



Trampas Topics

March, 2013

SIR Branch 116

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

A Nonprofit Public Benefit Organization for Retired Men Enjoying Active Retirement

Sayings of 2013 Big Sir Art Vogl



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Here we are mid-March, 2013, already. Birds are chirping, flowers blooming, trees budding and at long last, warmer weather. We all detest cold weather and we sure had our share of it last month. Now we can all enjoy outdoor activities. For those who still want to stay indoors, there's always NCGA's March Madness. For those Irish and wantabees, there's the traditional funfest of St. Patrick's Day on March 17th. Lots of green beer and corned beef.



For those that haven't yet paid their \$45.00 voluntary contribution, either forward a \$45.00 check to Treasurer John Peterson or for sure, bring it to the March Luncheon. We thank those who have paid at the February Lunch as we need those funds to keep our Branch afloat.

I'm also happy to announce that date of our annual Spring Fling on May 2nd at Boundary Oak. Our Party Chairman, Jerry Christopherson, will go into detail elsewhere in the Trampas Topics.

Parking at the Elks: January and February were terrible. If you don't already know, Elks Lodge leases out parking spaces to tenants and the cars are always gone before we get there. Unfortunately, January was Martin Luther King's National Holiday and February was Presidents' Day and a lot of those leases didn't go to work. That won't happen for the rest of the year but still, think of car pooling if you can.

One last item, we're changing (slightly) the seating for incoming inductees. We like them and their Sponsors to scatter around the room so that they have a chance to meet other SIRs. The Guest Table will remain the same.

Thanks, and see you all March 14th.

Art Vogl Big SIR

Some Important 2013 Br. 116 Dates:

- Ladies Day Bridge: April 16 at Diablo Country Club
- Spring Fling Ladies Luncheon: May 2 at Boundary Oak GC
- Carson City Getaway: September 4-6 in Carson City, NV

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	939-3973	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

March 2013

Sun.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
					1	2
3	4 18-Hole Golf (9:30@ Boundary Oak GC)	5 Duplicate Bridge (9:00@ Diablo Valley Bridge Ctr)	6 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC)	7	8 Hiking & Walking (8:15@ Sycamore Valley Rd. and I-680)	9
10	11 18-Hole Golf (9:30@ Sequoyah CC)	12 Luncheon Bridge (11:30@ Round Hill CC)	13 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Pine Meadow GC)	14	15	16
17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i>	18 SIR Br 116 Mtg. (11:30@ Elks Lodge)	19 18-Hole Golf (9:32@ Callippe Preserve GC) Poker Group 2 (1:00@ Diablo CC)	20 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC)	21 Computer & Tech (9:00@ Elks Lodge)	22 Hiking & Walking (8:15@ Happy Valley Rd. and Mt. Diablo Blvd.)	23
24	25 18-Hole Golf (9:30@ Dublin Ranch GC) Book Group Mtg. (10:15@ Orinda Books)	26 Luncheon Bridge (11:30@ Diablo CC)	27 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Diablo Hills GC) \$ums Investment (8:00@ Diablo Creek GC)	28 Dine-O-SIR (6:00@ Diablo CC) Fishing Group (8:30@ Legends-Diablo Crk)	29	30
31						



Membership

Andy Benz
(anbenz@aol.com)

SIR 116 Membership Status

Total Current Members:	252
Last Month's Inductees:	4
Those in Interview Stage:	0
Total in Process:	4
On Inactive Status:	47
Left the Branch:	2
Waiting to be Installed:	0



Br. 116 Treasurer's Report

John Peterson, Treasurer
(delanaimp@aol.com)

	<u>February 2013</u>	<u>2013 YTD</u>
Contributions	\$ 14,161.00	\$ 17,656.00
Disbursements	\$ (6,996.19)	\$ (11,495.83)
Net (gain/(loss))	\$ 7,164.81	\$ 6,160.17

February Cash Balance \$ 10,885.42

February Luncheon Menu

Corned Beef & Cabbage
 Red Potatoes & Carrots
 Spicy Mustard & Horseradish Sauce
 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



Lunch Attendance

Jim Nachtweih
(majnacht@sbcglobal.net)

Attendance at the February 18th meeting:

