



# Trampas Topics

February, 2013

SIR Branch 116

Next Meeting: 11:30 am,  
Monday, February 18, 2013  
Elks Lodge—1475 Creekside Dr,  
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

A Nonprofit Public Benefit Organization for Retired Men Enjoying Active Retirement

## Sayings of 2012 Big Sir Art Vogl

First off, I would like to apologize for the very lengthy January meeting. We are taking a lot of steps to remedy that. In the future we will go on a stricter time line. For instance, Committee Chairs will be allowed only one minute with the exception of Matt Arena with four minutes.



The Branch Executive Committee (BEC) meeting on January 21 approved keeping the lunch charge at \$15.00 per person in 2013 even though our lunch caterer cost rose \$1 from \$14.00 to \$15.00. We are also working on a new hardcopy distribution plan for our Newsletter to cut that cost (Neil Schmidt, Editor, explains on Page 6 of this Newsletter). As Phil Goff so adequately showed in his presentation of where the money goes, we are still the most reasonable branch in Area #2 at an annual cost of \$195.00 per member (Voluntary Contribution plus 10 Luncheon fees), compared to \$260, \$258, \$250, and \$250 in other branches.

Unfortunately, our projected cost for the year (not counting the lunch fee which balances out) is \$10,800 which has required us to up the Voluntary Contribution to \$45.00 per member this year. The collection of the Voluntary Contribution will commence at our February 18th meeting. Please bring a check as well as a guest.

Now that discussing the finances is behind me, I'd like to remind everyone that we had two new members in January: Terry Legler (Sponsor: Ernie Wong) and Robert C. Frey (Sponsor: Darrell L. McClaughry) and six more on tap for February. A very good start for 2013!

Last thought: Remember Valentine's Day is on Thursday, February 14th. Don't disappoint your bride.

Enjoy the SIRS and join in where ever you can. I look forward to seeing you all again in February.

*Art Vogl* Big SIR

**The Voluntary Contribution (\$45) is due in February!**

Bring your check to February Luncheon or mail it to Treasurer John Peterson (1001 Millbrook Court, W.C. 94598).



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

## 2013 SIR 116 Officers & Directors



**Big SIR**  
Art Vogl  
288-0488



**Little SIR**  
Phil Goff  
831-3692



**Secretary**  
Dick Chaffee  
932-5087



**Asst. Secretary**  
Joel White  
964-0994



**Treasurer**  
John Peterson  
946-0335



**Asst. Treasurer**  
Bob Shader  
939-8421



**Membership Secr.**  
Andy Benz  
937-5706

### DIRECTORS



Jim Johnson  
825-7437



Jerry Kaplan  
938-1037



Alex Lutkus  
827-2828



Neil Schmidt  
939-5342



Bob Testa  
254-8457



Bernie Wroblewski  
820-3274

## 2013 SIR 116 Committee Chairmen

Activities Coordinator	J. Christopherson	939-3973	Newsletter Editor	Neil Schmidt	939-5342
Attendance	Jim Nachtweih	838-7417	Newsletter Edtr. Asst.	Phil Goff	831-3692
Audit	Ron Armijo	945-0637	Nominating	Neil Schmidt	939-5342
Book Club	Rich Black	283-8376	Parties	J. Christopherson	393-9373
Bridge	Milt Greenstein	376-5589	Photographers	John Peterson	946-0335
Candy Sales	Dirk Meyer	820-6878	"	Phil Goff	831-3692
"	Don Seaton	932-4115	"	Neil Schmidt	939-5342
Chaplain	Rotating	#1 See Below	Poker Group #1	Bill Harrington	935-1625
Computer & Tech..	Phil Goff	831-3692	Poker Group #2	Al Reynolds	254-1576
Dine-O-Sir	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	Phil Goff	831-3692	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	Jack Bevis	254-7256
Hiking and Walking	Joel White	964-0994			
Historian	Matt Arena	946-0404			
Host	Frank Crua	932-0975			
Interviewer	Max Foust	827-9323			
Membership Roster	Dick Thomson	785-7600			
Music Man	Robbie Robinson	798-4276			

#1. Doug Aalders, Matt Arena, Art Donaldson, Lou Sandor

#2. Pat Bermingham, Milt Greenstein, Marty Ratterree

## 2013 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	Pete Gates (Br. 146)	937-2035	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	\$ums Retirement	Allen Espenmiller (A.2)	376-3977

