



# Trampas Topics

March, 2017


**SIR Branch 116**

Next Meeting: 11:30 am,  
Monday, March 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

### “Should We Stay or Should We Go”



During the course of the last year, these words made famous by the rock group “The Cars”, centered on a movement to investigate the possibility of moving the SIR monthly luncheons from the friendly confines of the Elks Club to another location. That location would ultimately be the Boundary Oak Golf Course, as determined by a resounding “Yes” vote at the January luncheon. By resounding I don’t mean, “get us out of the place”, but more of “It’s just time to go”.

Change is never easy. The Elks Club has entertained the SIR luncheons for many years, doing an incredible job. A number of the SIR’s Branch 116 members are also members of the Elks Club. It is an excellent organization that has served the community for many years in all facets of community life, and will continue to do so for many years to come. The Branche’s financial support to the Elks Club was one of the main issues that was pondered often. In the end, though, the decision to pursue a move came down to what was considered best for SIR’s Branch 116. I likened the decision to move to a real-life experience of my own. I was with Safeway Stores for almost twenty-five years at the corporate headquarters in Oakland. It was an awesome company to work for. But towards the end on my tenure, things just didn’t seem to feel comfortable any more. Nothing definitive I could put my figure on. My answer to people when they ask why I left, is, “It was just time for me to go”. I believe that answer also applies to leaving the Elks Club.

Moving Forward. I’ve gotten feedback from a number of members concerning the move, some of it solicited, some of it not. But the general overall feeling(s) appear to be that of enthusiasm and gladness, especially as it concerns to recruiting new members. For an organization like ours, with a not so young average age, recruitment of new members is the lifeblood of the organization. During the course of the last year I attended two Branch 146 luncheons and each time I was impressed by the sheer beauty of the facility, the amenities provided, such as golf cart pickup to and from our cars, sit down lunch, menu choices, the attention we get during lunch from the catering staff, not to mention the golf course. One of my first thoughts was, “what a great place to bring a prospective member”. It can only get better.

*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	Conrad Robertson	376-6355
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	David Harris	672-5543
" " Asst.	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	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	George Pryhuber	*984-3791
Member. Secretary	Phil Goff	831-3692
Music Man	Robbie Robinson	798-4276
Newsletter Editor	Neil Schmidt	948-8702
" " Asst.	Phil Goff	831-3692
Nominating	Jim Barstow	938-2744
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

## March 2017

Sun.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
			1  <b>9-Hole Golf</b> (10:00@ Buchanan Fields)	2	3	4
5	6  <b>18-Hole Golf</b> (9:30@ Sequoyah CC)	7  <b>Duplicate Bridge</b> (10:00 Contra Costa Bridge Ctr., Concord)	8  <b>9-Hole Golf</b> (10:00@ Diablo Hills GC) <b>Mexican Train</b> (2:00@ TBD)	9	10  <b>Hiking &amp; Walking</b> (8:15@ Iron Horse Trail & Rudgear, WC)	11
12	13  <b>18-Hole Golf</b> (9:32@ Boundary Oak GC)	14  <b>Luncheon Bridge</b> (11:30@Diablo CC)	15  <b>9-Hole Golf</b> (10:00@ Buchanan Fields)	16  <b>Computer &amp; Tech</b> (9:30@ Elks Club)	17   <b>St. Patrick's Day</b>	18
19	20  <b>SIR Br. 116 Mtg.</b> (11:30 @ Boundary Oak)	21  <b>18-Hole Golf</b> (10:15@ Rancho Solano GC) <b>Poker</b> (1:00@ Diablo CC)	22  <b>9-Hole Golf</b> (10:00@ Brentwood CC) <b>\$ums Investment</b> (8:00@ Diablo Creek GC)	23  <b>Fishing Group</b> (8:30@ Legends-Diablo Crk)	24  <b>Hiking &amp; Walking</b> (8:15@ TBD)	25  <b>Walking Tour</b>
26	27  <b>18-Hole Golf</b> (9:00@ Callippe Preserve) <b>Book Group</b> (10:15@ Orinda Books)	28  <b>Luncheon Bridge</b> (11:30@ Diablo CC)	29  <b>9-Hole Golf</b> (10:00@Diablo Hills)	30  <b>Wine Appreciation</b> (4:00@ TBD)	31  <b>Walking Tour</b> (10:00@ Alameda Point, Alameda)	