Total:	201
Members:	188
Visitors:	1
Speakers:	1
Guests:	11
Excused:	44
Un-Excused:	18

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

March Birthdays

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

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1.Douglas Allen | 13.John Peterson |
| 2.William Babcock, Jr. | 14.Allen Pirkle |
| 3.Gary Bonfiglio | 15.Lloyd Plank |
| 4.Bob Costa | 16.Ron Radakovich |
| 5.Bill Harrington | 17.Paul Ramacciotti |
| 6.Robert Johnston | 18.Norman Schoenfeld |
| 7.Richard Kauffman | 19.David Sherman |
| 8.Ron Leschot | 20.Dean Steuer |
| 9.Bob Loder | 21.John Story |
| 10.Frank Lockwood | 22.Pat Tinguely |
| 11.Bill McCord | 23.Don Welsh |
| 12.Chuck O'Conner | 24.Bob Zurich |

Note: Sheldon Lawrence was inadvertently left off the February Birthday list—My apologies...

LADIES SPRING FLING LUNCHEON

PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE: Our fabulous Spring Fling for our ladies is now scheduled for Thursday, **May 2, 2013** at Boundary Oak Golf Course in Walnut Creek. Reservation form is available in the Spring Fling flyer on page 12 of this newsletter and will also be available at our March and April monthly meetings. Please invite the lady in your life, or come as a single.

Also, remember this event replaces our regular monthly meeting.



Sunshine Report

Matt Arena

(marena@astound.net)

Sir **Tim Dorr** is continuing to improve since his last surgery. He has moved from his walker to a cane. Hopefully this is the last setback for him.

Past Big Sir **Courtney Borrecco** was out and about in his wheel chair. He was in good spirits and appreciates calls and visits from his many friends.

Sir **Mario Beria** was headed to our luncheon but he let his faithful driver Max Foust know that he was not up to it on Monday morning. Hopefully Mario will be back with us next month.

Sir **Bob Johnston** made two trips to the hospital with the nasty virus which is circulating around the many senior folks. His wife Doris tells me is doing better.

Sir **Plato Grivas** was hospitalized with phenomena but is home and recovering nicely.

Sir **Al Hutchko** had rotator cuff surgery and is back at our luncheon. He expects to be back on the golf course by June.

MAKE PEACE WITH YOUR PAST SO IT WON'T SCREW UP THE PRESENT.....

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

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.



\$ums Investment Group

Allen Espenmiller

(aespenmiller@pacbell.net)

The Area 2 \$ums Investment Group will meet on Wednesday March 27,2013, 8:00 AM at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Our speakers, Steven Biggs, a partner and Chief Investment Officer, and Andy Byron a partner and Financial Planner/Investment Adviser with HC Financial Advisors of Lafayette , CA. Their presentation topic will be "Our Current Position on the Business Cycle and Ways to Position Your Portfolio in a Low-Interest Environment". HC Financial Advisors, Inc. is a best rated financial advisor firm and our two speakers bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to share with us. Plan to make this meeting and learn from their presentation.

The Legends restaurant opens at 7:00 AM, so plan to have an enjoyable breakfast along with your fellow members. Bring a prospective SIR member or two to let them know about our Investment Group and enjoy this timely presentation. Let me know if you are bring a guest so we can acknowledge them. Let's support the restaurant and its excellent staff.



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.a2cat.sirinc2.org/

SIR Happenings State Newsletter

www.sirinc.org/sirhappenings

State SIR Web Site

www.sirinc.org/



Wine Appreciation Group

Jack Bevis

(jackb435@comcast.net)



Wines of the World was the theme as the Wine Appreciation group met at Jerry and Kathy Hicks' home on the last Thursday of January. Twenty-five wine lovers were greeted at the door with an Oregon King Es-

tates Pinot Grigio. Sampling of a Spanish wine from the Duero valley, a Chianti Classico Riserva from Italy, an Australian Shiraz, an Argentinian Malbec, and finally a Cabernet from Napa and Sonoma Valley followed. Plenty of hors d'ouvres provided a sobriety check for the abundant tastings. The wine appreciation group meets bi-monthly, the last Thursday of the month and reservations must be made through the Head Sommelier, Jack Bevis.



