



# Trampas Topics

February, 2014

SIR Branch 116

Next Meeting: 11:30 am,  
Monday, February 16, 2014  
Elks Lodge—1475 Creekside  
Dr, Walnut Creek, CA 94596

A Nonprofit Public Benefit Organization for Retired Men Enjoying Active Retirement

## Sayings of 2014 Big Sir Phil Goff

At the January luncheon I announced that our Branch finances are healthy and that costs will not increase this year. The voluntary contribution remains the same as last year at \$45 and is now due. If you haven't already paid, please remember to bring your check or cash for that amount to the February luncheon. Also, don't forget to pick up your copy of the annual *Membership Roster* published by SIR Dick Thomson.



Our lunch date in February falls on the President's Birthday Holiday. As you know the Elks Lodge sells monthly parking permits for a set number of spots. Those vehicles are normally gone during the day of our meetings, but on a Holiday Monday there are likely to be a number of vehicles staying in place. So please consider carpooling to avoid a parking shortage. Your fellow SIR members will appreciate it.

SIR Jim Barstow has put together plans for an excellent golf event in May in beautiful Carmel, CA. Significant others are welcome even if they are non-golfers. Spaces are limited so sign up right away if you wish to participate. Details are in the flyer in this month's Newsletter.

The Book Exchange run by Dick Kauffman and John Fraser kicked off at our January luncheon and there certainly appeared to be some interesting books being offered for exchange. Please bring a book to the next luncheon and help make the selection grow.

Did you notice that we had a new Story Teller at the January luncheon? Each month I plan to have someone different tell one of their favorite jokes. My purpose is to have some new faces in front of the audience and if you enjoy their joke, please tell them so. I'm sure they will appreciate the recognition.

Also, don't forget that Valentine's Day is February 14<sup>th</sup>. It's always good idea to please the "little lady" with a gift, dinner or something special on that day.

Stay healthy and enjoy life.

*Phil Goff* 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.

## 2014 SIR 116 Officers & Directors



**Big SIR**  
Phil Goff  
831-3692



**Little SIR**  
Bob Donohue  
513-5141



**Secretary**  
Dick Chaffee  
932-5087



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



**Treasurer**  
Carl Langhorst  
672-2541



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



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

## DIRECTORS



Wayne Cook  
933-8337



Jim Johnson  
825-7437



Jerry Kaplan  
938-1037



Bob Testa  
254-8457



Paul Romacciotti  
229-2564



Art Vogl  
288-0488

## 2014 SIR 116 Committee Chairmen

Activities Coord.	J. Christopherson	939-3973	Membership Roster	Dick Thomson	785-7600
Attendance	Jim Nachtweih	838-7417	Music Man	Robbie Robinson	939-5342
Audit	Ron Armijo	945-0637	Newsletter Editor	Neil Schmidt	831-3692
Book Club	Rich Black	283-8376	Asst. Editor	Phil Goff	939-5342
Book Exchange	John Fraser	837-7439	Nominating	Art Vogl	393-9373
"	Dick Kauffman	838-2334	Parties	J. Christopherson	946-0335
Bridge	Milt Greenstein	376-5589	Photographers	John Peterson	831-3692
Candy Sales	Don Seaton	932-4115	"	Neil Schmidt	939-5342
"	Dirk Meyer	820-6878	"	Phil Goff	831-3692
Chaplain	Rotating	*1 Below	Poker Group—1	Bill Harrington	935-1625
Computer & Tech.	Neil Schmidt	939-5342	Poker Group—2	Al Reynolds	254-1576
Dine-O-Sir	Ben Smith	820-5403	Storytellers	Various	Various
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			

\*1. Doug Aalders, Matt Arena, Art Donaldson,  
Lou Sandor

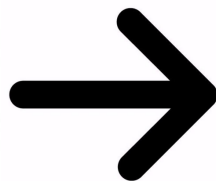
## 2014 SIR Area 2 (Inter-branch) Committee Chairmen

Bowling	Lloyd West (Br.19)	228-9037	Rubber Bridge	Fred Bolton (Br.146)	932-1580
Computer Tech	Derek Southern (Br.8)	937-2035	Table Pool	Bill Weinberg	682-0962
Fishing	Pete Gates (Br. 146)	689-3199	Travel	(Br.146)	934-8428
Golf	Jim Willey (Br.19)	934-0656	Speakers Bureau	Bob Spellman (A.2)	685-8764
Publicity	Walt Schick (Br.8)		Sums Retirement	John Roebuck (Br.19)	376-3977

