



Trampas Topics

February, 2017

SIR Branch 116

Next Meeting: 11:30 am,
Monday, February 20, 2017
Boundary Oak, 3800
Valley Vista Rd., Walnut Creek

A Nonprofit Public Benefit Organization for Men Enjoying Active Retirement

Sayings of 2017 Big Sir Paul Ramacciotti

REFLECTIONS: Friendship, Comradery and the passing of Wayne Smith.

On Thursday, January 12, 2017, a bright light in my life was extinguished by the death of Wayne Smith: family attorney, golfing buddy, advisor, SIR brother and most importantly, my dearest friend.



I have always felt that it is very ironic the ways things happen in life, especially how we happen to come across people which, in the long run, make very important contributions to our lives. When my youngest daughter Heather was about 10, Wayne drafted her for his JOBL girls softball team. I accompanied Heather to her first practice and happened to ask Wayne if he needed any help coaching. His response was, "As a matter of fact, yes, my assistant coach just quit, I could use the help". That was the beginning of our 30 plus year relationship.

As the years passed, Wayne finally talked me into playing on his Over-40 men's softball team which, little knowing at the time, also included five future SIR Branch 116 members. When our softball legs finally gave out, the procession towards SIR began, my induction into the Branch sponsored by Bob Donohue. Somewhere in the neighborhood of the third or fourth luncheon I happened to be sitting with Wayne and mentioned that, "I'm not sure if this organization is for me or not.". Nothing specific I could put my finger on, just not a real comfortable feeling. His response was, "Give SIR a chance. Trust me!!! This organization is a keeper". He stated that for years he was obligated, being an attorney, to belong to a number of organizations, consisting mostly of attorneys, judges, other professional type groups that were more for necessity rather than fun and relaxation. The SIR group allowed him to be himself, truly enjoy the company of friends, and offered more activities than he could ever participate in.

So, I took Wayne's words to heart and gave the SIR group a chance, so much so, that I am now writing this as your Big SIR for 2017. I probably would have stayed regardless, but he gave me the impetus to reach out more than I probably would have, to the extent that I have built a larger friendship base, and I have a new-found sense of comradery that I would not ever consider giving up. All this, because Wayne said, "give SIR a chance". Thank you, my dear friend. Rest in Peace.

Paul Ramacciotti, Big SIR



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PLEASE CALL 806-8874
or send an email to
snb49@outlook.com by the
Thursday prior to the
meeting to cancel your
standing reservation or to
bring a guest.

2017 SIR Branch 116 Officers & Directors



Big SIR
Paul Ramacciotti
229-2564



Little SIR
Marty Katz
484-0122



Secretary
Fred Schafer
648-4199



Assist.Secretary
Dave Williams
216-6048



Treasurer
Jim Nickels
210-1512



Asst.Treasurer 1
Bob Shader
939-8421



Asst.Treasurer 2
Al Satake
254-9589



Member.Sec.
Phil Goff
831-3692



Director
Norm Alberts
837-4074



Director
Jim Barstow
938-2744



Director
Peter Coggiola
820-1518



Director
Al Hutchko
827-9130



Director
Harry Sherinian
846-7067



Director
John Story
932-8826

2017 Activity Chairmen

Book Group	Rich Black	283-8376
Book Exchange	John Fraser	837-7439
" "	Dick Kauffman	838-2334
Bridge	Jon Dickson	837-1178
Computer & Tech.	Neil Schmidt	948-8702
Dine-O-Sir	Ben Smith	820-5403
Duplicate Bridge	Art Donaldson	934-9391
Fishing	Harry Sherinian	846-7067
Golf-18 Hole	Bernie Wroblewski	820-3274
" " Asst.	Jim Johnson	825-7437
Golf-9 Hole	Dick Chaffee	932-5087
" " Asst.	Darrell Mclaughry	933-1147
" " Asst.	Skip Berkson	437-1511
Golf - Carson City	Tim Hubbard	944-0742
Golf - Carmel	Jim Barstow	938-2744
Hiking & Walking	Joel White	964-0994
Mexican Train	Richard Madden	788-4223
" " Asst.	Alex Lutkus	827-2828
Parties	J. Christopherson	393-9373
Poker Group 1	Bill Harrington	935-1625
Poker Group 2	Jerry Kaplan	938-1037
\$ums in Retirement	Ben Smith	820-5403
Walking Tours	Bernie Wroblewski	820-3274
Wine Appreciation	Jack Bevis	254-7256

Some Other SIR Area 2 Activities

Apple User Grp.	Dick Macy (Br.171)	376-1180
Astronomy	Bill Hunter (Br.8)	947-6947
Bocce	Bob Barnes (Br.8)	686-0106
Bowling	Dan Weller (Br. 8)	935-5510
Digital Photo.	Bill Phelon (Br.8)	254-8338
Pocket Pool	Jerry White (Br.8)	944-9068
Tennis	Ralph Thornicraft (174)	376-8140

