



Trampas Topics

September, 2011

SIR Branch 116

Next Meeting: 11:30 am,
Monday, September 19, 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

Congratulations and welcome to the four new SIR members that were inducted at our August Luncheon. Make sure you introduce yourself to SIR Frank Krol, Alen Pirkle, Terry Grummitt and Edward "Skip" Bertson. Congratulations also go to the 2012 BEC that was elected during the same luncheon. Note that the position of Membership Chairman, currently held by SIR Andy Benz, was elevated to the position of Officer in the BEC.



The contingent of Branch 116 Golfers and partners will be off to Carson City in another week. Good luck to those attending the Carson City Golf Get-Away. I am confident that it will be another resounding success and look forward to hearing the stories. May the Goddess of Golf bestow an abundance of "Birdies" on those attendees.

As mentioned at our luncheon our Branch 116 has elected to support the SIR Area 2 Booth at the Walnut Festival to be held on September 24 and 25 at Heather Farms. This will be an opportunity to share the SIR story, which may result in new members. Our recruiting team of SIR Bob Donahue and Bernie Wroblewski are representing our branch on the planning committee. Soon they will be soliciting help to staff the booth so please if you would like to help let them know or if you are asked to help and you are available for either of those two days please say yes.

Speaking of our Recruitment Team, I am excited about the recent formation of this team. The idea is to expand the team by adding members at large, which will then become the ongoing core group for our recruiting effort. Bob and Bernie are working on the details on how to form this group and how it will operate. If you are interested in participating in this branch-critical effort please let Bob or Bernie know. Without a continuous flow of new members we may soon experience the decline to extinction that other branches have undergone.

Did you read the Walnut Creek Journal Article, "A lot more to it than golf", which featured a profile of our branch and includes interviews with SIR Neil Schmidt and Alex Lutkus? It appeared on the front page of the August 25th paper. You may want to find a copy to read. It is an excellent article that details what SIR offers retired men.

I look forward to seeing you at our September Luncheon on September 19th.

Ron Armijo- Big SIR

Labor Day



Topics Index

Activities Calendar	----- 3
Area 2 Chairmen	----- 2
Birthdays	----- 4
Bocce Ball	----- 5
Book Club	----- 9
Bowling	-----12
Branch Officers	----- 2
Bridge	----- 8
Christmas Dinner	-----11
Committee Chairman	----- 2
Computer & Tech.	-----11
Dine-O-Sirs Dinner	-----12
Fishing	----- 7
Free Lunch	----- 4
Golf	-----13-15
Hiking and Walking	----- 8
Lunch Attendance (Aug.)	--- 4
Lunch Menu (Sept.)	----- 4
Luncheon Speaker (Sept.)	-- 9
Membership	----- 4
New Members	----- 6
Poker Group #2	----- 5
Nominating Committee	--- 9
SIR Happenings	-----12
SIR Web Addresses	----- 6
Sums Investment	----- 6
Sunshine Report	----- 5
Treasurer's Report	----- 4
Travel	-----10
Wine Appreciation	-----11

PLEASE CALL 806-8874
by the Thursday prior to
the meeting to
cancel your standing reser-
vation 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 Thomson	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	Mike Corker	872-7525	Sums In Retirement	Ben Smith	820-5403
E-mail Contact	Neil Schmidt	939-5342	Sunshine	Matt Arena	946-0404
Fishing	Harry Sherinian	846-7067	Travel	Tom Eller	939-5897
Guitar	Paul King	938-3035	Volunteers	Bob Kinser	837-8886
Golf	Al Zavattero	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

September 2011

Sun.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
				1	2	3
4	Labor Day Holiday	Duplicate Bridge (9:00@ Diablo Valley Bridge Ctr)	9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC) 18-Hole Golf (9:30@ Boundary Oak GC) Bowling (10:00@Mounument Bowl)	8	Hiking & Walking (8:15@ Café Terzetto, Moraga)	10
11	18-Hole Golf (9:30@ Tilden GC)	Luncheon Bridge 11:30@ Round Hill CC)	9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Pine Meadow GC) Bowling (10:00@Mounument Bowl)	Computer & Tech (9:00@ Elks Club)	16	17
18	SIR Br 116 Mtg. (11:30@ Elks Club)	18-Hole Golf (10:00@ Lone Tree GC) Poker Group 2 (1:00@ Diablo CC)	9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC) Bowling (10:00@Mounument Bowl)	Fishing Group (8:30@ Legends-Diablo Crk)	Hiking & Walking (8:15@ Lafayette Reservoir, E end of Parking Lot)	24
25	18-Hole Golf (9:00@ Lake Chabot GC) Book Group Mtg. (10:15@ Orinda Books)	Luncheon Bridge (11:30@ Diablo CC) Dine-O-Sirs (6:00@ Round Hill CC)	9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Diablo Hills GC) Bowling (10:00@Mounument Bowl) \$ums Investment Group (8:00@ Diablo Creek GC)	29	30	



