



Trampas Topics

January, 2013

SIR Branch 116

Next Meeting: 11:30 am,
Monday, January 21, 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

Happy New Year and Welcome to 2013

(These years are going by so fast!)



Branch 116 did well in 2012—we welcomed 23 new members to our group, we also added one new activity: i.e., Bike Riding We had good luncheons and entertainment. I want to thank last year's Big SIR, Neil Schmidt, for doing a great job successfully leading us through the year.

As the new Big SIR for Branch 116, I know everything will continue on as last year, especially because we are able to retain all our officers who did such excellent work. Even though, Neil's shoes will be hard to fill. I can do it only with your help.

I have no major changes planned for the New Year but will continue with our efforts to grow. We have the SIR State suggestion for the 10%/70% plan which is to increase membership by 10% and to have a minimum of 70% luncheon attendance. We are fortunate to have great, devoted, Membership Committee Chairmen, Bob Donohue and Bernie Wroblewski, who have developed a very detailed fold out brochure to enlist new members. They will be available at the meeting, please take one and find a new prospective member.

Looking at the 2013 SIRs Leader Guide Book I see possibilities of 22 additional activities. To name a few, there are Antique Cars, Astronomy, Backgammon, Chess, Coin Collecting, Cribbage, Dominoes, Horseshoes, Model Railroading, just to name a few. Let us hear from some one who would like to Chair one of the activities and make it grow. You can do it and we can have lots of fun!

One last note—the Christmas Party last month was above and beyond all expectations. Everyone had a great time, the venue, the food, the entertainment were all excellent. As in years past, Jerry Hicks and his crew did a suburb job providing for an enjoyable Christmas Party.

As long as I bring up Jerry Hicks, although he has enjoyed being Chairman of the Activities Committee, he feels it is time to turn the reigns over to another in order to free up his time for travel. We thank Jerry for the many festive events he has chaired over the years. I am happy to announce that Jerry Christopherson has stepped forward so please give Jerry Christopherson your full support in his new position.

Art Vogl Big SIR



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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 Sec.
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	939-3913	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	393-9313
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	Sums Retirement	Allen Espenmiller (A.2)	376-3977

SIR Branch 116 Activity Calendar

January 2013

Sun.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
		1 New Years Day 	2 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC)	3	4	5
6	7 18-Hole Golf (9:30@ Boundary Oak GC)	8 Luncheon Bridge (11:30@ Round Hill CC)	9 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Pine Meadow GC)	10	11 Hiking & Walking (8:15@ Lafayette Community Center)	12
13	14 18-Hole Golf (9:30@ Boundary Oak GC)	15 Poker Group 2 (1:00@ Diablo CC)	16 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC)	17 Computer & Tech (9:00@ Elks Club)	18	19
20	21 SIR Br 116 Mtg. (11:30@ Elks Club)	22 Luncheon Bridge (11:30@ Diablo CC) 18-Hole Golf (9:06@ Deer Ridge GC)	23 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Diablo Hills GC) \$ums Investment 8:00@ Diablo Creek GC)	24 Fishing Group (8:30@ Legends-Diablo Crk) Wine Appreciation (4:00@ TBD)	25 Hiking & Walking (8:15@ La Boulange, Walnut Creek)	26
27	28 18-Hole Golf (9:00@ Roddy Ranch GC) Book Group Mtg. (10:15@ Orinda Books)	29	30 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Pine Meadow GC)	31		



Membership

Andy Benz
(anbenz@aol.com)

SIR 116 Membership Status

Total Current Members:	251
Last Month's Inductees:	0
Those in Interview Stage:	2
Total in Process:	2
On Inactive Status:	47
Left the Branch:	5
Waiting to be Installed:	0



Br. 116 Treasurer's Report

John Peterson, Treasurer
(delanaimp@aol.com)

	<u>November 2012</u>	<u>2012 YTD</u>
Contributions	\$ 7,120.45	\$ 58,323.33
Disbursements	\$ (8,192.99)	\$ (58,341.68)
Net (gain/(loss))	\$ (1,072.54)	\$ (18.25)

November Cash Balance \$ 4,670.68

January Luncheon Menu

Chicken Cordon Bleu
 Potatoes Au Gratin
 Veggies
 Salad
 Rolls & Butter
 Dessert-Coffee-Tea

Poker Group #2

Al Reynolds
(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.

