



Trampas Topics

October, 2017

SIR Branch 116

Next Meeting: 11:30 am,
Monday, October 16, 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

What I did on My Summer Vacation - Continued



In last month's Big SIR Sayings, I briefly talked about a trip to France and Italy my wife Donna, my sister-in-law Adele, our friend Anne and I, took towards the latter part of July. I would do it again in a heartbeat. Only down side, for me at least, is the amount of time spent on an airplane. Those leg cramps creep in really quickly. Additionally, being half way across the globe, the flights are truly international. People from everywhere. That being said, as the child two rows behind me and to my left started sneezing at a pace of about every fifteen seconds, or so it seemed, I wondered how many germs that my body is not immune to would be filtered through the airplanes recirculation system.

Anyway, I turned my attention to the on-flight movies. I started off with Clash of the Titans, not the original Harry Hamlin version (the good one) but, an imposter remake. Made it about half way through. Then I chose what I call one of my "happy movies", none other than Mary Poppins, circa 1964. Great music, acting, plot, etc. So, in that part of the movie where Mary is trying to convince Michael and Jane Banks to clean their room, she makes the statement, "In every job that must be done, there is an element of fun. You find the fun and every job's a game". At this point I paused the movie, took off my headset, and drifted back to my working days. Wow, how many people did I come across who hated every minute of their jobs, and who couldn't or wouldn't find any fun in what they did. For whatever reason(s) people stop finding fun in their lives. A guy once told me that he had worked at his job for 35 years, hated every minute of it, and hated getting up in the mornings. What a way to go through life. I think I did a pretty good job of finding the fun in jobs, or at least trying. To steal some thunder from a famous Seven Dwarfs song, I learned to "Whistle While I Work". I'm a firm believer that if people don't find fun in their job, which consumes the majority of one's time, then they have a difficult time finding fun in anything. Everything becomes just a job. Life is too short to hate getting up every day. I'm only seventy years old and I can't believe how quickly life is going by!

Paul Ramacciotti, Big SIR

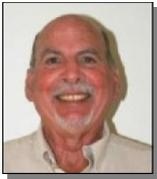


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PLEASE CALL 806-8874
or send an email to
snb49@outlook.com *by the*
Thursday prior to the
meeting to cancel your
standing reservation or to
bring a guest.

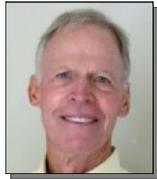
2017 SIR Branch 116 Officers & Directors



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



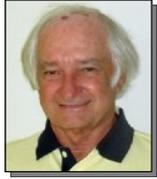
Asst.Treasurer 2
Al Satake
254-9589



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 | | 357-8273 |
| 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 | Lou Sandor | 944-1634 |
| \$ums in Retirement | Ben Smith | 820-5403 |
| Walking Tours | Alan Fitzgerald | 930-0449 |
| 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 | Don Murray | 837-9402 |
| 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

October 2017

| Sun. | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Sat. |
|------|--|---|---|--|--|------|
| 1 | 2 18-Hole Golf (9:30@ Blue Rock East GC) | 3 Duplicate Bridge (10:00 Diablo Valley Bridge Ctr.) | 4 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC) | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 18-Hole Golf (9:32@ Franklin Canyon GC) | 10 Luncheon Bridge (10:00 Diablo CC) | 11 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Diablo Hills GC) Mexican Train Dominos (10:00@ Church of Christ, WC) | 12 | 13 Hiking & Walking (8:15@ Alamo Trail Head, Stone Valley Rd.) | 14 |
| 15 | 16 SIR Br.116 Meeting (11:30@ Boundary Oak) | 17 18-Hole Golf (1:00@ Rossmoor CC) "Ladies Day" Bridge (11:30@ Diablo CC) Dine-O-SIR (6:00@ Brass Door, San Ramon) | 18 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Buchanan Fields) \$ums Investment (8:00@ Diablo Creek GC) | 19 Computer & Tech (9:30@ Elks Club) | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 18-Hole Golf (9:00@ Tilden Park GC) | 24 Luncheon Bridge (11:30@ Diablo CC) 18-Hole Golf (1:00@ Rossmoor CC) Dine-O-SIR (6:00@ Brass Door, San Ramon) | 25 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Brentwood CC) | 26 Fishing Group (8:30@ Legends-Diablo Crk) | 27 Hiking & Walking (8:15@ Pleasant Hill Rd & Olympic Trail Head) | 28 |
| 29 | 30 18-Hole Golf (GBD@ Oakhurst CC) Book Group (10:15@ Orinda Books) | 31  HALLOWEEN Luncheon Bridge (11:30@ Diablo CC) | | | | |