# SIR Branch 116 Activity Calendar

## February 2014

Sun.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
						1
<b>Superbowl</b>	3  <b>18-Hole Golf</b> (9:00@ Crow Canyon GC)	4  <b>Duplicate Bridge</b> (9:00@ Diablo Valley Bridge Ctr)	5  <b>9-Hole Golf</b> (10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC)	6	7  <b>Hiking &amp; Walking</b> (8:15@ Lafayette Reservoir)	8
	9	10  <b>18-Hole Golf</b> (9:30@ Boundary Oak GC)	11  <b>Luncheon Bridge</b> (11:30@ Round Hill CC)	12  <b>9-Hole Golf</b> (10:00@ Pine Meadow GC)	13	14    <b>Hiking &amp; Walking</b> (8:15@ Sweet Affair, WC)
16	17  <b>SIR Br 116 Mtg.</b> (11:30@ Elks Club)  	18  <b>18-Hole Golf</b> (9:30@ Brentwood GC)  <b>Poker Group 2</b> (1:00@ Diablo CC)	19  <b>9-Hole Golf</b> (10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC)	20  <b>Computer &amp; Tech</b> (9:00@ Elks Lodge)	21	22
23	24  <b>18-Hole Golf</b> (9:32@ Callippe Preserve GC)  <b>Book Group Mtg.</b> (10:15@ Orinda Books)	25  <b>Luncheon Bridge</b> (11:30@ Diablo CC)	26  <b>9-Hole Golf</b> (10:00@ Diablo Hills GC)  <b>Sums Investment</b> (8:00@ Diablo Creek GC)	27  <b>Fishing</b> (8:30@ Lendend Sports Bar, Diablo Creek GC)	28  <b>Hiking &amp; Walking</b> (8:15@ La Boulange café, Danville)	





## Membership

Andy Benz  
(anbenz@aol.com)

### SIR 116 Membership Status

Total Current Members:	249
Last Month's Inductees:	0
Those in Interview Stage:	0
Total in Process:	0
On Inactive Status:	59
Left the Branch:	2
Waiting to be Installed:	0



## Lunch Attendance

Jim Nachtweih  
(majnacht@sbcglobal.net)

Attendance at the January 20th meeting:

Total:	191
Members:	189
Visitors:	0
Speakers:	0
Guests:	2
Excused:	39
Un-Excused:	23

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



## Br. 116 Treasurer's Report

Carl Langhorst, Treasurer  
(cslangho@mindspring.com)

	<u>Jan., 2014</u>	<u>2014 YTD</u>
Contributions	\$ 7,613.00	\$ 7,613.00
Disbursements	\$ (3,988.95)	\$ (3,988.95)
Net (gain/(loss))	\$ 3,624.05	\$ 3,624.05
January Cash Balance		\$ 9,010.68

## 👉 REMINDER 👈

To cancel your standing Luncheon reservation, please call Luncheon Hotline (925-806-8874) no later than Thursday AM in the previous week.

## February Luncheon Menu

Pepper Roasted Pork Loin  
Mashed Potatoes-Gravy  
Veggies  
Salad, Rolls & Butter  
Dessert-Coffee- Ice-tea

## February Birthdays

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

- |                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Ron Armijo    | 14. Sheldon Lawrence |
| 2. Norn Azevedo  | 15. Gene McCullough  |
| 3. Jon Dickson   | 16. Harry Oberle     |
| 4. Clifford Egan | 17. Edmund Regalia   |
| 5. Bob Frey      | 18. Donald Roberts   |
| 6. James Foust   | 19. Al Robinson      |
| 7. Daniel Green  | 20. Fred Schafer     |
| 8. Paul Harris   | 21. Edward Schommer  |
| 9. Cordell Hull  | 22. Jeffrey Smith    |
| 10. Pete Kallas  | 23. Ralph Swartz     |
| 11. Paul Kim     | 24. Tom Voorhis      |
| 12. Thomas King  | 25. Ernie Wong       |
| 13. Harry Kinney |                      |

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)



## Sunshine Report

**Matt Arena**

(marena@astound.net)

SIR **Larry Johnson** is recovering nicely from his stroke. He still does not have full use of his right hand but knowing Larry, his therapists will see to it that he has a full recovery. Larry tells me his wife Joan is at John Muir Medical Center in isolation with pneumonia. When it rains it pours (except in California).