# SIR Branch 116 Activity Calendar

## February 2013

Sun.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>Superbowl</b>	18-Hole Golf (9:00@ Silverado South CC)	Duplicate Bridge (9:00@ Diablo Valley Bridge Ctr)	9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC)		Hiking & Walking (8:15@ Lafayette Reservoir)	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	18-Hole Golf (9:30@ Boundary Oak GC)	Luncheon Bridge (11:30@ Round Hill CC)	9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Pine Meadow GC)			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	SIR Br 116 Mtg. (11:30@ Elks Club) <b>Presidents' Day Holiday</b>	18-Hole Golf (9:30@ Brentwood GC) Poker Group 2 (1:00@ Diablo CC)	9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC)	Computer & Tech (9:00@ Elks Lodge)	Hiking & Walking (8:15@ Sycamore Valley Rd. Park & Ride)	
24	25	26	27	28		
	18-Hole Golf (10:00@ Crow Canyon CC) Book Group Mtg. (10:15@ Orinda Books)	Luncheon Bridge (11:30@ Diablo CC)	9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Diablo Hills GC) \$ums Investment (8:00@ Diablo Creek GC)	Fishing (8:30@ Llegend Sports Bar, Diablo Creek GC) Wine Tasting (4:00@ TBD)		



## Membership

Andy Benz  
(anbenz@aol.com)

### SIR 116 Membership Status

Total Current Members:	250
Last Month's Inductees:	2
Those in Interview Stage:	1
Total in Process:	3
On Inactive Status:	47
Left the Branch:	1
Waiting to be Installed:	0



## Br. 116 Treasurer's Report

John Peterson, Treasurer  
(delanaimp@aol.com)

	January 2013	2013 YTD
Contributions	\$ 3,230.00	\$ 3,230.00
Disbursements	\$ (4,456.11)	\$ (4,456.11)
Net (gain/(loss))	\$ <b>(1,226.11)</b>	\$ <b>(1,226.11)</b>

January Cash Balance \$ 3,499.14

## February Luncheon Menu

Braised Short Ribs  
Over Buttered Egg Noodles  
Veggie  
Salad  
Roll/Butter  
Dessert/Coffee/Ice Tea

## 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](http://www.sirinc.org/sirhappenings)



## Lunch Attendance

Jim Nachtweih  
(majnacht@sbcglobal.net)

Attendance at the January 21st meeting:

Total:	200
Members:	193
Visitors:	0
Speakers:	0
Guests:	7
Excused:	36
Un-Excused:	15

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

## January Birthdays

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

- |                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Ron Armijo    | 11. Paul Kim        |
| 2. Jon Dickson   | 12. Thomas King     |
| 3. Clifford Egan | 13. Gene McCullough |
| 4. Robert Farmer | 14. Donald Roberts  |
| 5. James Foust   | 15. Fred Schafer    |
| 6. Daniel Green  | 16. Edward Schommer |
| 7. Paul Harris   | 17. Toshiro Suwa    |
| 8. Stan Hill     | 18. Ralph Swartz    |
| 9. Cordell Hull  | 19. Tom VanVoorhis  |
| 10. Pete Kallas  | 20. Ernie Wong      |



## Wine Appreciation Group

Jack Bevis  
(jackb435@comcast.net)

Wine Tasting events are held every other month on the last Thursday of the month from 4 to 6:30 pm. We meet at members' homes on a rotating basis, with the host selecting the wines and finger foods. Usually, four to five different wines are tasted and discussed. The cost is normally between \$5 and \$10 per person. Both SIR members and their wives are invited to attend these informal and enjoyable gatherings. Contact Jack Bevis at 925-254-7256, for more information.



## Sunshine Report

**Matt Arena**

(marena@astound.net)

Since our last luncheon in November we have lost several of our members and their wives.

It is with sadness that we report the passing of SIR **Al Groeper**, SIR **Bill Singelton**, and SIR **Bob Mix**.

These fine gentlemen will be missed by their many friends in the Branch.

Sir **Dennis Perry** and Sir **Bob Kinser** both have lost their wives and to these members our Branch express our condolences.

Two of our Past Big Sirs **Art Miller** and **Ron Domer** who we miss very much have their wives in Treatment and in the hospital. We have both Mary Miller and Angela Domer in our thoughts for a speedy recovery.

Past Big Sir **Courtney Borrecco** has some up and down days battling his Parkinson's. He needs help to get around but is a good warrior and hopes to join us for lunch.

Sir **Joe Verdoia** is doing better as reported by his lovely wife Norma. They are both 90.