Luncheon Speaker

By Little Sir Phil Goff

(philgoff@yahoo.com)

For the March Luncheon we have invited Officer John Fransen of the California Highway Patrol to

be our speaker. He will talk about the CHP's mission of lowering the Mileage Death rate, Basic Traffic Safety, and an overview of the various CHP educational programs they offer. Since we are a group of aging drivers, this presentation should be of particular interest.



Officer Fransen is the Chief Information Officer for the Contra Costa CHP and holds certifications in a variety of law enforcement areas. He will be joined by Senior Volunteer, Cindy Lima, and our Branch Member, Phil Perilli, who is President of the Senior Volunteer Group for the Contra Costa CHP.





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, March 28th, at the Legend Sports Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course at 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Meeting starts at 8:30am.

We fished Shadow Cliffs reservoir for trout with mixed results, Paul Dubow, Sal Costanza, Barry Rauchle, Al Bruner, George Vogt, and Carl Moyer all caught a few fish. A well-attended trip to the trout pond at Lake Comanche was productive for Al Bruner who caught the only two fish, including one nearly 5 lbs. Pete Gates caught and released a sturgeon estimated at 5 feet on a delta trip with Dick Thomson, Joe Miscione, Barry Rachel, and Carl Moyer. Gordon Linebaugh caught and kept a healthy 4 foot sturgeon fishing with Carl Moyer. Sal Costanza netted a nice 5 footer for his cousin on a separate excursion. Carl Moyer released a 42 inch keeper sturgeon near Pittsburg. Harry Sherinian and Carl Moyer had an epic day at San Pablo reservoir, boating 10 trout, including one 4 pounder, three 3 pounders, 5 two pounders, and a 12 incher. Very heavy stringer. Bill Landers, Terry Miller, Gordon Linebaugh, and Carl caught 20 more the next day, but not as many large ones.

We will be very busy this spring with: delta fishing for bass, catfish, and sturgeon, trout in local lakes, kokanee, salmon and crab, and attending the various sportsmen shows. The fishing season is almost upon us and the outlook looks great. Please come and join us and enjoy the great outdoors and the camaraderie of fellow fisherman. You don't have to be a seasoned fisherman and there are plenty of helping hands around to guide you if you need help.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, March 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 Harry Sherinian, Branch 116 Coordinator, (510-207-7067) or Tom Boltz, Treasurer/Secretary, (925-825-5695.).



Harry Sherinian with his 4 lb. Trout



SIR President's Award



SIR Area 2 Governor Gary Plisco presenting *SIR President's Awards* to Senior Paul Harris and Senior Henry Sicabaig



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, March 21st at 9am.

Neil Schmidt will delve into the current state of Speech Recognition technology. He will present an overview of how computers recognize spoken words, how applications use this technology, he will demonstrate a number of these applications, and will attempt to predict where this technology is heading.

Today's computers and smartphones all have speech recognition applications either built-in or available that can be extremely useful to most users. The word recognition accuracy of these applications has dramatically increased in recent years and some of the newer applications are not only recognizing words but interpreting the meaning of these words. Speech recognition applications have rapidly expanded from the automated telephone systems implemented a few years ago to new and impressive language translators and intelligent personal assistants that actually work. These advancements are leading to many new and interesting uses to help us in our everyday lives.

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 every-

one. We ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and cookies. See you there.



Hiking & Walking

Joel White

(zpz2mrz@yahoo.com)



The **Friday, March 8th** walk will be led by Joel White. Please RSVP to Joel, 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.*

The **Friday, March 22** walk will be led by Lytton DeSilva. We'll gather at 8:15 AM, at the intersection where Happy Valley Road meets Mt. Diablo Blvd in Lafayette. Park in the mall that contains Diablo Foods, CVS Pharmacy, and Trader Joes. We'll walk through a residential area along Happy Valley Rd until we reach the Happy Valley Elementary School and then return. Please RSVP to Lytton (254-5289; lyttonaudrey@comcast.net).

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.

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

"Dine-O-Sir" Dinner Group

Ben Smith

(bjsssmith@aol.com)



The Dine-O-SIR Herd will be gathering Thursday March 28 at a new pasture and watering hole. We will meet at the lovely "Diablo Country Club" located in the Wooded-Rustic area of "Diablo, just east of Danville. This is a Beautiful Private Club and its a great chance to come check it out.

