



Trampas Topics

January, 2011

SIR Branch 116

Next Meeting: 11:30 am,
Monday, January 17, 2011
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 2011 Big Sir Ron Armijo



Happy New Year and welcome to 2011. As we leave 2010 let us be thankful for all of the good we and our families experienced and hope that our blessings increase and burdens are few. I would like to thank the BEC and all of the committee chairmen for the terrific job they did to further the principles and goals of the SIR Organization and especially Branch 116. A special thanks to Jed Daniel for leading our branch as Big Sir and who will continue to serve as Director in 2011 and as Nominating Committee Chairman, and to the five board members, Frank Crua, Chuck Gilliam, Bill McCord, Conrad Robertson, and Ben Smith, who are leaving the BEC after very successful years serving on the board.

It is with a heavy heart that I list our fellow SIR's and Sir family members who died in 2010. They will be missed.

| | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| Bill Andrews | Bob Bentley | Ron Domer |
| Renzo Floretti | Paul Floyd | Jack Harrison |
| Donald Harriss | William Knight | Robert Lake |
| William Mowris | Bob Nilssen | Joe Ostler's wife Norma |
| Don Peckham's wife Lucy | Gary Schoen | Floyd Skelton |

We now begin a new year with a fresh outlook to the future. I welcome the new BEC and the new committee chairmen and those chairmen continuing for another year. Let us strive to be better than the best in 2011.

I have two goals that I would like to achieve this year with your help: 1) exceed the minimum 10% membership growth suggested by our state organization; 2) strengthen our two way communication process between the BEC and our membership. I will discuss these two goals in more detail at our luncheon meeting.

Our first luncheon meeting in 2011 will be on January 17th, which coincides with the Martin Luther King Day observance.

Thank you for your continuing support of SIR and our branch and I look forward to serving you in 2011.

Ron Armijo Big SIR



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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.

2011 SIR 116 Officers & Directors



Big SIR
Ron Armijo
945-0637



Little SIR
Neil Schmidt
939-5342



Secretary
Dick Chaffee
932-5087



Assist. Secretary
Joel White
964-0994



Treasurer
John Peterson
946-0335



Asst. Treasurer
Bob Shader
939-8421

DIRECTORS



Jed Daniel
551-7734



Bob Donohue
837-6913



Phil Goff
831-3692



Alex Lutkus
827-2828



Bernie Wroblewski
820-3274



Bob Wolf
935-5439

2011 SIR 116 Committee Chairmen

| | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|--------------|--|-----------------|--------------|
| Activities Coordinator | Jerry Kaplan | 938-1037 | Interviewer | Max Foust | 827-9323 |
| Attendance | Jim Nachtweih | 838-7417 | Membership | Andy Benz | 937-5706 |
| Audit | Dick Thomson | 785-7600 | Membership Roster | Dick Thompson | 785-7600 |
| | | | Music Man | Robbie Robinson | 798-4276 |
| Book Club | Rich Black | 283-8376 | Newsletter Editor | Neil Schmidt | 939-5342 |
| Bowling | Ron Gagliardi | 682-4012 | Newsletter Edtr. Asst. | Phil Goff | 831-3692 |
| Bridge | Milt Greenstein | 376-5589 | Nominating | Jed Daniel | 551-7734 |
| Candy Sales | Dirk Meyer | 820-6878 | Photographers | John Peterson | 946-0335 |
| Chaplain | Rotating | #1 See Below | | Ken Miller | 256-9343 |
| Christmas Party | Jerry Hicks | 945-7465 | Poker Group #1 | Bill Harrington | 935-1625 |
| Computer & Tech.. | Phil Goff | 831-3692 | Poker Group #2 | Al Reynolds | 254-1576 |
| Computer Support | Dick Thomson | 785-7600 | Spring Party | Jerry Hicks | 945-7465 |
| Dine-O-Sirs | Ben Smith | 820-5403 | Storytellers | Rotating | #2 See Below |
| Duplicate Bridge | Bob Daily | 837-7080 | Sums In Retirement | Ben Smith | 820-5403 |
| E-mail Contact | Neil Schmidt | 939-5342 | Sunshine | Matt Arena | 946-0404 |
| Fishing | Harry Sherinain | 846-7067 | Travel | Tom Eller | 939-5897 |
| Guitar | Paul King | 938-3035 | Volunteers | Bob Kinser | 837-8886 |
| Golf | Al Zavertero | 933-0465 | Webmaster | Phil Goff | 831-3692 |
| | Carlos Xavier | 947-6756 | Welcoming | Jerry Kaplan | 938-1037 |
| Greeters | Pat Bermingham | 930-9477 | Wine Appreciation | Al Reynolds | 254-1576 |
| Hiking and Walking | Joel White | 964-0994 | | | |
| | Dan Green | 376-7087 | #1. Doug Aalders, Matt Arena, Marty Ratterree, Lou Sandor | | |
| Historian | Matt Arena | 946-0404 | #2. Pat Bermingham, Art Donaldson, Milt Greenstein, Marty Ratterree | | |
| Host | Frank Crua | 932-0975 | | | |