Sir **Tim Dorr** has had some surgery again but is recovering nicely. He is out and about with the help of his walker.

Sir **Len Komor** received his Super Senior award at our last lunch. He had a bad fall after tripping over the chain that separates the parking lot. He was taken to the hospital following the fall. He thanked all the men who came to his aid. For a Sir who has reached his mid 90's he looked wonderful as he received his award.

Sir **Mario Beria** is improving and is looking forward to return to our luncheons. Mario is another 90+ Sir.

Sir **George Willis** is dealing with dementia and does have difficulty recognizing his friends but he still maintains a cheerful disposition.

Sir **Werner Fend** will be seeing a pulmonologist to get some relief for his shortness of breath but he has a golf match coming up. Not bad for a guy in his 90's

Sir **John West** was hospitalized to get a brain scan. He is seeing a cardiologist and a neurologist to get some help with his blood pressure problems. Sir Bill Sullivan is keeping tabs on John.

DON'T AUDIT LIFE..... SHOW UP AND MAKE THE MOST OF IT NOW!

# Healthy Living

*In Memoriam*

**Alvin H. Groeper**

*September 1, 1918—December 24, 2012*

*In Memoriam*

**Robert R. Singleton**

*May 17, 1920—December 25, 2012*

*In Memoriam*

**Robert W. Mix**

*March 26, 1926—January 16, 2013*

## Receiving Hardcopies of the Newsletter

In January, the Trampas Topics printing and mailing cost substantially increased due to a couple changes by the USPS and it forced the Branch Executive Committee (BEC) to re-evaluate the hardcopy distribution of our newsletter. **At the January 21st meeting, the BEC decided that hardcopy newsletter distribution via USMail will no longer be subsidized by the Branch.** Starting with the February newsletter, there will be three ways for individuals to get the newsletter. They will be:

1. Electronically via the Internet ([www.branch116.org/trampas/](http://www.branch116.org/trampas/)).
2. Via a buddy or family member with Internet access who will print it for you.
3. Mailed hardcopies will be available but only if you pay an annual \$20 printing/ mailing cost.

We have looked a various alternatives for reducing the cost of the newsletter by going to different printers and by hand folding, labeling & mailing them ourselves using volunteers and, by manually processing newsletter distribution, we were able to get the cost down to \$1.62/each ( \$20/year). Because this does require some handwork via volunteers, we prefer to minimize the number of hardcopies to be mailed out so we encourage everyone to use options 1 & 2 above if at all possible.

It is important for everyone to checkout each and every newsletter for information on what is happening in our Branch. If you want to receive a hardcopy of the newsletter mailed to you, please send a \$20 check to our Treasurer John Peterson (1001 Millbrook Court, Walnut Creek 94598) or bring a check to our February Luncheon.

Neil Schmidt  
Trampas Topics Editor



### Luncheon Speaker

By Little Sir Phil Goff  
([philgoff@yahoo.com](mailto:philgoff@yahoo.com))

Our February speaker will be Rick Delamain, Owner and Executive Chef of Cypress Restaurant in Walnut Creek. In 2011, Cypress was voted as the best new restaurant by the Diablo Magazine. Rick will give us an overview of the dining scene and talk about what it means to own a restaurant in this town.

Rick has a wealth of experience in the restaurant business in Walnut Creek. He was the Executive Chef for Le Virage for 20 years and also worked for several years at the now defunct Bing Crosby's. Subsequently he was Senior Operations Director for Dudum Enterprises and guided the construction of several new restaurants such as DiMaggio's, Maria Maria and other Bing Crosbys in locations from Austin, TX to Rancho Mirage.

We all dine out in Walnut Creek and it should be fun to hear what goes on behind the scenes. Please plan to have your questions ready for Rick in February.

### West Virginia Women!

The owner of a golf course in West Virginia was confused about paying an invoice, so he decided to ask his secretary for some mathematical help.

He called her into his office and said, "You graduated from the West Virginia University and I need some help. If I were to give you \$20,000, minus 14%, how much would you take off?"

The secretary thought a moment, then replied, "Everything but my earrings."



## SIR Fishing Group

Harry Sherinian

(h.sherinian@comcast.net)

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, February, 28th, at the Legend Sports Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course at 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Many of the members come early to swap fishing stories and to renew friendships. By getting there by 7:45 am it gives you time for breakfast and a lot of interesting stories. Meeting starts at 8:30am.