2017 Support Chairmen

Activities Coord.	Jerry Kaplan	938-1037
Attendance	Sam Beret	388-6145
Audio/Visual	Neil Schmidt	948-8702
Audit	Ron Armijo	945-0637
"	Carl Langhorst	672-2541
Chaplain	(rotating)	(various)
Computer Support	Phil Goff	831-3692
	Neil Schmidt	948-8702
E-mail Contact	Phil Goff	831-3692
Greeters	Pat Bermingham	930-9477
Guitar	Paul King	938-3035
Historian	Matt Arena	946-0404
Host	Frank Crua	932-0975
Interviewer	Max Foust	827-9323
Member Relations	Bob Donohue	513-5142
Membership Roster	Dick Thomson	785-7600
Member. Secretary	Phil Goff	831-3692
Music Man	Robbie Robinson	798-4276
Newsletter Editor	Neil Schmidt	948-8702
" " Asst.	Phil Goff	831-3692
Nominating	Bob Donohue	513-5141
Photographers	Neil Schmidt	948-8702
"	Phil Goff	831-3692
"	Gary Boswell	673-3545
Public Relations	Allan Chasnoff	933-6665
Raffle	Don Schroeder	837-6005
Storytellers	(rotating)	(various)
Sunshine	Matt Arena	946-0404
Travel	Marty Katz	484-0122
Visitors	Bernie Wroblewski	820-3274
Volunteers	Bob Kinser	837-8886
Webmaster	Phil Goff	831-3692
Welcoming	Jerry Kaplan	938-1037

SIR Branch 116 Activity Calendar

February 2017

Sun.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
			1 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC)	2	3 Walking Tour (10:00@ Paramount Theatre, Oakland)	4 Walking Tour
5 Super Bowl	6 18-Hole Golf (9:32@ Boundary Oak GC)	7 Duplicate Bridge (9:00 Diablo Vly. Bridge Ctr)	8 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Diablo Hills GC) Mexican Train Dominos (2:00@ TBD)	9	10 Hiking & Walking (8:15@ Lafayette/Moraga Trailhead, Olympic Blvd., & PH Rd.)	11
12	13 18-Hole Golf (9:32@ Boundary Oak GC)	14  Valentines Day Luncheon Bridge (11:30@ Diablo CC)	15 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC)	16 Computer & Tech (9:30@ Elks Club)	17	18
19	20 SIR Br. 116 Mtg. (11:30 @ Boundary Oak) President's Day Holiday	21 18-Hole Golf (9:30@ Brentwood GC) Poker Group 2 (1:00@ Diablo CC)	22 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Brentwood GC) \$ums Investment (8:00@ Diablo Creek GC)	23 Fishing Group (8:30@ Legends-Diablo Crk)	24 Hiking & Walking (8:15@ Inspiration Point, Berkeley Hills)	25
26	27 18-Hole Golf (9:00@ Dublin Ranch GC) Book Group (10:15@ Orinda Books)	28 Luncheon Bridge (9:30@ Diablo CC)				



Br. 116 Treasurer's Report

Jim Nickels, Treasurer
(bjnickels@sbcglobal.net)

	January. 2016	2016 YTD
Contributions	\$ 5,018.88	\$ 5,018.88
Disbursements	\$ (5,220.52)	\$ (5,220.52)
Net (gain/(loss))	\$ (201.64)	\$ (201.64)
Jan. 27th Cash Balance		\$ 8,469.69

January Birthdays

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

1. Ron Armijo	12. Tom King
2. Norm Azevedo	13. Harry Kinney
3. Jon Dickson	14. Harry Oberle III
4. Cliff Egan	15. Ed O'Rourke
5. Nick Fokas	16. Don Roberts
6. Max Foust	17. Richard Rosslund
7. Dan Green	18. Fred Schafer
8. Paul Harris	19. Mike Schneider
9. Cord Hull	20. Ralph Schwarz
10. Jeff Johnson	21. Ernie Wong
11. Pete Kallas	

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:

sirinc.org/sirhappenings

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



Membership

Phil Goff
(philgoff@yahoo.com)

SIR 116 Membership Status

Total Current Members:	227
This Month's Inductees:	1
• Jim Dugan	
Inactive to Active:	0
Active Members Resigned:	6
• Peter Ciarlo	
• Don Rushton	
• Gary Felix	
• Jim Shurr	
• Don McQueen	
• Wayne Smith	
Active to Inactive:	0
Inactive Resigned:	0
Inactive Members:	21

Meeting Venue Vote

On January 16th, Branch 116 Members voted on whether to have our future meetings held at Boundary Oak or at the Elk's Lodge. The results of this vote were:

Vote for Boundary Oak: 125 (68%)

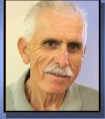
Vote for Elk's Lodge: 58 (32%)

Since the majority voted for Boundary Oak, all future Branch 116 meetings will therefore be at **Boundary Oak**, 3800 Valley Vista Road, WC.