SIR **Jim Nachweih** suffered a mild stroke but this time he came away with symptoms of double vision. When he put a patch over one eye he was fine. His vision is now just about perfect.

SIR **Dan Green** has had a knee replacement and is coming along nicely.

Past Big SIR **Courtney Borrecco** was prepared to attend our January lunch but thought better of joining us with the virulent flu in our midst. He has enough to deal with because of Parkinson disease.

SIR **Bill Lander** passed away on January 19th. He had been dealing with cancer. Bill was an avid fisherman and spent many hours with his fellow fishermen.

SIR **Lee Doyle** passed away on December 1, 2013. Lee was a very active member before going inactive. Lee loved his golf and enjoyed his many friendships. His wife Willie told me that the family had a private service for Lee.

TAKE A DEEP BREATH, IT CALMS THE MIND.....



## 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.

## In Memoriam

**Albert L. (Lee) Doyle**

*January 28, 1925—December 1, 2013*

## In Memoriam

**William L. Landers**

*August 25, 1930—January 19, 2014*



## Br. 116 Book Club

**Rich Black**

(blackrw41@comcast.net)

*Army at Dawn* by **Richard Atkinson**

Who knew the Americans first fought the French to land in North Africa in November of 1942? Who knew the dozens of Generals involved in the campaign and the battles they fought. Who knew this was where Eisenhower got his start? Not many of the SIRs who read this book and engaged in the ensuing discussion. Jim Scott may have recommended the book. In any case he opened the discussion. Participating in the discussion were Richard Black, Cord Hull, Jack Butler, Jerry Christopherson, Garrett Girvan, Paul Freitas, Bob Mathews, Ken Sandy, John Riordan, Dick Kauffman, Al Reynolds, Art Donldson, Tim Tinnes, Joel White, and Lytton DeSilva. The 16 SIRs present, and that may be record attendance, awarded the book 4.3 stars.

The next meeting will be on Monday, February 24 at 10:15 am at Orinda books to discuss "*How the Irish Saved Civilization*" by Thomas Cahill. The discussion will be led by Paul Freitas.

## 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.



**Bridge**  
**Milt Greenstein**  
 (margmilt@comcast.net)

On January 7th, the duplicate group met at the Diablo Valley Bridge Center with 24 men attending. The team of Jim Nachtweih/Milt Greenstein were the top team with 84.00 points out of a possible 135, for 62.22%, and earning 1.20 master points. In 2nd place were Marv DeHues/Norm Schoenfeld with 59.26%, followed by Jack Butler/Dimitris Argyriou at 58.15%, Dick Chaffee/Fred Cochran at 55.56% and Ernie Sherne / Ed Mein with 53.33%.

The lunch/bridge group met on January 14th with 27 men attending. Our high scorer was Jerry Christopherson with 6,210 points, followed by Bob Kahl with 5,010, Art Donaldson at 4,610, Bob Wolf at 4,440 and Ali Aghaiepour with 4,210. We had four small slam made today by Jerry Christopherson with Jack Butler for his first small slam and the floating dummy for his second one. The other two small slams were made by the teams of Jon Dickson/Dennis Snarr and Lou Sandor/Ali Aghaiepour. Overall, today was a low scoring day, with the average score for a round of 520 points, way below our average lately of over 600.

We also awarded our yearly "CERTIFICATE OF ACHEIVEMENT" to our 2013 Bridge Champion, BOB KAHL, for the highest average score for the year.

A small group of 20 men gathered at Diablo C.C. on January 28th for lunch and bridge . Jerry Christopherson was our big winner for the second session in a row with 5,280 points. ( He is on a roll ! ). Charley Schmidt was second with 5,070, followed by Bud Grissanti, 4,860, and Jon Dickson, 4,640. Our only small slam today was by Bob Wolf / Jon Dickson.

**Second Notice** : SIR Branch 116 "Ladies Day Lunch and Bridge" session will take place on March 18 , 2014, at 11:00 am at Diablo Country Club. Cost will be \$50 per team, including lunch and prize money. Entree choices will be salmon, chicken picatta or a vegetarian pasta. This is a wonderful way to spend a day with your significant

other in the company of your friends. Polish up your bridge skills and **SAVE THE DATE - March 18**, (the day after St. Patrick's Day).