Paul Dubow continued his devastation of Shadow Cliffs trout by once again catching a nice limit with Carl Moyer. Carl and Terry Miller did not fare as well sturgeon fishing starting out the New Year with their first ever total skunk. Not a bite! Gene Schulting ended the year with his first ever keeper sturgeon proudly boating a beautiful 5 footer fishing with Carl. Fifteen of us attended the Sportsmen's EXPO in Sacramento where we got to see the latest in fishing gear and an opportunity to speak a lot of knowledgeable experts in the field. On the way home we enjoyed a nice dinner in Fairfield. Terry Miller procured free tickets for us, and served as capable fish master for the outing. Paul Dubow and Bill Landers made their second annual trip to Lake Baccarac in Mexico for largemouth. This year they did not catch as many as last year (300.) But instead caught 17 exceeding 6 lbs., with Bill's 10 pounder winning the honors. Gene Schulting and his son got 6 nice trout at Shadow Cliffs, and Harry Sherinian and Carl Moyer teamed up for a terrific limit to 3 lbs. there.

We will be very busy this winter with: delta fishing for bass, catfish, and sturgeon, trout in local lakes, kokanee, crab and rock fish, and attending the various sportsmen shows.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, February 28th, 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 Pete Gates, Big Fish (925-937-2035) Harry Sherinian, Branch 116 Coordinator, (510-207-7067) or Tom Boltz, Treasurer/Secretary, (925-825-5695.).



Bill Landers 10lb. Bass



## Br. 116 Book Club

Rich Black

(blackrw41@comcast.net)

### What Were Those Seven Pillars Anyway?

T.E. Lawrence wrote of adventure, the poetry of the desert, geology, and a whole lot more in his 1926 autobiography describing his role in the Arabs' struggle against the Turks in WW I. Richard Black led the discussion of the book recommended by Jack Butler. Those commenting on the book included Paul Freitas, Jerry Christopherson, Cord Hull, Lytton DeSilva, Al Reynolds, Dick Kauffman, John Riordan, Tim Tinnis, Joel White, Garrett Girvin, and Bob Mathews. The group awarded the work 3.4 stars, but there was wide variation in the ratings, with two perfect 5's and five awarding it a 2.5 or less.

The group will next meet at Orinda Books at 10:15 AM on February 25 to discuss "Overthrow, America's Century of Regime Change from Hawaii to Iraq" by Stephen Kinzer.



The Area 2 Computer and Technology Group invites all Sirs and their guests to our next meeting at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge on Thursday, February 21st at 9am.

At our next meeting on February 21 we will be presented with a review of the new operating system, Windows 8 being introduced by Microsoft. There has been a lot of criticism leveled at this new OS prior to its official launching – especially relative to its use with PCs. Our guest speaker, Mr. Ron Ogg who is the chief technical guru for DVPC (Diablo Valley Personal Computer Users Group), believes there are many interesting features incorporated into Windows 8 that will be popular with PC users. You will not want to miss Ron’s presentation on Windows 8.

Time permitting, Dick Curry will then lead a Q&A discussion to address current computer issues that you identify. So please bring your questions and join us for a fun and informative session. As always there will be coffee and cookies available before and during the meeting.

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.



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



The Area 2 \$ums Investment Group will meet on Wednesday February 27, 2013, 8:00 AM at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Our speakers Brent Cunningham and Cory Silva portfolio managers with Merrill Lynch in San Francisco will present a history of Real Estate Investment Trusts ( REIT). As an investment option, the types of REIT’s, how they fit into your portfolio (s) and how you can use them to increase portfolio value and growth. So you can be prepared for the meeting I am sending you a pdf file in a separate e-mail called “BofAML REIT Primer, 3rd Edition. “A Peek into the Industry.” This 48 page booklet will give you a complete picture of this income producing equity.

The Legends restaurant opens at 7:00 AM, so plan to have a leisurely breakfast along with your fellow members. Bring along a prospective member or two to hear this timely talk. Let’s support the restaurant and it’s excellent staff.





## Hiking & Walking

Joel White  
(zpz2mrz@yahoo.com)



**The first ever**, and originally unscheduled, walk **after Christmas** turned out to be a **great success** with a **lucky 13** participants. Lytton DeSilva, Art and Mary Alice Donaldson, Paul and Anna Freitas, David and Colleen Geary, Dan and Andrea Green, and Joel and Susan White enjoyed a beautiful stroll on the Alamo portion of the Iron Horse trail in an interlude between storms. It was brisk, but not unbearably cold. The coffee and companionship at Cherubini's café afterwards was warming and congenial.