Membership

Andy Benz

SIR 116 Membership Status

Total Current Members:	248
Last Month's Inductees:	4
Those in Interview Stage:	0
Total in Process:	4
On Inactive Status:	43
Left the Branch:	2
Waiting to be Installed:	0



Lunch Attendance

Jim Nachtweih

Attendance at the August 15, 2011 meeting:

Total:	196
Members:	186
Visitors:	0
Speakers:	2
Guests:	6
Excused:	44
Un-Excused:	15

The un-excused members will be asked to pay for their missed lunch.



Br. 116 Treasurer's Report

John Peterson, Treasurer

	<u>August 2011</u>	<u>2011 YTD</u>
Contributions	\$ 3,071.00	\$ 39,467.50
Disbursements	\$ (4,359.49)	\$ (40,950.28)
Net gain/(loss)	\$ (1,288.49)	\$ (1,482.78)

August Cash Balance	\$ 6,099.71
---------------------	-------------



September Birthdays

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

Verdoia, Joseph P.	DeGraf, Donnell
Schnieder, Will	Nachtweih, James
Xavier, Carlos E.	Groeper, Alvin H.
Leschot, Allen	Black, Richard W.
Hendrick, Ivan L.	Carpenter, Michael S.
Kay, Norm	Campbell, Robert A.
Walker, Edwin	Williams, Melvin D.
Tittle, David S.	Corker, Michael T.
Miller, Terry L.	

September Luncheon Menu

MAMA LONNA'S HOMEMADE MEATLOAF
 GARLIC MASHED POTATOES & GRAVY
 BROWN SUGARED CARROTS
 GREEN SALAD, ROLLS & BUTTER
 COFFEE & ICE TEA
 DESSERT ASSORTMENT

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!



August Luncheon Speaker Gennifer Mountain
Talking about Fall Protection



Sunshine Report

Matt Arena

Past Big Sir **Courtney Borrecco** is home following his hip surgery and is progressing nicely .He is using his walker and is out of pain. The physical therapist from John Muir Hospital is treating him at home. Courtney sees his surgeon this week and is hoping to get a good report. It is the least he can expect after he had to have the same hip operated on a second time.

Sir **Al Hutchko** has had a successful knee operation. Al joins a string of men in our branch who have had this procedure and have done extremely well. It must have something to do with our generation. We take on tough tasks and do them well.

Sir **Joe Lennon** has been doing well following his valve replacement. He is now experiencing some dizziness and is in touch with his physician to help him deal with this issue. Joe is getting out regaining his strength and enjoying the out of doors.

Sir **Al Reynolds** has done it again. He has had his second knee operated on and has been discharged from John Muir Hospital. Al has got this down to a science but he has run out of knees to let the orthopedist practice on. He was in good spirits as he prepared to leave the hospital.

Sir **Harry Honstein** was resting when I called but I had a chance to catch up with daughter Mary Lou. She had just returned from a ride to the marina with her dad. Harry is getting out and doing physical therapy. She tells me how much Harry would love to join us for lunch and I have no doubt with the care he is receiving he will join us in the not too distant future.

Sir **Ed Regalia** his wife Gwen and his care giver have just returned from a cruise to Alaska. Gwen said they enjoined to trip immensely and now they are catching up on some rest following this fun adventure.

Our good health is so important to enjoying retirement so do whatever it takes to stay healthy. Get out of doors, get some sunshine, and breath in

the good air. Summer is about over and here is hoping you and your family have had time together to relax.

Did You See...

The Thursday, August 25th Contra Costa Times article about SIR titled *"A lot more to it than golf"*. The article featured interviews with our Little SIR Neil Schmidt and our SIR Director Alex Lutkus. It was a great article about why people join SIR and some of the activities available. If you missed it, you can read it by going to:

www.contracostatimes.com/ci_18748961?IADID

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.

Bocce Ball

Jerry Kaplan

Several SIRS members have expressed interest in starting a bocce ball group. If you are interested, please contact Jerry Kaplan at 925-938-1037 or mgkplan@astound.net.