2011 SIR Area 2 (Inter-branch) Committee Chairmen

| | | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|----------|-----------------|-------------------------|----------|
| Bowling | Lloyd West (Br.19) | 228-9037 | Rubber Bridge | Fred Bolton (Br.146) | 932-1580 |
| Computer & Tech | Co-Derek Southern (Br.8) | 253-1646 | Table Pool | Bill Weinberg (Br.146) | 682-0962 |
| Fishing | Karl Droese (Br.171) | 376-0468 | Travel | Bob Spellman (A.2) | 934-8428 |
| Golf | Jim Willey (Br.19) | 689-3199 | Speakers Bureau | John Roebuck (Br.19) | 685-8764 |
| Publicity | Walt Schick (Br.8) | 934-0656 | Sums Retirement | Allen Espenmiller (A.2) | 376-3977 |

SIR Branch 116 Activity Calendar

January 2011

| Sun. | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Sat. |
|------|---|--|--|--|--|------|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 18-Hole Golf (9:30@ Boundary Oak) | 4 Duplicate Bridge (9:30@ P.Hill Bridge Ctr) | 5 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Buchanan Fields) | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 18-Hole Golf (9:30@ Boundary Oak) | 11 Luncheon Bridge (11:30@ Round Hill CC) | 12 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Pine Meadow) | 13 | 14 Hiking & Walking (8:15@ Arbolado Park, WC) | 15 |
| 16 | 17 SIR Br 116 Mtg. (11:30@ Elks Club) | 18 18-Hole Golf (9:06@ Lone Tree) Poker Group 2 (1:00@ Diablo CC) | 19 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Buchanan Fields) | 20 Computer & Tech (9:00@ Elks Club) | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 Pre-Book Grp. Walk (8:15@ Laf. Reservoir) Book Group Mtg. (10:15@ Orinda Books) 18-Hole Golf (9:36@ Deer Ridge) | 25 Luncheon Bridge (11:30@ Diablo CC) 18-Hole Golf (9:00@ Lone Tree) | 26 \$ums in Retirement (8:00@ Diablo Creek GC) Dine-O-Sirs (6:00@Brass Door Restaurant) 9-Hole Golf (10:15@ Diablo Hills) | 27 Fishing Group (8:30@ Legends-Diablo Crk) Wine Appreciation (To Be Determined) | 28 Hiking & Walking (8:15@ Whole Foods, WC) | 29 |
| 30 | 31 18-Hole Golf (9:30@ Roddy Ranch) |  | | | | |

Membership

Lytton DeSilva



SIR 116 Membership Status

Total Current Members — 251
 Last Month's Inductees — 0
 Those in Interview Stage — 1
 Total in Process — 1
 On Inactive Status — 41
 Left the Branch — 0
 Waiting to be Installed — 0

January Birthdays

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

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Sandor, Louis | Sullivan, William |
| Doyle, Albert L. | Ratterree, Marty |
| Fucik, John J. | Eller, Thomas D. |
| Hattaway, Dudley P. | Peckham, Donald E. |
| Harold, Kenneth D. | Sicabaig, Henry |
| Hagler, Jack | Eckels, Paul |
| Ginter, William K. | Sigvaldson, Arni |
| Socolich, Richard | Booth, Donald B. |
| Klein, Ed | |

January Luncheon Menu

Grilled Chicken w/ Bearnaise Sauce
 Rice Pilaf
 Butternut Squash-Corn Medley
 Caesar Salad, Butter & Rolls
 Assorted Desserts, Coffee and Iced Tea

Want a Free Lunch? Sponsor a New Member!

That's right! Sponsor a new Branch 116 member in 2010 and get a free lunch. Sponsor another and, get another free lunch. No limit on this deal!

