



SIR Branch 116
Trampas Topics
 Newsletter
 February, 2018

Next Meeting: 11:30 am
 Monday, February 19, 2018
 Boundary Oak, 3800 Valley
 Vista Rd., Walnut Creek

A Nonprofit Public Benefit Organization for Men Enjoying Active Retirement

Sayings of 2018 Big Sir Marty Katz

Thank you all for a wonderful first meeting of 2018.

THE MISSION OF SIR IS TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF OUR MEMBERS THROUGH FUN ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS – WHILE MAKING FRIENDS FOR LIFE.



SIR is popular because it is successful in providing socialization opportunities for men retired from full time gainful occupation. A range of activities is needed to appeal to all retirees. Our survivability challenge is to remain healthy and vital as our members advance in years .

Thank you to Alex Lutkus and his fine group for a Wonderful Sunday Champagne Brunch. A Great time of Friendship and Mamos’s, maybe to many Mamos’s. Another big shout out to Jerry Hicks our new Little SIR. He got the correct numbers in the Raffle, the Birthday Boys for Nov., Dec., and Jan. all got a Free SIRS Lunch. Best of all was Jerry’s first speaker, Monica Sanders with First Tee. Those that received free putting lessons. I expect big results on the Greens. I still say the USGA has downsized the circumference of the hole.

Gentlemen, we need your help. Little SIR Jerry Hicks and I were talking and we feel that assistants are needed for our various groups. Chairman you all are doing a great job. This is to stop Burn Out, perhaps Sickness or perhaps you move. The assistant will be prepared to advance and take over. Continuity is vital to our success. If interested please contact myself, Jerry or the committee Chair you wish to partake in. **WE NEED YOU!**

Finally, at Branch 116 we will be embracing **RAMP**, Recruitment, Activities, Member Relations, Publicity and Nominating appointees. Our Little SIR Jerry Hicks will be running this vitally important program. Let’s all embrace and partake in this critically important program. This will guarantee we all will have these wonderful 3rd Monday meeting and lunch to come to.

For when the one great scorer comes to write against your name. He writes not whether you won or lost – But how you played the game.

My best to you all, Branch 116

Marty Katz, Big SIR

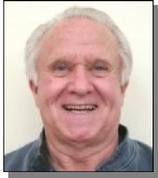


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PLEASE CALL 322-1318
 or email to
luncheon116@gmail.com
 by the Monday prior to
 the meeting to cancel your
 standing reservation or to
 bring a guest.

2018 SIR Branch 116 Officers & Directors



Big SIR
Marty Katz
484-0122



Little SIR
Jerry Hicks
945-7465



Secretary
Fred Schafer
648-4199



Assist.Secretary
Dave Williams
216-6048



Treasurer
Jim Nickels
210-1512



Asst.Treasurer 1
Bob Shader
939-8421



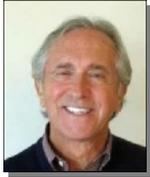
Asst.Treasurer 2
Al Satake
254-9589



Member.Sec.
Phil Goff
831-3692



Director
Norm Alberts
837-4074



Director
Peter Coggiola
820-1518



Director
David Harris
672-5543



Director
Al Hutchko
827-9130



Director
Paul Ramacciotti
229-2564



Director
Harry Sherinian
846-7067

2018 Activity Chairmen

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| • Book Group | Rich Black |
| • Book Exchange | John Fraser |
| • " " | Dick Kauffman |
| • Bridge | Jon Dickson |
| • Computer & Tech. | Neil Schmidt |
| • Dine-O-SIR | Alex Lutkus |
| • Duplicate Bridge | Conrad Robertson |
| • Fishing | Harry Sherinian |
| • Golf-18 Hole | Bernie Wroblewski |
| • " " Asst. | Jim Johnson |
| • Golf-9 Hole | Dick Chaffee |
| • " " Asst. | Darrell Mclaughry |
| • " " Asst. | Skip Berkson |
| • Golf - Reno | Paul Ramacciotti |
| • Golf - Carmel | Jim Barstow |
| • Hiking & Walking | Joel White |
| • " " Asst. | John Riordan |
| • Mexican Train | Richard Madden |
| • " " Asst. | Alex Lutkus |
| • Parties | J. Christopherson |
| • Poker | Lou Sandor |
| • \$ums in Retirement | Ben Smith |
| • Walking Tours | Alan Fitzgerald |
| • Wine Appreciation | Lou Meylan |