The next meeting will be February 20, 2017 starting at our normal 11:30 AM start.

REMINDER

To cancel your standing Luncheon reservation, please call the Luncheon Hotline (925-806-8874) or send an email to the Attendance Chairman at snb49@outlook.com no later than Wednesday AM in the previous week.



Lunch Attendance

Sam Beret

(luncheon116@gmail.com)

We had record attendance during January 2017 meeting with 186 members attending – 82 percent of active membership.

• Number of Active Members	227
• Number Guests/ Visitors in Attendance	2
• Number Transfers & Inductees in Attendance	1
• Number of Speakers	0
• Number of Members Excused from Meeting	22
• Number of Members not attending due to long-term impairment and/or mobility reasons	10
• Number of Members NOT excused from Meeting [These members will be asked to pay for their missed lunch]	10
• Total In Attendance	188
• Number of Members in Attendance	186
• Percent of Active Members in Attendance, %	82

We have our monthly meeting on the 3rd Monday of each month except for May and December. There are no lunch meetings in those two months. For each monthly meeting, all Branch 116 members have a standing reservation and they are expected to attend. They are welcome to bring guests if they wish.

We meet at the Boundary Oak Golf Course located in Walnut Creek on Valley Vista Road. The meeting room is open beginning at 11:00 and attendees are free to buy drinks in the bar area. Lunch is served at 12:00.

Our luncheons are served at the table and members have a choice between two entrees. Lunch cost is \$25.

Next luncheon will be on **February 20, 2017**. If you are not going to attend the meeting, please notify me by no later than **Feb 13, 2017**, preferably by email at luncheon116@gmail.com. You can also call Attendance Hot Line 925-806-8874; however email is preferred. We have to pay for members who do not attend without notifying me one week in-advance. These members will be charged \$25 lunch fee.

If you are bringing a guest to the meeting, also notify me by email [preferred] or by calling the Attendance Hotline by no later than Feb 13, 2017. Please

spell out the full name of your guest and your name and badge number.

Meeting Lunch Menu



THE CLUBHOUSE

AT BOUNDARY OAK

SIR 116 Meeting

February 20, 2017

Salad

Classic Caesar Salad

Hearts of Romaine, Parmesan Cheese, Croutons
Creamy Caesar Dressing

Entrees

Pan Seared Breast of Chicken

Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables
Mushroom Sauce

Or

Mango Glazed Baked Salmon

Steamed Jasmine Rice, Sautéed Vegetables
Ginger Butter Sauce

Vegetarian Option

Vegetarian Lasagna

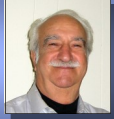
Roasted Vegetables Layered with Pasta, Ricotta
Cheese and Tomato Basil Sauce

Dessert

German Chocolate Cake

Chocolate Truffle Cake
Chantilly Cream, Raspberry Sauce





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 23rd**, 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 the members come early and have breakfast before the meeting and swap fishing stories with each other. Please join us.

Water, water everywhere, and not a fish will bite. The earlier great trout bite came to a sudden cease. Despite the best efforts of Thom Watkins, Terry Miller, and Carl Moyer, only one trout was caught in 4 outings. Carl and Paul Dubow did better on the last day of ocean rockfish by catching some nice black rockfish and crab, Stan Wong also caught rockfish and crab on a few party boat trips. Pedro Contreras, Rich Fiscina, and Sal Costanza fished in vain for sturgeon. Harry Sherinian and Tom Kostic tried for stripers in the Delta but cold water and a lot of stuff floating down the river made it a slow day and small fish. But, Tom Kostic did catch a few small stripers on each of 4 attempts. Oh woe is us!

Contacts are "Big Fish" Paul Dubow (415-495-6504) or Harry Sherinian (925-846-7067) Branch 116 Fishing Coordinator.



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



Br. 116 Book Group

Rich Black

(blackrw41@comcast.net)

"Alexander Hamilton" by Ron Chernow

The Book Group met on Monday, 23 January, 2017 to discuss "Alexander Hamilton" by Ron Chernow. Many have said Hamilton was the most significant founding father who did not become a president. The book is also the basis or a current hit Broadway musical. Rich Black recommended the book and led the discussion. Other participants were Tim Tinnes, John Kopchik, Jerry Christopherson, John Riordan, Steve Bort, Bob Wolf, Dick Kauffman, Art Donaldson, Joe Cain, Richard White, Richard Rossland, Mike Schneider, Mike Barrington, and Joel White. SIRs felt the book illuminated the life of a man, his times and the issues he encountered in a profitable way. At the same time, many felt Chernow presented rather more opinion and detail than they appreciated. The group awarded the book 4.3 stars.