January Birthdays

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

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Don Booth | 9. John Maerzke |
| 2. Dick Conger | 10. Donald Peckman |
| 3. Tom Eller | 11. Marty Ratterre |
| 4. Jack Fucik | 12. Lou Sandor |
| 5. Bill Ginter | 13. Hank Sicabaig |
| 6. Jack Hagler | 14. Sig Sigvaldson |
| 7. Dudley Hattaway | 15. Dick Socolich |
| 8. Ed Klein | 16. Bill Sullivan |



Luncheon Speaker

By Little Sir Phil Goff
(philgoff@yahoo.com)

Note: Because the first-of-the-year Activity announcements and award presentations at our January Luncheon tend to take a long time, the Branch Executive Committee decided not have a luncheon speaker at our January Luncheon. We will instead have other entertainment (Come and see what it is).

Want a Free Lunch ? Sponsor a New Member !



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)

As we close 2012 and begin a New Year here is hoping that this New Year will find you in good health. For all the members who are dealing with health issues we want you to know that we are thinking of you and hope you will once again be joining us for lunch in 2013..

Sir **Marv DeHeus** was delivering Christmas cookies to a neighbor the day following the SIR Christmas Dinner Dance when he fell and fractured his pelvis.

I visited with him at John Muir Medical Center where he assured me that there would be no surgery and that both fractures had clean breaks and would heal on their own. He was being transferred to Tampico Terrace for rehab and expected to be in fine shape in 6-8 weeks. Marv is a real trooper .Get well soon.

WHEN IT COMES TO GOING AFTER WHAT YOU LOVE IN LIFE, DON'T TAKE NO FOR AN ANSWER

SIR Website Addresses

SIR 116 Web Site

www.branch116.org

Branch 116 Golf

www.branch116.org/116-golf/

Trampas Topics

www.branch116.org/trampas/

Computer and Technology

www.sir-web.org/computer/

SIR Happenings State Newsletter

www.sirinc.org/sirhappenings

State SIR Web Site

www.sirinc.org/

Branch 116 Web Changes

Several changes have recently been made to the Branch 116 Home Page, Golf and Trampas Topics web sites. These changes are:

New Website Addresses

Branch 116 web addresses have all been simplified (shortened). The new addresses for Branch 116 Home Page, Golf and Trampas Topics web pages now start with "branch116.org" instead of the old "sir-web.org/116-web/". Although the old addresses will continue to work for a limited time, please change your Branch 116 web links to these new addresses. (See a complete list of SIR Website Addresses elsewhere on this newsletter page).

New Trampas Topics & Golf Web Site Designs

Both the Trampas Topics and Golf Web sites have been re-designed for easier use. Check them out and let us know what you think. (See new Trampas Topics website design below.)

	Trampas Topics Newsletter	SIR Branch 116 Next Meeting: 11:30 am, 3rd Monday of every month Elks Lodge--1475 Creekside Dr, Walnut Creek, CA 94596									
<small>A Nonprofit Public Benefit Organization for Retired Men Enjoying Active Retirement</small>											
Welcome to SIR Br. 116 Trampas Topics Web Site											
The Trampas Topics newsletter is a valuable tool for communicating SIR Branch 116 events & activities and we hope you will find it useful.											
To get the most recent newsletter, select the "Trampas Topics" button below.											
If you have a slow internet connection, you may want to instead download the "Low Res. Topics" file. This lower resolution file is much smaller and therefore will load much faster than the Trampas Topics file but the pictures may not be as crisp or clear.											
Adobe Acrobat Reader is needed to view the newsletter and if you don't have Adobe Reader, select the Adobe icon below to download it to your computer.											
											
Please forward ideas for newsletter improvement to: trampastopics@gmail.com											
Most Recent Trampas Topics Newsletter											
Trampas Topics Low Res. Topics											
Previous editions of the Trampas Topics											
Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Archived Issues											
Jump to SIR Branch 116 Web Pages											
Br. 116 Home						Br. 116 Golf					



Bridge
Milt Greenstein
 (margmilt@comcast.net)

EVENTS FOR January:

- Jan. 1 No Bridge on New Year's Day
- Jan. 8 Lunch & Bridge 1:30am Round Hill C.C.
- Jan. 25 Lunch & Bridge 11:30am Diablo C.C.

On December 4th, the duplicate group was supposed to meet at the Bridge Center, but due to the heavy rains the day before, the Bridge Center was flooded out, so the game was canceled.