We have a tasty Menu planned consisting of Grilled Salmon w/beurre blanc sauce, Vegetable Wellington in a flaky crust and Beef Bourguignon with Buttered noodles. We will start with a nice Balsamic vinaigrette dressed mixed salad and finish with a Deluxe Bread Pudding with Butter Rum sauce. We will have a beautiful private room with our own private Bar. Lots of room to socialize, so be sure and come early and meet lots of nice people and join with old and new friends. We especially want to encourage NEW MEMBERS and their guests to come join these events.

Dinner cost is \$35 PP which Includes all Tax & Gratuity. Special Wine and drink prices will also be available on a NO HOST basis at a reasonable all-in cost.

This should prove to be a wonderful evening and we would encourage all our Branch members to attend if at all possible. The party starts at 6 PM with Dinner at 6:45 PM. Make your reservations early so you and your guest will not be disappointed. We will have round tables of eight with open seating.

History Note:

We had our first Dine-O-SIR event on March 26, 2009. We had some 50 people in attendance at this first affair. This Branch event has continued to grow in popularity over the past four years.

Your Dine-O-SIR committee has had the pleasure of putting together some 22 dinning events and our goal is to continue to arrange events that provide Good food, Good value and a Fun and Enjoyable social climate.... "People always make the party".

We would welcome any feedback from our Branch members regarding their feelings relating to our Dine-Out program. We especially would like to hear from you regarding prior D-O locations or future restaurants that you would like for us to check out for upcoming events. We are trying out smaller restaurants by arranging two night events which seem to be working quite well. We really would like to hear from you as to how we can move forward and improve these special Branch D-O events.....bon appétit



Br. 116 Book Club

Rich Black

(blackrw41@comcast.net)

Regime Change, an American Practice Back to the 19th Century

Stephen Kinzer's book, *Overthrow* details American involvement in changes of a number of governments including Hawaii, Panama, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Iran, and the aftereffect of these interventions. Joel White led the discussion with Cord Hull, Lytton DeSilva, Al Reynolds, Dick Kauffman, John Riordan, Tim Tinnes, Art Donaldson, Jim Scott, and Bob Mathews participating. The group awarded the work 4.21stars, largely on the basis of the book's historical content.

The group will next meet at Orinda Books at 10:15 AM on March 25 to discuss "The Burning Barn" by Richard Black.

On April 22 the group will discuss David Halberstram's "*The Coldest Winter, America and the Korean War*". Although the book is not available from the publisher, new and used copies are available from Amazon. The book is also available in Kindle format and numerous copies are on the shelves of the Contra Costa Library.



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 mgkplan@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

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 Dennis Perry with new member **Rodney Harris** and new member **Ralph Reamy** with sponsor Nick Bowles



Sponsor James Johnson with new member **Rich Lopez** and new member **Hugh Duggan** with sponsor Al Zavattero

Easter Candy Sales



If you are interested in buying See's candy at a substantial discount for Easter, you may place your order at our March Luncheon or by contacting Dirk Meyer (820-6878) or Don Seaton (932-4115). The deadline for ordering is March 19th. An order form, when available, will be placed on our Branch 116 Web site (www.branch116.org).



Bridge

Milt Greenstein

(margmilt@comcast.net)

The duplicate bridge group met on February 5th at the Diablo Valley Bridge Center, with 10 teams playing. First place was a tie between the teams of Mike Corker / Jim Regan and Bob Wolf / Oscar Krekorian, each scoring 59 points out of a possible 108, (54.63 %). Third place was a tie between the teams of Dan Green / Milt Greenstein and Bob Daily / Jim Nachtweih with 58 points. Close !! A couple of tricks makes a big difference.

On February 12th, the lunch / bridge group met at Round Hill C.C. with 24 men enjoying a strip steak lunch and 3 hours of bridge. Bob Kahl with 5,490 points was our top score for the day, with Jai Yee second with 5,190. In third place was Dimitrious Argyriou with 5,180, followed by Tony Rohrs (4,630), Joel White (4,410) and Jerry Christopherson (4,020). Two small slams were made today, both by Dimitrious, the first with Bob Daily, and the second with Joel White. Overall, today was a low scoring day with an average round of 549 points, almost 100 points lower than our last session. Bob Kahl's 5,490 points would have put him in fifth place three weeks ago.

