



Trampas Topics

January, 2017

SIR Branch 116

Next Meeting: 11:30 am,
Monday, January 16, 2016
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

Happy New Year and a grand welcome to 2017. It seems that the January Big SIR Sayings seem to follow the same format as in prior years, and for good reason. Looking back to 2016, we are grateful for joys afforded to us with our SIR Brethren, friends and love ones. Looking forward to 2017, as a country there is the excitement and anticipation of our new President and, within our own SIR branch, the possibility of moving our luncheon venue from the Elks Club to Boundary Oaks.



But first things first. A hearty thank you to Jim Barstow for doing an outstanding job as Big SIR in 2016. If I do half as well as Jim did, I will consider my stint as Big SIR successful. Secondly, a round of applause to Jerry Christopherson and his Christmas Dinner Dance Committee for providing us with a most enjoyable Christmas Dinner at Round Hill Country Club. Jerry also coerced four of us into performing an opening dance routine which goes to show that old guys can still move those bones, and making a fool of one's self can be a heck of a lot of fun.

Boundary Oaks: For the past few months there has been much discussion and numerous references to a possible move to Boundary Oaks. Voting on this move will occur at the **January 16th luncheon**, which **will be held at Boundary Oaks**, so your attendance at this luncheon is very important. Boundary Oaks offers a number of tangibles: 1) ample parking, 2) golf cart pickup service from and to your car, 3) choice of entrée, and 4) a more modern facility for socializing and recruiting new members.

My goals for 2017 will emulate those of Jim Barstow in 2016, namely maintaining/increasing our membership, encouraging member participation in our numerous activities, and assisting our members in enjoying an active retirement. I know with your help, 2017 can be a fun, entertaining and productive year.

Paul Ramacciotti, Big SIR



Topics Index

2017 Golf Fee	12
Activities Calendar	3
Activity Chairman	2
Birthdays	4
Book Group	6
Book Exchange	9
Branch Officers	2
Bridge	11
Carson City Golf	10
Christmas Dinner Photos	8
Computer & Tech	9
Dine-O-SIR	9
Fishing	6
Golf	12-15
Hiking and Walking	7
Little SIR Saying	10
Meeting Menu (Jan.)	5
Membership	4
Mexican Train Dominos	10
Poker Group 2	10
SIR Happenings	4
SIR Web Addresses	11
Sums Investment	6
Sunshine	7
Topics Submissions	4
Treasurer's Report	4
Travel	9
Walking Tours	7
Wine Appreciation	4

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.

**Our January 16th Meeting will be at
Boundary Oak**

2016 SIR Branch 116 Officers & Directors



Big SIR
Paul Ramacciotti
229-2564



Little SIR
Marty Katz
484-0122



Secretary
Fred Schafer
648-4199



Assist.Secretary
Allan Chasnoff
933-6665



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
Jim Barstow
938-2744



Director
Peter Coggiola
820-1518



Director
Al Hutchko
827-9130



Director
Harry Sherinian
846-7067



Director
John Story
932-8826



Director
Dave Willams
216-6048

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

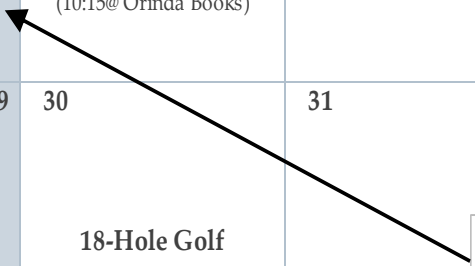
Activities Coord.	Jerry Kaplan	938-1037
Attendance	Sam Beret	388-6145
Audio/Visual	Neil Schmidt	948-8702
Audit	Ron Armijo	945-0637
"	Carl Langhorst	672-2541
Chaplain	(rotating)	(various)
Computer Support	Phil Goff	831-3692
	Neil Schmidt	948-8702
E-mail Contact	Phil Goff	831-3692
Greeters	Pat Bermingham	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 Chasnoffk	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