On another note, SIR Mike Barrington must donate his collection of biographies of American Presidents and an outstanding library of works by and on Winston Churchill. Anyone interested should contact SIR Barrington at his address in the directory.

On **Monday, 27 February**, the group will again meet to discuss "A Fine Balance" by Rohinton Mistry. Meetings are at 10:15 at Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, Orinda, California.



Book Exchange

John Fraser & Dick Kauffman

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



Everyone is invited to take advantage of the book exchange. There are no rules, enjoy a book and donate a book that you have read and liked. You are of course welcome at the book club meetings.

An interesting array of books are read and discussed over a years period



Hiking & Walking

Joel White

(zpz2mrz@gmail.com)

The first SIR Walk of 2017, led by Joel White was a lucky Friday the 13th as his walk did not get rained out for the 4th month in a row. On a brisk January morning, Rich Black and Donna Argenbright, Art and Mary Alice Donaldson, Dave and Colleen Geary, Dan and Andrea Green, John and Gail Riordan, Richard and Aase White, and Joel and Susan White walked north on the Iron Horse Trail from the Stone Valley Road trailhead. The walk concluded with

The **Friday, February 10th** Walk will be led by Rich Black. Meet at 8:15am at the Lafayette/Moraga trailhead parking lot at the corner of Olympic Blvd and Pleasant Hill Road. Please RSVP to Rich: blackrw41@comcast.net, 788-1987 (cell)

The **Friday, February 24th** walk will be led by David Geary. Meet at **8:15 am** at the Inspiration Point Parking area in the Berkley Hills. Directions are available on multiple websites. **Berkeley, CA 94701**; Get **Directions**; Inspiration Point 1000 Wildcat Canyon Rd Berkeley. Please RSVP to David: dsgeary@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).

By the way, it's okay to just come for coffee and conversation if that fits your schedule or current physical limitations. If you plan to do so, please RSVP to the walk leader so we can make sure we have enough tables saved to accommodate all.

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 .



Walking Tours

Bernie Wroblewski

(bbwroblewski@comcast.net)

The next SIR Branch 116 walking tour is scheduled for **Saturday, February 4th** at the Paramount Theatre in Oakland. The tour begins promptly at 10:00 am at the theatre box office entrance and will last approximately 2 hours. Admission is \$5.00 per person. Cameras are allowed. An optional lunch will follow.

The theatre box office entrance is on 21st street near Broadway. Paid parking is available on 21st Street where a parking ticket (placed on the dashboard) can be purchased at a kiosk near the stage door. There are also a parking lots at the corner of 21st and Broadway and the Telegraph Plaza garage on Telegraph Avenue, between 21st and 22nd Streets. We are planning to meet about 9:45 at the theatre box office. A reminder e-mail will be sent about a week in advance of February 4th. Everyone is welcome. If you plan to attend and have not already done so, please e-mail Bernie Wroblewski at bbwroblewski@comcast.net to let him know.





Sunshine Report

Matt Arena
(marena@astound.net)

SIR's **Don McQueen, Jim Shurr, Wayne Smith** and **Roger Colton** have passed away since the last Sunshine Report. It is so sad to have lost these wonderful men who brought so much energy and camaraderie to our Branch. They will all be missed.

SIR **Bob Keldgord** fractured his left hip and has been operated on successfully. He is using a walker for his rehabilitation. He tripped over the family dog .

SIR **Tim Dorr** had a set back with a fall causing a fracture of his pelvis. He is now home from the nursing home and has started physical therapy. His wife Kathy tells me he is making progress.

SIR **Ken Cremolini** has recovered nicely from his hip surgery. He is doing his physical therapy as prescribed by his orthopedic surgeon. Ken will be back to lunch soon.

SIR **Lloyd Plank** continues on chemo and steroids. In addition Lloyd is now on an experimental drug. He has been through 2 wars and will be 91 in March

“ IN THE END, IT'S NOT THE YEARS IN YOUR LIFE THAT COUNTS. IT'S THE LIFE IN YOUR YEARS “

ABRAHAM LINCOLN



Wine Appreciation Group

Jack Bevis
(jackb435@comcast.net)

Once again we just miss the Trampas Topics deadline. Our next event will be on **Jan 26th**. See the next edition for coverage of the event.

We meet every other month at the home of one of the members. The host decides on the theme of the event, secures the wine and the hors d' oeuvres. He is reimbursed by the group for expenses.