## Br. 116 Treasurer's Report

**Jim Nickels, Treasurer**  
(bjnickels@sbcglobal.net)

	February. 2017	2017 YTD
Contributions	\$ 8,928.39	\$ 13,947.27
Disbursements	\$ (8,624.56)	\$ (13,845.07)
Net (gain/(loss))	\$ 303.83	\$ 102.20
Feb. 25th Cash Balance		\$ 8,773.53

## March Birthdays

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

1. Doug Allen	11. John Peterson
2. Pete Belden	12. Allen Pirkle
3. Gary Bonfiglio	13. Lloyd Plank
4. Joe Cain	14. Bob Price
5. Bill Harrington	15. Ron Radakovich
6. John Hughes	16. Paul Ramacciotti
7. Dick Kauffman	17. Norm Schoenfeld
8. Ron Leschot	18. Terry Sherman
9. Bob Loder	19. John Story
10. Bill McCord	20. Dave Williams

## 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](http://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](mailto:trampastopics@gmail.com)



## Membership

**Phil Goff**  
(philgoff@yahoo.com)

### SIR 116 Membership Status

Total Current Members:	221
This Month's Inductees:	3
• Bob Campbell	
• Hank McDermott	
• Steve Sandoval	
Inactive to Active:	0
Active Members Resigned:	8
• Don Acamo	
• Stuart Berger	
• Rob Campbell	
• Ed Cole	
• Roger Colton	
• Billy Hayes	
• Marty Ratterree	
• Jim Scott	
Active to Inactive:	1
• Jon Braun	
Inactive Resigned:	0
Inactive Members:	22

## 2017 "Dues" are Due!

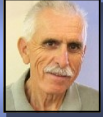
Our Branch dues, formerly called "voluntary contributions", are only **\$5** this year. (Thanks to the change in our luncheon venue).

Don't forget to pay your dues at our March 20th Meeting. If you are unable to attend the March meeting, please send a check made out to "SIR Branch 116" to our Treasurer Jim Nickels at 52 Ball Road, Walnut Creek, CA 94596

## 👉 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](mailto:snb49@outlook.com) no later than Wednesday AM in the previous week.





## Meeting 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	218
• Number Guests/ Visitors in Attendance	5
• Number Transfers & Inductees in Attendance	3
• Number of Speakers	1
• Number of Members Excused from Meeting	41
• Number of Members not attending due to long-term impairment and/or mobility reasons	8
• Number of Members NOT excused from Meeting [These members will be asked to pay for their missed lunch]	13
• Total In Attendance	165
• Number of Members in Attendance	161
• Percent of Active Members in Attendance, %	73

Next luncheon will be on **March 20, 2017**. If you are not going to attend the meeting, please notify me by no later than **Mar. 13, 2017**, preferably by email at [luncheon116@gmail.com](mailto: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.

## \$ums Investment Group

**Tom Henry (Branch 174)**

(tomh925@icloud.com)

Our next meeting is **Wed., March 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.

The March speaker arrangements have not yet been finalized but the \$ums meetings are always interesting and informative.

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](mailto:tomhenry925@gmail.com)

## March Meeting Lunch Menu

### Salad

#### **Wedge of Baby Iceberg Lettuce**

Hard Boiled Eggs, Cherry Tomatoes and Thousand Island Dressing

### Entrees

#### **Classic Braised and Glazed Corned Beef**

Cabbage, Boiled Carrots and Potatoes, Horseradish Sauce

Or

#### **Parmesan Crusted Tilapia**

Orzo Pasta, Seasonal Vegetables  
Fire Roasted Red Bell Pepper Butter Sauce

Or

#### **Vegetarian Option**

Seared Teriyaki Tofu Medallions  
Vegetarian Fried Rice and Stir Fried Vegetables

### Dessert

#### **Lemon Coconut Cake**

White Cake, Lemon Mousse, Toasted Coconut Topping



## Walking Tours

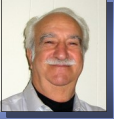
**Bernie Wroblewski**

(bbwroblewski@comcast.net)

## Tour at Sea – SIR Branch 116

The next Branch 116 walking tour is scheduled for **Saturday, March 25th** at 10:00 am, to visit the USS Hornet. The Hornet is located in Alameda at 707 Hornet Ave., Pier 3 in Alameda. Admission to tour the Hornet is \$10 for Seniors. The tour lasts approximately 2 hours. Free parking is available across from Pier 3. An optional lunch will follow.