Br. 116 Treasurer's Report

Jim Nickels, Treasurer
(bjnickels@sbcglobal.net)

| | Sept. 2017 | 2017 YTD |
|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Contributions | \$ 4,033.91 | \$ 52,699.67 |
| Disbursements | \$ (5,437.33) | \$ (55,084.20) |
| Net (gain/(loss)) | \$ (1,403.42) | \$ (2,384.53) |
| Sept. 24th Cash Balance | | \$ 6,286.80 |

October Birthdays

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

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Jack Bevis | 9. Carl Langhorst |
| 2. Urs Christen | 10. Don Marini |
| 3. J. Christopherson | 11. Lee Medeiros |
| 4. Wayne Cook | 12. Ken Miller |
| 5. Jed Daniel | 13. Frank Portillo |
| 6. John Fraser | 14. Al Satake |
| 7. Dave Heck | 15. Dick Thomson |
| 8. Marty Katz | 16. Bob Wolf |



Membership

Phil Goff
(philgoff@yahoo.com)

SIR 116 Membership Status

Total Current Members: 212
 No New Members in September
 Resigned:
 Dudley Hattaway — Health issues
 Active to Inactive:
 Brent Chaney — Heart surgery
 Lee Dulac — Health issues

**Want a Free \$25 Lunch ?
Sponsor a New Member !**

October Meeting Lunch Menu



THE CLUBHOUSE

AT BOUNDARY OAK

SIR 116 Luncheon

October 16, 2017

Salad

Gorgonzola Salad

Baby Field Greens, Julienned Pears, Blue Cheese, Candied Pecans

Champagne Vinaigrette

Entrees

Pork Milanese

Panko Breaded Pork Loin, Whipped Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables Lemon

Butter Sauce

Or

Alaskan Sole

Flour Dusted Sole, Rice Pilaf, Seasonal Vegetables Roasted Tomato Butter

Sauce

Or

Vegetarian Option

Stuffed Sweet Potatoes

Wild Mushroom Ragout, Seasonal Vegetables, Red Pepper Coulis

Dessert

Chocolate Hazelnut Cake

Raspberry Sauce and Vanilla Whipped Cream

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

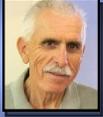
Trampas Topics Submissions



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



Meeting Attendance

Sam Beret

(luncheon116@gmail.com)

September 18, 2017 Meeting Attendance

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Active Members: | 215 |
| Guests/Visitors: | 1 |
| Transfers & Inductees: | 0 |
| Speakers: | 1 |
| Members Excused: | 55 |
| Excused due to long term illness: | 7 |
| Members NOT excused: | 3 |
| Total Attendance: | 152 |

Members not excused will be asked to pay for their missed lunch.



Join the New Speakers Committee

Your Board wanted to spread the wealth of selecting our Meeting speakers to a Committee which will continue to be led by the Little SIR. Meeting speakers are an extremely important Branch activity. Not only do they make our meetings more enjoyable but they are also a valuable resource for recruiting new members.

The committee workload should be light and helping will be an enjoyable contribution. If you wish to help on the committee, or if you have ideas for speakers, contact Jerry Hicks at jerry-hicks@astound.net or cell 925-360-0447.

SIR Website Addresses

SIR 116 Web Site (With new design)
branch116.org

Branch 116 Golf
branch116golf.org

Computer and Technology
a2cat.sirinc2.org/

SIR Happenings State Newsletter
sirinc.org/sirhappenings

State SIR Web Site
sirinc.org/



Meeting Speaker

Little SIR Marty Katz

(dagobuildr@comcast.net)

Fellow SIRS, put on your imagination and let your mind go free. Because, we have a Special Guest performing for us.

FUMBLE FINGERS THE ASTONISHING

Be prepared to be amazed and entertained by this Astonishing Magician.

He will be our October 16 Speaker.

See you all there.