January 2017

Sun.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
1	2 18-Hole Golf (9:32@ Boundary Oak GC)	3 Duplicate Bridge (10:00@ Diablo Valley Bridge Center)	4 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC)	5	6	7
8	9 18-Hole Golf (9:32@ Boundary Oak GC)	10 Luncheon Bridge (11:30@ Diablo CC)	11 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Diablo Hills GC)	12	13 Hiking & Walking (8:15@ Stone Valley staging area of Iron Horse trail)	14
15	16 <u>SIR Br. 116 Mtg.</u> (11:30 @ Boundary Oak, WC) Martin Luther King Day Holiday	17 18-Hole Golf (9:30@ Deer Ridge GC)	18 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC) Mexican Train (10:00@ Church of Christ, WC)	19 Computer & Tech (9:30@ Elks Club)	20	21
22	23 18-Hole Golf (9:00@ Poppy Ridge GC) Book Group (10:15@ Orinda Books)	24 Luncheon Bridge (11:30@ Diablo CC)	25 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Brentwood GC) \$ums Investment (8:00@ Diablo Creek GC)	26 Fishing Group (8:30@ Legends-Diablo Crk) Wine Appreciation (4:00@ TBD)	27 Hiking & Walking (8:15@ Lafayette Community Center)	28
29	30 18-Hole Golf (9:00@ Canyon Lakes GC)	31	Dine-O-SIR (10:00@ Crow Cyn CC)			

Dine-O-SIR





Br. 116 Treasurer's Report

Jim Nickels, Treasurer
(bjnickels@sbcglobal.net)

	Dec. 2016	2016 YTD
Contributions	\$ 9,380.00	\$ 65,258.18
Disbursements	\$ (8,670.45)	\$ (64,349.21)
Net (gain/(loss))	\$ 709.55	\$ 935.97
Dec. 27th Cash Balance		\$ 8,671.33

January Birthdays

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

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Ken Binning | 10. "T" Legler |
| 2. Dick Conger | 11. John Maerzke |
| 3. Hugh Duggan | 12. Jim Nickels |
| 4. Tom Eller | 13. Don Peckham |
| 5. Jack Fucik | 14. George Pryhuber |
| 6. Bill Ginter | 15. Marty Ratterree |
| 7. Ross Gordon | 16. Lou Sandor |
| 8. Doug Hattaway | 17. Dennis Snarr |
| 9. Ed Klein | 18. Dick Socolich |

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:	234
This Month's Inductees:	1
Inactive to Active:	0
Active Members Resigned:	0
Active to Inactive:	1
• Tom Hickey	
Inactive Resigned:	0
Inactive Members:	20



Wine Appreciation Group

Jack Bevis
(jackb435@comcast.net)

Our next event will be on **Jan. 26th, 2017**.

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 Jack-b435@comcast.net or call 925-254-7256.

Do You Want Hardcopies of the Trampas Topics?

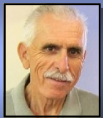
For Branch 116 members who don't like reading electronic issues on the Trampas Topics, you can select to get hardcopy distribution of the newsletter. The subscription price for receiving printed copies of the "Topics", sent to you each month in the mail, is \$20/year. If you want to receive, or to continue receiving printed copies in Year 2016, send a \$20 check now, payable to "SIR Branch 116", to our Treasurer:

Jim Nickels 52 Ball Road, Walnut Creek, CA 94596

January 16th SIR Branch 116 Meeting will be at Boundary Oak!

Important Meeting Information!

- ◆ The next Meeting on January 16 will be at Boundary Oak and not the Elks Lodge and it will start at our regular 11:30 AM time.
- ◆ The price for the Luncheon will be \$25 and the preferred form of payment is by check made out to "SIR Branch 116".
- ◆ There will be no Luncheon speaker in January but instead there will be a further discussion on our future Luncheon venue location.
- ◆ At the conclusion of the meeting, there will be a vote, via a show of hands, by all Luncheon attendees on whether we should have our remaining 1017 Luncheons at Boundary Oak or at the Elks Lodge.
- ◆ A majority vote will decide and no absentee votes will be accepted.



Lunch Attendance

Sam Beret

(luncheon116@gmail.com)

- Everyone has a standing reservation for each Luncheon and, if you are not going to attend, you must notify me either via email using the address above or the Lunch Hotline (925-806-8874) one week in advance (January 9th).
- Because we have to pay for Members failing to notify me in advance and who miss the Luncheon, they will be charged the \$25 lunch fee.
- If you are bringing a guest to the Luncheon, also notify me one week in advance via the email address or the Hotline number. Please spell out the full name of your guest or visitor.
- If you or your guest have any dietary restrictions, also please notify me one week in advance.