Br. 116 Treasurer's Report

Chuck Gilliam, Treasurer



| | <u>December 2010</u> | <u>2010 YTD</u> |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Contributions | \$ 1,435.00 | \$ 66,465.12 |
| Disbursements | \$ (7,435.16) | \$ (66,550.51) |
| Net (gain/(loss)) | \$ (6,000.16) | \$ (85.39) |
| December Cash Balance | | \$ 7,567.49 |

Luncheon Speaker

By Little Sir Neil Schmidt



Repairing the Hubble Space Telescope & Building It's Replacement - The James Webb Space Telescope

Ever wonder how the Hubble space telescope was launched into orbit without checking to see if the view was clear and how it was fixed in orbit after it was discovered? My presentation will reveal the engineering mistakes that eventually resulted in this billion dollar failure and my involvement in designing the "eyeglasses" for Hubble that resulted in the spectacular images we now have from this marvelous instrument. The end of useful life of the Hubble space telescope is coming to an end very soon and NASA is building a replacement telescope - the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST). I have been involved in the fabrication of this observatory for the last seven years and we will explore how the telescope is manufactured and the operation of this new telescope when it is in orbit.

Tracy Peters is employed by Tinsley Laboratories and has been involved in the creation of most of the optical systems for orbiting observatories, among the most important was the repair optics for the Hubble and his current project, the James Webb Space Telescope.



Sunshine Report

Matt Arena

During the past year we have suffered the loss of more members than any previous year.

Many of us have endured long illnesses and, in addition, are caretakers for wives and family members.

It is with every hope that those affected will be able to join us again in the very near future. For those who are not able to be with us at our monthly luncheons, know that you are missed and that you are in our thoughts.

May your health improve in 2011 and it is our wish that you will once again enjoy the full pleasure of retirement.

Best Wishes for a Happy New Year from your friends in Branch #116, Sons in Retirement.



\$ums Investment Group

Allen Espenmiller

The Area 2 \$ums Investment Group will meet on January 26th, 2011 at 8:00 AM at the Diablo Creek Golf course 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Our speaker will be Tom Kopas of Pring Turner Capital Group. Tom's talk will be "Financial Market Update: Economic and Market Outlook for 2011" Many long term challenges lie ahead including: a continuing trading range stock market over the next ten years, bond prices very vulnerable to rising interest rates and inflation begins to rear it's ugly head. Where are the risks and opportunities for investors going forward? Tom will also spend a few moments discussing Options and Covered Call Writing. Tom is one of our best educational speakers so be sure to put this date on your calendar.

The restaurant at the course opens at 7:00 AM for those who would like to enjoy breakfast with your colleagues.



GOLDEN GATE FIELDS

WHERE THE BAY COMES TO PLAY

SIR Branch 8 presents the 3rd Annual

SIR Bill Hooy Day at the Races

DATE- Thursday, February 17, 2011

TIME: 11AM (First Race 12:45)

COST: \$35 p/p

The price includes:

- Admission to the Turf Club
- Race Program
- Reserved group seating near the finish line. Inside, warm and dry.
- Prime Rib buffet lunch
- Valet Parking
- Opportunity to have your picture taken with winning jockey of our special race.
- Para mutual betting windows are located on our level within the Turf Club.

The cutoff to give them the money and head count is February 3rd. If you are interested in joining the group please let me know by return e-mail and then send your check for \$35 per person attending to Dan Franklin, 2005 Cactus Court, #4, Walnut Creek, CA 94595. Please make checks out to Dan Franklin. (925-933-2595, mardanny@sbcglobal.net)

This is a day of fun and heart pounding intensity. Bring your friends and neighbors and make a day of it.

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU ARE INTERESTED SO WE CAN CONFIRM OUR SPACE.

State 'SIR Happenings'

SIR Happenings (our State Web Newsletter) is now in it's fifth year of publishing!

Enjoy reading *SIR Happenings* 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 located at:

www.sirinc.org/sirhappenings

"Dine-O-Sirs" Dinner Group

Ben Smith



Greetings to all you Dine-O-Sir Diners:

We plan to start off the new year with a great dine out event to be held at the "Brass Door Restaurant" in San Ramon. This Dine out is scheduled for Wed. **January 26, 2011**. The social hour will start at 6:00 PM and dinner will be served about 6:45 PM. This Restaurant has been in business since the 1950's and has an excellent reputation for good food and service. The proprietor and our Host for the evening will be **Mr. Dan Basso**.

Dinner Cost will be \$30 per person which includes Tax & gratuity.

Select wines will be available at \$20 per bottle & \$5 per glass. House well drinks will be \$5. Prices are inclusive of taxes and gratuity.

Starter: Mixed California Salad with choice of Italian or Blue Cheese dressing

Menu: (your choice-choose one)

1. Roast Prime Rib of Beef--(A house speciality) served Au Jus with fresh Horseradish, creamed Spinach and baked potato with all the trimmings.
2. New York Steak--Baked potato with all the trimmings, fresh vegetables
3. Chicken Pacatta--(Boneless Chicken breast, lemon butter sauce and capers) with mashed potatoes and fresh vegetables.
4. Fish-Fresh daily catch--(Best available mild white fish) with mashed potatoes and fresh vegetables

Dessert--Rainbow Sherbet Ice Cream

Coffee or Hot tea and hot garlic bread served with all dinners

This Dine out evening is filling up fast and people wishing to join in the event should confirm their wish to attend as soon as possible. If you wish to make reservation please send an e-mail or call Ben

Smith.