Contact Jack Bevis for more information at Jackb435@comcast.net or Call 925-254-7256.

\$ums Investment Group

Tom Henry (Branch 174)
(tomh925@icloud.com)

Our next meeting is **Wed., Feb 22** at 8 AM at the Legends Restaurant in the Diablo Creek Country Club - Port Chicago Highway, 1/4 mile north of Highway 4 in Concord.

Our speaker will be John Hutchinson of Stifel and Co. He will be speaking about tax-free issues from states and localities.

The Legends opens at 7 AM. Come early and have a leisurely breakfast with your colleagues prior to the meeting.

\$UMS Chairman Tom Henry: tomhenry925@gmail.com

Co-chair Dave Sutton: davesutn@comcast.net

In Memoriam

Arthur D. (Don) McQueen

August 26, 1934 - December 27, 2016

In Memoriam

James Shurr

June 10, 1932 - December 27, 2016

In Memoriam

Wayne H. R. Smith

December 11, 1943 - January 12, 2017

In Memoriam

Roger M. Colton

April 13, 1935 - January 20, 2017



SIR Travel

By Marty Katz, Travel Chairman
(mctkatz@pacbell.net)

Here are some interesting travel opportunities for fellow SIR:

Mar 6-12, 2017: Spring Training and Southwest Adventure. Fly to Phoenix and enjoy 2 spring training games and visit the Desert Botanical Gardens and Frank Lloyd Wrights Tallesin West. Day 4 travel from Scottsdale to Sedona and tour Sedona and the Grand Canyon area. Tour includes home pick up and RT airport transfers, professional guide, 6 nights accommodations, admission fees, baggage handling for one suitcase and all taxes .Cost \$2495 Brian Serpa, Br.141, 408-227-7658 or Rollo Parsons, 408-268-5245.

April 7, 2017: Golden Gate Field has set a SIRs Day at the Races for this Spring,

May 10-25, 2017: 100th Birthday of JFK on Cape Cod. Tour highlights include JFK Presidential Library, tour of Hyannis ,JFK Museum, Hyannis Harbor cruise, Cape Cod Maritime Museum, Whale watching cruise and tour of Nantucket. Cost \$2395.00 includes RT airfare, deluxe motor coach, 8 meals, tours and 5 night accommodations .John Pletsch Br.32,San Jose, 408-274-2992 or Mike Console, 408-246-1080.

June 11-17, 2017: Southern Charm. A 7 day trip to the south visiting Charleston, South Carolina, Savannah, Georgia, Jekyll Island, St. Simons Island and St Augustine. Cost of \$2989 includes 9 meals and 3 dinners, Cancellation Waiver insurance, RT airfare, all taxes , fees and hotel transfers. Bill Britton, Br 101/121 925-443-9913

June 17-25, 2017: The Colorado Rockies. 9 day escorted tour including Denver, Rocky Mt. Natl Park, Grand Junction, Arches Natl Park, Canyonlands Natl Park, Colorado Natl Monument, Durango & Silverton Narrow gauge railway, Garden of the Gods, Mesa Verde Natl Park, Pikes Peak Cog Railway. Cost \$3159. Including air taxes & fees RT air, hotel transfers and gratuities. Bill Rodman, San Jose, Br.38, 408-2744521 or Alan Patmore, 408-867-

4197.

June 19-25, 2017: Yellowstone Wildlife Safari. 7 day land trip to Yellowstone Park with over sixty species of mammals, untamed landscapes and geothermal features. You will visit West Yellowstone, Old Faithful, Grizzly & Wolf Discovery Center, Yellowstone Wildlife Safari, Grand Teton National Park, Salat Lake City and Mormon Tabernacle Choir. Tour cost is \$2795 which includes Professional Guide, Hotel Accommodations, Meals, RT air, transportation on the tour, all taxes and gratuities. Tom Duncanson Br 20, 831-662-8605.

July 3-15, 2017: Alaska Yukon Land & Sea. 7 night land tour of upper Alaska and Yukon Territory. Followed by 4 night cruise through the Inside Passage on Holland America M/S Nieuw Amsterdam. Tour features include Anchorage, Domed Rail Cars, Tundra Tour to Denali, Fairbanks, Klondike Spirit Paddle –wheeler Cruise, Dawson City, Cruise includes Skagway, Glacier Bay, Ketchikan and Vancouver. Cost range from \$5150 to \$5895. Mike Console, Br. 54, San Jose, 408-246-1080 or John Pletsch, 408274-2992.