An e-mail announcement will go out to those on the walking tour e-mail list with more details of the tour and driving directions. If you are not on the e-mail list and wish to attend this tour, please either phone (925) 820-3274, or e-mail Bernie Wroblewski [bbwroblewski@comcast.net](mailto:bbwroblewski@comcast.net).



## SIR Fishing Group

Harry Sherinian

(h.sherinian@comcast.net)

All SIR members and guests are welcome, and indeed encouraged, to participate in fishing trips as well as attend the monthly meetings. Next meeting will be **Thursday, March 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, come early.

Tom Kostik wins the best award this month. He got only a few small stripers while fishing for them on several occasions: BUT, he caught two keeper sturgeons, one was 48 inches, about 45 lbs., on light striper gear. As usual Tom released both of the sturgeon. Harry Sherinian was with Tom when he caught the 48 inch sturgeon but had no luck himself. Paul Dubow, our big fish, went to Hawaii to fish on a party boat and caught some tasty blue snappers. We had a good turnout for our annual visit to the Sportsman's Expo in Sacramento. This is always a fun event when we get to see all the latest fishing gear and an opportunity to try some of it out. The rest of us, for the most part, sat with our noses pressed against the window watching the rain. The few who got out for sturgeon or trout got nothing. It will be several weeks after, if ever, the rain stops before our local lakes clear up. Of course the good part about this rain is that the lakes will be full this spring and summer so maybe we will do a lot better then. The trout and sturgeon fishing that make our winters so much fun has been a bust. Very sad!

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

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

Co  
-



## Br. 116 Book Group

Rich Black

(blackrw41@comcast.net)

The Book Group meets on the last Monday of each month at 10:15 AM at Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, Orinda, California. The next meeting will be March 27th.



## 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



## 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.



## 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 **March 16, 2017** at 9:30 am. Sirs from all branches and their guests are welcome and invited to attend.

Howard Walter, a new Branch 8 member will be speaking about "How to Setup a Home Router and WiFi." If you're planning, or even thinking about modifying a home WiFi system, you won't want to miss Howard's presentation. A copy can be downloaded about a week before the meeting by going to: <http://a2cat.sirinc2.org/>

The meeting starts at 9:30 AM, March 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.

## SIR Website Addresses

SIR 116 Web Site  
[branch116.org](http://branch116.org)

Branch 116 Golf  
[branch116golf.org](http://branch116golf.org)

Trampas Topics  
[branch116.org/trampas/](http://branch116.org/trampas/)

Computer and Technology  
[a2cat.sirinc2.org/](http://a2cat.sirinc2.org/)

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

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



## Bridge

Jon Dickson

(still26@sbcglobal.net)

Our transition to Diablo Country Club for our 2nd and 4th Tuesdays lunch & bridge every month has worked quite well and each week this year we have had 6 tables playing. All bridge players are welcomed and we hope you will join us for one or more of our bridge games.

Please put **April 19th** on your calendar and join us for our SPRING LADIES DAY lunch & bridge. All couples are welcome as you stay with your same partner all day. You go home with the partner you brought! You just need another player so find one and join us.

On top of our two games of Chicago Style bridge on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays SIR's have many other bridge choices for games. There is a SIR's sponsored duplicate game every 1st Tuesday of the month at the Bridge Club in Concord. Five plus tables are usually playing for Master Points. Starts at 10:00 AM and partners are assigned as you arrive.

Another SIR's sponsored duplicate game is the 2nd Monday of the month at Ageis in Moraga starting at 1:00 PM. There are usually 3 tables, but no Master Points given.

SIR's Branch 8 has duplicate games on the 1st and 4th Fridays of the month, now meeting at Round Table Pizza in Pleasant Hill, starting at 9:00 AM. Usually at least 5 tables playing. All are welcome to join this game. Just call in advance.

On all the above games, all bridge players are welcome. Remember, bridge is just a game!



## Sunshine Report

**Matt Arena**

(marena@astound.net)

SIR **Lou Meylan** was operated on for severe back pain at Travis Air Force base. The surgery lasted 8 hours but the result was wonderful. Lou is at ManorCare at Rossmorr for rehab. He is making excellent progress and looking forward to returning home and sleeping in his own bed.