**\$ums Investment Group**  
**Allen Espenmiller**  
 (aespenmiller@pacbell.net)

The Area 2 Sums Investment Group will meet on Wednesday February 26, 2014. Time - 8:00 AM at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Our guest speaker will be Elisabeth Andreason, a Senior Vice President of the Andreason Group at Morgan Stanley in Walnut Creek. Elisabeth is a Certified Financial Planner and Certified Wealth Strategist. It is said that Elisabeth speaks in a soft voice with the clarity of a former English teacher and the precision of a mathematician. Her topic "**An Introduction to Covered Call Writing – The Potential to Generate Income on your Equity Portfolio**". Her 10 point presentation will discuss: What is a Covered Write? Why Consider a Covered Call Strategy? Risks and Considerations and who should Consider Covered Call Strategy as part of the presentation. You are sure to enjoy this presentation.

The Legends restaurant opens at 7:00 AM so plan to have a leisurely breakfast with your colleagues prior to the meeting. Plan to attend this meeting and bring a prospective SIR.





## 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 27th, at the Legend Sports Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course at 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Meeting starts at 8:30am. A lot of us get there about 7:30 and swap stories about fish outings that we have been doing and have breakfast. Please join us.

Our banner year for rockfish on the ocean, and calm seas continued right to the end of the year. Carl Moyer actually caught a limit of rockies on Christmas Eve. He followed that up with a keeper sturgeon on New Year's Eve. 2013 went out in style. Rich Fiscina, Joe Karg, Joe Miscione, Terry Miller, Dick Thomson, Tom Boltz, Carl Moyer and Gordon Linebaugh tried for sturgeon in January, many sturgeon, big and small, pulled on their fishing lines. Over 17 of the fishermen attended the Sportsmen's Expo in Sacramento. A great time was had by all. It was a great opportunity to get to talk to fishing guides and representatives from various manufactures about all types of fishing gear. We all spent our money to help the economy on its return to prosperity. When all was said and done, fishing expeditions to Alaska, Bodega Bay, and the upper Sacramento River were booked and are eagerly anticipated. In December, 7 of us, Dick Thomson, Carl Moyer, Harry Sherinian, Terry Miller, George Schulze, Gordon Linebaugh, and Pete Gates caught 16 trout. Since then the trout have been arrogant and uppity. They refuse to take our baits even though we have made many delicious and beautiful offerings. We are planning massive retribution. Those trout have no idea how much trouble they are in!

We will be very busy this winter with: delta fishing for bass, catfish, and sturgeon; trout in mountain and local lakes.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, February 27th, at the Legend Sports Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course at 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Meeting starts at 8:30 am.



## Computer & Technology

Derek Southern & Neil Schmidt



The Area 2 Computer and Technology Group invite all SIR, and their guests, to our next meeting at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge on **Thursday, February 20th at 9:30 AM**. At this meeting we will have the first of a two-part presentation on "**Finance Management and the Internet**". The second part of this presentation will be at our March 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.

There are several ways you can now manage, invest and spend your money on the Internet. In February Bob Testa and Dick Kaufman will be presenting information about different ways to buy things and to pay your bills online. This will be followed up in March by Dennis Lowe and Phil Goff talking about personal finance software & apps as well as Internet money, i.e., Bitcoin. Copies of the presentations will be posted on the Area 2 computer group website at <http://a2cat.sirinc2.org/> a day or two before the meeting for you to download.

Time permitting, Dick Curry and Neil Schmidt attempt to answer questions about computer and smartphone/tablet issues. 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 on the 3rd Thursday of each month (except June and December) from 9:30 to 11:30 AM, 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.

## Hiking & Walking

Joel White

(zpz2mrz@yahoo.com)



The first walk of the year, **January 10<sup>th</sup>**, was led by Lytton DeSilva along Upper Happy Valley Road on a beautiful sunny day. Participants included Lytton, Art Donaldson, Paul Freitas, David and Colleen Geary, Dan and Andrea Green, Norman Schoenfeld, and Joel and Susan White. Coffee and conversation followed at La Boulange, Lafayette. The **January 24<sup>th</sup>** walk led by Joel White included Allan Chasnoff, Lytton DeSilva, Art and Mary Alice Donaldson, Paul and Anna Freitas, David Geary, John and Gayle Riordan, and Joel. We enjoyed a beautiful stroll on the Alamo portion of the Iron Horse though starting the walk in a brisk, but not unbearably cold, 36 degrees.

During the walk eagle eye Allan (a retired ophthalmologist) spotted an unusual item on the ground and picked it up. Allan, in his red Stanford sweatshirt, and Joel were examining the object when a red jacketed woman and her walking companion stopped to ask what we had found. It turns out, it was the ear ring she had lost the prior day. During the exchange of pleasantries (stimulated by Allan's Stanford sweatshirt) it was revealed that the woman and her husband (also a retired Kaiser physician) had both graduated Stanford in 1946, precisely 2 decades prior to Allan.