Trampas Topics Submissions



We need your contributions and suggestions for Trampas Topics. Please send photos, news items, SIR activities, and Letters to the Editor to:

Neil Schmidt, Trampas Topics Editor

trampastopics@gmail.com

New Members



**Sponsor Richard Krieger with
New Member Allen Pirkle**



**Sponsor Robert Costa with
New Member Frank Krol**



**New Member Ed Berkson, Sponsor Robbie Rob-
inson and New Member Terry Grummitt**



\$ums Investment Group

Allen Espenmiller

The Area 2 \$ums Investment Group will meet on September 28th 2011, 8:00 AM at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Our speaker will be Steve Gelfand from the office of Merrill Lynch in San Francisco. Steve's presentation will discuss "Emerging Markets and Globalization: Beyond the Hype." In summary form he will review what's positive and exciting about the Emerging Markets (EM) and yet be sensible and honest about the challenges that confront these markets and countries.

Steve has over 32 years of experience in the world of Finance and Advisory positions for a variety of clients in the industrial part of the spectrum including Mattel Electronics and the Disney Channel. He brings a thoughtful and measured approach to wealth management. Utilizing the insight gained through study and experience, Steve questions the traditional models of wealth management that are popular on Wall Street. He strives to provide stability and peace of mind in a world that is ever more uncertain.

The timeliness of this talk is one all will enjoy. The restaurant at the course opens at 7:00 AM for those would like to enjoy breakfast with your colleagues.

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/>



SIR Fishing Group

Harry Sherinian

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, September 22nd 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.

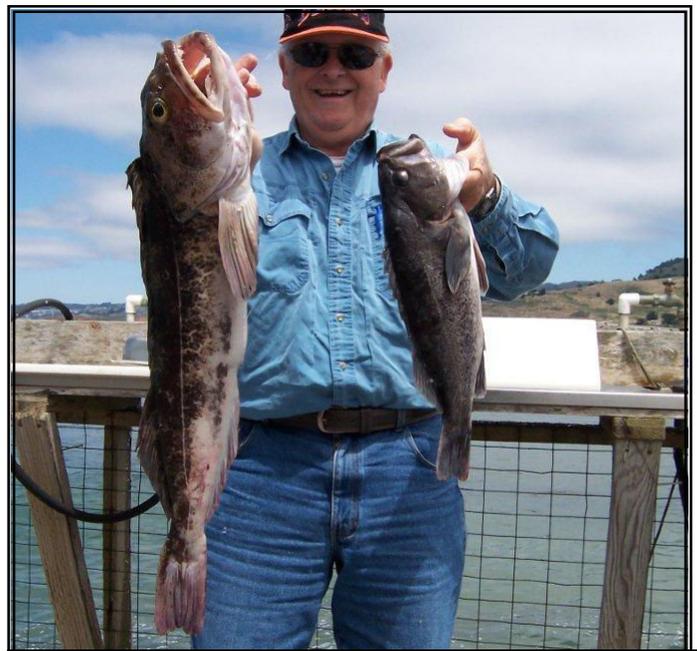
Pete Gates, Steve Lofton, Tom Boltz and his son spent a week in Alaska catching lots of silver salmon, and halibut to 50 lbs. Al Meier fished the Kenai River with friends for lots of sockeye salmon, and made one halibut trip on the ocean for halibut to 64 lbs. Rich Ball, Tom Glick, Ed Djikman, and Romano Gnusti returned to the Columbia River in Oregon and again limited on sturgeon each day for 3 days, and released many others including a monster well over 200 lbs that almost wore out Rich Bal. Paul Dubow, Karl Droese, Mario Moritorio, and Bill Landers caught 3 Mackinaw trout from Lake Tahoe on their first very windy day, only to have the second day cancelled due to the wind. Dick Thomson two weeks later enjoyed great weather there, and caught 3 macks with his group of relatives. Mike Corker and Carl Moyer tested the wind on the bay, but caught only one nice rockfish before the wind won. Karl Droese, John O'Brien, Dick Thomson, Bill Landers and friend joined Carl for a guided trip on the bay that was equally disappointing, cold and wet. The group caught one halibut and two stripers. Terry Miller and Harry Sherinian fared much better with Carl catching rockfish and lingcod on the ocean. Carl tried for salmon with some friends on the ocean, catching only shakers, but getting some rock cod on the way back in. Gordon Linebaugh caught some trout from Buck's lake; Joe Miscione got some from Lake McSwain. Tom Boltz got trout and kokanees from Lake Berryessa. Bill Landers hosted Paul Dubow and Harry Sherinian on the delta for black bass, catching and releasing a great many.