July 20-Aug 5, 2017: Ring of Kerry Land Tour & Princess Cruise. 4 day land tour of Ireland and 12 days Princess cruise around the British Isles visiting 10 ports, including France. Trip includes beverage package worth \$676.20 if you sign up by Aug 20 for a balcony or mini suite. Prices range from \$4999 to \$6299 not including airfare. Tom Molinari, Br 147, Petaluma, 707-762-1880. Sold out, Standby only.

Some Other SIR Travel Opportunities

SIR Area 2 web site has many other travel opportunities. Check them out at: <http://area2.sirinc2.org/>



Meeting Speaker

Little SIR Marty Katz
(dagobuildr@comcast.net)

The February meeting speaker will be Jeff Lynch and he will present a Documentary, "*One of Life's Ultimate Gifts, Organ Transplant*". A tragic ending to a young ladies life that brought hope and a future to a father and his family.

Jeff will be speaking along with the donors father, Joe Malone.

Meeting speakers for the next few months will be:

- March 20: Logan Happell, "Proper Protection, Travel Insurance"
- April 17: Steve Minniear, "Historic Preservation, Camp Parks"
- May 15: John Browne, "Magician"

Mark our meeting dates on your calendar so that you don't miss this fabulous collection of speakers.



Carson City Golf Getaway 2017

Save the Date: Sept. 6, 7 & 8 2017

This 3 day event includes: 2 rounds of golf with cart at Silver Oak and Eagle Valley (East course for women, West course for men), a choice of lodging for 3 nights, 3 nightly banquets preceded by hosted cocktails, tee gift and sleeve of balls for each golfer, many raffle prizes, coupon book for food, drinks and gaming, several games for non-golfing women - Mexican Train, bridge etc. All inclusive for one very reasonable price. Friends and relatives are always welcome.

Entry forms will be available in late May with complete sign-up information. Until then put the dates on your calendar. If you want more information contact Tim Hubbard or David Harris.



"Mexican Train" Dominos

Richard Madden
(maddenram@sbcglobal.net)

"Mexican Train" is a domino game which uses a set of Double Twelve Dominoes. From 2 to 8 can play. Each player draws 11 to 15 dominoes. The number of dominoes each player draws depends on the number of players. The object of the game is to play all your dominoes. When you draw your hand you set it up so that the adjacent dominoes match. During the play of a round there are things that can derail your train so that you cannot play. This can make the game very interesting and a lot of FUN!

We had only three players as some of our regulars were in Mexico and the Caribbean. Richard Madden, Bob Wolf and Robbie Robinson were at the November meeting. Richard was the winner with Robbie coming in second beating out Robert by just a few points. Its easier to win with only three players. Low score wins. We meet at **10:00 AM on the second Wednesday** of each month at the Church of Christ located at 500 Minert Road, Walnut Creek. Our next meeting is on December 14th.

We had our second meeting of Couples Train in November. Three couples played and everyone had a good time . Couples Train is scheduled for December 15th so as not to be to close to Christmas. I will send out an announcement to the regular Train List. Let me know if you would like to be added to this list.

You can contract Richard Madden,
maddenram@sbcglobal.net or 925.788.4223





Bridge

Jon Dickson

(still26@sbcglobal.net)

Chicago style bridge, with lunch before playing, is held **every 2nd and 4th Tuesday** of the month at Diablo Country Club, starting at 11:30 AM. Please note we have switched from our previous location to **Diablo Country Club**.

We had our first play on January 10th and except for walking in the rain from the parking lot, all went quite well. Actually, many of us did complain about our cards but that comes with the territory and in the long run balances out. Or at least statistics tell us it does!

We encourage all bridge players to join us in bridge on Tuesdays.

Our spring "**Couples Bridge Day**" will be coming up on **April 18th** so do put that on your calendar. Tell your wife, significant other or pal to also put it on their calendar and plan on an afternoon of lunch and bridge. We encourage all "couples" to join us.



SIR Website Addresses

SIR 116 Web Site
branch116.org

Branch 116 Golf
branch116golf.org

Trampas Topics
branch116.org/trampas/

Computer and Technology
a2cat.sirinc2.org/

SIR Happenings State Newsletter
sirinc.org/sirhappenings

State SIR Web Site
sirinc.org/



Computer & Technology

Neil Schmidt

(SIR.Area2.CAT@gmail.com)

The Area 2 Computer and Technology Group [A2CAT] announces that our next meeting will be at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge on Thursday **February 16, 2017** at 9:30 am. Sirs from all branches and their guests are welcome and invited to attend.

The topic for our February CAT meeting will be "*Computing Fundamentals (How does a computer work?)*" presented by Dean Steichen. If you think of a computer as a 'black box' into which you input some data, and are surprised when it outputs something useful, come and listen to Dean explain what's goes on in the box! This will help you understand if you need more memory, why an SSD drive is faster than a spinning disk, and which processor meets your needs, and more.