On February 26th, the group met again at Diablo C.C. A very nice crab cake lunch was enjoyed before sitting down to 3 hours of bridge. Bob Kahl was our high scorer again this week, with 6,870 points, (second session in a row !). Jerry Christopherson was second with 6,500 points, followed by Jack Butler (5,490), Bob Wolf (5,400), Norm Schoenfeld (5,000) and Alvin Buchignani (4,420). We had two small slams today, made by Norm Schoenfeld / Bob Kahl and Art Donaldson / Ernie Sherne.

FIRST ALERT- Our first Ladies Day event for 2013 is coming up - April 16, 11:00 am at Diablo C.C. , \$48 per couple includes lunch and prize money. Lunch will be a choice of chicken, salmon or paste, with a salad, desert and beverage. Mark the date, sign up your partner, get your practice rounds in! CALL me - 376.5589 !



2013



SPRING FLING

FOR

SIR BRANCH 116

A Special Luncheon for our Ladies (Replacing Regular May Lunch Meeting)

The CLUBHOUSE at BOUNDARY OAK GOLF COURSE

Cocktails in the MIRA VISTA ROOM

3800 VALLEY VISTA ROAD WALNUT CREEK, CA 94598 PHONE 925-934-3600

THURSDAY, May 2, 2013

11:00 No Host Social Hour

12:00 Sit-down Luncheon Served

Fun! Entertainment! Special drink prices! Door prizes! Fun!

\$35.00 Per Person (includes tax and tip)

Menu

Entrée choice:

1) Braised BBQ Short Rib

2) Alaskan Halibut

3) Mushroom/Spinach Galette (Vegetarian)

(MENU INCLUDES SALAD, DESSERT & SEASONAL VEGETABLES)

Detach Here -----

Spring Fling – Boundary Oak Golf Course

Must be received no later than April 26, 2013

Name: _____

Beef ___ Halibut ___ Galette ___

Name: _____

Beef ___ Halibut ___ Galette ___

Note: No table reservations this year; arrange your own seating partners

Make Check to: SIR Branch 116

Number x \$35.00 = \$ _____

Mail Check to: Jerry Christopherson 161 Kingsdale Drive, Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Phone: 925-939-3973 Email: jchris161k@aol.com

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.

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.

Notice

The 2013 Boulder Creek Golf Outing was cancelled due to declining attendance...

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.

March 9-Hole Schedule

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

March 18-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Mon. 04	9:30	Boundary Oak	John Peterson
Mon. 11	9:30	Sequoyah CC	John Peterson
Tue. 19	9:32	Callippe Pres.	John Peterson
Mon. 25	9:30	Dublin Ranch	John Peterson

18-Hole Results

Brentwood -- Tuesday February 19, 2013

Brentwood canceled due to bad weather

Boundary Oak -- Monday February 11, 2013

Official Scorer:
Al Serafino

Flight 1				Flight 2				Flight 3				Flight 4			
1st	Al Zavattero	73	3	Tie 1st	Neil Schmidt	72	3	1st	Conrad Robertson	67	3	1st	Chuck Gilliam	68	3
Tie 2nd	David Harris	77	2	Tie 1st	John Story	72	3	Tie 2nd	Gary Boswell	68	2	Tie 2nd	Ron Armijo	70	2
Tie 2nd	Bill McCord	77	2	Tie 3rd	Paul Kim	74	1	Tie 2nd	Alex Lutkus	68	2	Tie 2nd	Mark Jordan	70	2
				Tie 3rd	Carlos Xavier	74	1								
Low Gross				Low Gross				Low Gross				Low Gross			
	Steve Cherepy	92			Neil Schmidt	90			Gary Boswell	93			Ron Armijo	102	
	Al Zavattero	92													

Closest to: Hole #2 - John Story, Matt Arena -- Hole #12 - Hugh Duggan, Frank Lockwood

>>>-----> Jim Clizbe got a Hole-In-One on Hole #6 -- Congratulations Jim <-----<<<<