The coffee and companionship at Cherubini's café afterwards was warming and congenial.

**Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, Valentine's day**, Art Donaldson will lead a round trip "**Sweet Affair walk**" commencing at 8:15 am in Walnut Creek in front of the café/bakery by that name. The walk will circle through Heather Farms Park, followed by confections and treats to celebrate the day.

**Please RSVP** for this walk to Art Donaldson: [dnldsn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dnldsn@sbcglobal.net).

The **Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup>** walk will be led by Paul Freitas. It will meet in front of La Boulange café, 405 Railroad Avenue in Danville, at 8:15am. The walk will proceed along a Danville portion of the Iron Horse Trail. **Please RSVP** for this walk to Paul: [pmfreitas@pacbell.net](mailto:pmfreitas@pacbell.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](mailto:zpz2mrz@yahoo.com).

## State 'SIR Happenings'

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)



## Wine Appreciation Group

Jack Bevis

(jackb435@comcast.net)

The January 30th wine event will take place after the cutoff date for input to Trampas Topics. See the February issue for coverage of the event.

Wine Tasting events are held every other month on the last Thursday of the month from 4:00 to 6:30 pm. The next one will be on March 27th. These informal gatherings are held at member's homes on a rotating basis, with the host selecting the wines and finger foods. Usually, four or five different wines are tasted and discussed.

The cost is nominal, normally around \$10 or \$12 per person. Both SIR members and their wives are invited to attend. Contact Jack Bevis at 925-254-7256, for more information.

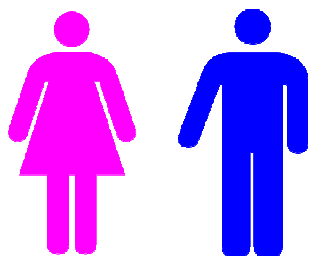


## SIR Events for "Significant Others"

Branch 116 has several events each year where our significant others are invited and encouraged to attend.

Examples include:

- Hiking & Walking (twice a month)
- Dine-O-SIR (every other month)
- Wine Appreciation (every other month)
- Computer & Technology (every month)
- Ladies Day Bridge (March 18)
- Carmel Getaway & Golf (May 12-13)
- Spring Fling Luncheon (May)
- Carson City Golf Getaway (September)
- Christmas Dinner Dance (December)
- SIR Travel tours & one day excursions



## 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.a2cat.sirinc2.org/](http://www.a2cat.sirinc2.org/)

SIR Happenings State Newsletter  
[www.sirinc.org/sirhappenings](http://www.sirinc.org/sirhappenings)

State SIR Web Site  
[www.sirinc.org/](http://www.sirinc.org/)

## "Dine-O-Sir" Dinner Group

Ben Smith

(bjsssmith@aol.com)



In January we had an outstanding event at Scott's Seafood Restaurant in Walnut Creek. We had some 97 people in attendance and a good time was had by all. These events are a great way for our fellow SIR and their ladies to meet new people and enjoy a pre-arranged dinner party with all the dinner costs and menu set for the evening.

Looking back over the Dine-O-Sir history we see that our first event was held on March 26, 2009. It was held at "Forli" restaurant in Alamo with 50 people in attendance. We have since had some 25 events with many more good times ahead for the Dine-O-Sir Herd. Five of the restaurants we have attended over the past years have gone out of business.

As most of us are aware the restaurant business is a difficult business to sustain and many fail within a few years of opening. Many people do not grasp the fact that the largest costs in the restaurant business is the Real Estate, building costs, Personnel, taxes, utilities and being able to present a consistent well designed menu. Built into our dinner costs are approximately 29% of the overall cost which applies to Tax & gratuity. One of the smaller costs are for the food. Bar income makes up a good portion of the profit for most restaurants.

Your Dine-O-Sir committee strives to negotiate a reasonable all-in price that enables our SIR group to have a quality attractive menu and a good social setting. It is difficult to meet every bodies taste and desires, but we try to do our best. We welcome any suggestions you may have.