Some Other SIR Area 16 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

2018 Support Chairmen

RAMP Committees (or Chairmen or Departments)

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| • Recruitment | To Be Named |
| • Activities | Norm Alberts |
| • Member Relations | Bob Donohue |
| • Publicity | Allan Chasnoff |

2018 Support Chairmen:

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| • Audit Committee | Ron Armijo |
| • Nominating Committee | Paul Ramacciotti |
| • Sunshine Committee | Matt Arena |
| • Travel Committee | Don Murray |

Luncheon Support Committee:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| • Attendance | Kevin Donohue |
| • Audio Visual | Neil Schmidt |
| • Chaplain Committee | Various |
| • Greeters Committee | Paul Ramacciotti |
| • Raffle Committee | Don Schroeder |
| • Speakers Committee | Jerry Hicks |
| • Storytellers Committee | Various |

Recruitment Committee

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| • Recruitment Materials | To Be Named |
| • Guest packet | To Be Named |
| • Interviewer | Max Foust |

Membership Relations Committee

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| • Computer Support | Neil Schmidt |
| • Email Contact | Phil Goff |
| • Membership Roster | George Pryhuber |

SIR Branch 116 Activity Calendar

February 2018

Sun.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
				1	2	3
						
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Super Bowl	18-Hole Golf * (9:32@ Boundary Oak GC)	Duplicate Bridge (9:00 Diablo Villy. Bridge Ctr)	9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC)		Hiking & Walking (8:15@ Locomotive near Martinez Regional Shoreline Park)	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18-Hole Golf (9:32@ Boundary Oak GC)	Luncheon Bridge (11:30@ Diablo CC)	 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Diablo Hills GC)	Computer & Tech (9:30@ Elks Club)		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	SIR BR. 116 MEETING (11:30 @ Boundary Oak) President's Day Holiday	18-Hole Golf (9:30@ San Ramon GC)	9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC)	Fishing Group (8:30@ Legends-Diablo Crk)	Hiking & Walking (8:15@ Lafayette Christian Community Church Parking Lot)	
25	26	27	28			
	18-Hole Golf (9:00@ Long Tree GC) Book Group (10:15@ Orinda Books)	Luncheon Bridge (9:30@ Diablo CC)	9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Brentwood GC) \$ums Investment (8:00@ Diablo Creek GC)			

* 18-Hole Golf Special Event





Br. 116 Treasurer's Report

Jim Nickels, Treasurer
(bjnickels@sbcglobal.net)

	Jan. 2017	2017 YTD
Contributions	\$ 6,011.02	\$ 6,011.02
Disbursements	\$ (5,266.89)	\$ (5,266.89)
Net (gain/(loss))	\$ 744.13	\$ 744.13
Jan. 31st Cash Balance		\$ 8,877.10



Membership

Phil Goff
(philgoff@yahoo.com)

SIR 116 Membership Status

- Total Current Members: 213
- No New Members in January
- Inactive to Active:
Brent Chaney



Meeting Attendance

Kevin Donahue
(luncheon116@gmail.com)

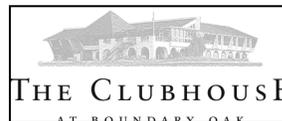
January 15, 2017 Meeting Attendance

Active Members:	214
Guests/Visitors:	3
Transfers & Inductees:	0
Speakers:	1
Members Excused:	31
Excused due to long term illness:	7
Members NOT excused:	10
Total Attendance:	170
% of Active Members in Attendance	78%

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

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

February Lunch Menu



SIRS 116 Luncheon February 2018

Salad

Quinoa Salad

Butter Lettuce, Tomatoes, Cucumbers, Feta Cheese
Red Wine Vinaigrette

Entrees

Pork Chop

Oven Roasted Pork Chop, Garlic Mashed Potatoes
Seasonal Vegetables
Port Wine Sauce & Applesauce