On a beautiful Sunday in August, the fishing club had their Annual Bar-B-Que. We all gathered at Bill Landers home and enjoyed a day of food, drink, and fellowship. Of course we brought our wives

along to make the day a pleasant one. We all gorged ourselves on ribs, chicken and brisket with all the trimmings. All who attended had a great time. This is one of our annual events where the wives are invited. [Member 075] A special thanks to Bill Landers for making his home available for this event and a special thanks to Dick Thompson for all his work towards making this event the great success it was.

We will be very busy this fall with: delta fishing for bass, catfish, and sturgeon, party boat trips for kokanee, trout, sturgeon, rock fish, salmon, and halibut. 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.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, September 22nd, 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 with his 8 lb. Link & 5 lb. Black





Bridge

Milt Greenstein

The duplicate bridge group met on August 2nd at the Diablo Valley Bridge Center with 22 men playing. Our winner today with a score of 63 points (58.33 %) was Bob Daily / Howard Brandis. In second place was Joel White / Jim Nachtweih (57.30 %), followed by Mike Corker / Dan Greenberg (53.24 %), Art Donaldson / Tony Pimintel (52.60 %) and Oscar Krikorian / Dimitris Argyriou.

On August 9th, 26 men had lunch and then played bridge at the Round Hill C.C. Our high scorer, thanks to 3 small slams, was Ron Wohlberg with a fine score of 7,870 points, the highest score attained this year. In second place was Bill Sullivan with a fine score of 6,780 points, followed by Norm Schoenfeld with 5,480, Dick Chaffee (5,360), Lee Travis (5,080) and Rudy Gebert (4,450). We had 8 small slams today, a record number; Ron Wohlberg had 3 slams with 3 different partners, Darrell Feay, Alvin Buchignani and Bill Sullivan. The other small slams were made by Oscar Krikorian/Darrell Feay, Dick Chaffee/Jai Yee, Art Donaldson/Norm Schoenfeld, Bill Sullivan/Gene Gould and Jim Nachtweih/Bob Daily.

On August 23, only 20 men gathered for lunch and bridge. High man today was Charley Schmidt with a respectable 6,460 points. But then the scores dropped. Lee Travis was second with 5,930. Third place with 4,540 was Jai Yee, followed by Bob Wolf (4,480) and Bob Kahl (3,950). Today saw only 1 small slam, made by Charley Schmidt / Dennis Perry.



Robby Robinson, Terry Grummitt, John Peterson at Calippie Preserve on August 29th.



Hiking & Walking

Joel White

Lytton DeSilva led a pleasant walk along tree-lined streets just north of HWY 24 in Orinda on the second Friday of August. Art Donaldson led the 4th Friday walk on a beautiful meander through the Heather Farms garden and then out onto the Contra Costa Canal trail in Walnut Creek. This was followed by breakfast at the new Panera in Countrywood Shopping Center. The happy walkers in photo below are from left to right: Art Donaldson, Audrey DeSilva, Mary Alice Donaldson, Susan White, Bobby and Norm Schoenfeld, and Lytton DeSilva.



On **Friday, Sept 9th**, Norm Schoenfeld will lead a trail walk on mostly flat ground with a very few gentle slopes up behind Moraga Country Club. We will meet at 8:15 am at Café Terzetto (across from the Safeway near Moraga Commons). Please RSVP for this walk to Norm: 376-7469, Bobbi-eschoenfeld@gmail.com.

Directions: Shopping center is located near corner of Moraga Road and St Mary's Road across from the Moraga commons.

On **Friday, Sept 23rd** we will meet at the East end of the Lafayette Reservoir parking lot at 8:15 am for a walk led by Rich Black. Please RSVP to Rich argnbck@comcast.net, 283-8376 for this very popular circle walk.

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



Br. 116 Book Club

Rich Black

Word of Honor

On Monday, August 22, the SIR Book Group discussed "Word of Honor" by Nelson DeMille. What would you do if a Viet Nam War incident for which you were responsible became a major issue after eighteen years? That was the situation of DeMille's fictional hero Ben Tyson in this book. While members differed on the veracity and credibility of the events in this book, most found it a rip roaring good tale. The group awarded it 4.445 stars. (Man, are we getting calibrated or what?) Richard Black led the discussion with Lytton DeSilva, Al Reynolds, Art Donaldson, Bob Mathews, Bob Daily, Dick Kaufman, Joel White, Larry Heaton, John Frazier and Jerry Christopherson participating.

The group will next meet on September 26 at Orinda Books at 10:15 AM to discuss "In the Garden of the Beasts" by Eric Larson, a tale of love, terror and American Family in Berlin in 1933.