Silverado South -- Monday February 4, 2013

Official Scorer:
David C Harris

Flight 1				Flight 2				Flight 3				Flight 4			
1st	Al Zavattero	71	3	Tie 1st	Frank Crua	77	3	1st	Alex Lutkus	74	3	1st	Mark Jordan	73	3
Tie 2nd	David Harris	79	2	Tie 1st	Walt Kawecki	77	3	2nd	Don Roberts	78	2	2nd	Robbie Robinson	74	2
Tie 2nd	Jimmy Johnson	79	2	Tie 1st	Phil Perrelli	77	3	Tie 3rd	Conrad Robertson	80	1	Tie 3rd	Carl Langhorst	78	1
				Tie 1st	Neil Schmidt	77	3	Tie 3rd	Bernie Wroblewski	80	1	Tie 3rd	Fred Schafer	78	1
				Tie 1st	Pat Tinguely	77	3								
Low Gross				Low Gross				Low Gross				Low Gross			
	Al Zavattero				Neil Schmidt	95			Alex Lutkus				Mark Jordan	108	
													Robbie Robinson	108	

Closest to: Hole #7 - David Harris, Terry Grummitt, Grove Garvin (guest) -- Hole #15 - David Harris, David Geary (guest)

Roddy Ranch -- Monday January 28, 2013

Official Scorer:
Lonny Randall

Flight 1				Flight 2				Flight 3				Flight 4			
Tie 1st	Jim Barstow	70	3	1st	Frank Crua	70	3	1st	Jerry Hunter	70	3	1st	Matt Arena	68	3
Tie 1st	Phil Goff	70	3	Tie 2nd	John Story	73	2	2nd	Alex Lutkus	72	2	2nd	Robbie Robinson	74	2
Tie 3rd	David Harris	72	1	Tie 2nd	Bob Testa	73	2	3rd	Phil Jenkins	74	1	3rd	Frank Lockwood	75	1
Tie 3rd	Al Zavattero	72	1												
Low Gross				Low Gross				Low Gross				Low Gross			
	Phil Goff	87			Frank Crua	90			Jerry Hunter	101			Matt Arena	105	

Closest to: Hole #7 - Frank Crua, Terry Grummitt -- Hole #17 - Jim Barstow, Terry Grummitt

Silverado - North April 8, 2013

We, again, have the opportunity to play the Silverado North Course which has been renovated within the last year. Price is \$50 with cart and range balls. We tee off at 9:00AM Shotgun. You are encouraged to invite your friends as we would like to get 100 golfers. The due date for committing to play is the March 18th SIR luncheon. However, if you definitely plan on playing, send in your check to the PO Box earlier so we can see how many Branch 116 and guests plan to play. This will allow us to determine how many players we need from the other branches. Your cooperation is appreciated.

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	10	Crua, Frank	7	Hunter, Jerry	7	Robinson, Robbie	7
Zavattero, Al	8	Schmidt, Neil	7	Lutkus, Alex	7	Arena, Matt	6
Barstow, Jim	6	Story, John	7	Jenkins, Phil	6	Gilliam, Chuck	6
Goff, Phil	4	Testa, Bob	4	Boswell, Gary	5	Grummitt, Terry	5
Hicks, Jerry	4	Tinguely, Pat	4	Daniel, Jed	4	Jordan, Mark	5
Meyer, Dirk	4	Clizbe, Jim	3	Robertson, Conrad	4	Armijo, Ron	3
Williams, Mel	3	Kawecki, Walt	3	Serafino, Al	3	Schafer, Fred	2
Johnson, Jim	2	Perrelli, Phil	3	Conlon, Bob	2	Vogl, Art	2
McCord, Bill	2	Smith, Wayne	3	Roberts, Don	2	Langhorst, Carl	1
		Xavier, Carlos	3	Wroblewski, Bernie	2	Lockwood, Frank	1
		Videle, Jim	2	Donohue, Bob	1	Sherman, Terry	1
		Kim, Paul	1				
		Socolich, Dick	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
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
Tuesday April 16	Lake Chabot	Apr-6	\$27
Monday April 22	Rancho Solano	Apr-13	\$42
Monday April 29	Mare Island	Apr-20	\$34

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.