Or

Sesame Crusted Alaskan Cod

Rice Pilaf, Seasonal Vegetables, Tomato Butter Sauce

Or

Vegetable Wellington

Sautéed Spinach, Mushrooms, Roasted Bell Peppers,
Ricotta Cheese Wrapped In Puff Pastry, Red Pepper
Coulis & Balsamic Reduction

Dessert

Chocolate Truffle Cake

Vanilla Frosting, Cookie Crumbles, Raspberry Coulis

February Birthdays

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

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



Hiking & Walking

Joel White

(zpz2mrz@gmail.com)

The first walk of the New Year on Friday, January 12, was led by Joel White along the foggy Contra Costa Canal trail from Arbolado Drive along Boundary Oaks golf course, the fastest among us transiting the Ygnacio tunnel. Rich Black and Donna Argenbright, Gary Bonfiglio, Art and Mary Alice Donaldson, Al Farbman, Paul and Anna Freitas, David and Colleen Geary, and Joel and Susan white enjoyed the walk with coffee and conversation at Denica's afterwards.

The Friday January 26 walk, led by Don Murray, met at Osage Station Park in Danville and walked south on the iron horse trail, again in the fog. Walkers today were Rich Black and Donna Arganbright, Steve Bort, Paul and Anna Freitas, David and Colleen Geary, Don Murray, Essie Naddaf, John and Gail Riordan, and Richard and Aase White. Post walk convocation was at Black Bear Diner.

The **Friday, February 9** walk, led by Brad Lee, will meet at **8:15 am** at the locomotive near the entrance to the Martinez Regional Shoreline Park in Martinez just across the railroad tracks at the foot of Ferry Street. There are 2 different trails which make a circle and can be done in about 1/2 hour each. The trail with the bridge across Alhambra Creek does not allow dogs. Post walk convocation will be determined at time of the walk. Please **RSVP** to Brad: misterbbl@yahoo.com .

The **Friday, February 23** walk, led by Dan Green, will meet at **8:15am** at the Lafayette Christian Community Church parking lot, 584 Glenside Drive, Lafayette. Please **RSVP** to Dan at [as-dgreen@comcast.net](mailto:dgreen@comcast.net) or **925-376-7087**, cell **925-408-2412**. We will walk along the trail towards Lafayette.

Directions: The church is located near the intersection of St. Mary's Road and Glenside Drive. After the walk we will meet at Millie's Kitchen, [1018 Oak Hill Road, Lafayette](#), for breakfast, goodies, etc.

All walks are with or without significant others. The significant other/ spouse is also invited to participate 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.



Meeting Speaker

2018 Little SIR Jerry Hicks

(jerryhicks@astound.net)

Speaker for February 19th Luncheon

The always entertaining Michael Butler, Artistic



Director of Center Repertory Company, will be with us. Michael, a graduate of the Juilliard School, has performed on and off Broadway, published songs, and directed plays and musicals both in New York and the Bay area. Michael will spin a few stories, update us on events at

the Leshner Theater, and may even play the harmonica for us. Look forward to an entertaining luncheon presentation.

We are completing arrangements to have, as our March speaker, Tax Attorney Stephen Moskowitz. He will update us on the highlights of the recently passed tax bill and, as an often guest on NBC Sports, will tell a tale or two of current legal situations in professional sports.



Luncheon Seating

While you desire to sit with your friends, it's also important to meet and become better acquainted with other members. To accomplish both important goals, we will have two settings at each table marked open as well as one open table and a guest table. You will still be able to place eight name cards at each table. Please no reservation cards on the open and guest tables.



SIR Fishing Group

Harry Sherinian

(h.sherinian@comcast.net)

All SIR members and guests are welcome, and indeed encouraged, to participate in fishing trips as well as attend the monthly meetings. Next meeting will be **Thursday, February 22nd**, 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.

We are having a good year for trout. Pete Gates, Bob Hillaker, Dick Thomson, Carl Moyer, Brion Beetz, Ken Konzak, Phil Scimonelli, Bob Fieber, Terry Miller, Ray Pixton, Gene Schulting and son have all enjoyed productive days at Shadow Cliffs Reservoir. Ken Konzak added a nice catfish to his trout catch there. Tom Kostik has done well fishing for stripers in the delta. Trout, sturgeon, and stripers will be our focus for the next few months, mixed with excursions to the International Sportsmens Expo, Bass Pro in Manteca, and Princeton Harbor in Half Moon bay for lunch, sightseeing, and live crab.

