



SIR Branch 116
Trampas Topics
 Newsletter
 February, 2019

Next Meeting: 11:30 am
 Monday, Feb. 18, 2019
 Boundary Oak, 3800 Valley
 Vista Rd., Walnut Creek

A Nonprofit Public Benefit Organization for Men Enjoying Active Retirement

Sayings of 2018 Big Sir Jerry Hicks

The turnout at the January luncheon was one of the best of recent times. Thank you for attending and I hope you had a good time. We gave a few more minutes for conversation during and after lunch. As you noticed, we have two open seats at each table and one table at the back entry that will remain open for those preferring not to be in the table groups. Several have mentioned that our speaker, Gabe Szilardi, was both educational and entertaining. Mike Barrington's Speakers Committee is committed to do their best to keep them entertaining and informational.



The BEC reviewed and established our Branch goals for this year. Highest on the list was membership – recruiting new members and retaining the members that we have. Don Schroeder's Recruitment department already had a head start with the "Bring a Guest" program and rewards (See the article later in Trampas Topics). We are all looking forward to each and every member to bring at least one guest to our luncheons throughout the year. This would also apply to our couples' activities, especially the forthcoming "Ladies Day Luncheon" in May. Unfortunately and inevitably there are a few that decide that Branch membership is not for them. We wish to find out why and if there are any suggestions for improvement.

The news tells of single digit and even minus temperatures in the Midwest and some East Coast locations. Wind chills have been reported in the -30's and -40's. We've recently been basking in the sunlight with temperatures in the high 60's and nearing 70. Our golfers are out enjoying the camaraderie and the competition and our hiking groups are enjoying the exercise and social gatherings. Last month I mentioned participation, urging you to try a new activity. We offer you 16 activities of which several include spouses. Fred Wachowicz and Mike Ward are at work to bring us new and interesting activities; Bocce and the now popular Pickleball are high on the list. If we don't offer an activity that you have interest, then contact Fred and Mike and start one. Four or five is enough for a start.

Our new attendance secretaries, Jim Flessner and Brent Chaney, hope for even greater participation at our luncheons. Try to keep the third Monday of each month free. If you have a conflict, email or call into our Luncheon address in plenty of time. Please don't make the "unexcused" list, creating more unenjoyable work for them.

Valentines Day is the 14th. Don't forget the flowers!

Jerry

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PLEASE CALL 322-1318
or email to
luncheon116@gmail.com
before 1PM the Monday
prior to the meeting to
cancel your standing res-
ervation or to bring a

2019 SIR Branch 116 Officers



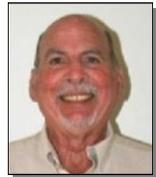
Big SIR
Jerry Hicks



Little SIR



Secretary
Fred Schafer



Assist. Sec.



Treasurer



Asst. Treas. 1
Bob Shader



Asst. Treas. 2
Al Satake



Member. Sec.
Phil Goff

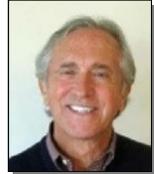
2019 SIR Branch 116 Directors



Norm Alberts



Gary Boswell



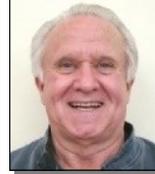
Peter Coggiola



Roger Craig



David Harris



Marty Katz

2019 Activity Chairmen

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Chairman</u>	<u>Assist. Chairman</u>
• Book Group	Rich Black	Steve Bort
• Book Exchange	John Fraser	Dick Kauffman
• Bridge	Jon Dickson	Bob Wolf
• Computer & Tech.	Neil Schmidt	Phil Goff
• Dine-O-SIR	Alex Lutkus	Socolich, Katz
• Duplicate Bridge	Conrad Robertson	Tom Henry
• Fishing	Harry Sherinian	Terry Miller
• Golf-18 Hole	Bernie Wroblewski	Jim Johnson
• Golf-9 Hole	Dick Chaffee	D. McLaughry
• Golf - Reno	Paul Ramacciotti	Harris, Katz
• Golf - Carmel	Jim Barstow	JJ, Harris, Eller
• Hiking & Walking	John Riordan	Joel White
• Mexican Train	Richard Madden	Alex Lutkus
• Parties	Alan Fitzgerald	Marty Katz
• Poker	Lou Sandor	
• Saturday Tours	Greg Hughes	
• \$ums in Retirement	Ben Smith	
• Travel	Don Murry	
• Wine Appreciation	Lou Meylan	

2019 Support Team

RAMP Department Heads:

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| • Recruitment | Don Schroeder |
| • Activities | Fred Wachowicz |
| • Member Relations | Sam Beret |
| • Publicity | Jim McCormick |

Support Committees:

- | | |
|------------------------|------------|
| • Audit Committee | Ron Armijo |
| • Nominating Committee | Marty Katz |
| • Sunshine Committee | Matt Arena |