January Luncheon Menu



THE CLUBHOUSE

AT BOUNDARY OAK

SIR 116 Meeting

January 16, 2017

Salad

Green Bean Salad

Mixed Greens, Baby Green Beans, Tomatoes
Feta Cheese, Spicy Almonds
Red Wine Vinaigrette

Entrees

Roast Beef Eye Round

Herb Dijon Marinated Eye Round of Beef, Brown Gravy
Yukon Gold Mashed Potatoes & Roasted Corn

Or

Potato & Chive Crusted Cod Filet

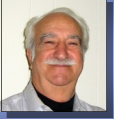
Rice Pilaf, Seasonal Vegetables, Tartar Sauce

Dessert

German Chocolate Cake

Whipped Cream
Caramel 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, January 26th**, 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, come early. Contact is Harry Sherinian, Branch 116 Fishing Coordinator (925-846-7067)

Winter trout and sturgeon are biting. Shadow Cliffs Reservoir was very productive early on; Terry Hatcher, Gordon Linebaugh, Mario Moritorio, Romano Gnusti, Dick Thomson, Thom Watkins, Rich Fiscina, and Paul Dubow and Harry Sherinian all got early limits, followed by brunch at Jim's restaurant, and safely back home for an early afternoon nap, this is gentlemen's fishing. Rich Fiscina, Paul Dubow, and Ray Pixton caught the tail end of the hot bite but did go home with trout. Meanwhile, Rich Fiscina took Pedro Contreras, Pete Gates, Paul Dubow, Tom Boltz, Joe Karg, and Bruce Person. Pedro caught his first ever keeper sturgeon after years of trying, Paul Dubow put his tag on one, Tom Boltz watched a monster leap into the air and throw the hook. Steve Paulson and Ben Sala got on a combo boat from Bodega bay and returned with limits of crab, rock fish and ling cod. Stan Wong did the same from Emeryville, and he and his grandson got limits of nice trout from the shore at Contra Loma Reservoir. Don Mittlestaedt made his annual pilgrimage to Louisiana where he caught big redfish on his fly rod. Tom Kostik, Mike Corker, Terry Miller, Harry Sherinian and Ben Sala plugged for stripers in the delta and did well till the water cooled.

Christmas time is of course time for our annual Xmas Party. Over 50 members and guests attended a party at Round Hill Country Club. The food was great as was the camaraderie. Special thanks to Pete Gates and Dick Thomson for setting up things and making all the arrangements.

\$ums Investment Group

Tom Henry (Branch 174)

(tomh925@icloud.com)

Our next meeting is **Wed Jan 25** 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 Michael Young JD - an Elder Law specialist. He will be speaking about Living Wills, Health Care Directives, Portability and other end of life issues.

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



Br. 116 Book Group

Rich Black

(blackrw41@comcast.net)

"Between the World and Me" by Ta-Nehisi Coates

The Book Group met on Monday, 5 December, 2016 to discuss "Between the World and Me" by Ta-Nehisi Coates whose thesis was that the wealth of America was built on the bodies of Black Americans for generations and that through contemporary police practices continued to consume them. Jim Flessner recommended the book and Rich Black led the discussion. Other participants were Tim Tinnes, John Kopchik, Mac McLoughlin, Garrett Girvin, Jerry Christopherson, John Riordan, John Frazier and Joel White. SIRs felt the book took them outside of their ordinary comfort zone and illumined a perspective into the current Black Lives Matter movement. The group awarded the book 3.7 stars.

On **Monday, 23 January** the group will again meet to discuss "Alexander Hamilton" by Ron Chernow. Meetings are at 10:15 at Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, Orinda, California.

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



Hiking & Walking

Joel White

(zpz2mrz@gmail.com)

The Friday, Dec. 9 walk led by Joel White was one of the most successful non-walks ever. Because of the unsettled weather, sun alternating with showers, the walk was cancelled but members of the group agreed to convene at Denica's café in Walnut Creek for coffee and conversation. Those attending were: Richard Black and Donna Argenbright, Paul Freitas, David and Colleen Geary, Dan and Andrea Green, John and Gail Riordan, Richard and Aase White, Joel and Susan White. A very pleasant time was had by all.