The Dine-O-Sir will be out to pasture in February but we are working on our next event which will take place in March, 2104. Stay tuned -----

## 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

**Apr 6-13, 2014: California Coastal Cruise.** 8 day cruise on the Grand Princess starts in San Francisco with stops in Santa Barbara, San Diego, Los Angeles and Ensenada, Mexico. Coast of the Cruise is \$1095 to \$1545 and includes all meals and entertainment on board, luggage handling, bottle of wine, taxes and fees. Brian Serpa, Br141, San Jose, 408-227-7658 or Rollo Parsons 408-268-5245. Also being offered by Dennis Nowicki Br 100, Petaluma, 707-364-6307(cell)

**May 13, 2014: Hidden Gems of the Dalmatian Coast & Greece.** 16 day cruise aboard a small ship with maximum of 50 passengers. Ports of Call include Zagreb, Split, Hvar, Korcula, Dubrovnik, Montenegro, Albania, Corfu, Delphi, and Athens. Cost is \$4595 to \$6170 including accommodations, 37 meals, airfare and 12 exclusive tours. Ken Richter, Walnut Creek, Br.146, 925-689-6217.

**May 23, 2014: Eastern Europe to the Black Sea.** ( 13 day River Cruise/Tour starting in Budapest with stops in Hungary, Croatia, Serbia, Bulgaria, and Romania.) Includes 32 meals, 6 exclusive tours, personal headsets, Program Director and Airfare. Cost is \$4345 pp. Bruce Saltzman, San Ramon, Br.128, 925-735-2366.

**Jun 6-13, 2014: American Queen Cruise.** (Travel on the Mississippi River from New Orleans to Memphis with shore tours at Natchez, Vicksburg and Helena. The cost of \$2980 to \$4640 includes airfare,

transfers, meals and complimentary wine or beer with dinner. Philip Manriquez, Br 1, San Mateo, 650-871-5009.

**Jun 3-14, 2014: Alaska Cruise from San Francisco.** (This 11 day cruise on the Star Princess starts and ends in San Francisco with stops in Ketchikan, Juneau, Skagway, and Victoria.) Cost \$2185 to \$3785 include 1 bottle of wine, one cocktail party, porter tips for luggage, port taxes, Travel protection. Bill Rodman, Br.38, San Jose, 408-274-4521 or Hank Clark, 408-223-6466.

**Aug 24-Sep 8, 2014: 12 Day British Isles.** The British Isles beckon adventurous travelers with fascinating cultures, awe-inspiring and stunning landscapes. This 12 day cruise on the Ruby Princess includes London, Guernsey, Cork, Dublin, Belfast, Glasgow, Orkney, Edinburgh and Paris. Cost \$4693 to \$6295 includes airfare, transfers, gratuities.

### 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.



### Activity Chairman

Jerry Christopherson  
(jchris161k@aol.com)

Thanks to everyone who made our Christmas Dance a success!

Now it's time to start thinking about the Spring Fling. We're looking at the 3rd week in May on a date that we hope won't conflict with our many Branch Activities. Watch this space next month...we should have a place and firm date by then.

## ***Golf at Rancho Canada in Carmel, CA May 12 and 13, 2014***

**Branch 116 is planning a New Golf Event.  
Spouses and Significant others are invited.  
Non-golfers are welcome.**



### **Here are the Details**

We will stay at the Carmel Mission Inn (Tel 1-800-348-9090.) You must make your own reservations and pay separately. Mention you are with the SIR 116 event and the room rate will be \$119/night.

We will play golf at Rancho Canada on Monday and Tuesday, May 12 & 13. First tee time on Monday is 11:00 so you may drive down that morning if you wish. Golf fees for the two days are \$142 (\$108 for walkers.) This price includes \$20 for prize money and a BBQ dinner on Monday night.

Non-golfers will pay \$28 for the BBQ on Monday night.

Space is limited so send your checks in right away (no later than April 1)

Detach Here \_\_\_\_\_ Detach Here  
Rancho Canada Golf Event, May 12 and 13, 2014

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Golfers x \$142 (\$108 for walking) \_\_\_\_\_

Non-Golfers x \$28 \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Send Your Checks to SIR Branch 116 Golf - P. O. Box 683 - Lafayette, CA 94549-0683

Questions? Email Jim Barstow, jbarstow@aol.com



## Book Exchange

**John Fraser & Dick Kauffman**

(wokeagle@aol.com & rkkauffman@gmail.com)



The Book Exchange has begun! The purpose of the Book Exchange is to make books available to all SIRS of Branch 116 for no cost on an exchange basis. Ideally a member will bring a book to exchange for another book. However, if you didn't bring a book and found one that you want, take the book and bring a book to the next luncheon. The book is yours to do whatever you want to do with it.