SIR **Kent Cremolini** is doing his rehab at John Muir Ortho Specilists following his hip surgery. We ran into each other while we were seeing our physical therapists last week. You can never tell where we will see another SIR in the neighborhood .

SIR **Nick Bowles** is making progress following his heart valve surgery. Nick said he is not felling pain in his chest but rather in his groin where the instruments entered his body. Another warrior from the greatest generation.

SIR **Larry Johnson** who has been battling health problems along with his wife. He is working hard to regain his strength but the progress has been slow.

SIR **Bob Kelgorf** fractured his left hip after tripping over his dog. Bob is making progress and is looking forward to joining us for lunch post haste.

SIR **Tim Dorr** fractured his pelvis and is rehabbing at ManorCare . Tim was progressing nicely with his walker prior to this incident .He did not need this additional problem.

TEARS SHED FOR SELF ARE TEARS OF WEAKNESS,BUT TEARS SHED FOR OTHERS ARE A SIGN OF STRENGTH.

Rev. Billy Graham



## Wine Appreciation Group

**Jack Bevis**

(jackb435@comcast.net)

Our most recent wine appreciation event took place on January 26<sup>th</sup> at the home of Dave and Carol Williams. Dave took a new approach to the question of choosing a theme for the event. Working with the staff at Total Wines he created A TASTE OF ITALY. All of the wines were from different parts of Italy and made of grapes not common to the United States. He started with a white wine from Campania made from the Falanghina grape. It was very popular with the group. Next came a wine from Piedmont, northern Italy made from the Nobbio grape. It was followed by a Sicilian wine made from Nero d'Avola grapes. Interestingly Enough this was the least expensive wine served and was well received. There was a steady circulation by the tempting hors d'oevres table all through a very enjoyable afternoon. The smoked salmon was quite popular. A reserve Aglianico from southern Italy came next, followed by a Chianti from Tuscany from the new DOCG Rufina zone of Chianti. To top it all off there was a finishing touch-a taste of Lemomcello.

Our next event will be on **March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017**.

For information contact Jack Bevis, [jackb435@comcast.net](mailto:jackb435@comcast.net) or 925-254-7256.



## Meeting Speaker

**Little SIR Marty Katz**

(dagobuildr@comcast.net)

The March meeting speaker will be Logan Happell with "*Proper Protection, Travel Insurance*". Don't be mislead or deceived on travel insurance protecting you.

Meeting speakers for the next few months will be:

- April 17: Steve Minniear, "Historic Preservation, Camp Parks"
- May: No speaker or meeting because of Spring Social

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





## 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/>



## Hiking & Walking

Joel White

(zpz2mrz@gmail.com)

The Friday January 27th walk was preceded by a magnificent pink sunrise on a sunny but cold morning. The walk along the Lafayette Moraga trail commenced at the Lafayette community center and traveled west to the Las Trampas Creek waterfall where there was a pause for a photo op. We were joined after the walk by Dan and Andrea Green at Chow restaurant in Lafayette for our post walk convocation.

The Friday, February 10, 2017 walk led by Rich Black included 15 souls, battling cabin fever from the recent rains, walked an hour on the Lafayette-Moraga bike trail from and to the Olympic/ Pleasant Hill parking lot. Participating were: Richard and Aase White, David Geary, Art And Mary Alice Donaldson, Donna and Richard Black, Dan and Andrea Green, John and Gail Riordan, Paul and Anna Freitas. Coleen Geary joined the group when it assembled at Chows on Lafayette Circle for coffee, conversation and breakfast for those who so desired.

David Geary had a glorious but frigid day (33degrees at the start) to lead the February 24th walk at Inspiration Point. 11 hearty participants enjoyed magnificent views of the San Pablo reservoir and the Bay. Andrea Green and Colleen Geary joined us for Coffee and Conversation at Geppetto's in Orinda village where an Amiable time was enjoyed by all.

The **Friday March 10** walk will start at 8:15am and be led by Joel White, 964-0994 (zpz2mrz@gmail.com). This walk will be on the Iron Horse Trail, meeting at the Rudgear Park and Ride, at the intersection of Rudgear and 680 in Walnut Creek.