\$ums Investment Group

Tom Henry (Branch 174)

(tomh925@icloud.com)

The Area 16 \$ums In Retirement investment group meets at 8:00 a.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month (except November when we meet on the third Wednesday and December when there is no meeting) at the Diablo Creek Golf Course in Concord, off Port Chicago Highway. The Legends restaurant opens at 7:00 a.m. so plan to have a leisurely breakfast along with your fellow members. Bring along a prospective member or two to hear this very timely talk and see what the Investment Group offers as an activity. Let me know if you are bringing a guest so we can acknowledge them. Let's support the restaurant and its excellent staff. Occasionally we will ask for a \$2.00 donation which we need to pay for items that come up. Please make sure that you all support us in this regard.

Our speaker for our next meeting, **October 18**, will be a representative of the Law Office of Robert W. Ash in Grass Valley. The discussion will be about estate preservation if a spouse requires nursing care.



Poker

Lou Sandor

(lsandor@astound.net)

Contact Lou Sandor at 925-944-1634 or lsandor@astound.net if you are interested in joining the Poker group



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, October 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.

The best ocean salmon season in years is winding down as the silvery rascals head upstream. Still some action for bigguns north of the gate, and smaller ones out of Half Moon Bay. Enjoying this salmon bonanza were: Bob Stein, Stan Wong, Brion Beetz, Steve Paulick, Ben Lasala Pedro Contreras, and Carl Moyer. Rockfish and ling cod from the ocean cooperated for Tom Anders, Dick Thomson, Gordon Linebaugh, Carl Moyer, Rich Fiscina, Paul Dubow, Phil Scimonelli, Gordon Linebaugh, and Stan Wong. Stan also fished Eagle and Almanor Lakes for some slow trout fishing, but he fared much better on the upper Stanislaus River playing catch and release with lots of them. Don Mittlesteadt caught and released a huge 31 inch rainbow trout, HUGE! He also travelled to Christmas Island and had a great time with bonefish on a fly rod. Brion Beetz caught some leopard sharks from SF Bay. Tom Kostik tried the Klamath River for salmon with no luck, but continued his efforts for black bass in the delta. Karl Droese and Ken Konzak caught some big salmon upriver on the Sacramento. Ernie Wong fly fished Mammoth and Crowley lakes with limited success. Romano Gnusti and Karl Droese caught some yahoo and dorado from the Sea Of Cortez. Paul Dubow had a great outing at Lake Tahoe with a guide jigging for lake trout. And Ken Konzak attended a class on fly casting with spey gear, very different.

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



Book Exchange

John Fraser & Dick Kauffman

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



Everyone is invited to visit the book exchange in the room adjacent to the bar. We have a wide variety of books for you to borrow and read. We welcome your contribution of books you have read and enjoyed. No rules! Please enjoy



Br. 116 Book Group

Rich Black

(blackrw41@comcast.net)

"City of Thieves" by David Benioff

The Book Group met on Monday, 25 August, 2017 to discuss "City of Thieves" by David Benioff, a tale of quest, adventure, extreme deprivation and coming of age set during the 1942-45 siege of Leningrad. Perhaps because of the true hell of the times, the story seemed overwhelmingly engrossing. Jerry Cunningham recommended the book while Rich Black led the discussion. Other participants were Bob Wolf, Joel White, Al Farberman, Garret Girvin, Joe Cain, John Riordan, Steve Bort, Art Donaldson, Paul Freitas, Dick Kaufman, Richard White and John Kopchik. The group awarded the book a hearty 4.27 stars.

On Monday, 23 October, the group will meet to discuss "The Undoing Project; A Friendship that Changed our Minds" by Michael Lewis. Meetings are at 10:15 at Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, Orinda, California.

What is the secret password?

Did you know that you can get the latest, and most up to date, Branch roster via our web site? The roster, can be found under the "Member Info" tab on our Branch web site, and is password protected for security. If you don't know or can't remember the password, it is mentioned each month at our Lunch Meeting. You can also get the password by contacting our Membership Secretary Phil Goff.

The SIR Br. 116 Web Site address is: branch116.org



Activity Chair

Jerry Christopherson
(jchris161k@aol.com)

The ticket booths are now open!!

What for? The fabuloso Dinner Dance at the Clubhouse at Boundary Oak!

When? **Wednesday, December 13th 5:00 - 10:30 pm**

Look for the reservation form on page 10 in this month's Trampas Topics. Fill it out and mail it in with your check. You can also sign up at the October SIR Meeting.

This year we have tables of 10. Call your nearest and dearest...

And don't forget....Santa is watching you!