Reservations become firm on a first to pay basis. E-mail reservations will be held for 5 days.

Payment should be sent to Ben Smith, 1837 Lackland Dr. Alamo, CA 94507--e-mail bjssmith@aol.com Telephone 925-820-5403.

The Brass Door restaurant is located at 2154 San Ramon Valley Blvd, San Ramon, CA 94583. From Walnut Creek, travel south on Hwy 680 to Crow Canyon Rd. Exit on Crow Canyon to the first stop light. Turn Right on San Ramon Valley Rd. and travel about one half mile to the Brass Door on the right side of the street. Parking is behind the restaurant.

Look forward to seeing all your Dine-O eaters. This should prove to be great evening to enjoy a good meal and socialize with our fellow SIR's.



Br. 116 Book Club

Rich Black

Two Years in a Chinese Backwater

On Monday November 29 The SIR Book Group discussed "Rivertown: Two Years on the Yangtze" by Peter Hessler. The book was a memoir of the author's Peace Corps experiences in a town soon to be partly submerged by the Three Gorges Dam. Four of the members had been on the Yangtze and reported that some of Hessler's observations comported with theirs. Present were Lytton DeSilva, Al Reynolds, Joel White, Jack Buttler, John Frazier, Jim Scott and Rich Black. Group members agreed that it gave insights into the china and Chinese of the time, and awarded it four stars plus. (Five stars is perfect.)

The group will next meet on **January 24** at Orinda Books at 10:15 AM to discuss "The Worst Hard Time" by Timothy Egan, about the dust bowl in the 1930's. It's 300 pages in paperback and you have a month and a half to read it. Give it a shot. Try us. You'll like us.



SIR Fishing Group

Harry Sherinain

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, January 27th, at the Legend Sports Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course at 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Meeting starts at 8:30am.

Well, Kent Cremolini's 188-pound Yellow fin Tuna reported last month was sure the fish of the year, but Joe Miscione had the trip of the year when he spent 15 days in Uruguay fishing with Mario Mauritorio. They fished the ocean for delicious Whiting; (We call it whiting, because neither of us could spell the Spanish name.) they fished the Salto area for Pereida to 15 pounds; and they fished the Rio Negro for fierce, toothy Tiger Fish. Meanwhile, the rest of us including: Pete Gates, Tom Boltz, Mike Corker, Carl Moyer, Terry Miller and his son Steve, Dick Thomson, Paul Dubow, Harry Sherinian, and John O'Brien managed to catch a few trout from Shadow Cliffs Reservoir. The size of the fish made up for the lack of quantity. Terry Miller, Joe Karg, Bob Olson, and Carl Moyer fished Suisun Bay for keeper stripers and lots of undersized sturgeon. Terry and Carl landed 12 in one outing. And finally the intrepid Joe Miscione caught some tasty crabs from the Pacifica Pier.

The Area 2 Fishing Group had their Annual Christmas Gala at Zio Fraedo's in Pleasant Hill. It was a great evening with about 50 people in attendance. Husbands and wife's spent the evening telling fish stories and swapping tales of how big and how many fish or how to cook this fish or smoke that one. We had a great meal with wine and all the trimmings. Having the luxury of a private room with our own bar set up made for a great party. A special thanks to Dick Thompson and Pete Gates for setting up the function and making sure that all of us had a good time.

We will be very busy this winter, if the wind and rain ever subside, with: delta fishing for bass,

catfish, and sturgeon, trout fishing in local lakes, and party boat trips for sturgeon. We are also planning a trip to Sacramento to the International Sportsman's Expo which is always a great outing where you get to talk to the pros and spend time looking and touching all the latest and greatest fishing gear.

There will also be an outing to the Annual Fly Fishing Show in Pleasanton during the month of February. These outings will 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 join us. At our last meeting in December we had the pleasure of listening to professional guide Kevin Brock who spoke to us on the various fishing areas in California and Alaska. It looks like Kevin will be guiding us on a few fishing trips. Kevin also provided us with some fishing gear, which was distributed, to the members by drawing of names from a hat.

Our next meeting will be **Thursday, January 27th**, 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 Karl Droese, Big Fish, (925-376-0468;) Harry Sherinian (Branch 116 Coordinator) (925-846-7067) or Dick Thomson, Treasurer/Secretary, (925-944-1760.)