The **Friday, March 24th** walk is TBD. Whoever volunteers to lead this walk will notify the members on the Amiable Amblers e-mail list.

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@gmail.com .



Hiking Group on Lafayette-Moraga Trail (Richard and Aase White, David Geary, Art And Mary Alice Donaldson, Donna and Richard Black, Dan and Andrea Green, John and Gail Riordan, Paul and Anna Freitas)



## "Dine-O-Sir" Dinner Group

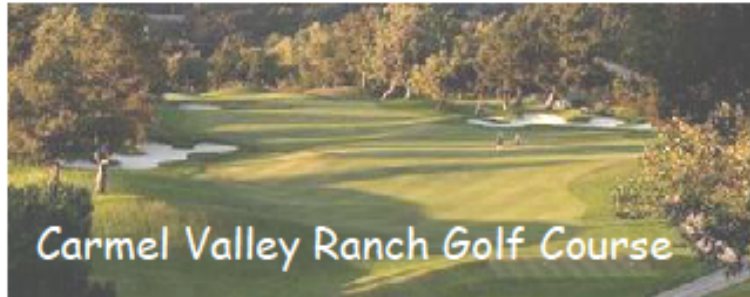
Ben Smith

(bjsssmith@aol.com)

The Dine-O-SIR group is currently working on a March event but hasn't yet put the final touches on it. The Dine-O-SIR outings are always well attended and lots of fun. Everyone interested in these events needs to be on the Dine-O-SIR mailing list to get advance notice of upcoming events and, if you haven't already done so, contact Ben Smith at the e-mail address above.

# ***Golf at Carmel Valley Ranch in Carmel, CA Wednesday & Thursday, May 17 and 18, 2017***

Branch 116 is going back to Carmel.  
Spouses and Significant others are  
invited.



## **Here are the Details**

**Hotel**—We will stay at the Carmel Mission Inn (Tel 831-624-1841.) We have a SIR Branch 116 Group Rate of \$139. You must make your own reservations and pay separately. Reservations must be made by April 3, 2017 to guarantee this rate.

**Golf**—Our Course will be new this year, Carmel Valley Ranch. This is an exceptional course/facility. Entry includes two rounds of golf (with range balls), prize money and Dinner. It will be Medal Play on Wednesday (two flights), and a Scramble on Thursday. Thursday's Teams will be determined by blind draw at Wednesday's Dinner.

**Dinner**— Wednesday dinner will be at Carmel Valley Ranch. More details will be available at the March SIR luncheon.

**Cost**—Excluding Hotel costs (which are paid separately) cost is \$200 (\$139 for 2 days of golf, \$30 prize money, and \$40 dinner.) Non-golfers are encouraged to attend Wednesday evening's dinner.

Detach Here \_\_\_\_\_ Detach Here  
Carmel Valley Golf Event, May 17 and 18, 2017

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

No. of Golfers x 200 \_\_\_\_\_

Non-Golfers x \$40 \_\_\_\_\_

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](mailto:jbarstow@aol.com)



## New Branch 116 Members



Hank McDermott with Sponsor Al Zavatterro



Bob Campbell – Sponsor is Rudy Gebert



Sponsor Warren Garrison with Steve Sandoval



## Poker

Jerry Kaplan  
(mgkaplan@astound.net)

Poker Group 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.



## “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 missed our regular meeting in February but we are all set for our game in March. 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 March 8th.

We plan to have couples train in March as well. I will send out a notice to our regular train members during the early part of March. If you are interested and not on my list please call or email me so I can add your mane to the list.

You can contract Richard Madden, mad-denram@sbcglobal.net or 925.788.4223





## 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](http://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, 2<sup>nd</sup> place 2 and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](http://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.