Bridge

Jon Dickson
(still26@sbcglobal.net)

Join us for lunch & bridge on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month for a good afternoon of bridge at Diablo Country Club. Starts at 11:30 AM, lasting the afternoon.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17TH IS "LADIES DAY"

Get a partner, can be two men or two women, just a bridge partner. Lunch & bridge, cost of \$30 each, choice of salmon, chicken or vegetarian. Call Jon Dickson, 837-1178 to reserve a spot. Hope to see you at bridge!



Sunshine Report

Matt Arena
(marena@astound.net)

SIR **Ron Lehot** passed away on 9/13/2017 from cancer. Ron had been a long and faithful member of the Branch. He enjoyed his golf even when he was not at his best physically.

SIR **Dennis Perry** passed away last month following a long illness. He had left the Branch due to medical reasons. While a member he enjoyed the bridge program with many of his friends.

SIR **Pete Streich** who was suffering from dementia passed away on 9/12/2017. Pete had left the branch after his health had declined.

These losses will be felt by the men who were their close friends.

PAST Big Sir **Ken Miller** found himself in John Muir Medical center followed by a short stay at a rehab center. He is now at home regaining his strength. We look for his return to our monthly luncheons.

SIR **Tim Dorr** is working at getting more ambulatory. He is using a walker which gets him around just fine. It has been a long spell since he was able to join us for lunch. Perhaps he can shoot for next year.

We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.

Winston Churchill

In Memoriam Ron Leschot

March 12, 1933 — September 13, 2017





Hiking & Walking

Joel White

(zpz2mrz@gmail.com)

The Friday September 8 walk led by Joel White, traced the Contra Costa Canal Trail from Arbolado Park along Boundary Oak golf course in Walnut Creek to the Ygnatio tunnel. Starting in a slightly cool overcast, the walk concluded as the sun emerged to rapid warming. Richard Black and Donna Argenbright, Joe Cain, Alan and Linda Chasnoff, Paul and Ana Freitas, David and Colleen Geary, Dan and Andrea Green, John and Gail Riordan, Dennis Snarr (and friendly dog Reilly), Joel and Susan White, and Bob Wolf all enjoyed the walk following which we convened at Denica's restaurant for enjoyable conversation and edibles.

The Friday September 22 walk commenced at the Lafayette Community Center. Led by Richard White, it proceeded North on the Moraga-Lafayette Trail. The post walk convocation was at the Starbucks on Mt. Diablo Blvd. in Lafayette.

The **Friday October 13** walk will be led by Paul Freitas. Meet at 8:15am at the Alamo Trail Head of the Iron Horse Trail, just west of the Stone Valley Road exit from 680, on Stone Valley Road. RSVP to Paul: pmfreitas@pacbell.net.

The **Friday October 27** walk will be led by Dan Green. Meet at 8:15 am in the parking lot at the intersection of Pleasant Hill Road and Olympic Blvd. (near the round about) and we will walk back towards Lafayette on the Lafayette-Moraga trail. After the walk we will gather at Starbucks on Mt. Diablo Blvd (near El Charro) in Lafayette across from the fire station. Note: if the Starbucks lot is full, we are allowed to park at the next door El Charro until 11 AM. Please RSVP to Dan: as-dgreen1210@comcast.net.

All walks are with or without significant others. The significant other/spouse is also invited to participate even when the member is unable. Also, members and/or spouses are invited to join the post walk convocation even if they are unable to participate in a particular walk.

Those from other SIR branches wishing to join this mellow group, or to be added to the e-mail contact list, should contact Joel White (zpz2mrz@yahoo.com, 925-964-0994)



"Dine-O-SIR" Dinner Group

Ben Smith

(bjsssmith@aol.com)

The Brass Door Restaurant

Tuesday, October 17 & 24, 2017

We will be having another fantastic Dine-O-SIR event in October. It will be a two night event at the Brass Door Restaurant in San Ramon (2154 San Ramon Valley Blvd.) The menu will be:

Starter— Mixed Green Salad served with Italian or Blue Cheese dressing.

Choice of:

1. **Roast Prime Rib of Beef**— Served with Au Jus, horseradish sauce, creamed spinach and baked potato with all the trimmings
2. **New York Steak**— With baked potato and all the trimmings
3. **Chicken Picatta**— Boneless chicken breast, lemon butter sauce with capers and mashed potato
4. **Fresh Fish Daily Catch**— Best available mild white fish with mashed potato

All above dishes served with fresh vegetables, coffee & tea on request

Dessert— Choice of ice cream or bread pudding

Dinner cost is \$34/person— All inclusive and no host bar.