For more information please contact: Harry Sherinian, Branch 116 Fishing Coordinator.

\$ums Investment Group

Tom Henry (Branch 174)

(tomh925@icloud.com)

Our next meeting is **Wed February 28 at 8 AM** at the Legends Restaurant at the Diablo Creek Country Club - Port Chicago Highway, 1/4 mile north of Highway 4 in Concord.

Our speaker will be Special Agent David Strange of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He will be talking about frauds and scams perpetrated on seniors.

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

Chairman Tom Henry - tomhenry925@gmail.com
Co-chair Dave Sutton - davesutn@comcast.net



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

The Trout Were "Jumping" in January



Terry Miller With a Nice Trout



Dick Tompson With a Nice String of Trout



Sunshine Report

Matt Arena

(marena@astound.net)

SIR **Lee Dulac** passed away after complications from Alzheimer's. Lee and Mary Ann enjoyed the Dine-O-Sirs events and rarely missed joining in the fun. SIR

John McClay passed away in Tyron N.C. where they settled after leaving the Bay Area. John was a man of many talents including Alpha Romeo sports car enthusiast, pilot, and he played the trumpet and performed at the Leshner Theater.

SIR **Larry Johnson** is not doing well. He gave up his gym membership following a trip with the EMT to the hospital. His stroke has set him back. Larry was quite the athlete when he had his good health.

SIR **Tim Dorr** is about the same since we last talked. He is forever cheerful while dealing with his many health issues.

"When your mother asks, Do you want a piece of advise?" It's a mere formality. It doesn't matter if your answer is yes or no.

You're going to get it anyway.

ERMA BOMBECK

In Memoriam

Leon E. Dulac

April 13, 1933 - January 7, 2018

In Memoriam

John McClay

1936 - January 21, 2018



Bridge

Jon Dickson

(still26@sbcglobal.net)

SIR's 116 Lunch & Bridge meets every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at Diablo Country Club. We play 6 rounds of 4-hands each, Chicago Style, changing partners each round. If you play bridge, please consider joining us for an fun afternoon of bridge, after lunch. Lunch starts at 11:30 AM

On Tuesday, January 13th's game, we presented Jai Yee with the HIGH AVERAGE SCORING TROPHY for 2017. Jia averaged 4,383 points throughout the year for his fine play. Coming in Second was Art Donaldson with 4,016 points, Third was Norm Schoenfeld with 3,818 points and Fourth was Jack Butler with 3,791 points. We wiped the slate clean starting in 2018 and the fun begins again.

If you have any interest in the game of bridge, do join us.



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

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

Upcoming Golfing Special Events

RENO GOLF GETAWAY 2018

Save these dates: **Sept. 5, 6, & 7th**

The Carson City Tournament is moving to Reno

This 3-day event includes:

- Two rounds of golf with cart at two of Reno's signature golf courses: Lakeridge and Wolf Run
- A choice of lodging at the Silver Legacy or Circus Circus for three nights
- A "no host" reception Sept. 5th
- An "open night" Sept. 6th
- Awards Banquet Sept. 7th
- Tee gifts and a sleeve of balls for each golfer, raffle prizes, coupon book for food and much more.
- Friends and relatives are welcome.

Entry forms will be available in May with complete sign-up information.



"Dine-O-SIR" Dinner Group

Alex Lutkus

(alutkus@yahoo.com)

The Dine-O-SIR Dinner Group launched the 2018 New Year with their annual "Champagne Buffet Brunch" at Crow Canyon Country Club on Sunday, January 28th. As in the past, the splendid atmosphere, the plentiful and delicious food selections, along with the continuous champagne pouring, produced a multitude of compliments in appreciation of such a gala affair. If you missed it, make sure you attend next year. You'll be glad you did!

The next Dine-O-SIR event will take place in March. Information will be sent out by e-mail and details will also be announced in next month's Trampas Topics newsletter.