Luncheon Speaker

By Little Sir Neil Schmidt

Explore the World with Road Scholar

Road Scholar, part of the Elderhostel organization, is America's first and the world's largest education and travel organization dedicated to serving adults, 55 and over. They are a non-profit leader in educational travel and offer more than 8,000 educational tours in all 50 states and 90 countries around the globe. Their programs offer a combination of travel and education about the area traveled and also other subjects of interest. Road Scholar is for people who want more than just a vacation. As an educational travel organization, they provide opportunities to learn as you explore the world, whether near to home or far away.

The speaker, Ann White, has been giving presentations for Road Scholar Trips for eight years. She is a volunteer and enjoys sharing travel experiences

with audiences in the East Bay area. She has lived in Concord for 35 years with her husband Bill and has two daughters and 4 grandchildren. She also works as a part time tax consultant during the tax season for a local CPA firm, travels and plays golf the rest of the year.

Fishing Joke

Give a man a fish and it'll feed him for a day.

Teach a man to fish and he will sit in a boat and drink beer all day.

Nominating Committee

Big SIR Ron Armijo introduced the 13 Nominees for the Branch Officer and Director positions for 2012 to the membership. The entire slate of Nominees was unanimously elected by a voice vote of the membership at the August luncheon meeting. It should be noted that the position of Membership Chairman was added to the BEC starting in 2012. The Nominating Committee consisting of Ben Smith, Bill McCord, John Maclay, and myself congratulates all the Electees and thanks them for their willingness to utilize their time, efforts, and talents for the betterment of the Branch. The 13 Electees will be installed at the November luncheon meeting. The list of the 13 Officers and Directors for 2012 is as follows:

Big SIR- Neil Schmidt
 Little SIR- Art Vogl
 Treasurer- John Peterson
 Asst. Treasurer- Bob Shader
 Secretary- Richard Chaffee
 Asst. Secretary- Joel White
 Membership Chairman- Andy Benz
 Director- Bob Donahue
 Director- Jerry Kaplan
 Director- Alex Lutkus
 Director- Bernie Wroblewski
 Director- Jim Johnson
 Director- Ron Armijo
 Jed Daniel (Nominating Committee Chairman)

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 2011-2012

Sep 3, 2011 The Mothball "Ghost" Fleet. See the ships before they are removed permanently from the Bay. Depart the Pittsburg marina aboard the Island Serenade yacht for a 4 hour narrated boat cruise traveling on the Delta to Suisun Bay. Includes a three course lunch, taxes, motorcoach and driver tip. Cost: 108.00, Contact **Tom Sponsler** @ 925-708-6584, Branch 171 for more information.

Sep 11-21, 2011 The Enchantment of Lake Michigan. An eleven day trip including a Hydrofoil to Mackinac Island, Green Bay and Madison Wisconsin featuring The House On The Rock and Frank Lloyd Wright's Hillside Home School at Taliesin, a ride on the Chicago River and into Lake Michigan. Cost \$ 2885 Contact **Bob Hagler** @ 925-934-7620 Branch 8 for more information.

Oct 1-11, 2011 Canada & New England Cruise. Experience the colors of Fall as you sail for 10 days aboard Silversea's Silver Whisper from Montreal to New York. You will also visit Quebec City, Charlottetown, Sydney, Halifax, Bar Harbor, Boston and Newport. While aboard the Silver Whisper you will find a most accommodating atmosphere providing impeccable service and world class cuisine. Everything is included in the price, tips, fine wines, all spirits, complimentary In Suite dining, meals airfare, bus to and from airport, port charge, government fees and taxes. You will be treated like royalty. Cost from \$5250 to \$6750 depending on State-room. Contact **Bob Spellman** @ 934-8428. This trip has been very popular and is currently sold out. We have started a Waiting List for those who may still like to go with no obligation.

Oct 8, 2011 Blue Angels & the San Francisco Belle. Enjoy the Best Aviation show in the U.S. as well as vintage planes performing the most amazing stunts you will ever see. We will board the San Francisco Belle at 1:30 and cruise around the Bay, stopping in a great spot to view the aviation show. While on board there will be live entertainment, reserved seating for a hot buffet lunch and no host bar. We will disembark at 4:30 for our motor coach ride back to Walnut Creek Cost is \$125 pp Contact **Bob Hagler** @925-934-7620 Branch 8 for more information.