Bring books that other members will enjoy reading. Textbooks, manuals, romance or trashy books are not acceptable. Audible books on CDs are welcomed. The Book Exchange table will be located just prior to the table where you pay for lunch and will be manned so you can ask any questions.

Happy Reading



## Luncheon Speaker

**By Little Sir Bob Donohue**

(bobdonohue@sbcglobal.net)

Our guest speaker for February will be Judge Barry Goode.

The Honorable Barry Goode currently serves as the Presiding Judge of the Contra Costa County Superior Court. Judge Goode graduated from Kenyon College in 1969 and Harvard Law School in 1972. Upon graduation he served as a Special Assistant to United States Senator Adlai E. Stevenson III in Washington D.C. and in 1975 he joined the law firm of McCutchen, Doyle, Brown & Enerson in San Francisco.

Judge Goode was appointed to the Contra Costa County bench in November 2003 by Governor Gray Davis. Judge Goode will be speaking to us on the Judicial Branch budget and what the cuts of the last four years have done to the courts ability to provide access to justice in Contra Costa County.

## Our 2013 Golfing Champions



Flt. 1: Al Zavattero



Flt. 2: Neil Schmidt



Flt. 3: Jerry Hunter



Flt. 4: Robbie Robinson

# SIR Branch 116 Golf

By Al Zavattono, 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.

Foursomes in both the 18-hole and 9-hole 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.



## Most Improved Golfer in 2013

Terry Grummitt improved his GHIN Index in 2013 from 32.8 to 27.4—an amazing 5.4 point reduction!

Lets see if one of our golfers can best Terry's performance in 2014.

## 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 2014 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 18-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Mon. 03	9:00	Crow Canyon	Frank Crua
Mon. 10	9:30	Boundary Oak	Frank Crua
Tue. 18	9:30	Brentwood	Frank Crua
Mon. 24	9:30	Callippe Pres.	Frank Crua

## February 9-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Wed. 05	10:00	Buchanan Fields	Dick Chaffee
Wed. 12	10:00	Pine Meadow	D. McLaughry
Wed. 19	10:00	Buchanan Fields	Dick Chaffee
Wed. 26	10:00	Diablo Hills	Mike Murphy

# 18-Hole Results

## Sunol Valley / Cypress Course -- Monday January 27, 2014

Official Scorer:  
Bill Hemmelsbach

Flight 1				Flight 2				Flight 3				Flight 4			
Tie 1st	Jerry Hicks	68	3	1st	Frank Crua	68	3	1st	Jerry Hunter	70	3	1st	Phil Jenkins	66	3
Tie 1st	Bill McCord	68	3	Tie 2nd	Hugh Duggan	70	2	Tie 2nd	Al Hutchko	73	2	2nd	Troy Powell	67	2
Tie 3rd	Neil Schmidt	74	1	Tie 2nd	Bernie Wroblewski	70	2	Tie 2nd	Bob Testa	73	2	3rd	Conrad Robertson	69	1
Tie 3rd	Dick Socolich	74	1												
Low Gross				Low Gross				Low Gross				Low Gross			
	Jerry Hicks	79			Frank Crua	89			Jerry Hunter	95			Phil Jenkins	94	
									Bob Testa	95					

Closest to: Hole #5 - Hugh Duggan, Troy Powell -- Hole #11 - Jerry Hicks, Phil Jenkins

## Deer Ridge -- Tuesday January 21, 2014

Official Scorer:  
Chuck Gilliam

Flight 1				Flight 2				Flight 3				Flight 4			
1st	Al Zavattero	66	3	1st	Frank Crua	61	3	1st	Jerry Hunter	62	3	1st	Phil Jenkins	64	3
Tie 2nd	Jim Barstow	70	2	2nd	David Carlson	70	2	2nd	Al Serafino	70	2	2nd	Troy Powell	65	2
Tie 2nd	Jim Johnson	70	2	3rd	Chuck Gilliam	71	1	3rd	Al Hutchko	75	1	Tie 3rd	Conrad Robertson	71	1
												Tie 3rd	Fred Schafer	71	1
Low Gross				Low Gross				Low Gross				Low Gross			
	Al Zavattero	83			Frank Crua	82			Jerry Hunter	87			Phil Jenkins	93	

Closest to: Hole #7 - Al Zavattero, Al Serafino -- Hole #13 - Don Schroeder, Paul Kim