Terry Miller's Striper

Hiking & Walking

Joel White



Santa was good to the Amiable Amblers. At the annual Christmas dinner dance, two new couples were welcomed to our group, Tim and Dianne Tinnes and Albert and Joyce Zavattero.

The walk on Friday, January 14 will be led by Joel White: 964-0994; zpz2mrz@yahoo.com. This walk will commence in Arbolado Park in Walnut Creek at 8:15 am. Driving directions: Ygnacio Valley Road to Oak Grove Road. Right on Oak Grove Rd (if coming from downtown WC area, left if coming from Concord/Clayton area). Proceed approximately 4 stops and turn left on Arbolado. Meet at the Contra Costa Canal Trail in the lower parking lot.

On Friday, January 28 we will meet at 8:15 am in the Whole Foods parking lot at the corner of Newell and Broadway in downtown Walnut Creek. This walk will be led by Rich Black. Please RSVP to Rich Black: 283-8376; argnbck@comcast.net.

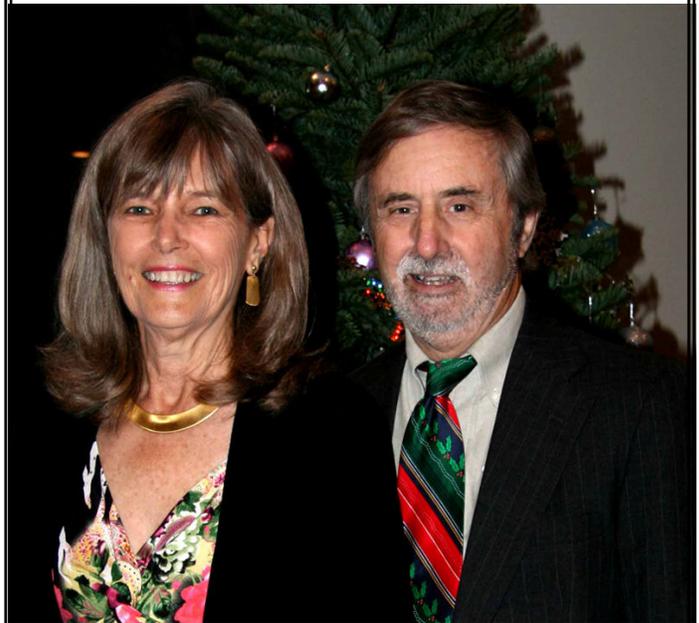
The Monday Jan 24 walk will also be led by Rich Black. Meet at the East end of the Lafayette reservoir parking lot at 8:15 am. Please RSVP to Rich Black: 283-8376; argnbck@comcast.net .

Please RSVP to the walk leaders if you plan to attend.

Anyone wishing to join this friendly group or to be added to the e-mail reminder list should contact Joel White 964-0994 or zpz2mrz@yahoo.com.



New additions to the Hiking & Walking Group (Wearing their Christmas outfits and not hiking clothes)



Tim and Dianne Tinnes



Al and Joyce Zavattero



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:



SIR State Travel Opportunities 2010/11

Jan 28-Feb 7 2011: Caribbean Cruise (Barbados, Grenadines, St. Kits, St. Barts, St Maartan and Grand Turk) 9 day cruise for \$3950 to \$4850, Tom Sponsler, Moraga, Br. 171 925-708-6584.

Feb 14-28 2011: Magnificent Mediterranean Odyssey (Italy, Egypt, Israel, Greece, Croatia –plus 2 night stay in Venice) Cruise from \$3510 to \$4075. Bill Kurtz Br21 408-268-8830

Mar5-15, 2011: The Galapagos Islands. (Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands.) 11 day trip for \$6469 Ralph Hunt, Mountain View, Br 153 650-967-8467

Apr 16-30, 2011: Ancient Egypt & Nile River (Cairo, Aswan, Luxor plus 7 day Rliver Cruise) 15 days for \$3100 to \$3400 with extensions to Israel and Jordan available. Bob Spellman, Walnut Creek, Br 146 925-934-8428.

Apr 23-May 4, 2011 The Legendary Danube (3 nights in Prague, plus 7 night cruise from Nuremberg to Budapest down the Danube River) for \$4395 to \$4995, Brian Serpa, San Jose Br 141, 408-227-7658 or Rollo Parsons 408-268-5245

May 7-14, 2011: Hawaiian Cruise (Fly to Honolulu, cruise to four different Islands) 7 day cruise for \$1770 to \$2185, Lou Pagni San Lorenzo Br 6 510-276-5025.

May 10-18 2011: Tuscan Vacation (Florence, Pisa, Siena, Montecatini, Lucca and San Gimignano) 9 days for \$3695 to \$4080, Wil Reich, Sonora, Brs 77, 136, 172, 209-533-2626.