Dec 7, 2011 Christmas Show Extravaganza. Finocchio's Style. You will be talking about this show for months. Finocchio's was a nightclub in San Francisco with men performing with all the glitter, sophistication and glamour of women. It was a favorite tourist spot from the 1930's to 1990's. In 1999 Finocchio's closed its doors but many of the cast members are still performing and will showcase their talents at this show. Enjoy this fabulous show and a fun filled afternoon. Cost \$81.00 includes, delicious luncheon, motorcoach transportation, and class of wine. Contact **Ken Richter** @ 689-6217. Payment must be received by 10/25/11.

May 19-Jun 3, 2012 Romance of the Rhine & Mosel. Cruise aboard a private Grand Circle river ship starting in Basel, Switzerland ending in Antwerp, Belgium. The ship will make stops at Strasbourg, France, Speyer, Baden-Baden, Boppard, Koblenz, Cochem, Bernkastel, Trier, Bonn, Germany, Nijmegen, Kinderdijk and Antwerp. The price starts at \$3895 to \$5295 plus air. Contact **Ken Richter**, 689-6217. Pre and post trips are also available to Lucerne, Switzerland and Bruges, Belgium.

Contact Tom Eller for more details on these and other trips (tomeller2000@yahoo.com)

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 all Sirs and their guests to our next meeting on Thursday, September 15th at 9am.

Barry Brown, a new member at Branch 8 and a long time member of the Diablo Valley PC Users Group (www.dvpc.org) will discuss "How Photoshop Elements evolved and why; a brief history". He will follow this with a demonstration of "Layers, the heart of Photoshop Elements" with emphasis on the newly included layer masks.

We will allow adequate time for conversation and problem sharing. Dick Curry will lead a Q&A to address current computer issues and questions. So please join us for a fun and informative session. As always there will be free coffee and cookies.

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. See you there.

Thank you for supporting your Area 2 Computer and Technology Group.



Wine Appreciation Group

Al Reynolds

Carl and Karen Cline hosted the July 28 Wine Tasting activity. Carl presented Chilean wines which were compared to California wines. This was a very informative and enjoyable event.

The next meeting will be in September, date and place TBA. For further information on participating in this activity, contact Al Reynolds - 254-1576.



Party Planner?

Our **SIR Christmas Dinner Dance** will be held at the Crow Canyon Country Club on **Wednesday, Dec 7**. Tell your spouses and **mark that on your calendar**.

I need two or three **volunteers** to help in promoting, planning, and putting on the party. It should not take a great deal of time and it is an enjoyable way of helping our SIR group.

If you would like to help, please contact me at jkhicks@astound.net or (925) 945-7465.

We'll have more on the Christmas party next month and will start taking reservations in October.

Jerry Hicks, Party Chair

Are You Interested...

In starting a new SIR Branch 116 activity group? Other SIR groups have a number of group activities that we currently don't have in Branch 116. Some examples include:

Antique Cars, Astronomy, Backgammon, Band, Barbeques, Barbershop Quartet, Beer tasting, Biking, Book swaps, Checkers, Chorus, Coins, Cooking, Cribbage, Dancing, Dominoes, Gardening, Genealogy, Gin rummy, Guys Dine Out, Harmonica, Horse races, Horseshoes, Model railroad, Photography, Pinochle, Pool-Billiards, RV-ing, Stamps, Tennis, Theatre, Woodworking, Writing, Veterans, etc.

If you are interested in any of these or other activities, please contact our Activity Coordinator Jerry Kaplan (925-938-1037).

"Dine-O-Sirs" Dinner Group

Ben Smith



The Carnivorous Dine-O-Sir Herd met for a great meal and social time at Roundhill Country Club this past Tuesday night (8-23-11) We had a wonderful meal and lots of fun. We had 99 people in attendance and the Folks at Roundhill CC took good care of the group. We feasted on a tasty salad starter, Meat dishes of Medallions of Pork and Sliced Roast Sirloin, with fresh Veggies, Coffee & Tea, finishing up with Cream Burlee for dessert.

Our next Dine-O-Sir outing is being planned for Wednesday, October 19 at Le Cheval Restaurant in Walnut Creek. Jerry Hicks (Host) and your Dine-O committee are working with the LeChevel owners in planning a wonderful array of Vietnamese special dishes that will excite and please the palate. The Committee checked this restaurant out and the food was really outstanding. Be sure and plan to attend.

Dine-O-Sir history:

Our first Dine-O-Sir dinner was held back on March 6, 2009, at Restaurante Forli, in Alamo. It was our first effort in putting together a Dine out group for the Branch. Over the past months these events have grown in popularity and people wishing to attend. We hope that most events have proved enjoyable to all the Dine-O-Sir Herd. All you have to do is sign-up if you wish to be informed about future events.