Having been rained out 3 months in a row, I will again attempt to lead a walk, this time **January 13th** (I expect this to be a lucky Friday the 13th) walk, meeting at **8:15am**. We will gather at the **Stone Valley staging area of the Iron Horse trail**, parking in the adjacent parking lot. This will be followed by our usual friendly gathering at Cherubini's Coffee house. In the event of rain, we will plan to meet at Cherubini's at 9:15. Also anyone not able to make the walk but wanting to attend the gathering also please **RSVP**: Joel: zpz2mrz@gmail.com : (925)788-2272 (cell)

The **Friday, January 27th** walk will be led by John Riordan meeting at the **Lafayette Community Center** on St Mary's road at **8:15am**. **Please RSVP**: John: gcriordan@comcast.net, (925) 297-7826. If wishing to attend only post walk gathering, please contact John to RSVP and learn location.

This Group is open to all members and spouses. Walks are on an "out and back" basis for 30 minutes in each direction, with groups walking at various paces and designed so all can return to the start at roughly the same time. We then join together for coffee and conversation at a local breakfast type establishment. Wives are invited to participate without their husbands if they so wish. Members +/- spouses/significant others are also invited to attend just the post walk social gathering. Please contact the walk leader to RSVP for attendance at (and discover the location) of the

post walk convocation.

Anyone wishing to be added to the e-mail reminder list should contact Joel White 964-0994 or zpz2mrz@gmail.com.



Sunshine Report

Matt Arena

(marena@astound.net)

SIR **Ben Smith** is doing so well that he plans to join us for lunch in January. Ben: Nice recovery from a knee surgery.

SIR **Lonny Randal** is doing so well from his knee surgery that he will be back on the golf course this month. Congratulations and see you at the lunch this month.

SIR **Lloyd Plank** and his lovely wife Joyce were among the revelers at the Christmas Dinner Dance at the Round Hill Country Club . Lloyd is on this third series of chemo and looks wonderful.

SIR **Don Roberts** is planning to join us at our luncheon this month. He is dealing with the DMV to restore his license. Knowing Don it is only a matter of time that he will be back on the road.

SIR Roger Colton is still dealing with long term health issues but he is being well cared for by his wife Laurie. Progress has been slow.

SIR **Tim Dorr** is using his walker to help with his mobility. When I last saw him he was in good spirits fighting the good fight.

DO SOMETHING WONDERFUL,
PEOPLE WILL IMITATE IT !!! -

ALBERT SCHWEITZER



Walking Tours

Bernie Wroblewski

(bbwroblewski@comcast.net)

The next walking tour is scheduled for January 2017. An announcement will appear in the January Trampas Topics and details will presented at January meeting.

2016 SIR Branch 116 Christmas Dinner Dance





SIR Travel

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

Welcome to 2017. I will support you all in Travel until a new Travel Chairman is appointed. Gentlemen this Branch belongs to all of us and as such we all must partake to make Branch 116 a success. Who will step forward and support Branch 116 as Travel Chairman? Please contact me.

Thank you,
Marty



"Dine-O-Sir" Dinner Group

Ben Smith
(bjsssmith@aol.com)

Wishing all the Dine-O-Sir Group a wonderful and prosperous NEW YEAR

Our Dine-O-SIR NEW YEAR kick off event will take place at Crow Canyon CC on **Sunday, January 22, 2017**. CCCC is located at 711 Silver Lake Drive, Danville, CA 94526. Brunch will be 10:00 AM.--till 2:00 PM This is the third year we have scheduled this well attended Sunday New Year Champaign Buffet Brunch. It has proved to be a great way to start the year with many of your SIR friends. You can start with fresh juice and all the Champaign you can drink---your glass should never get empty as you spend leisurely time over this wonderful feast.

The huge Buffet Menu will consist of---Salads, Cheese Boards, Sea Food selections, cold cuts, Bacon, Sausage, Eggs Benedict, French Toast, Made to order Omelettes, Meat cutting Board, Large selection of desserts, Coffee and Tea included, plus many other items.

The price will be \$37 pp all inclusive. Send your check reservations to Sir Ben Smith at--1837 Lackland Dr. Alamo, CA 94507. e-mail the address above---Reservations should be made not later than January 17, 2017. Feel Free to bring a friend or family member.



Computer & Technology

Neil Schmidt
(SIR.Area2.CAT@gmail.com)

The Area 2 Computer and Technology Group announces that our next meeting will be at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge on **Thursday January 19, 2017 at 9:30 am**. Sirs from all branches and their guests are welcome and invited to attend.