2018 CARMEL GOLF OUTING

Wednesday/Thursday May 23rd & 24th

Hotel -- Our Group Hotel is Carmel Mission Inn, Phone (831) 624-1841. We have a SIR Branch 116 Group Rate of \$139. Reservations must be made by April 3, 2018 to guarantee this rate. Various Hotel on-line promotions look attractive, but when our dates are selected, I have found none better than our guaranteed rate.

Golf Course -- We are returning to last years fantastic course, Carmel Valley Ranch. This is an exceptional course/facility. Entry fee includes Two rounds of Golf (including 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

Wednesday's Dinner -- We have arranged to have Wednesday's Dinner at our host Hotel, the Carmel Mission Inn. Dinner will be a "Plated Dinner", including coffee\tea, salad, choice of entree (Salmon or New York Steak), and desert.

Cost -- You will be responsible for your own Hotel reservations/payments. The entry cost is \$200 and includes \$130 for two days of golf/range balls, \$20 prize money, and \$50 Dinner. Non-Golfers are encouraged to attend Wednesday evening's Dinner, at a cost of \$50 each.

Mail your check payable to "SIR Branch Golf, P.O. Box 683, Lafayette CA 94549-0683".





Wine Appreciation Group

Lou Meylan

(loumeylan@hotmail.com)

The next Wine Group tasting will be January 25, 2018 from 4pm to 6pm at the home of Lou Meylan. RSVP to Lou at 925-933-0675.

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 Lou Meylan for more information on the Wine Appreciation Group at loumeylan@hotmail.com or call him at 925-933-0675.



Senior Citizen Joke

When I went to lunch today, I noticed an old man sitting on a park bench sobbing his eyes out. I stopped and asked him what was wrong. He said, "I have a 22 year old wife at home. She rubs my back every morning and then gets up and makes me pancakes, sausage, fresh fruit and freshly ground coffee."

I said, "Well, then why are you crying?"

He said, "She makes me homemade soup for lunch and my favorite brownies, cleans the house and then watches sports TV with me for the rest of the afternoon."

I said, "Well, why are you crying?"

He said, "For dinner she makes me a gourmet meal with wine and my favorite dessert and then makes love with me until the wee hours"

I said, "Well, why in the world would you be crying?"

He said, "I can't remember where I live!"



Computer & Technology

Neil Schmidt

(SIR.Area2.CAT@gmail.com)

Note: The January 2018 CAT Meeting was cancelled at the last minute because the Elk's Lodge forgot that we had a meeting that day and booked another event. Make sure you are on the CAT mailing list by sending an e-mail request to: "SIR.Area2.CAT@gmail.com"

The Area 16 Computer and Technology Group [formerly A2CAT] invites you to our next meeting at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge on **Thursday, February 15, 2018 starting at 9:30 am**. Come early for coffee, goodies, and chat. Sirs from all branches, and their guests, are welcome.

We will have two CAT presentations in February:

- To help you get ready for Tax Day (April 15th), Phil Goff will compare TurboTax with H&R Block tax preparation software.
- Barry Brown will cover the basics of photo editing software and the new features in the latest Photoshop Elements Version 18.

We look forward to seeing you around 9:15 AM, Thursday February 15, 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 this meeting is another one of those! All SIR members and their guests (spouses included!) are welcome to attend. See you there.





Walking Tours

Alan Fitzgerald

(galan.fitzgerald@gmail.com)

The March Walking Tour will be on March 10th.

Oakland Aviation Museum

8252 Earhart Rd., Oakland (near the airport)

Meet at 10:30, cost is \$10 for Seniors, all are welcome.



The Blackhawk Museum Walking Tour

January 20, 2018

The 2018 Roster Booklet

Everyone who attended our January Luncheon should have picked up their 2018 Roster Booklet. If you missed the January Meeting, don't forget to pick it up at our next meeting.

As a reminder, we also have our member roster posted on our Branch Web Site (branch116.org) in the "Member Info" section.

The online roster is updated each month and contains the numbers for our new members as well as existing member phone and email address changes. The online roster is password protected for info security. Contact our Membership Secretary Phil Goff if you can't remember the secret password.