On December 11th, 28 men gathered for lunch at Round Hill C.C. Top scorer today was Jai Yee with 5,670 points. In second place was Jim Nachtweih with 5,370 points, followed by Dick Chaffee (5,320), Jerry Christopherson (5,230), Alvin Buchignani (4,940) and Norm Schoenfeld (4,880). We had three small slams today, made by the teams of Joel White/Jerry Christopherson, Jai Yee/Dimitris Argyriou and Dick Chaffee/Walt Kaweck.

The December 25th meeting was not scheduled because of Christmas.

The winner of our "coveted" achievement award for the highest average score for 2012 was Charley Schmidt with a 4,396 point average for the year. Art Donaldson was second with 4,151 and Jai Yee was third with 4,031.



Senior Humor

(Jokes to fill space)

—

"A man in his eighties went to the doctor for his annual health check-up. He told the doctor: 'I'm getting really forgetful. I forget where I live, I forget where I've parked my car, and I go into shops and I can't remember what it is that I want. And when I do get to the checkout, I find I've forgotten my wallet. It's getting pretty bad, doc. What can I do?'

The doctor thought for a moment and said: 'Pay me in advance.'"

—

"Asked by a reporter how he had managed to live to the age of 100, an old man explained: 'Well, son, I got married when I was 21. The wife and I decided that if ever we argued the loser should take a long walk to cool off. So I guess I've benefited from 79 years of fresh air.'"

—

"A 61-year-old man told the doctor that he was no longer able to help around the house like he used to. After the doctor had finished examining him, the man said: 'Now, doc, tell me in plain English what is wrong with me.'

'In plain English,' said the doctor, 'you're just lazy.'

'Ok,' said the man, 'now give me the medical term so I can tell my wife.'"

—

"Two elderly men walked into a bar. 'Why don't we have a Guinness?' suggested one. 'It's supposed to put lead in your pencil.'

'I guess we could try,' said the other. 'Although, to be honest, I've got nobody to write to.'"



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, January 24th, 2013, 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.

We will start the New Year with fishing trips for trout and sturgeon, and a group outing to the Sportsmen's EXPO in Sacramento on the 10th. The group usually consists of about 15 to 20 members. On the way home we stop for dinner and talk about the latest and greatest gadgets and gear that we looked at. This is a popular annual event. We will continue our successful trips for trout and sturgeon. Carl Moyer and Terry Miller caught 18 sturgeon recently, but no keeper sturgeon; they did catch and keep 2 nice stripers. Gene Schulting and Carl caught only 5 sturgeon, but Gene fought a big brute that eventually broke the line. Shadow Cliffs Reservoir has been sensational, highlighted thus far by Carl Moyers 7 lb., 28 inch rainbow trout. Enjoying the harvest Paul Dubow caught a limit of beauties, 2 lbs. being the smallest. Harry Sherinian and Carl took Harry's new boat for its maiden cruise and caught nice fish. George Vogt joined Carl and Paul for a very pretty limit to 4 lbs. at Shadow Cliffs. Terry Miller, Gordon Linebaugh, Gene Schulting, Joe Miscione, and Carl caught the lake on a slow day, but still caught fish. Joe Miscione, his son, and Mario Maritorio had several successful striper trips to Montezuma slough capped by Joe's 16 pounder.

On Dec. 11, we had our Annual Christmas Gala at Zio Alfredo Restaurant in Pleasant Hill. There were about 50 members and wives in attendance and a great time was had by all. A special thanks to Dick Thompson and Terry Miller for making the arrangements and decorating the tables. Our Big Fish Pete Gates added a nice touch this year by having a raffle and some new ideas to make the evening go

smoother. This event is one of two each year that include our wives and special friends.

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, January 24th, 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, (925-846-7067) or Tom Boltz, Treasurer/Secretary, (925-825-5695.)



Br. 116 Book Club

Rich Black

(blackrw41@comcast.net)

Eurasia is a Big Place and It Goes East-West

Why do Westerners have more than indigenous societies? Jared Diamond traces it to the advantages of living in Eurasia where benefits, like writing and metallurgy, and decimation, like epidemics, could spread along a great distance along the same latitude. Richard Black led the discussion which included Paul Frietas, Jerry Christopherson, Cord Hull, Jim Scott, Jack Butler, Lytton DeSilva, Art Donaldson, Al Reynolds, Dick Kauffman and John Riordan. The group awarded the work 3.85 stars.

The group will next meet at Orinda Books at 10:15 AM on January 28 to discuss "The Seven Pillars of Wisdom" by T E Lawrence. Warning: this book is 650 pages and hardly politically correct. If you get behind, rent the movie: *Lawrence of Arabia*.