Check the CAT Web page a week or so before the next meeting to download a copy of the presentation: <http://a2cat.sirinc2.org> .

The meeting starts at 9:30 AM, February 16, 2017, at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Drive – so arrive earlier to chat with friends and enjoy the coffee and cookies. We ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and cookies – but some months are free, so come and see if this meeting is another one of those! All SIR members and their guests (spouses included!) are welcome to attend. See you there.



New Branch 116 Member



New member Jim Dugan with sponsor Ron Armijo



"Dine-O-Sir" Dinner Group

Ben Smith

(bjsssmith@aol.com)

The Dine-O-SIR group kicked off the NEW YEAR with their annual Sunday Champaign Buffet Brunch at Crow Canyon CC on Sunday, January 22, 2017. The next Dine-O-SIR event will be in March. Look for information on the March event in next month's Trampas Topics or get on the Dine-O-SIR mailing list by contacting Ben Smith.



Nicely dressed golfing group at Mira Vista CC
(Dave C., Conrad R., Wayne C., Bob T.)

SIR Activity Pictures Wanted!

Please send me pictures from your various SIR activities. I would like to include more pictures in the newsletter showing all the fun SIR have at our activities. I also will be showing a collection of activity photos at our monthly meetings. So send me some pictures to trampastopics@gmail.com

Thanks,
Neil Schmidt, Newsletter Editor



Poker Group #2

Jerry Kaplan

(mgkaplan@astound.net)

Poker Group #2 plays on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at Diablo Country Club in Diablo, from 1-4 p.m. Low stakes ,good times and fun. To play, contact Jim Shurr (925-937-9142) or Jerry Kaplan (925-938-1037) at least 24 hrs. before the game.

The Dead Poker Player

Six guys were playing poker when Smith loses \$500 on a single hand, clutches his chest and drops dead at the table. Showing respect for their fallen comrade, the other five complete their playing time standing up.

Roberts looks around and asks, 'Now, who is going to tell the wife?'

They draw straws. Rippington, who is always a loser, picks the short one.

They tell him to be discreet, be gentle, don't make a bad situation any worse than it is.

'Gentlemen! Discreet? I'm the most discreet man you will ever meet. Discretion is my middle name, leave it to me.'

Rippington walks over to the Smith house, knocks on the door, the wife answers, asks what he wants.

Rippington says, 'Your husband just lost \$500 playing cards.'

She hollers, 'TELL HIM TO DROP DEAD!'

Rippington says, 'I'll tell him.'



SIR Branch 116 Golf

By Bernie Wroblewski, Golf Chairman
(bbwroblewski@comcast.net)

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.

In addition to the Tournament format, Special Events such as Match Play, Best Ball, Scramble, and others are also periodically scheduled.

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 the Trampas Topics and on our web site at 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, Diablo Hills-Walnut Creek, and other 9 hole courses in the area.

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 2016 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.

Latest SIR 116 Golf Info Available on Our Golf Web Site

The Golf Website is: branch116golf.org

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

- 2016 Golf Schedule: Dates, times, and courses as well as detailed information on costs, payment information, deadlines, and special event facts.
- 18-Hole Pairings: Shows captains, teams, start-

ing times & handicaps for next event.

- 18-Hole Leaders and Results: Shows results from recent events and leaders in each group.
- Paid-In-Advance Sign-Ups: Shows checks that have been received for the next 3-4 pre-paid outings.
- Boundary Oak Sign-Ups: Shows who has signed-up for the next two Boundary Oak sessions.

February 9-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Wed. 03	10:00	Buchanan Fields	Dick Chaffee
Wed. 10	10:00	Diablo Hills	D.McClaughry
Wed. 17	10:00	Buchanan Fields	Dick Chaffee
Wed. 24	10:00	Brentwood	Skip Berkson

February 18-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Mon. 06	9:32	Boundary Oak	Allan Fitzgerald
Mon. 13	9:32	Boundary Oak	Allan Fitzgerald
Tue. 21	9:30	Brentwood	Jim Johnson
Mon. 27	9:00	Dublin Ranch	Allan Fitzgerald