May 16-31,2011: Eastern Mediterranean Cruise (Rome, Athens, Patmos, Santorini, Kusadasi, Haifa, Nazareth, Ashod, Cairo and Capri) 12 day Cruise for \$4990 to \$5930, Rick Wayne, Livermore, Br 101, 925-371-3846.

May 27, 2011: Heritage of America (New York, Philadelphia, Amish Country, Gettysburg, Shenandoah Valley, Monticello, Colonial Williamsburg, Mt Vernon and Washington) 10 day motor coach tour, \$ 2799, Rich Small, Br 34, 925-462-1204.

Jun 9-19, 2011: Alaska's Inside Passage (Juneau, Glacier Bay, Haines, Ketchikan, Victoria) 10 day cruise for \$2578 to \$2655, Jim Lunn, San Ramon, Br 8, 925-551-3329.

Jun 11-23, 2011: Russian Waterways: (St Petersburg to Moscow on the newest, best equipped riverboat in Russia) 11 night cruise for \$5895 to \$7695, Jim Stoner, San Jose, Br 114, 408-528-0746 or Larry Martinson 408-238-8458.

Jun 13-20 2011: Trains across Colorado (Denver, Durango, Silverton, Cumbres, Toltec, Rio Grande and Pikes Peak) 8 day motor coach trip for \$2390, Werner Schlapfer, Livermore, Br 121, 925-443-8291.

Jul 11-23 2011: Denali Explorer Cruise Tour (Anchorage, Mt. McKinley, Denali, Glacier Bay, Skagway Juneau, Ketchikan, and Vancouver) 13 days 3792 to \$4695. Jim Hohenshelt Santa Clara, Br 62, 408-241-4421.

Sep 1-12, 2011: Danube River Cruise (From Vilshofen, Germany to Budapest, Hungary) 10 day trip, starting at \$ 3875, Rick Wayne, Br 101, 925-337-3846.

Sep 11-21, 2011: The Enchantment of Lake Michigan (Detroit, Mackinac, Green Bay, and Chicago) 10 day trip for \$ 2885. Bob Hagler Br 8, 925-934-7620. Walnut Creek, 925-934-8428.

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.



Computer & Technology

Derek Southern & Phil Goff

Area 2 Computer and Technology Group invite you to their next meeting on **Thursday, January 20th** at 9am

Sir Phil Goff will give a presentation about taking your old (historic?) 8mm movies and converting them into a digital format. He will explain how to achieve this magic based on his own experiences. Bring your questions and get ideas from someone who learned it the 'old fashioned' way!

Time permitting, there may be also be a Show & Tell featuring any gadgets attendees bring, and possibly a Q&A session with The Gurus of A2CAT where the advice is always 'priceless'.

Meetings of the Area 2 Computer and Technology Group are held the 3rd Thursday of each month (except June and December) from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Drive. Whether you are a beginner or a seasoned user, we try to offer something for everyone. We ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and cookies. All SIR members and their guests (spouses included!) are welcome to attend.



Poker Group #2

Al Reynolds

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 is the primary purpose.



If you would like to join, call Al Reynolds at 254-1576 or send an email to reynolds4596@sbcglobal.net.



Bridge

Milt Greenstein

Duplicate Bridge

The Branch 116 Duplicate Bridge Group met on December 7th at the Pleasant Hill Bridge Center for our monthly duplicate bridge session, with 20 men attending. Leading the group this session was Conrad Robertson/Bill Sullivan with a very good 72.69 % score (78.50 out of a possible 108 points) and earning 1.00 master point. In second place was Michael Corker/Dan Green with 58.8 % (0.70 mp), followed by Milt Greenstein/Howard Brandis (54.63 %, 0.50 mp), Jack Butler/Jim Nachtweih (54.17 %, 0.35 mp) and Lou Sandor/Norm Schoenfeld (50.00%, 0.25 mp).

Luncheon Bridge

On December 14th, 29 men gathered at Round Hill C.C. for lunch and bridge. Our big winner today was Dick Chaffee with 6,420 points followed by Oscar Krikorian with 6,300 points. In third place was Bob Wolf (5,100 points), Jack Butler (5,080 points), Charley Schmidt (5,070 points) and Gene Gould (4,470 points). We had two small slams today : Charley Schmidt/Dimitris Argyriou and Oscar Krikorian/Bob Kahl. Much better cards today. Our high score today was 33 % higher than our last session !