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

New Meeting Hotline Phone Number

The Meeting Hotline phone number has been changed to: **925-322-1318**. Please use this number when calling to cancel your standing lunch meeting reservation. You may also cancel your reservation by emailing luncheon116@gmail.com



January Lunch Meeting Speaker Monica Sanders discussing the First Tee of Contra Costa



Br. 116 Book Group

Rich Black

(blackrw41@comcast.net)

"The Crossing Place: A Journey among the Armenians" by Philip Marsden

The Book Group met on Monday, 22 January, 2018 to discuss "The Crossing Place" by Philip Marsden which was in part a back-packer's travel narrative through the Near East, the old Eastern Block and Armenia itself. The book was also a history of the Armenian genocide in particular and the Armenian people in general. Mike Barrington recommended the book while Rich Black led the discussion. Other participants were Bob Wolf, Steve Bort, Richard White, Dick Kauffman, Tim Tinnes, Richard Rossland, Al Farbman, Paul Freitas, Jerry Christopher, Nick Bowles, Mac Mcloughlin, Garrett Girvin, John Riordan, and John Kopchik. The group awarded the book an anemic 2.5 stars.

The next meeting of the Book Group will be on **Monday, February 26** to discuss "In the Kingdom of Ice: The Grand and Terrible Polar Voyage of the USS Jeannette." Meetings are at 10:15 at Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, Orinda, California.



"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!

Our regular game of Mexican Train scheduled for the second Wednesday of February will be postponed. I will be out of town the early part of February but will try to schedule it for February 27th since some of us are starved for the competition.

We will get back on schedule starting in March for both guys and couples events.

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



The Book Group in January 22, 2018 at Orinda Books



SIR Travel

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

Some SIR Travel Opportunities Include:

Apr 22-30,2018: Explore the magnificent Northwest. Cruise about the American Empress from Clarkston WA, Richland, WA, The Dalles, Or. Stevenson, WA, Astoria, OR. and Portland, OR. Highlights include R/T airfare, all port tax, porter gratuities, wine and beer with dinner, complimentary shore excursions in each port. Free stay at famous Davenport Hotel. Lee Suess, Br.96, 408-309-1480

May 12-18, 2018: Southern Charm Discovery. Trip features Jekyll Island, Savannah & Charleston, Jacksonville, St Simons Island, Andrew Low House, and choice of Boone Hall Plantation or Patriots Pt. Naval Museum. Cost is \$2836.00 covers air taxes & fees, hotel & transfers, gratuities and R/T air, Bill Rodman, Br 38, 408-274-4521 or Alan Patmore, 408-867-4197.

May 25-Jun 9, 2018: Historic Cities of Eastern Canada & New England. 16- day trip begins in Toronto then Lake Ontario, Niagara Falls, Ottawa, Quebec City and Montreal. Then travelers will board Holland America cruise ship and cruise down the St Lawrence river to Charlottetown, Sydney and Halifax and onto Bar Harbor ending in Boston. Cost is \$3695 to \$5185 (with out Airfare). Jim Hohenshelt, Br 62, 408-394-7226 or Roy Jordan, 408-735-8765.

Aug 6 – 12, 2018 Yellowstone, A Wildlife Safari Tour Highlights: Yellowstone NP , Idaho Falls, Grand Teton NP, Snake River Float trip, Salt Lake City w/Mormon Tabernacle choir and Grizzly & Wolf Discovery Center Includes: home pickup, transfers, R/T air Salt Lake City, (10 meals: 6 breakfasts, 1 lunch, and 4 dinners) all taxes and gratuities. Cost: \$2789 per person dbl occupancy. \$3509 Single.Br. 32 Escorts John Pletsch 408 504-1255 and Mike Console 408 2461080

Sep 8, 2018: Colorado Train Trip. 7- day trip with stops at the US Airforce academy, Pikes Peak, Garden of the Gods, Colorado National Monument

and Colorado Museum. Cost \$3035 and includes 15 meals, R/T Air, home pickup and back, professional tour manager, Larry Yarberry, Br 8, 925-890-9245.

Sep 17-25, 2018: The BIG E. The largest fair on the East Coast. Fall colors, culture, history, entertainment, shopping, food and drink. Highlights include Eastern States Exhibition, Storowton Village, Springfield Museum, Dr Seuss Sculpture Garden, Big E Circus and Parade, Ben and Jerry Factory, Lunch at Trapp Family Lodge, Quechee Gorge Loon Gondola ride, Portland City Tour and Lighthouse Lovers Cruise. Trip includes R/T air, accommodations, deluxe motorcoach, Meals, admission fees, gratuities. all taxes, and driver, step on guide fees. Lee Suess, Br 96, 408-309-1480.