To signup, send you money and preferences to Ben Smith at 1837 Lackland Dr., Alamo, CA 94506.

Send a not to the email address above to get ad-



Wine Appreciation Group

Jack Bevis

(jackb435@comcast.net)

Our next wine appreciation event will be held on September 28th.

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.



Walking Tours

Alan Fitzgerald

(galan.fitzgerald@gmail.com)

SF Cable Car Museum

The next Saturday Tour will take place on **October 21**. We will visit the San Francisco Cable Car Museum (www.cablecarmuseum.org). We will meet at the corner of Mason and Washington at 10:30. The tour is free. There is a ramp and elevator available. Bart to the Embarcadero, take the California cable car to Mason Street stop and walk 3 blocks North. (Note: You can use your Clipper Card on the Cable Car)



Computer & Technology

Neil Schmidt

(SIR.Area2.CAT@gmail.com)

The Area 16 Computer and Technology Group [formerly A2CAT] announces that our next meeting will be at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge on **Thursday, October 19, 2017** starting at 9:30 am, but come early for coffee, goodies, and chat. Sirs from all branches and their guests are welcome and invited to attend.

The October topic will be "*YouTube - How can it help you?*" by Tom Howard. Tom will examine different types of YouTube content, how to find what you are looking for as well as how you can post your own YouTube stuff.

We look forward to seeing you 9:15 AM, Thursday, October 19, at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Drive. 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 our October meeting is another one of those! All SIR members and their guests (spouses included!) are welcome to attend. See you there.



"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 started with eight players and Gary Bonfiglio joined us in the middle of the game making our total nine. As you can see we made an exception with the number playing since we had nine players. We were able to play well with this number. Kirk McVean was the winner and since I misplaced the scores his score will go unrecorded. Our group also included Paul Freitas, Alex Lutkus, Richard Madden, John Riordan, Robbie Robinson, and Harry Sherinian and Bob Wolf.

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 October 11th.

There is nothing new to report on Couples Train for August as it was reported last month. Our next Couples event scheduled for October will have to be coordinated by someone else in our group as my wife and I will be traveling.

I will be sending out notices. Let me know if you would like to be put on our list.



THE 2017 EDITION OF SIR BRANCH 116'S

CHRISTMAS DINNER DANCE !

Wednesday, December 13, 2017 – 5:00 to 10:30PM

The Clubhouse at Boundary Oak

3800 Valley Vista Road, Walnut Creek 94598

5:00- 6:00 Registration and No Host Bar

6:00- 7:00 Entertainment/Brief Business Meeting

7:00-10:30 Dinner/Door Prizes/Dancing

Choice of Entree @\$53.00 per person:

Vegetable Wellington

Grilled Marinated Bistro Filet

Pan Seared Salmon with Ginger Salsa

Includes salad, seasonal vegetables and dessert

CHRISTMAS DINNER DANCE - Boundary Oak - 12/13/2017

RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 4, 2017

(Circle entrée choice)

NAME: _____

Salmon Filet Veggie

NAME: _____

Salmon Filet Veggie

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: SIR Branch 116 (\$53.00 Per Person)

MAIL CHECK TO: Lou Sandor, 581 Cesar Court, Walnut Creek, CA 94598-2228

I WOULD LIKE TO RESERVE A TABLE WITH THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE: (tables of ten)

2017 Carson City Golfing Getaway Photo Review





SIR Travel

By Don Murray, Travel Chairman
(dmurray721@comcast.net)

Some SIR Travel Opportunities Include:

Oct 7, 2017: Fleet Week San Francisco Belle. The Belle is a San Francisco landmark and this 292-foot sternwheeler features Art nouveau style on all three enclosed levels plus a spacious sun deck and three full wrap around decks for fantastic viewing of the Blue Angels. She will depart at 11:30 am and return at 6:30 pm. Cost is \$144.00 p/p which includes r/t motorcoach, cruise the Bay, reserved seating, hosted hot buffet lunch, music entertainment, driver gratuity and special viewing of Blue Angel Show. Milt Smith, Br. 146, 925-280-0328.