On December 28th, the group met at Diablo C. C. with 26 men attending. The high score today was 6,240 points achieved by Dimitris Argyriou. In second place was Bill Sullivan with 5,150 followed by Milt Greenstein (5,130), Ben Yeraka (5,020), Bob Kahl (4,930) and Lou Sandor (4,430). We had 5 small slams made today by the teams of Ron Wohlberg/Lee Travis, Lou Sandor/Gene Gould, Bill Sullivan/Dimitris Argyriou, Ben Yeraka/Norm Schoenfeld and Art Donaldson/Jai Yee. That is the most small slams since June of this year. (On average, we have 2.5 small slams made per session, only 57 all year.)





Wine Appreciation Group

Al Reynolds

The next Wine activity will be held on **January 27, 2011**. Host and location TBD. If you are interested in participating in this event, contact Al Reynolds at 254-1576.



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/>

Branch 116 Members in Action Last Year



SIR Branch 116 Golf

By Carlos Xavier, Acting 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 Tournament 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 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 in both groups 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 reasonable prices.

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.

January 18-Hole Schedule

| Date | Time | Location | Organizer |
|----------|------|--------------|-------------|
| Mon. 03 | 9:30 | Boundary Oak | R. Robinson |
| Mon. 10 | 9:30 | Boundary Oak | R. Robinson |
| Tues. 18 | 9:06 | Lone Tree | R. Robinson |
| Mon. 24 | 9:36 | Deer Ridge | R. Robinson |
| Mon. 31 | 9:00 | Roddy Rancy | R. Robinson |

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.

Golf vs Tennis

The difference between golf and tennis is that tennis is murder - you just want to kill the other player. Golf is suicide - you just want to kill yourself..."

January 9-Hole Schedule

| Date | Time | Location | Organizer |
|--------|-------|-----------------|---------------|
| Wed 05 | 10:00 | Buchanan Fields | Dick Chaffee |
| Wed 12 | 10:00 | Pine Meadow | D. McClaughry |
| Wed 19 | 10:00 | Buchanan Fields | Dick Chaffee |
| Wed 26 | 10:00 | Diablo Hills | Doug Alders |



18 Hole Results

By David Harris

Delta View -- Monday December 27, 2010

| Flight 1 | | | Flight 2 | | | Flight 3 | | | Flight 4 | | |
|---------------|----|---|---------------|----|---|-------------------|----|---|------------------|-----|---|
| Bill McCord | 75 | 3 | Paul Kim | 71 | 3 | Dick Chaffee | 74 | 3 | Chuck Gilliam | 74 | 3 |
| Dirk Meyer | 76 | 2 | David Carlson | 72 | 2 | Conrad Robertson | 74 | 3 | Bill Hemmelsbach | 77 | 2 |
| Lonny Randall | 78 | 1 | Frank Crua | 72 | 2 | Bernie Wroblewski | 82 | 1 | Art Vogl | 79 | 1 |
| Low Gross | | | Low Gross | | | Low Gross | | | Low Gross | | |
| Bill McCord | 90 | | Paul Kim | 89 | | Dick Chaffee | 99 | | Bill Hemmelsbach | 110 | |

Closest to: Hole #3 - Dirk Meyer -- Hole #13 - Jim Clizbe, Art Vogl

Bethel Island -- Monday December 20, 2010

Canceled due to bad weather

Lone Tree -- Monday December 13, 2010

| Flight 1 | | | Flight 2 | | | Flight 3 | | | Flight 4 | | |
|--------------|----|---|---------------|----|---|-------------------|----|---|------------------|----|---|
| David Harris | 69 | 3 | Frank Crua | 68 | 3 | Max Foust | 71 | 3 | John Peterson | 66 | 3 |
| Dirk Meyer | 71 | 2 | Dick Socolich | 72 | 2 | Conrad Robertson | 72 | 2 | Bill Hemmelsbach | 72 | 2 |
| Bill McCord | 72 | 1 | John Story | 74 | 1 | Bernie Wroblewski | 75 | 1 | Chuck Gilliam | 73 | 1 |
| Al Zavattero | 72 | 1 | Pat Tinguely | 74 | 1 | | | | | | |
| Low Gross | | | Low Gross | | | Low Gross | | | Low Gross | | |
| David Harris | 86 | | Frank Crua | 88 | | Max Foust | 97 | | John Peterson | 94 | |

Closest to: Hole #5 - Dirk Meyer, Max Foust -- Hole #11 - John Story

Boundary Oak -- Monday December 6, 2010

| Flight 1 | | | Flight 2 | | | Flight 3 | | | Flight 4 | | |
|---------------|----|---|--------------|----|---|-------------------|----|---|---------------|-----|---|
| David Harris | 73 | 3 | Jerry Hunter | 70 | 3 | Max Foust | 73 | 3 | Joe Ostler | 75 | 3 |
| Lonny Randall | 73 | 3 | John Story | 70 | 3 | Bernie Wroblewski | 76 | 2 | Matt Arena | 78 | 2 |
| Jim Clizbe | 76 | 1 | Frank Crua | 71 | 1 | Phil Jenkins | 77 | 1 | John Peterson | 78 | 2 |
| | | | | | | | | | Art Vogl | 78 | 2 |
| Low Gross | | | Low Gross | | | Low Gross | | | Low Gross | | |
| David Harris | 90 | | Pat Tinguely | 90 | | Max Foust | 99 | | John Peterson | 107 | |
| | | | | | | | | | Al Serafino | 107 | |