Both January walks, the 11<sup>th</sup> led by David Geary and the 25<sup>th</sup> led by Paul Freitas, were well attended and enjoyed by all participants.

**Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup>**, we will meet at 8:15 at the east end of the Lafayette Reservoir parking lot. This is a circle walk that normally takes a little under 1 hour, but those who wish, may also do this as an out and back walk if they keep their own time and turn around after 25-30 minutes. The walk leader is Richard Black. Please RSVP to Rich [blackrw41@comcast.net](mailto:blackrw41@comcast.net).

The **Friday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>** walk will be led by Joel White. Please RSVP to Joel, [zpz2mrz@yahoo.com](mailto:zpz2mrz@yahoo.com), 964-0994. Meet at 8:15 am at *the Park and Ride lot on the northeast corner of Sycamore Valley Road and I-680*.

**In case of inclement weather, check your e-mail at 7am prior to the walk for a possible cancellation notice from the walk leader. We will generally walk unless it is unreasonably cold and/or raining too hard.**

*This is a very welcoming and congenial group. New members are always welcome. This is a group activity with spouses, but members may come without their spouse if the spouse is otherwise occupied or unavailable, and vice versa (the spouse is welcome without the member).*

Anyone wishing to be added (or to add their spouse) to the e-mail reminder list should contact Joel White 964-0994 or [zpz2mrz@yahoo.com](mailto:zpz2mrz@yahoo.com).

## "Dine-O-Sir" Dinner Group

Ben Smith  
(bjsssmith@aol.com)



The Dine-O-Sir Herd attended a two night event in January at the Modern China Cafe located in Walnut Creek. These two evenings were fun get-together's with lots of good Asian style food served in Banquet family style. Our thanks to Tom Eller for making the arrangements for these events.

Your Dine-O-Sir organizing Committee always strives to provide our Dine-O-Sir group with an attractive Menu at a reasonable price. The people attending provide for the excellent company. It appears that in many ways the social aspects of these events surpass the dining experience. Your Dine-O-Sir Committee always strive to provide an attractive Menu at a reasonable price....But "The people make the party".

**Our next Dine-out event will be scheduled for March**, stay tuned for all the details. Be sure and send in your reservation requests and payments early so you will not be disappointed by missing out on an event.

These events tend to fill up very fast, but your committee will do its best to accommodate all who wish to attend.

## SIR Website Addresses

SIR 116 Web Site

[www.branch116.org](http://www.branch116.org)

Branch 116 Golf

[www.branch116.org/116-golf/](http://www.branch116.org/116-golf/)

Trampas Topics

[www.branch116.org/trampas/](http://www.branch116.org/trampas/)

Computer and Technology

[www.sir-web.org/computer/](http://www.sir-web.org/computer/)

SIR Happenings State Newsletter

[www.sirinc.org/sirhappenings](http://www.sirinc.org/sirhappenings)

State SIR Web Site

[www.sirinc.org/](http://www.sirinc.org/)

## SIR Travel

By Tom Eller, Travel Chairman  
(tomeller2000@yahoo.com)



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 Area 2 Travel Opportunities 2013

**Mar 2, 2013: Turmoils at Professor Ming's Mansion.** Join fellow SIR at Buddha's Universal Church in San Francisco, doors open at 1:30pm. Prior to the performance there will be a tour of the Terracotta Warriors exhibit at the Asian Art Museum. Price of \$85.00 pp also includes hosted lunch in Chinatown and bus transportation. Contact Dick Schally Br.8, 260-5534 for more information.

**Apr 14-22, 2013: Tulip Time Cruise.** Discover the beauty & History of the Dutch and Belgian waterways in springtime. Cruise ports include, Amsterdam, Arnhem, Antwerp, Bruges, Middelburg, and Rotterdam. Prices range from \$3225 to \$5080 and include airfare, complimentary beverages, many guided tours, tips and gratuities. Contact Jim Lunn Br 8, 925-551-3329 for more information.

**Jun 1-9, 2013: Memphis Blues to the New Orleans Jazz on the American Queen.** A 7 night cruise on board the American Queen down the Mississippi with a pre-cruise stay in Memphis and a optional 2 day post stay in New Orleans. Cruise features RT motor coach to airport, RT airfare, all meals on board, including wine or beer with dinner, daily lectures, nightly entertainment, shore tours, and port charges, transfers, and baggage handling. Prices start a \$3658 to \$6486 subject to space available. Contact Bob Spellman, Br. 146, 934-8428.