## Boundary Oak -- Monday January 13, 2014

Official Scorer:  
Phil Jenkins

Flight 1				Flight 2				Flight 3				Flight 4			
1st	Al Zavattero	70	3	Tie 1st	Norm Alberts	72	3	1st	Al Hutchko	71	3	1st	Terry Grummitt	70	3
2nd	Neil Schmidt	73	2	Tie 1st	Chuck Gilliam	72	3	2nd	Ron Armijo	73	2	2nd	Fred Schafer	71	2
Tie 3rd	Stephen Cherepy	75	1	3rd	Frank Crua	74	1	Tie 3rd	Carl Langhorst	74	1	3rd	Matt Arena	73	1
Tie 3rd	Harry Oberle	75	1					Tie 3rd	Carlos Xavier	74	1				
Low Gross				Low Gross				Low Gross				Low Gross			
	Stephen Cherepy	86			Norm Alberts	94			Al Hutchko	97			Terry Grummitt	99	

Closest to: Hole #2 - Chuck Gilliam, Matt Arena -- Hole #12 - Phil Goff, Conrad Robertson

## Boundary Oak -- Monday January 6, 2014

Official Scorer:  
Fred Schafer

Flight 1				Flight 2				Flight 3				Flight 4			
Tie 1st	Jerry Hicks	72	3	1st	Jim Clizbe	72	3	1st	Al Serafino	68	3	1st	Conrad Robertson	63	3
Tie 1st	Chick Walsh	72	3	Tie 2nd	Frank Crua	74	2	2nd	Al Hutchko	72	2	Tie 2nd	Matt Arena	68	2
Tie 3rd	David Harris	73	1	Tie 2nd	John Story	74	2	Tie 3rd	Pete Coggiola	74	1	Tie 2nd	Jon Rasmussen	68	2
Tie 3rd	Harry Oberle	73	1	Tie 2nd	Bernie Wroblewski	74	2	Tie 3rd	Mark Jordan	74	1	Tie 2nd	Fred Schafer	68	2
Low Gross				Low Gross				Low Gross				Low Gross			
	Jerry Hicks	84			Frank Crua	94			Al Serafino	95			Conrad Robertson	96	

Closest to: Hole #2 - Wayne Smith, Mark Jordan -- Hole #12 - Phil Goff, Fred Schafer

# COUNTRY CLUB GOLF IN MARCH

We play two private country clubs in March. The first is **Sequoyah CC** in Oakland on **March 10th**. The cut-off date for signing up is the February 17th luncheon.

The second is **Oakhurst CC** in Clayton on **March 31st**. The cutoff date is the March 17th luncheon. Both courses are 9:30 AM shotguns. Price is \$50. Guests are encouraged so please invite your friends. We are required to bring 80 players to both events. Sequoyah will have food and drink available for purchase. Oakhurst will not.

## 2014 18-Hole Leader Board

FLIGHT 1		FLIGHT 2		FLIGHT 3		FLIGHT 4	
Index 0.0 - 18.0		Index 18.1 - 20.9		Index 21.0 - 27.1		Index 27.2 - 36.4	
NAME	POINTS	NAME	POINTS	NAME	POINTS	NAME	POINTS
Jerry Hicks	6	Frank Crua	9	Al Hutchko	8	Phil Jenkins	6
Al Zavattero	6	Chuck Gilliam	4	Jerry Hunter	6	Conrad Robertson	5
Bill McCord	3	Bernie Wroblewski	4	Al Serafino	5	Fred Schafer	5
Neil Schmidt	3	Norm Alberts	3	Ron Armijo	2	Troy Powell	4
Chick Walsh	3	Jim Clizbe	3	Bob Testa	2	Matt Arena	3
Jim Barstow	2	David Carlson	2	Peter Coggiola	1	Terry Grummitt	3
Jim Johnson	2	Hugh Duggan	2	Mark Jordan	1	Jon Rasmussen	2
Harry Oberle	2	John Story	2	Carl Langhorst	1		
Steve Cherepy	1			Carlos Xavier	1		
David Harris	1						
Dick Socolich	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

<u>Event Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Monday, Feb. 3	Crow Canyon CC	Jan-20	\$45
Tuesday, Feb. 18	Brentwood	Feb-08	\$32
Monday, Feb. 24	Callippe Preserve	Feb-17	\$47
Monday, Mar. 10	Sequoyah CC	Feb-17	\$50
Tuesday, Mar. 18	Dublin Ranch	Mar-08	\$38
Monday, Mar. 24	San Ramon	Mar-17	\$29
Monday, Mar. 31	Oakhurst CC	Feb-17	\$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.