The topic for our January CAT meeting will be **"Smartphones & Artificial Intelligence"** presented by Neil Schmidt. He will delve into some of the popular Artificial Intelligence (AI) apps as well as demonstrating some very interesting new ones. He will also talk about some future possibilities currently being developed where your smartphone or smartwatch is used as a source of information, the data evaluated via AI techniques, and action is automatically taken on your behalf. Check the CAT Web page about a week before the next meeting to download a copy of the presentations:

<http://a2cat.sirinc2.org> .

The meeting starts at 9:30 AM, January 19, 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.



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



Meeting Speaker

By Little SIR Marty Katz
(dagobuildr@comcast.net)

Branch 116 Members:

It will be my pleasure and honor to serve Branch 116 in 2017 as your Little Sir. To be supported by all of you will make my 2017 a great New Year.

I have lined up new and informative speakers for 2017. To take care of that annoying 3 am potty call an Urologist will support all of us. Many of you take trips. Are you insured? So many things can go wrong on that trip around the world. Let's be protected. I will have a local Congressman to inform us of what is going on in this country. I am looking forward to a Pearl Harbor Survivor to share special stories and recount history for us. Perhaps a sports figure from the Giants or Warriors. Maybe even the A's.

As you can see an exciting and informative Year lies ahead.

Again thank you for your support and let's make this a Branch 116 Year.

Some SIR Travel Opportunities on State Web

The quarterly State SIR Happenings Web Site at: sirinc.org/sirhappenings/ offers additional SIR travel options.

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



"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



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.

If you didn't attend the Christmas Dinner Dance, you really missed something!



The Village People (Paul Ramacciotti, Marty Katz, Jerry Christopherson and Jim Barstow) performing "Y.M.C.A."



Bridge

Jon Dickson

(still26@sbcglobal.net)

We have been playing at Round Hill CC for a few years but in 2017 Round Hill will start a huge renovation of their clubhouse and we are losing our venue.

We have signed up to play bridge at **Diablo Country Club** starting on **Tuesday, January 10th**, 1700 Clubhouse Road, Diablo, CA. Entrance to the club is off Diablo Road, follow signs to the clubhouse. This location was chosen as we have played there in the past and many of our players are familiar with that location. Price for lunch and bridge will stay the same. (Hurrah!) But we must guarantee at least 20 for each session so I do ask you all to play whenever possible. I must also give a lunch count 3 days before our game, we will be held to that count on bridge day, so if one does not show up for bridge there could be a cost billed to the non-attendee for that lunch. We will also have our Ladies **Day lunch & bridge** on **April 18th** and **October 17th** at **Diablo CC** so do mark your calendars for

that day.

For all members who play bridge, our games are very relaxing and casual, so all bridge players are welcome.

Mark your calendars with the reminder that we have a new location to play on Tuesdays. Hope to see all at **Diablo Country Club for bridge on Tuesday, Jan. 10th.**

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/

18-Hole Golf Changes for 2017

- The 4 competitive flights for 2017 will be determined following the release of the January 2017 indexes. Every effort will be made to have approximately equal numbers of golfers within each Flight. Those not wanting to compete for points will be assigned to a non-competitive flight, enabling them to play in any tournament.
- Those assigned to Flight 1 will have the option to play from either the white or forward tees. The decision as to which tee to play must be made at the beginning of the year and may be changed at the mid-year break. Handicaps at the course being played will take into account the slope differential for white/forward tees for that course. Scoring shall be based on NCGA Rules Section 3-5 for playing from different tees. The scorer for each tournament will need to make the appropriate adjustments for Flight 1 scoring. All those in Flights 2, 3, and 4 must play from the forward tees.
- For 2017, a minimum of 2 members of a foursome need to sign the scorecard.
- The Carson City and Monterey outings will continue in 2017. As each outing approaches, information will be posted on this website. Thus far we have Sequoyah, Crow Canyon, and Oakhurst Country Clubs lined up for 2017. As in the past, we will be working to add Mira Vista, Rossmoor, and possibly some others. The current schedule for 2017 is now posted on the website.
- In 2017, the Special Events Committee is planning 6 special events, in addition to individual and two man match play events. Scoring in Special Events will be different from medal-play rounds, but you will still be able to post your score and receive points for the medal-play round. However, two of the Special Events, one in each half of the year, are formatted such that players will be precluded from posting a score for those rounds and will not receive points in their flights.