**Aug 28-Sep 7, 2013: SIR 55th Anniversary Alaska Golden Age Cruise.** Save the Date for a CELEBRATION! We will leave out of San Francisco and visit the ports of Juneau, Skagway, Tracy Arm Fjord, Ketchikan, Victoria and return to San Fran-

cisco on the Grand Princess. The cost of the 10 day Cruise is from \$1579 to \$3300 depending on accommodations and includes: Gratuities on the ship, Ship Board Credit, Cocktail Party, Hospitality Suite, Transportation by Motor Coach to and from the Pier, Wine, Gifts, and a Alaska Salmon Bake excursion. Flyers are available, Contact your Travel Chairman or Bob Spellman Br. 146, 934-9428 for more information.

**May, 2014: Hidden Gems of the Dalmation Coast & Greece.** A 16 day Cruise aboard a privately owned Grand Circle small ship with a maximum of 50 passengers. Ports of Call will include Zagreb, Split, Hvar, Korcula, Dubrovnik, Montenegro, Butrint, Albania, Corfu, Delphi and Athens. Prices range from approximately \$4595 to \$6170 depending on accommodations and airfare. Trip also includes 37 meals, 12 exclusive tours with personal headsets, home hosted dinner, and resident Grand Circle Program Director. Contact Ken Richter Br 146, 689-6217.

### SIR State Travel Opportunities 2013

**Mar 15-30, 2013: Romance on the Rhine & Mosel.** Riverboat Cruise from Brussels, Belgium to Switzerland aboard the M/S Harmony, Price \$3545 pp incl RT Airfare and All Fees, Taxes, meals and Wine with Dinner. \$2295 pp W/O Airfaire. Henry Puccinelli Br 22, 415-457-3990.

**Mar18-24, 2013: Motor Coach trip to East Side of the Sierras.**(6 day from Lake Tahoe, Carson City (2 nights) Virginia City, Mono Lake, Bishop (1 night), Death Valley( 2 nights) at Furnace Creek Inn, Return by way of Bakersfield). Werner Schlapfer Br. 121, Livermore, 443-8291.

## 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.

## New Branch 116 Members



Sponsor Ernie Wong with new member Terry Legler



New member Robert Frey with sponsor Darrell McClalughry

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

## 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](mailto:trampastopics@gmail.com)



**Bridge**  
**Milt Greenstein**  
([margmilt@comcast.net](mailto:margmilt@comcast.net))

The duplicate group did not meet in January because the normal date fell on New Year's day..

On January 8th, 24 men gathered for lunch at Round Hill C.C. Top scorer today was Milt Greenstein with 6,970 points, followed by Fred Massaro (6,900), Dimitris Argyriou (5,050), Tony Rohrs (4,870) and Oscar Krikorian (4,680).

We had 2 small slam today, made by the teams of Milt Greenstein / Fred Massaro and Milt Greenstein / Dick Chaffee. Today was a reasonable scoring day with an average round of 629 points, compared to last year's average of 594 points. A good start for the 2013 year.

The lunch / bridge group met again on January 28th at Diablo C.C., with 27 men attending. WOW !! What a day of bridge ! All 5 winners were over 5,000 points ! Ali Aghaiepour was high man with 6,530 points followed by Moe Goldberg ( 5,950 ), Tony Rohrs ( 5,660 ), Dick Chaffee ( 5,640 ) and Phil Paris ( 5,230 ). Most sessions, any one of those scores could have been the top. We also had our first grand slam of the year made by Tony Rohrs /Moe Goldberg. In addition, we had two small slams made by Tony Rohrs / Jerry Christopherson and by Ali Aghaiepour and the floating dummy. ( The dummy ended up with 5,140 points ). The day's average score was 3,881, and the average round was 647 points, an all time high !

## Poker Group #2

**Al Reynolds**  
([reynolds4596@sbcglobal.net](mailto:reynolds4596@sbcglobal.net))



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.

# Important Upcoming Golf Events

## BOULDER CREEK GOLF & VACATION OUTING

May 15, 16, 17, 2013

**Golf Package:** \$395.00 Per Couple + Cart  
(includes 3 days of golf.)

**Vacation Package:** \$293.00 Per Couple (if you  
choose to golf, it will be paid  
separately at the clubhouse.)

Golf is played on Wednesday and Thursday. Tee  
Time is 10:30AM each day.