18-Hole Results

Poppy Ridge, Mon, Jan 23, 2017

RAIN-OUT

Deer Ridge, Tue, Jan 17, 2017

Kevin Donahue, Official Scorer

<u>Flight 1</u>		<u>Flight 2</u>		<u>Flight 3</u>		<u>Flight 4</u>	
Tie 1st Jerry Hicks	71 3	Tie 1st John Story	72 3	1st Dave Carlson	72 3	1st Robbie Robinson	67 3
Tie 1st Jim Johnson	71 3	Tie 1st Frank Crua	72 3	2nd Kevin Donahue	76 2	Tie 2nd Conrad Robertso	78 2
Tie 3rd Bill McCord	73 1	Tie 3rd Hugh Duggan	73 1	Tie 3rd Alex Lutkus	80 1	Tie 2nd Greg Hughes	78 2
Tie 3rd David Harris	73 1	Tie 3rd Don Schroeder	73 1	Tie 3rd Bob Testa	80 1		
		Tie 3rd Jim Barstow	73 1				
<u>Low Gross</u>		<u>Low Gross</u>		<u>Low Gross</u>		<u>Low Gross</u>	
Jerry Hicks	83	Don Schroeder	93	Dave Carlson	101	Robbie	105
		Jim Barstow	93				
<u>Closest-to #7</u>		<u>Closest-to #7</u>		<u>Closest-to #7</u>		<u>Closest-to #7</u>	
Jerry Hicks		Carlos Xavier		Dave Carlson		Greg Hughes	

Boundary Oak, Mon, Jan 9, 2017

RAIN-OUT

Boundary Oak, Mon, Jan 2, 2017

Conrad Robertson, Official Scorer

<u>Flight 1</u>		<u>Flight 2</u>		<u>Flight 3</u>		<u>Flight 4</u>	
1st Al Zavattero	71 3	1st John Story	69 3	1st David Carlson	68 3	Tie 1st Greg Hughes	77 3
2nd Bill McCord	76 2	2nd Don Schroeder	74 2	2nd Jed Daniel	75 2	Tie 1st Conrad Robertso	77 3
3rd Jim Johnson	77 1	Tie 3rd Carlos Xavier	77 1	3rd Bob Testa	77 1	3rd Fred Schafer	78 1
		Tie 3rd Al Hutchko	77 1				
<u>Low Gross</u>		<u>Low Gross</u>		<u>Low Gross</u>		<u>Low Gross</u>	
Al Zavattero	90	John Story	95	David Carlson	97	Greg Hughes	112
		Don Schroeder	95			Fred Schafer	112
<u>Closest-to #12</u>		<u>Closest-to #12</u>		<u>Closest-to #12</u>		<u>Closest-to #12</u>	
Jim Johnson		John Story					

2016 Flight Champions

2016 Flight 2 Champion: Don Schroeder def Jim Johnson & Mel Williams

2016 Flight 3 Champion: Bob Testa def Bernie Wroblewski

2016 Flight 4 Champion: Art Vogl def Robbie Robinson (previous week)

2016 Flight 1 Champion still to be determined

2017 18-Hole Leader Board

First Half Leaders, January-June, 2017 (As of Deer Ridge on Jan. 17)

<u>FLIGHT 1</u>		<u>FLIGHT 2</u>		<u>FLIGHT 3</u>		<u>FLIGHT 4</u>	
Name	Pts	Name	Pts	Name	Pts	Name	Pts
Jim Johnson	4	John Story	6	David Carlson	6	Greg Hughes	5
Al Zavattero	3	Don Schroeder	3	Jed Daniel	2	Conrad Robertson	5
Bill McCord	3	Frank Crua	3	Bob Testa	2	Robbie Robinson	3
Jerry Hicks	3	Carlos Xavier	1	Kevin Donahue	2	Fred Schafer	1
David Harris	1	Al Hutchko	1	Alex Lutkus	1		
		Hugh Duggan	1				
		Jim Barstow	1				



Golf Hotline: The Golf Telephone Hotline can be reached at 925-906-5355.

You may leave a message to register for 9-Hole & 18-Hole tournaments, cancel a previous registration, make special requests for pairings, ask to be added to a waiting list after the deadline and check to see if a tournament has been cancelled due to inclement weather or other reasons.

- If you are registering for Boundary Oak, please indicate whether you are Walking or Riding.
- If you are registering for Paid-in-Advance tournaments, please mail your check prior to the deadline to SIR Branch 116 Golf, P. O. Box 683, Lafayette, CA 94549-0683.

Electronic Signups and Cancellations

Please note that you may also signup for Boundary Oak & Paid-in-Advance tournaments on this website. Simply navigate to 18-Hole Group/Schedules & Signups and choose either Boundary Oak or Paid-in-Advance. You may cancel a previous signup either by using the telephone hotline or by sending an email to branch116golf@gmail.com.

18-Hole Pay In Advance Deadlines

<u>Event Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Tuesday, February 21	Brentwood	Feb. 13	\$35
Monday, February 27	Dublin Ranch	Feb. 20	\$39
Monday, March 06	Sequoyah CC	Feb. 20	\$60
Tuesday, March 21	Rancho Solano	Mar. 12	\$42
Monday, March 27	Callippe Preserve	Mar. 12	\$49

Send checks made out to SIR Branch 116 Golf, PO 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 Men Enjoying Active 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.