Sept 20 – 27 2018 Islands of New England Eight day escorted tour. Highlights – Providence, Newport, Boston, Cranberry Bog, Plimoth Plantation, Cape Cod, Martha’s Vineyard, Lobster Dinner, Provincetown, Hyannis, Nantucket. Br. 38 Escorted by Bill Rodman 408 274-4521 or Alan Patmore 408 867-4197 Cost: \$3349 pp dbl occupancy Covered are air taxes & fees/surcharges, hotel transfers, gratuities & R/T air fare from SFO & transfer to/from airport. Please note: Spots of this trip are guaranteed only until March 13, 2018

Some SIR Travel Opportunities

SIR Area 16 web site has many other travel opportunities. Check them out at: <http://area2.sirinc2.org/>

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/



SIR Branch 116 Golf

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

We have an active golf organization consisting of 18-hole and 9-hole groups. A small annual donation is required to play in either group.

The 18-hole group plays once a week in a Tournament format with play alternating between local courses and courses that may be 10 to 50 miles away.

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

Those playing in the 18-hole group must be members of the Northern California Golf Association (NCGA) and establish a handicap index. You may join the NCGA through our SIR club or through another club.

Foursomes in both the 18-hole and 9-hole groups are arranged so that players can meet and enjoy playing with most, if not all, the other players in the branch.

All our events are listed in the Trampas Topics and on our web site at branch116.org/116-golf. Join up with us and enjoy outings with a great bunch of guys at some great courses with reasonable prices.



Nine Hole Info

Dick Chaffee, 9-Hole Chairman
(rwchaffee@sbcglobal.net)

SIR 116 9-Hole Golf Club membership is open to all Branch members and guests regardless of your golfing ability. We play every Wednesday starting at 10:00am. We rotate playing Buchanan Fields-Concord, Diablo Hills-Walnut Creek, and other 9 hole courses in the area.

The 9 Hole Golf Club is organized into a single flight. The weekly Champion is the player with the lowest net score. The weekly Champion is awarded 3 points, 2nd place 2 and 3rd place 1. The 2016 Champion will be the golfer with the highest point total.

In December, we will again hold our 9 Hole Golf Championship Tournament. The Tournament will be 3 rounds of golf. One round at each of the courses we play. The Tournament Champion will be the golfer with lowest net total for 2 rounds. If a participant plays all 3 rounds, he can choose which 2 rounds will count.

Latest SIR 116 Golf Info Available on Our Golf Web Site

The Golf Website is: branch116golf.org

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

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

ing times & handicaps for next event.

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

February 9-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Wed. 07	10:00	Buchanan Fields	Dick Chaffee
Wed. 14	10:00	Diablo Hills	D.McClaughry
Wed. 21	10:00	Buchanan Fields	Dick Chaffee
Wed. 28	10:00	Brentwood	Skip Berkson

February 18-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Mon. 05	9:32	Boundary Oak	Art Vogl
Mon. 12	9:32	Boundary Oak	Art Vogl
Tue. 20	9:30	Poppy Ridge	Art Vogl
Mon. 26	9:30	Rancho Solano	Art Vogl

18-Hole Results

Paradise Valley, Mon., Jan 29, 2018

Jim Johnson, Official Scorer

<u>Flight 1</u>		<u>Flight 2</u>		<u>Flight 3</u>		<u>Flight 4</u>	
1st	Alan Fitzgerald	1st	Al Zavattero 64	1st	Terry Grummitt 68	1st	Matt Arena 75
2nd	David Harris	2nd	Marty Katz 71	2nd	Al Hutchko 79	Tie 2nd	Wayne Cook 77
3rd	Jim Johnson	Tie 3rd	Dirk Meyer 72	3rd	Alex Lutkus 82	Tie 2nd	Greg Hughes 77
		Tie 3rd	Bernie Wroblewski 72				
<u>Los Gross</u>		<u>Los Gross</u>		<u>Los Gross</u>		<u>Los Gross</u>	
Alan Fitzgerald	83	Al Zavattero	85	Terry Grummitt	94	Greg Hughes	111
<u>Closest-to #3</u>		<u>Closest-to #3</u>		<u>Closest-to #3</u>		<u>Closest-to #3</u>	
-		-		-		-	

Canyon Lakes, Mon., Jan 2, 2018

Jim Barstow, Official Scorer

Cancelled Due to rain.