Oct 20, 2017: SIR Day @ the Races. This is a fantastic opportunity for some fun at the track interacting with other SIR groups. The package costs \$41.00 and includes, valet parking, admission and reserved seating, daily race program, Turf Club buffet and tax/tips. Contact Milt Smith, Br 146, 925-280-0328.

Nov 2-9, 2017: Branson, Bentonville & Beyond. Wine, Dine and Yacht with Branson entertainers and see the beautiful scenery and historic sites of the Northwest Arkansas.

Tour includes: RT Air, 7 nights Deluxe Hotel, Professional Guide, Deluxe Motorcoach, 17 meals, admission to attractions and taxes and baggage. Tom Duncanson, Br 20, Santa Cruz, 831-662-8605.

Dec 29-Jan 2, 2018: Rose Parade New Years Making a difference. A way to honor and celebrate all of the people in our communities. RT air, 4 nights hotel, 7 meals, deluxe Motorcoach, Professional escorts. Reserved seating at the 129th Annual Tournament of Roses Parade with many tour options included. Joe Salamida, Br 54, 408-767-2838 or Archie Beloglovski, 408-253-3956.

Dec 29- Jan 2, 2018: New Year's in Memphis at New Graceland Guest House. Highlights include 4 nights at the New Graceland Guest House, Gala New Year's Eve Dinner, Tour of Graceland, Rock n Soul Museum, Memphis Music Hall of Fame, The Cotton Museum, Lorraine Motel & Nat'l Civil Rights Museum. Fabulous Memphis Farewell Dinner & entertainment. Tom Duncanson, Br 20, Santa Cruz, 831-662-8605.

Jan 12-22, 2018 Cruising the Mexican Riviera. A 10 night cruise from SF on the Grand Princess with ports of call in Puerto Vallarta, Manzanillo, Mazatlan, Cabo San Lucas and back to SF. Cost ranges from \$1565 to \$2375 depending on cabin and includes all taxes and fees, all tipping for drivers, pre trip orientation, home pick up and return and all shipboard meals. Rollo Parsons Br.141, 408-268-5245 or Bdrian Serpa, 408-227-7658.

Feb 8-16,2018: Tropical Costa Rica. Highlights of this trip include, air, insurance, 13 meals, gratuities and guides.You will vist the unique ecosystem of the Monteverde Cloud Forest, the Doka Coffee Estate, the Arenal Volcano The Cano Negro Nature Preserve and much more. Cost is \$3299. Jim Stoner, Br 114, 408-238-8458 or Larry Martinson, 408-528-0746.

Apr 4-14, 2018: Tulip Time in Holland. A 7 night Cruise R/T to Amsterdam aboard AMA Waterways. Celebrate the beauty of the Netherlands and Belgium in the springtime. You will visit the legendary Keukenhof Gardens, and pass colorful row houses and houseboats, See Ann Franks home then indulge in culinary bliss via Belgium chocolates and stroopwafel. Cost ranges from \$4830.00 to \$6195.00 based on cabin choice and includes complimentary bikes, unlimited complimentary fine dining and wines, all guides, gratuities and taxes, R/T air, choice of excursions, and riverview state-rooms or suites. John Pletsch, Br.32, 408-274-2992 or Mike Console, 408-246-1080.



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.

October 9-Hole Schedule

| Date | Time | Location | Organizer |
|---------|-------|-----------------|--------------|
| Wed. 05 | 10:00 | Buchanan Fields | Dick Chaffee |
| Wed. 12 | 10:00 | Diablo Hills | D.McClaughry |
| Wed. 19 | 10:00 | Buchanan Fields | Dick Chaffee |
| Wed. 26 | 10:00 | Brentwood | Skip Berkson |
| Wed. 30 | 10:00 | Diablo Hills | D.McClaughry |

October 18-Hole Schedule

| Date | Time | Location | Organizer |
|----------|------|-----------------|---------------|
| Mon. 02 | 9:30 | Blue Rock East | Don Schroeder |
| Mon. 09 | 9:30 | Franklin Canyon | Don Schroeder |
| Tues. 17 | 1:00 | Rossmoor | Don Schroeder |
| Mon. 23 | 9:00 | Tilden Park | Don Schroeder |
| Mon. 30 | TBD | Oakhurst | Don Schroeder |