You will housed in private Villas, one or two bed-  
rooms.

There will be a food and wine gathering on  
Wednesday and Thursday(5:30PM) in one of the  
larger Villas. Each attendee will bring their favorite  
snack and share them with others. All attendees  
should bring their favorite beverage and enjoy.

Wednesday at 7:00PM we will gather at the Club  
House for a Italian Buffet Dinner. About \$30.00 per  
person.

Thursday will be our Award Banquet at the Club  
House, also at 7:00PM. We will have BBQ Chicken  
and Ribs. About \$30.00 per person.

This is a beautiful area and we all have a great  
time.

Contact Andy Benz (anbenz@aol.com), 937-5706 or  
Robbie Robinson (robbie1962@yahoo.com), 798-  
4276 for more details.



## CARSON CITY GOLF GETAWAY 2013

You don't want to miss this great event, which is  
considered by many to be the "best of the year". A  
3 day event that includes something for everyone,  
sirs, spouses, friends and relatives. The ladies love  
this outing !!

- 2 rounds of golf (including cart) at Dayton Val-  
ley and Eagle Valley golf courses
- 3 nights lodging at a choice of two motels, one  
includes a continental breakfast
- Open bar and buffet dinner all 3 nights
- over \$1,000 of nice raffle prizes
- two ladies bridge events for non-golfers. La-  
dies can golf one day and play bridge the next  
day if they wish.
- coupons for gambling, food, and drinks at the  
Carson Nugget Casino
- sleeve of golf balls and a tee gift for each golfer
- opportunity for some great shopping and  
sightseeing

SEPTEMBER 4, 5, 6

Save the dates, and plan to be with us in Carson  
City -- fun is guaranteed !!!

Sign-up sheets (entry forms) will be available in  
May once we firm up the cost. We are anticipating  
the cost to be about the same as last year. Remem-  
ber the cost covers almost every thing unless you  
like to gamble and/or shop.

If you would like more information contact Tim  
Hubbard (944-0742) or e-mail:  
tthubbs@astound.net



# SIR Branch 116 Golf

By Al Zavattero, Golf Chairman  
(jandazav@juno.com)



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 [www.branch116.org/116-golf](http://www.branch116.org/116-golf). Join up with us and enjoy outings with a great bunch of guys at some great courses with reasonable prices.



## Nine Hole Info

Dick Chaffee, 9-Hole Chairman  
(rwchaffee@sbcglobal.net)



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, 2<sup>nd</sup> place 2 and 3<sup>rd</sup> place 1. The 2012 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.

### 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.

## February 9-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Wed. 06	10:00	Buchanan Fields	Dick Chaffee
Wed. 13	10:00	Pine Meadow	D. McLaughry
Wed. 20	10:00	Buchanan Fields	Dick Chaffee
Wed. 27	10:00	Diablo Hills	Mike Murphy

## February 18-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Mon. 04	9:00	Silverado South	Frank Crua
Mon. 11	9:30	Boundary Oak	Frank Crua
Tue. 19	9:30	Brentwood	Frank Crua
Mon. 25	10:00	Crow Canyon	Frank Crua

# 18-Hole Results

## Deer Ridge -- Tuesday January 22, 2013

Official Scorer:  
Fred Schafer

Flight 1				Flight 2				Flight 3				Flight 4			
Tie 1st	David Harris	68	3	1st	Bob Testa	64	3	1st	Al Serafino	72	3	Tie 1st	Matt Arena	67	3
Tie 1st	Mel Williams	68	3	2nd	John Story	71	2	2nd	Jerry Hunter	73	2	Tie 1st	Terry Grummitt	67	3
Tie 3rd	Phil Goff	72	1	Tie 3rd	Dick Socolich	72	1	Tie 3rd	Phil Jenkins	79	1	3rd	Ron Armijo	69	1
Tie 3rd	Al Zavattero	72	1	Tie 3rd	Pat Tinguely	72	1	Tie 3rd	Bernie Wroblewsk	79	1				
Low Gross				Low Gross				Low Gross				Low Gross			
	David Harris	84			Bob Testa	87			Al Serafino	100			Matt Arena	101	

Closest to: Hole #7 - Phil Goff, Bernie Wroblewski -- Hole #13 - Dirk Meyer, Jerry Hunter