- Improvement of “pace of play” generated the most input from the survey. We all need to do our part to enhance “ready golf”. So let’s do all we can to keep up with the group ahead of us, limit the time looking for lost balls, limit practice swings, and keep moving in the fairways and from green to tee.

USGA Handicap Rule 3-5. Players Competing from Different Tees

Different tees usually have different Ratings. Because a USGA Course Rating reflects the probable score of a scratch golfer, the higher-rated course is more difficult, and the player playing from the set of tees with the higher USGA Course Rating receives additional stroke(s) equal to the difference between each USGA Course Rating, with .5 or greater rounded upward. The additional stroke(s) are added to the Course Handicap of the player playing from the higher-rated set of tees.

Note: The additional Rule 3-5 strokes to be added to the “White:” tee player’s Handicap is shown on our SIR Branch 116 Scorecard immediately to the right of the Course Rating numbers displayed on the top right of the scorecard (the 3rd column).

2017 Golf Fees are Past Due

Have you paid your 2017 Golf fees?

The fees are:

- 18-Hole with NCGA fee: \$56
- 18-Hole without NCGA fee: \$20
- 9-Hole without NCGA fee: \$15

If possible, bring a check to the **January 16th Meeting**. If you forget to bring a check or cannot attend the meeting, send your check made out to:

SIR Branch 116 Golf
PO Box 683
Lafayette, CA 94549-0683



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.

January 9-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Wed. 04	10:00	Buchanan Fields	Dick Chaffee
Wed. 11	10:00	Diablo Hills	D.McClaughry
Wed. 18	10:00	Buchanan Fields	Dick Chaffee
Wed. 25	10:00	Brentwood	Skip Berkson

January 18-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Mon. 02	9:32	Boundary Oak	Fred Schafer
Mon. 09	9:32	Boundary Oak	Fred Schafer
Tue. 17	9:30	Deer Ridge	Fred Schafer
Mon. 23	9:00	Poppy Ridge	Fred Schafer
Mon. 31	9:00	Canyon Lakes	Fred Schafer

18-Hole Results

Delta View, Tue, Dec 27, 2016

David Harris, Official Scorer

<u>Flight 1</u>			<u>Flight 2</u>			<u>Flight 3</u>			<u>Flight 4</u>		
1st	David Harris	74 3	1st	Mel Williams	67 3	1st	Bernie Wroblews	73 3	1st	Kevin Donahue	71 3
2nd	Bill McCord	75 2	2nd	Jim Johnson	68 2	2nd	David Carlson	76 2	2nd	Bill Hemmelsbac	73 2
3rd	Alan Fitzgerald	79 1	3rd	Al Zavattero	69 1	3rd	Randy Welker	77 1	3rd	Art Vogl	74 1
<u>Low Gross</u>			<u>Low Gross*</u>			<u>Low Gross*</u>			<u>Low Gross*</u>		
	David Harris	94		Jim Johnson	82		Bernie	99		Kevin Donahue	102
	Bill McCord	94									
<u>Closest-to #13</u>			<u>Closest-to #13</u>			<u>Closest-to #13</u>			<u>Closest-to #13</u>		
David Harris			Mel Williams						Kevin Donahue		

Diablo Creek, Mon, Dec 19, 2016

Bernie Wroblewski, Official Scorer

<u>Flight 1</u>			<u>Flight 2</u>			<u>Flight 3</u>			<u>Flight 4</u>		
1st	Neil Schmidt	74 3	1st	Mel Williams	68 3	1st	Alex Lutkus	68 3	1st	Conrad Robertso	72 3
2nd	Jim Barstow	76 2	2nd	Jim Johnson	72 2	2nd	John Story	74 2	2nd	Kevin Donahue	74 2
3rd	David Harris	77 1	3rd	Al Zavattero	73 1	2nd	Bob Testa	74 2	2nd	Art Vogl	74 2
						Tie 2nd			Bernie Wroblews 74 2		
<u>Low Gross</u>			<u>Low Gross*</u>			<u>Low Gross*</u>			<u>Low Gross*</u>		
	Neil Schmidt	92		Mel Williams	84		Alex Lutkus	93		Kevin Donahue	103
<u>Closest-to #2</u>			<u>Closest-to #2</u>			<u>Closest-to #2</u>			<u>Closest-to #2</u>		
Hugh Duggan			Jim Johnson			Bob Testa			Kevin Donahue		