Computer & Technology

Derek Southern & Phil Goff



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, January 17 at 9am. There is/was no meeting in December.

Phil Goff will present his Emergency Records Organizer that outlines information you will need in an emergency situation. This was originally presented in January 2008, so Phil will explain how, and why, he has updated it. Also, Phil will show how to use password organizer programs, e.g. Last Pass, Password Keeper, Roboform, etc.

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.

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



\$ums Investment Group

Allen Espenmiller
(aespenmiller@pacbell.net)

The Area 2 \$ums Investment Group will meet on Wednesday January 23, 2013, 8:00 AM at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Our guest speaker **Tom Kopas, Principal Portfolio Manager, Pring Turner Capital Group** will present "**How much Life is Left in the Current Cyclical Bull Market**". Tom will update Pring Turner Capital Group's outlook for stocks, bonds and commodities. His past popular presentation "Are you Prepared for Another Lost Decade" details the reasons investors should be prepared for challenging markets. The program will cover a wide array of timely topics including: What's ahead for the economy and the financial markets? Are we approaching an important long-term turning point for interest rates? How will investors and retirees with bond funds cope with higher inflation? What are the current and long-term themes for profitable opportunities? Valuable insights, original research, and extensive industry experience are all part of this important presentation. In addition, Tom will discuss what asset allocation decisions will bring investors profitably through this cycle and where the risks and opportunities are for investors now and in the coming months and years.

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 very timely talk. Also plan to support the restaurant and it's excellent staff.

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

Hiking & Walking

Joel White

(zpz2mrz@yahoo.com)



Friday Dec. 14 walk was led by Art Donaldson.

Twas the walk before Christmas
and all along the trail
Was our group of walkers,
our skin winter pale.
The weather was cold, without rain,
our smiles were warm,
As we discussed many topics,
our humor in good form.
We walked in small groups
each at our own pace,
Though some walked fast,
as if in a race.
Mt Diablo, visible in the distance,
was covered by cloud.
Migratory bird species along the trail
spooked when we were loud.
Conversation and coffee afterwards
at Panera Bread,
Insured we were all warm
and very well fed.
We parted from our fellowship
with very good cheer,
With wishes to all for
a happy, healthy, new year.

In a change of past practice, it was agreed to hold a 4th Friday walk in December. That walk started at the Iron Horse Trailhead in Alamo. Details to follow in February bulletin due to deadline.

Friday, January 11, we will meet at 8:15 in front of the Lafayette Community Center, 500 St. Mary's Road, in front of the hockey rink. The walk will be led by David Geary. Please RSVP to David dsgeary@comcast.net, 376-7031. Please e-mail David if you need more detailed directions.

The Friday, January 25th walk will be led by Paul Freitas. Please RSVP to Paul pmfreitas@pacbell.net. Meet at 8:15 am at LA BOULANGE, 1348 Broadway Plaza, Walnut Creek. It's about a 2-3 block walk from there to the Iron Horse Trail near Whole Foods.



Hiking Group on December 14th

Left-to-right: Art Donaldson, Lytton DeSilva, Rich Black (background), Norm Schoenfeld (foreground), Donna Argenbright, Mary Alice Donaldson, David Geary, and Dan Green. Other participants, not pictured, Joel White (behind camera), Paul and Anna Freitas, Colleen Geary, Andrea Green.

"Dine-O-Sir" Dinner Group

Ben Smith

(bjsssmith@aol.com)



The Dine-O-Sir herd will be out to pasture in November & December. We will kick off the new year with a gathering in January. We have some good grazing grounds spotted.

We look forward to our Annual SIR Dinner dance at Crow Canyon Country club December 12. This is always a grand affair and will add some real fun to the Holiday season.



Bocce Ball

Jerry Kaplan

(mgkaplan@astound.net)

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.

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

Apr 14-22, 2013: Tulip Time Cruise. Discover the beauty & History of the Dutch and Belgium 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 Francisco 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.

SIR State Travel Opportunities 2013

Jan 14-27, 2013: Tahitian Breeze Vacation. (Starts with a 2 night stay in Papeete, Tahiti, then board the luxurious Marina, one of the newest Oceania Ships. For a 11 day cruise exploring the islands of Moorea, Huahine, Raiatea, Bora Bora, Nuku Hiva, Hiva Oa, and Rangiroa). Prices start at \$5850 pp Larry Martinson Br. 114, San Jose 408-238-8458.