### March 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
Wed. 31	10:00	Diablo Hills	D.McClaughry

### March 18-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Mon. 06	9:30	Sequoyah CC	Al Zavattero
Mon. 13	9:32	Boundary Oak	Marty Katz
Tue. 21	10:15	Rancho Solano	Marty Katz
Mon. 27	9:00	Callippe Preserve	Marty Katz

# 18-Hole Results

## Boundary Oak, Mon, Feb 13, 2017

Robbie Robinson, Official Scorer

<u>Flight 1</u>		<u>Flight 2</u>		<u>Flight 3</u>		<u>Flight 4</u>	
1st Jerry Hicks	72 3	1st Jim Barstow	70 3	1st Bernie Wroblewski	72 3	1st Robbie Robinson	73 3
2nd Fitzgerald, Alan	73 2	2nd Carlos Xavier	73 2	2nd Jed Daniel	74 2	2nd Jerry Christopherson	76 2
Tie 3rd Harris, David	74 1	Tie 3rd Frank Crua	74 1	Tie 3rd Pete Coggiola	76 1	Tie 3rd Bill Hemmelsbach	78 1
Tie 3rd Zavattero, Al	74 1	Tie 3rd Frank Portillo	74 1	Tie 3rd Kevin Donahue	76 1	Tie 3rd Fred Schafer	78 1
				Tie 3rd Marty Katz	76 1		
<u>Los Gross</u>		<u>Los Gross</u>		<u>Los Gross</u>		<u>Los Gross</u>	
Jerry Hicks	88	Jim Barstow	90	Bernie Wroblewski	98	Robbie Robinson	111
<u>Closest-to #2</u>		<u>Closest-to #2</u>		<u>Closest-to #2</u>		<u>Closest-to #2</u>	
Alan Fitzgerald		Frank Crua		Jed Daniel			

## Canyon Lakes CC, Mon, Jan 30, 2017

Pete Coggiola, Official Scorer

<u>Flight 1</u>		<u>Flight 2</u>		<u>Flight 3</u>		<u>Flight 4</u>	
1st Bill McCord	72 3	1st Jim Barstow	69 3	1st Bernie Wroblewski	67 3	Tie 1st Bill Hemmelsbach	74 3
Tie 2nd Al Zavattero	77 2	2nd John Story	70 2	2nd Bob Testa	73 2	Tie 1st Conrad Robertson	74 3
Tie 2nd Alan Fitzgerald	77 2	3rd Frank Portillo	72 1	3rd Terry Sherman	76 1	Tie 1st Robbie Robinson	74 3
<u>Los Gross</u>		<u>Los Gross</u>		<u>Los Gross</u>		<u>Los Gross</u>	
Jim Johnson	92	Jim Barstow	88	Bernie Wroblewski	94	Fred Schafer	110
Alan Fitzgerald	92						
<u>Closest-to #5</u>		<u>Closest-to #5</u>		<u>Closest-to #5</u>		<u>Closest-to #5</u>	
		Frank Portillo					

## 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 Robertson	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>Los Gross</u>		<u>Los Gross</u>		<u>Los Gross</u>		<u>Los Gross</u>	
Jerry Hicks	83	Don Schroeder	93	Dave Carlson	101	Robbie Robinson	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	

## 2017 18-Hole Leader Board

**First Half Leaders, January-June, 2017 (As of Boundary Oak on Feb. 13)**

<u>FLIGHT 1</u>		<u>FLIGHT 2</u>		<u>FLIGHT 3</u>		<u>FLIGHT 4</u>	
Name	Pts	Name	Pts	Name	Pts	Name	Pts
Bill McCord	6	John Story	8	David Carlson	6	Robbie Robinson	9
Al Zavattero	6	Jim Barstow	7	Bernie Wroblewski	6	Conrad Robertson	8
Jerry Hicks	6	Frank Crua	4	Bob Testa	4	Greg Hughes	5
Jim Johnson	4	Carlos Xavier	3	Kevin Donahue	3	Bill Hemmelsbach	4
Alan Fitzgerald	4	Don Schroeder	3	Jed Daniel	2	Fred Schafer	2
David Harris	2	Frank Portillo	2	Alex Lutkus	1	Jerry Christopherson	2
		Al Hutchko	1	Terry Sherman	1		
		Hugh Duggan	1	Pete Coggiola	1		



Jim Barstow and Marty Katz  
"Marshalling" at the AT&T  
Pebble Beach Pro-Am golf  
tournament in February

**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](mailto:branch116golf@gmail.com).

## 18-Hole Pay In Advance Deadlines

<u>Event Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Tuesday, March 21	Rancho Solano	Mar. 12	\$42
Monday, March 27	Callippe Preserve	Mar. 12	\$49
Monday, April 3	Lake Chabot	Mar. 24	\$27
Tuesday, April 18	Lone Tree	Apr. 08	\$38
Monday, April 24	Las Positas	Apr. 17	\$43

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).

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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.