18-Hole Results

Paradise Valley, Mon, Sep 25, 2017

Mel Williams, Official Scorer

| <u>Flight 1</u> | | | <u>Flight 2</u> | | | <u>Flight 3</u> | | | <u>Flight 4</u> | | |
|----------------------------|----|---|------------------------|----|---|------------------------|----|---|-----------------------|----|---|
| Tie 1st Alan Fitzgerald | 68 | 3 | Tie 1st Terry Grummitt | 67 | 3 | 1st Dave Carlson | 63 | 3 | 1st Robbie Robinson | 61 | 3 |
| Tie 1st Denny Giambastiani | 68 | 3 | Tie 1st Al Hutchko | 67 | 3 | 2nd Marty Katz | 67 | 2 | 2nd Phil Jenkins | 67 | 2 |
| 3rd Mel Williams | 69 | 1 | 3rd Jim Clizbe | 69 | 1 | Tie 3rd Alex Lutkus | 69 | 1 | 3rd Conrad Robertson | 70 | 1 |
| | | | | | | Tie 3rd Richard Madden | 69 | 1 | | | |
| <u>Low Gross</u> | | | <u>Low Gross</u> | | | <u>Low Gross</u> | | | <u>Low Gross</u> | | |
| Denny Giambastiani | 80 | | Terry Grummitt | 93 | | Dave Carlson | 91 | | Robbie Robinson | 97 | |
| <u>Closest-to #15</u> | | | <u>Closest-to #15</u> | | | <u>Closest-to #15</u> | | | <u>Closest-to #15</u> | | |
| Mel Williams | | | | | | Alex Lutkus | | | | | |

Rancho Solano, Tue, Sep 19, 2017

Phil Jenkins, Official Scorer

| <u>Flight 1</u> | | | <u>Flight 2</u> | | | <u>Flight 3</u> | | | <u>Flight 4</u> | | |
|-----------------------|----|---|-----------------------|----|---|-----------------------|----|---|-----------------------|-----|---|
| 1st Jim Johnson | 68 | 3 | 1st Al Hutchko | 73 | 3 | 1st Bernie Wroblewski | 69 | 3 | 1st Robbie Robinson | 71 | 3 |
| 2nd Mel Williams | 71 | 2 | Tie 2nd Jim Barstow | 74 | 2 | 2nd Kevin Donahue | 71 | 2 | 2nd Carl Langhorst | 79 | 2 |
| 3rd Phil Goff | 73 | 1 | Tie 2nd Don Schroeder | 74 | 2 | 3rd Bob Testa | 73 | 1 | 3rd Conrad Robertson | 80 | 1 |
| <u>Low Gross</u> | | | <u>Low Gross</u> | | | <u>Low Gross</u> | | | <u>Low Gross</u> | | |
| Jim Johnson | 84 | | Don Schroeder | 92 | | Bernie Wroblewski | 92 | | Robbie Robinson | 107 | |
| <u>Closest-to #15</u> | | | <u>Closest-to #15</u> | | | <u>Closest-to #15</u> | | | <u>Closest-to #15</u> | | |
| Jim Johnson | | | Terry Grummitt | | | Bob Testa | | | | | |

Boundary Oak, Mon, Sep 11, 2017

Alex Lutkus, Official Scorer

| <u>Flight 1</u> | | | <u>Flight 2</u> | | | <u>Flight 3</u> | | | <u>Flight 4</u> | | |
|-----------------------|----|---|-----------------------|----|---|-----------------------|----|---|-----------------------|-----|---|
| 1st Phil Goff | 69 | 3 | 1st Jim Barstow | 70 | 3 | 1st Terry Sherman | 66 | 3 | 1st Phil Jenkins | 69 | 3 |
| 2nd Alan Fitzgerald | 70 | 2 | Tie 2nd Jim Clizbe | 71 | 2 | Tie 2nd Pete Coggiola | 71 | 2 | 2nd Carl Langhorst | 71 | 2 |
| Tie 3rd David Harris | 71 | 1 | Tie 2nd Al Hutchko | 71 | 2 | Tie 2nd Phil Perrelli | 71 | 2 | 3rd Matt Arena | 72 | 1 |
| Tie 3rd Harry Oberle | 71 | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>Low Gross</u> | | | <u>Low Gross</u> | | | <u>Low Gross</u> | | | <u>Low Gross</u> | | |
| Phil Goff | 82 | | Jim Barstow | 89 | | Terry Sherman | 98 | | Phil Jenkins | 104 | |
| <u>Closest-to #12</u> | | | <u>Closest-to #12</u> | | | <u>Closest-to #12</u> | | | <u>Closest-to #12</u> | | |
| Mel Williams | | | Don Schroeder | | | Marty Katz | | | | | |