Your Dine-O committee is working hard to provide our Branch members with enjoyable events, with good food and drink at reasonable prices. It's nice to see the social aspects of these events unfold. These affairs present a way to meet new people and get to better know our fellow SIR's and their Spouses and Friends. As most of you are aware, we always have open seating clustered in small 6-10 seating groupings.

Past event locations

1. Restorante Forli- Alamo

2. Marcello's-Cucina Toscana- Danville
3. Taheri's Mediterranean Rest- Walnut Creek
4. Bing Crosby's-Walnut Creek (Now closed)
5. Uncle Yu's Chinese Rest.- Lafayette
6. Massimo- Walnut Creek
7. Zio Fraedo Italian & Continental-Pleasant Hill
8. Crow Canyon CC- Danville
9. La Finestra Restorante-Lafayette
10. The Brass Door- San Ramon
11. Salvatore's - Walnut Creek
12. El Torito Mexican Restaurant- Concord
13. RoundHill CC- Alamo

The Committee would very much appreciate any feed-back you may have on any of the above locations/events you may have attended. You can rate the restaurants on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest. We would also like to receive any idea's you may have for locations for future events. Send your comments to Ben Smith-Dine-O-Sir's--at e-mail bjsssmith@aol.com



Bowling

Ron Gagliardi

Well since football is coming to a close, maybe some of you would like to do something besides reside on your backsides. I know bowling is half over, but we are looking to fill some spots on teams that are missing members. It's a lot of fun, so if you're interested in getting a little exercise, please join us at Monument Bowling Lanes on each Wed at 10:00 am. Please drop by and we can sign you up. You can also call me at 925/682-4012 or e-mail me at rongag@att.net.

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

SIR Branch 116 Golf

By Al Zavattero, 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.

September 18-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Wed. 07	9:30	Boundary Oak	John Peterson
Mon. 12	9:30	Tilden Park	C. Robertson
Tues. 20	10:00	Lone Tree	Mel Williams
Mon. 26	9:00	Lake Chabot	Bill McCord

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.

Truth is hard to hear

A Golfer has been slicing off the tee on every hole. He asks his Irish caddy if he has noticed any obvious reasons for his poor tee shots, to which the caddy replies: *"Aye, there's a piece of shit on the end of your driver."*

The Golfer picks up his driver and cleans the club face, at which point the caddy says: *"No, the other end"*.

September 9-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Wed. 07	10:00	Buchanan Fields	Dick Chaffee
Wed. 14	10:00	Pine Meadow	D. McLaughry
Wed. 21	10:00	Buchanan Fields	Dick Chaffee
Wed. 28	10:00	Diablo Hills	Mike Murphy



18 Hole Results

By David Harris

Callippe Preserve -- Monday August 29, 2011

Flight 1			Flight 2			Flight 3			Flight 4		
Dirk Meyer	74	3	David Carlson	68	3	Richard Madden	67	3	Wayne Cook	73	3
Mel Williams	74	3	Paul Kim	74	2	Bernie Wroblewski	72	2	Carl Langhorst	77	2
Al Zattero	74	3	Dick Socolich	76	1	Dick Chaffee	75	1	Robbie Robinson	77	2
						John Peterson	75	1			
Low Gross			Low Gross			Low Gross			Low Gross		
Jim Johnson	85		David Carlson	91		Dick Madden	92		Wayne Cook	106	

Closest to: Hole #6 - Mel Williams, Gary Boswell -- Hole #13 - Paul Kim, Dick Madden

Franklin Canyon -- Monday August 22, 2011

Flight 1			Flight 2			Flight 3			Flight 4		
Mel Williams	72	3	Dick Socolich	67	3	Gary Boswell	65	3	Conrad Robertson	64	3
Jimmy Johnson	73	2	Phil Goff	69	2	Bob Donohue	71	2	Bill Hemmelsbach	65	2
Jim Clizbe	76	1	Paul Kim	79	1	John Peterson	71	2	Art Vogl	68	1
Low Gross			Low Gross			Low Gross			Low Gross		
Jimmy Johnson	83		Phil Goff	88		Gary Boswell	93		Conrad Robertson	95	

Closest to: Hole #4 - Phil Goff, Bob Testa -- Hole #17 - David Harris, Bill Hemmelsbach