Blue Rock Springs East, Tue, Jan 16, 2018

Don Schroeder, Official Scorer

<u>Flight 1</u>		<u>Flight 2</u>		<u>Flight 3</u>		<u>Flight 4</u>	
Tie 1st	Alan Fitzgerald 71 3	1st	Dirk Meyer 66 3	Tie 1st	Alex Lutkus 76 3	1st	Kevin Donahue 64 3
Tie 1st	David Harris 71 3	2nd	Don Schroeder 67 2	Tie 1st	Al Hutchko 76 3	Tie 2nd	Conrad Robertson 75 2
3rd	Jim Johnson 73 1	3rd	Bernie Wroblewski 72 1	3rd	Dave Carlson 78 1	Tie 2nd	Fred Schafer 75 2
<u>Los Gross</u>		<u>Los Gross</u>		<u>Los Gross</u>		<u>Los Gross</u>	
Alan Fitzgerald	85	Don Schroeder	87	Alex Lutkus	102	Kevin Donahue	97
				Al Hutchko	102		
<u>Closest-to #5</u>		<u>Closest-to #5</u>		<u>Closest-to #5</u>		<u>Closest-to #5</u>	
David Harris		Don Schroeder		Fred Schafer		Fred Schafer	

Boundary Oak, Mon., Jan 8, 2018

Marty Katz, Official Scorer

Cancelled Due to rain.

New Golf Handicap Chairman

Steve Cherepy has stepped down as our Branch 116 Golf Handicap Chairman. Steve has done an outstanding job over the last several years in coordinating with NCGA to revise the indexes each month and include new members as their indexes became established.

David Harris is taking over for Steve. David has already begun the important task of producing the monthly index reports and has established a master list of all the Branch 116 golfers who are currently registered through NCGA. David also has a list of those Branch 116 golfers who are registered with NCGA through clubs other than Branch 116. The Branch 116 Golf Committee very much appreciates David's undertaking of this effort and extend to him our best wishes.

If you are an NCGA member through SIR Branch 116, and you need to modify or delete a posted score, contact David. If you are an NCGA member through another club, you need to contact that club's Handicap Chairman.

First Half Leaders as of Paradise Valley, Monday, Jan. 29, 2018

<u>FLIGHT 1</u>		<u>FLIGHT 2</u>		<u>FLIGHT 3</u>		<u>FLIGHT 4</u>	
<u>Name</u>	<u>Pts</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Pts</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Pts</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Pts</u>
Alan Fitzgerald	6	Dirk Meyer	4	Al Hutchko	5	Matt Arena	3
David Harris	5	Al Zavatterro	3	Alex Lutkus	4	Kevin Donohue	3
Jim Johnson	2	Marty Katz	2	Terry Grummitt	3	Conrad Robertson	2
		Don Schroeder	2	Dave Carlson	1	Greg Hughes	2
		Bernie Wroblewski	2			Wayne Cook	2
						Fred Schafer	2

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, Feb. 20	San Ramon	Feb. 05	\$36
Monday, Feb. 26	Lone Tree	Feb. 20	\$38
Tuesday, Mar. 20	Poppy Ridge	Mar. 08	\$45
Monday, Mar. 26	Rancho Solano	Mar. 11	\$45

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 & Membership for SIR Branch 116

RULE 100. A member shall be notified in writing and/or telephone by his Branch of the pending termination of his membership 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 of the regular luncheon meetings within the previous twelve consecutive month period. NOTE: Excused meetings cannot be included to achieve the minimum attendance.
- All legitimate alternatives to termination shall be explored. The member's response may suggest an alternative to termination such as inactive status.

RULE 101. Certification of attendance by a member at another Branch meeting will be considered as a credit to his attendance record. Individual Branches may limit the number of make-ups during a 12-month period.

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.