Feb 6-21, 2013: Panama Canal. (14 night cruise on the Coral Princess thru the Caribbean Sea with calls at Aruba, and Cartagena before a full day transit thru the Panama Canal. Other stops include Nicaragua and Cabo San Lucas .Prices start at \$3220 to \$4555 based on cabin selection. Allen Daily Br. 74, San Jose, 408-265-8140 or Don House,408-268-1703.

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.

Mar 31-Apr 10, 2013: Mexican Riviera Cruise. (11 day on board the Grand Princess starts and ends in San Francisco. Ports of call include Catalina Island, Puerto Vallarta, Mazatlan, Cabo San Lucas and San Diego.) Costs range from \$1470 to \$1898 pp and include, home pick up, taxes and fees, tipping, drivers and porters, cocktail party and bottle of wine. Rollo Parson San Jose, Br 141, 408-268-5245.

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.



Santa made our Christmas Dinner Dance complete as he arrived with a bag of gifts and a Ho, Ho, Ho! The social adjustment period was very lively with good conversation and camaraderie. Ygnacio Valley HS Madrigals were a hit as they entertained us with several well done Christmas songs. Once again, Crow Canyon Country Club did a superb job with decorations, food, and service. We got the Big Sir gavel passed from Neil Schmidt to Art Vogl and Art introduced Little SIR Phil Goff. Santa arrived with his four elves and gave out some very nice gifts for many that were fortunate to have their names drawn. There was a lot of dancing as Strawberry Fields DJ Brian Fitzsimmons kept the party going with some very danceable music. We all had a wonderful evening and it was a fitting start to Christmas and Holiday season.

Happy New Year to all,
Jerry Hicks and Committee



Birdies Abound at Boundary Oak

In 2012, Boundary Oak Golf Course achieved designation as a "Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary" through the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses, Boundary Oak Golf Course is the 38th course in California, and the 969th in the world to receive the honor.



Egret Wading in the Pond on #3



Single White Goose with a Gaggle on #10



Ducks Unaware of Dangerous SIR Golfers

SIR 116 Christmas 2012



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. Join up with us and enjoy outings with a great bunch of guys at some great courses with reasonable prices.

Special Note to Golfers!
Our golf web site (www.branch116.org/116-golf) has been upgraded by David Harris with a lot more topics and information. 2013 dues are due by January 10, 2013. Max Foust will be contacting you if you have not paid yet. Remember Silverado due date is just around the corner. See golf web site for details.

January 9-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Wed. 02	10:00	Buchanan Fields	Dick Chaffee
Wed. 09	10:00	Pine Meadow	D. McLaughry
Wed. 16	10:00	Buchanan Fields	Dick Chaffee
Wed. 23	10:00	Diablo Hills	Mike Murphy
Wed. 30	10:00	Pine Meadow	D. McLaughry

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, 2nd place 2 and 3rd 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.

January 18-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Mon. 07	9:30	Boundary Oak	R. Robinson
Mon. 14	9:30	Boundary Oak	R. Robinson
Tue. 22	9:06	Deer Ridge	R. Robinson
Mon. 28	9:00	Roddy Ranch	R. Robinson

18-Hole Results

Lone Tree -- Monday December 17, 2012

Canceled due to bad weather

Boundary Oak -- Monday December 10, 2012

Official Scorer:
Bob Conlon / DeHa

Flight 1			Flight 2			Flight 3			Flight 4		
1st	Jimmy Johnson	72 3	1st	John Story	66 3		Bob Conlon	70 3		Carl Langhorst	66 3
Tie 2nd	David Harris	73 2	2nd	Jerry Hunter	69 2		Bob Donohue	72 2		Robbie Robinson	71 2
Tie 2nd	Lonny Randall	73 2	3rd	Jim Barstow	72 1		Al Serafino	74 1		Terry Grummitt	72 1
Low Gross			Low Gross			Low Gross			Low Gross		
	Jimmy Johnson	85		John Story	88		Bob Conlon	97		Carl Langhorst	97
							Bob Donohue	97			

Closest to: Hole #2 - Jerry Hunter, Robbie Robinson -- Hole #12 - Phil Goff, Terry Grummitt

Special Event Results -- Boundary Oak -- December 10, 2012 -- 35 players -- Total pot \$175