## Boundary Oak -- Monday January 14, 2013

Official Scorer:  
Jim Barstow

Flight 1				Flight 2				Flight 3				Flight 4			
1st	Jerry Hicks	68	3	1st	Jim Clizbe	71	3	1st	Gary Boswell	72	3	1st	Robbie Robinson	66	3
2nd	David Harris	72	2	2nd	Carlos Xavier	74	2	2nd	Phil Jenkins	74	2	2nd	Terry Grummitt	73	2
3rd	Dirk Meyer	74	1	3rd	Frank Crua	76	1	Tie 3rd	Jed Daniel	75	1	3rd	Fred Schafer	77	1
								Tie 3rd	Bob Donohue	75	1				
Low Gross				Low Gross				Low Gross				Low Gross			
	Jerry Hicks	79			Jim Clizbe	88			Gary Boswell	97			Robbie Robinson	99	

Closest to: Hole #2 - Dirk Meyer, Phil Jenkins -- Hole #12 - Dirk Meyer, Alex Lutkus

## Boundary Oak -- Monday January 7, 2013

Official Scorer:  
David C Harris

Flight 1				Flight 2				Flight 3				Flight 4			
Tie 1st	Jim Barstow	71	3	1st	Wayne Smith	71	3	1st	Jed Daniel	73	3	1st	Chuck Gilliam	78	3
Tie 1st	Dirk Meyer	71	3	2nd	Jim Videle	72	2	Tie 2nd	Bob Conlon	75	2	2nd	Art Vogl	79	2
3rd	Jerry Hicks	72	1	3rd	Neil Schmidt	74	1	Tie 2nd	Jerry Hunter	75	2	3rd	Terry Sherman	80	1
								Tie 2nd	Phil Jenkins	75	2				
Low Gross				Low Gross				Low Gross				Low Gross			
	Jerry Hicks	83			Wayne Smith	90			Jed Daniel	101			Terry Sherman	111	

Closest to: Hole #2 - Carlos Xavier, Frank Lockwood -- Hole #12 - Phil Goff, Jed Daniel

## State SIR Spring Fling Golf in the Napa Valley

April 22nd (Mon) and April 23rd (Tue) \$150/person

Day 1- Eagle Vines GC – Low Net – Seven Flights, 9AM Shotgun

Day 2–Chardonnay GC-Four Man Team-Two Best Balls (ABCD), 8AM Shotgun

Ladies Welcome!!! (Maximum 24)

Day 1 – Eagle Vines - Scramble Tournament (ABCD) 9AM Shotgun

Day 2 – Chardonnay GC – Four Women Team-Two Best Balls (ABCD) 8AM

For more information see: <http://www.sirstategolf.com> or Phone: (415) 479-6028 or Email: [bill@billandbev.com](mailto:bill@billandbev.com)

## 2013 18-Hole Leader Board

FLIGHT 1		FLIGHT 2		FLIGHT 3		FLIGHT 4	
Index 0.0 - 15.9		Index 16.0 - 23.1		Index 23.2 - 29.0		Index 29.1 - 36.4	
NAME	POINTS	NAME	POINTS	NAME	POINTS	NAME	POINTS
Harris, David	5	Clizbe, Jim	3	Jenkins, Phil	5	Grummitt, Terry	5
Hicks, Jerry	4	Smith, Wayne	3	Daniel, Jed	4	Arena, Matt	3
Meyer, Dirk	4	Testa, Bob	3	Hunter, Jerry	4	Gilliam, Chuck	3
Barstow, Jim	3	Story, John	2	Boswell, Gary	3	Robinson, Robbie	3
Williams, Mel	3	Videle, Jim	2	Serafino, Al	3	Vogl, Art	2
Goff, Phil	1	Xavier, Carlos	2	Conlon, Bob	2	Armijo, Ron	1
Zavattero, Al	1	Crua, Frank	1	Donohue, Bob	1	Schafer, Fred	1
		Schmidt, Neil	1	Wroblewski, Bernie	1	Sherman, Terry	1
		Socolich, Dick	1				
		Tinguely, Pat	1				

## Latest SIR 116 Golf Info Available on Our Golf Web Site

The Golf Website address is:

[www.branch116.org/116-golf](http://www.branch116.org/116-golf)

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

2013 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 February 19	Brentwood	Feb-9	\$32
Monday February 25	Crow Canyon	Feb-18	\$45
Monday March 11	Sequoyah	Feb-18	\$50
Tuesday March 19	Callippe Preserve	Mar-9	\$47
Monday March 25	Dublin Ranch	Mar-17	\$38
Monday April 8	Silverado North	Mar-18	\$50

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).

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### **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.

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### **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.