Vintner's -- Tuesday August 16, 2011

Flight 1			Flight 2			Flight 3			Flight 4		
David Harris	65	3	Dick Socolich	61	3	John Peterson	58		Bill Hemmelsbach	57	3
Bill McCord	68	2	Paul Kim	62	2	Max Foust	65		Chuck Gilliam	66	2
			David Carlson	63	1	Don Roberts	67		Conrad Robertson	67	1
			Frank Crua	63	1						
Low Gross			Low Gross			Low Gross			Low Gross		
David Harris	78		Paul Kim	80		John Peterson	87		Bill Hemmelsbach	90	
			Dick Socolich	80							

Closest to: Hole #2 - David Carlson, Art Vogl -- Hole #17 - Phil Goff

Boundary Oak -- Monday August 8, 2011

Flight 1			Flight 2			Flight 3			Flight 4		
Mel Williams	69	3	Frank Crua	70	3	Al Serafino	62	3	Conrad Robertson	68	3
Jim Clizbe	71	2	Darrell McClaughry	71	2	John Story	67	2	Art Vogl	69	2
Neil Schmidt	71	2	Lonny Randall	71	2	John Peterson	68	1	Joe Ostler	70	1
Low Gross			Low Gross			Low Gross			Low Gross		
Mel Williams	83		Lonny Randall	89		Al Serafino	90		Conrad Robertson	97	
						John Story	90				

Closest to: Hole #2 - Pat Bermingham, Max Foust -- Hole #12 - Bill McCord, John Story

Boundary Oak -- Monday August 1, 2011

Flight 1			Flight 2			Flight 3			Flight 4		
Jim Johnson	65	3	David Carlson	74	3	Bernie Wroblewski	63	3	Conrad Robertson	66	3
Mel Williams	71	2	Frank Crua	76	2	John Peterson	67	2	Kirk McVean	72	2
Bill Clark	73	1	Paul Kim	76	2	Bob Testa	72	1	Wayne Cook	73	1
Low Gross			Low Gross			Low Gross			Low Gross		
Jim Johnson	77		Paul Kim	95		Bernie Wroblewski	89		Conrad Robertson	93	
WOW											

Closest to: Hole #2 - Darrell McClaughry, Jai Yee -- Hole #12 - Paul Kim, Bob Testa

2011 18 Hole Leaders

By David Harris

FLIGHT 1		FLIGHT 2		FLIGHT 3		FLIGHT 4	
Index 0.0 - 16.7		Index 16.8 - 21.3		Index 21.4 - 26.5		Index 26.6 - 36.4	
NAME	POINTS	NAME	POINTS	NAME	POINTS	NAME	POINTS
Williams, Mel	40	Carlson, David	50	Peterson, John	36	Robertson, Conrad	50
Johnson, Jim	36	Crua, Frank	35	Wroblewski, Bernie	28	Hemmelsbach, Bill	37
Harris, David	34	Goff, Phil	35	Foust, Max	27	Gilliam, Chuck	26
Zavattero, Al	26	Randall, Lonny	24	Story, John	27	Robinson, Robbie	26
McCord, Bill	19	Kim, Paul	22	Testa, Bob	18	Langhorst, Carl	17
Clizbe, Jim	15	Eller, Tom	13	Donohue, Bob	15	Cook, Wayne	15
Meyer, Dirk	14	Socolich, Dick	12	Jenkins, Phil	13	Arena, Matt	11
Clark, Bill	9	Hunter, Jerry	4	Serafino, Al	10	Armijo, Ron	11
Schmidt, Neil	9	Campbell, Rob	3	Chaffee, Dick	9	Vogl, Art	10
Tinguely, Pat	6	Cannon, Larry	3	Boswell, Gary	6	Kallas, Pete	3
Smith, Wayne	4	Nichols, Bob	3	Hutchko, Al	5	Maclay, John	2
Hicks, Jerry	3	McClaghry, Darrell	2	Madden, Richard	5	McVean, Kirk	2
Smith, Ben	1	Berminham, Pat	1	Conlon, Bob	4	Ostler, Joe	1
				Lutkus, Alex	2		
				Roberts, Don	2		

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
Wed - Fri September 7-9	Carson City	Aug-23	
Monday September 12	Tilden Park	Sep-2	37
Tuesday September 20	Lone Tree	Sep-9	35
Monday September 26	Lake Cabot	Sep-16	30
Monday October 3	Metropolitan	Sep-17	35
Monday October 10	San Ramon	Sep-24	29
Tuesday October 18	Paradise Valley	Oct-7	43
Monday October 24	Willow Park	Oct-14	37

Send checks made out to **SIR Branch 116 Golf, P.O. Box 683, Lafayette, CA 94549-0683**



RETURN TO: Neil Schmidt
2231 San Miguel Dr.
Walnut Creek, CA
94596-5805

**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.