First Place Team	Second Place Team	Third Place Team
\$80 Team Prize	\$60 Team Prize	\$35 Team Prize
Phil Goff	Jim Barstow	Jimmy Johnson
John Story	Bob Donohue	Al Serafino
Jerry Christopherson	Brent Chaney	Jerry Hunter
Robbie Robinson	Terry Grummitt	Frank Lockwood

Boundary Oak -- Monday December 3, 2012

Official Scorer:
Chuck Gilliam

Flight 1			Flight 2			Flight 3			Flight 4		
1st	Jimmy Johnson	70 3	1st	Neil Schmidt	70 3	Tie 1st	Bob Conlon	74 3	1st	Terry Grummitt	73 3
2nd	Wayne Smith	74 2	2nd	Frank Crua	72 2	Tie 1st	Al Serafino	74 3	2nd	Terry Sherman	77 2
3rd	David Harris	75 1	3rd	Jim Barstow	74 1	3rd	Dick Chaffee	78 1	3rd	Ron Armijo	78 1
Low Gross			Low Gross			Low Gross			Low Gross		
	Jimmy Johnson	85		Neil Schmidt	89		Bob Conlon	101		Terry Grummitt	107
							Al Serafino	101		Terry Sherman	107

Closest to: Hole #2 - Wayne Smith, Mark Jordan -- Hole #12 - Ron Armijo

Golf Story

A man got on the bus with one of his front trouser pockets full of golf balls and sat down next to a beautiful (you guessed it) blonde.

The puzzled blonde kept looking at him and his bulging pocket.

Finally, after many glances from her, he said, "Its golf balls."

The blonde continued to look at him for a very long time, thinking deeply about what he had said.

After several minutes, not being able to contain her curiosity any longer, she asked, "Does it hurt as much as tennis elbow?"

2012 Year-End 18-Hole Leader Board

FLIGHT 1		FLIGHT 2		FLIGHT 3		FLIGHT 4	
Index 0.0 - 16.4		Index 16.5 - 22.9		Index 23.0 - 26.9		Index 27.0 - 36.4	
NAME	POINTS	NAME	POINTS	NAME	POINTS	NAME	POINTS
Zavattero, Al	52	Crua, Frank	54	Robertson, Conrad	61	Grummitt, Terry	49
Harris, David	48	Carlson, David	51	Testa, Bob	50	Robinson, Robbie	36
Johnson, Jim	45	Goff, Phil	46	Serafino, Al	40	Arena, Matt	34
McCord, Bill	38	Story, John	36	Peterson, John	27	Langhorst, Carl	34
Williams, Mel	34	Schmidt, Neil	26	Hutchko, Al	25	Vogl, Art	25
Meyer, Dirk	23	Barstow, Jim	25	Jenkins, Phil	23	Hemmelsbach, Bill	23
Randall, Lonny	23	Eller, Tom	19	Donohue, Bob	21	Coggiola, Peter	17
Clizbe, Jim	15	Tinguely, Pat	13	Chaffee, Dick	18	Cook, Wayne	15
Smith, Wayne	15	Foust, Max	10	Conlon, Bob	15	Armijo, Ron	14
Hicks, Jerry	14	Kim, Paul	7	Lutkus, Alex	12	Sherman, Terry	13
Giambastiani, Denny	4	Socolich, Dick	7	Daniel, Jed	8	Gilliam, Chuck	10
Cherepy, Steve	3	Hunter, Jerry	6	Christopherson, Jerry	7	Lockwood, Frank	9
Babcock, Jack	1	Portillo, Frank	6	Wroblewski, Bernie	7	Jordan, Mark	8
Clark, Bill	1	Xavier, Carlos	6	Madden, Richard	4	McVean, Kirk	7
		Videle, Jim	5	Roberts, Don	4	Ostler, Joe	5
		Campbell, Rob	3	Powell, Troy	1	Aalders, Doug	3
		Perrelli, Phil	2	Schnieder, Will	1	Chasnoff, Allan	2
		Altomare, Jim	1			Chaney, Brent	1
		Birmingham, Pat	1				
		Kawecki, Walt	1				

Latest SIR 116 Golf Info Available on Our Golf Web Site

The Golf Website address is:

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 January 22	Deer Ridge	Jan-12	\$40
Monday January 28	Roddy Ranch	Jan-21	\$26
Monday February 4	Silverado South	Jan-21	\$50
Tuesday February 19	Brentwood	Feb-9	\$32
Monday February 25	Crow Canyon	Feb-18	\$45
Monday March 11	Sequoyah	Feb-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).

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.