@ \$25 ea. (Reg. \$65)	Club 200 Sideline	_____

Club 200 Sideline - Sec. 204-229; 213-220

Name _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State ____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ Fax: _____
 E-mail: _____
 Will-Call Name (if necessary): _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Check: Check # _____ (Payable to Golden State Warriors)
 Credit Card: AMEX M/C VISA Exp Date: ____/____/____
 Card Number: _____
 Billing Address: _____
 Name on Card: _____
 OFFICE USE ONLY: Account Number # _____ 215616



RETURN TO: Lytton DeSilva
60 Muth Drive
Orinda, CA
94563-2819

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

Rules of Attendance and Membership for SIR Branch 116

RULE 100. A member may be notified in writing by his Branch of the pending termination of his membership (Rule 107) should he be responsible for any of the following:

Miss three (3) consecutive regular luncheon meetings without having been excused by contacting the designated Branch Attendance person prior to the meeting date.

Did not attend one-half (5) of the regular luncheon meetings within the previous twelve consecutive month period. NOTE: Excused meetings cannot be included to achieve the minimum attendance.

RULE 101. Certification of attendance by a member at another Branch meeting will be considered as a credit to his attendance record. (Maximum of 2 visits per calendar year).

Non Responsibility Declaration

RULE 345: All activities arranged for or 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, Incorporated, 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.

Checks for Trips

Trips of 2 days and 1 night or less may be made payable to the Branch conducting the trip. Trips in excess of 1 night must be made payable to the travel agency involved.