Diablo Creek, Tue, Sep 5, 2017

Al Hutchko, Official Scorer

| <u>Flight 1</u> | | | <u>Flight 2</u> | | | <u>Flight 3</u> | | | <u>Flight 4</u> | | |
|----------------------|----|---|------------------------|----|---|-----------------------|----|---|--------------------------|-----|---|
| 1st Alan Fitzgerald | 65 | 3 | 1st Jim Barstow | 72 | 3 | 1st Marty Katz | 70 | 3 | 1st Jerry Christopherson | 75 | 3 |
| 2nd Phil Goff | 74 | 2 | Tie 2nd Terry Grummitt | 75 | 2 | Tie 2nd Kevin Donahue | 77 | 2 | 2nd Matt Arena | 77 | 2 |
| 3rd Al Zattero | 75 | 1 | Tie 2nd Al Hutchko | 75 | 2 | Tie 2nd Alex Lutkus | 77 | 2 | 3rd Carl Langhorst | 78 | 1 |
| | | | Tie 2nd Don Schroeder | 75 | 2 | | | | | | |
| <u>Low Gross</u> | | | <u>Low Gross</u> | | | <u>Low Gross</u> | | | <u>Low Gross</u> | | |
| Alan Fitzgerald | 82 | | Jim Barstow | 91 | | Marty Katz | 97 | | Jerry Christopherson | 111 | |
| <u>Closest-to #7</u> | | | <u>Closest-to #7</u> | | | <u>Closest-to #7</u> | | | <u>Closest-to #7</u> | | |
| Phil Goff | | | Al Hutchko | | | Dave Carlson | | | | | |

18-Hole Second Half Leaders, July-December 2017 (As of Paradise Valley, Mon, Sep 25, 2017)

| <u>FLIGHT 1</u> | | <u>FLIGHT 2</u> | | <u>FLIGHT 3</u> | | <u>FLIGHT 4</u> | |
|--------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|-------------------|-----|----------------------|-----|
| Name | Pts | Name | Pts | Name | Pts | Name | Pts |
| Phil Goff | 17 | Al Hutchko | 21 | Marty Katz | 12 | Robbie Robinson | 20 |
| Alan Fitzgerald | 12 | Jim Barstow | 12 | Alex Lutkus | 11 | Bill Hemmelsbach | 12 |
| Denny Giambastiani | 11 | Terry Grummitt | 12 | Terry Sherman | 9 | Matt Arena | 9 |
| Jim Johnson | 10 | Don Schroeder | 11 | Bernie Wroblewski | 9 | Phil Jenkins | 8 |
| Mel Williams | 9 | Gary Boswell | 9 | Bob Testa | 8 | Jerry Christopherson | 7 |
| David Harris | 7 | Jim Clizbe | 9 | Kevin Donahue | 8 | Carl Langhorst | 7 |
| Michael Barrington | 5 | Hugh Duggan | 5 | Pete Coggiola | 6 | Conrad Robertson | 7 |
| Al Zavattero | 5 | Randy Welker | 4 | Dave Carlson | 6 | Ron Armijo | 3 |
| Jerry Hicks | 3 | Hank Mc Dermott | 3 | Phil Perrelli | 4 | Wayne Cook | 3 |
| Harry Oberle | 3 | Carlos Xavier | 3 | Richard Madden | 4 | Fred Schafer | 3 |
| Bill Clark | 2 | Andy Benz | 2 | Jim Nickels | 3 | Mike Schneider | 2 |
| | | Sam Beret | 1 | Al Satake | 3 | | |
| | | | | Jim Videle | 2 | | |
| | | | | Dick Chaffee | 2 | | |
| | | | | Kirk McVean | 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> |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Monday, October 9 | Franklin Canyon | Oct. 02 | \$27 |
| Tuesday, October 17 | Rossmoor | Oct. 10 | \$43 ride, \$30 walk |
| Monday, October 23 | Tilden Park | Oct. 13 | \$35 |
| Monday, October 30 | Oakhurst CC | Oct. 20 | \$49 |
| Monday, November 6 | Berkeley CC | Oct. 23 | \$50 |

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.