Closest to: Hole #2 - Al Zavattero, John Peterson -- Hole #12 - ---

Teeing Of Womens Tee Box

It was a sunny morning, a little before 8:00 AM, on the first hole of a busy course, and I was beginning my pre-shot routine, visualizing my upcoming shot when a piercing voice came over the clubhouse loud-speaker: "Would the gentleman on the women's tee please back up to the men's tee, please"

I could feel every eye on the course looking at me. I was still deep in my routine, seemingly impervious to the interruption. Again the announcement: "Would the man on the women's tee please back up to the men's tee, please!"

I simply ignored the guy and kept concentrating, when once more the man yelled, "Would the man on the women's tee please back up to the men's tee, please!"

I finally stopped, turned, cupped my hands and shouted back.... "Would the asshole with the microphone kindly keep quiet and let me play my second shot!"

2010 Final 18 Hole Leaders

By David Harris

| FLIGHT 1 | | FLIGHT 2 | | FLIGHT 3 | | FLIGHT 4 | |
|------------------|--------|--------------------|--------|--------------------|--------|-------------------|--------|
| Index 0.0 - 16.9 | | Index 17.0 - 20.9 | | Index 21.0 - 25.9 | | Index 26.0 - 36.4 | |
| NAME | POINTS | NAME | POINTS | NAME | POINTS | NAME | POINTS |
| Zavattero, Al | 51 | Crua, Frank | 52 | Robertson, Conrad | 68 | Gilliam, Chuck | 62 |
| McCord, Bill | 45 | Carlson, David | 46 | Foust, Max | 61 | Serafino, Al | 56 |
| Harris, David | 33 | Story, John | 39 | Wroblewski, Bernie | 40 | Peterson, John | 51 |
| Johnson, Jim | 31 | Hunter, Jerry | 34 | Robinson, Robbie | 32 | Hemmelsbach, Bill | 46 |
| Williams, Mel | 30 | Kim, Paul | 24 | Chaffee, Dick | 26 | Vogl, Art | 27 |
| Randall, Lonny | 22 | Hutchko, Al | 23 | Donohue, Bob | 24 | Arena, Matt | 21 |
| Schmidt, Neil | 22 | Goff, Phil | 20 | Jenkins, Phil | 24 | Langhorst, Carl | 16 |
| Meyer, Dirk | 21 | Eller, Tom | 19 | Daniel, Jed | 18 | Lockwood, Frank | 7 |
| Clizbe, Jim | 16 | Tinguely, Pat | 16 | Testa, Bob | 5 | Kallas, Pete | 6 |
| Clark, Bill | 14 | Socolich, Dick | 12 | Cook, Wayne | 4 | Armijo, Ron | 4 |
| Cherepy, Steve | 7 | Kawecki, Walt | 8 | Conlon, Bob | 3 | Ostler, Joe | 3 |
| Domer, Ron | 6 | Xavier, Carlos | 8 | Lutkus, Alex | 1 | Brown, Doug | 2 |
| Smith, Wayne | 6 | Birmingham, Pat | 5 | McVean, Kirk | 1 | Gagliardi, Ron | 2 |
| Hicks, Jerry | 3 | Campbell, Rob | 3 | | | | |
| Cannon, Larry | 2 | King, Paul | 2 | | | | |
| Nichols, Bob | 2 | McClaghry, Darrell | 1 | | | | |
| | | Portillo, Frank | 1 | | | | |

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.

18-Hole Pay In Advance Deadlines

| Event Date | Location | Deadline | Amount |
|----------------------|-----------------|----------|--------|
| Tuesday, Jan. 19 | Lone Tree | 6-Jan | \$35 |
| Monday, Jan. 24 | Deer Ridge | 15-Jan | \$35 |
| Monday, Jan 31 | Roddy Ranch | 22-Jan | \$39 |
| Wednesday, Feb. 9 | Silverado South | 6-Jan | \$45 |
| Tuesday, February 22 | Brentwood | 11-Feb | \$35 |
| Monday, February 28 | Dublin Ranch | 18-Feb | \$18 |

*Send checks made out to SIR Branch 116, Golf
to PO Box 3426, Walnut Creek, CA 94598-9991*



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.