Boundary Oak, Mon, Dec 12, 2016

Art Vogl & Special Events Committee, Official Scorer

FINISH	TEAMS	Scramble	Best Ball	Alternate Shot	Gross	HCP	Net
		Holes 1-6	Holes 7-12	Holes 13-18	Score		Score
1st	Vogl, Fokas, Carlson	24	26	32	82	14	68
T-2nd	McCord, Schafer, Coggolia	25	27	34	86	13	73
T-2nd	Barstow, Nickels, Wroblewski, Sherman	25	28	34	87	14	73
4th	Johnson, Robertson, Donahue	24	27	38	89	14	75
5th	Xavier, Jenkins, Madden, Story	26	27	38	91	13	78
6th	Hicks, Robinson, Schroeder, Chaney	23	28	40	91	13	78
7th	Hemmelsbach, Duggan, McInnis,	25	30	41	96	14	82
8th	Cook, Grunmitt, Lutkus	25	29	43	97	14	83

Closest-to #12:

Flight 1
Bill McCord

Flight 2
Don Schroeder

Flight 3

Flight 4
Terry Sherman

Contra Costa CC, Mon, Dec 5, 2016

Jim Clizbe, Official Scorer

<u>Flight 1</u>			<u>Flight 2</u>			<u>Flight 3</u>			<u>Flight 4</u>		
1st	Jerry Hicks	72 3	Tie 1st	Nick Fokas	70 3	1st	Pete Coggiola	72 3	1st	Robbie Robinson	73 3
2nd	Jim Barstow	79 2	Tie 1st	Warren Garrison	70 3	2nd	Bob Price	73 2	2nd	Bill Hemmelsbac	74 2
3rd	Neil Schmidt	81 1	3rd	Al Zavattero	71 1	3rd	Jim Videle	75 2	3rd	Conrad Robertso	75 2
<u>Low Gross</u>			<u>Low Gross*</u>			<u>Low Gross*</u>			<u>Low Gross*</u>		
	Jerry Hicks	84		Warren Garrison	87		Bob Price	98		Bill Hemmelsbac	107
<u>Closest-to #5</u>			<u>Closest-to #5</u>			<u>Closest-to #5</u>			<u>Closest-to #5</u>		
Bill McCord			Nick Fokas			Jim Videle			Brent Chaney		

2016 18-Hole Leader Board

Final Second Half Leaders, July - December, 2016

<u>FLIGHT 1</u>		<u>FLIGHT 2</u>		<u>FLIGHT 3</u>		<u>FLIGHT 4</u>	
Name	Pts	Name	Pts	Name	Pts	Name	Pts
David Harris	26	Don Schroeder	29	Bernie Wroblewski	20	Robbie Robinson	25
Jim Barstow	25	Mel Williams	29	Bob Testa	18	Conrad Robertson	23
Alan Fitzgerald	24	Jim Johnson	28	David Carlson	16	Fred Schafer	19
Neil Schmidt	16	Al Zavatiero	26	Alex Lutkus	13	Marty Katz	17
Michael Barrington	14	Frank Crua	12	Sam Beret	12	Kevin Donahue	17
Hugh Duggan	11	Norm Alberts	7	Richard Madden	11	Matt Arena	13
Bill McCord	11	Wayne Smith	3	John Story	9	Bill Hemmelsbach	8
Phil Goff	9	Dick Socolich	3	Terry Grummitt	8	Carl Langhorst	7
Jerry Hicks	7	Nick Fokas	3	Randy Welker	8	Wayne Cook	6
Denny Giambastiar	2	Warren Garrison	3	Bob Price	7	Phil Jenkins	6
		Carlos Xavier	2	Pete Coggiola	7	Art Vogl	6
		Harry Oberle	2	Terry Sherman	5	Jim Nickels	4
		Charles McInnis	2	Al Satake	5	Ron Armijo	3
		Al Hutchko	1	Jim Videle	4	Jerry Christopherso	2
		Gary Boswell	1	Jerry Hunter	3	Greg Hughes	1
				Kirk McVean	3		
				Bob Conlon	2		
				Jai Yee	2		
				Phil Perrelli	1		
				Dick Chaffee	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, January 17	Deer Ridge	Jan. 10	\$30
Monday, January 23	Poppy Ridge	Jan. 13	\$43
Monday, January 31	Canyon Lakes	Jan., 23	35
Tuesday, February 21	Brentwood	Feb. 13	\$35
Monday, February 27	Dublin Ranch	Feb. 20	\$39

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.