Luncheon Support:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| • Attendance | Brent Chaney |
| • Audio Visual | Neil Schmidt |
| • Chaplain Committee | Doug Aalders |
| • Greeters Committee | Terry Grummitt |
| • Raffle Committee | Ben Bryce |
| • Speakers Committee | Michael Barrington |
| • Storytellers Committee | Mac Mcloughlin |

Recruitment Committee

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| • Guest Packet | TBA |
| • New Member Orientation | Dave Williams |
| • Recruitment Materials | TBA |
| • Letters | TBA |

Membership Relations Committee

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| • Membership Secretary | Phil Goff |
| • Computer Support | Neil Schmidt |
| • Membership Roster | George Pryhuber |
| • Webmaster | Phil Goff |
| • Awards/Recognitions | TBA |
| • Sponsor Program | TBA |
| • Letters | TBA |

Publicity Committee

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| • Newsletter Editor | Neil Schmidt |
| • Internal Communications | TBA |
| • Outreach | TBA |

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

**A Thank You to all Br. 116 SIR
Who Volunteer to be Leaders**

SIR Branch 116 Activity Calendar

February 2019

Sun.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
					1	2
Super Bowl	3 4 18-Hole Golf* (9:32@ Boundary Oak GC)	5 Duplicate Bridge (9:00 Diablo Vly. Bridge Ctr)	6 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC)	7	8 Hiking & Walking (8:15@ Walnut Creek Civic Park parking lot off Civic Dr.)	9
	10 11 18-Hole Golf (9:32@ Boundary Oak GC)	12 Luncheon Bridge (11:30@ Diablo CC)	13 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Diablo Hills GC) Mexican Train (10:00@ Church of Christ, Walnut Creek)	14 	15	16
17	18 SIR BR. 116 MEETING (11:30@ Boundary Oak) President's Day Holiday	19 18-Hole Golf (9:30@ Canyon Lakes GC)	20 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC)	21 Computer & Tech (9:30@ WC Elks Lodge)	22 Hiking & Walking (8:15@ Lafayette Christian Community Church Parking Lot)	23
24	25 18-Hole Golf (9:30@ Deer Ridge GC) Book Group (10:15@ Orinda Books)	26	27 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Brentwood GC) \$ums Investment (8:00@ Diablo Creek GC)	28 Fishing Group (8:30@ Legends-Diablo Crk)		



Br. 116 Treasurer's Report

Jim Nickels, Treasurer
(bjnickels@sbcglobal.net)

	Jan. 2019	2019 YTD
Contributions	\$ 6,492.97	\$ 6,492.97
Disbursements	\$ (4,634.94)	\$ (4,634.94)
Net (gain/(loss))	\$ 1,858.03	\$ 1,858.03
Jan. 31st Cash Balance		\$ 9,959.32



Membership

Phil Goff
(philgoff@yahoo.com)

SIR 116 Membership Status

Total Current Membership is 205

New Members:

- Bill Duncan (Sponsor Wayne Cook)
- Dick Frankel (Sponsor Paul Freitas)

Resigned Due to Health Issues:

- Bill Turnquist
- Norm Jokerst

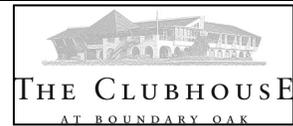
**Want a Free \$25 Lunch ?
Sponsor a New Member !**

February Birthdays

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

1. Ron Armijo	10. Tom King
2. Norm Azevedo	11. Harry Oberle III
3. Jon Dickson	12. Ed O'Rourke
4. Cliff Egan	13. Richard Rosslund
5. Max Foust	14. Fred Schafer
6. Dan Green	15. Mike Schneider
7. Cord Hull	16. Curtis Trenor
8. Jeff Johnson	17. Ernie Wong
9. Pete Kallas	

February Lunch Menu



SIRS 116 Luncheon

February 18, 2019

Salad

Cabbage Salad

Napa Cabbage, Garbanzo & Green Beans, Carrots, Bell Peppers, Toasted Almonds
Spicy Cumin Cilantro Dressing

Entrees

Jerk Chicken

Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables, Orange Glaze, Pineapple Salsa

Or

Ginger Glazed Baked Salmon

White Cheddar Macaroni, Sautéed Vegetables
Lemon Butter Sauce

Vegetarian

Roasted Vegetable Napoleon Layered & Served
With Melted Plum Tomatoes,
Fresh Basil Marinara Sauce

Dessert

Red Velvet Cake

Cream Cheese Frosting, Chantilly Cream, Raspberry Sauce

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



Meeting Speaker
Little SIR Michael Barrington
 (majb7016@gmail.com)

February Meeting Speaker

John Bettencourt: Deep Water Horizon Oil Spill

The night of April 20th, 2010 saw the biggest explosion and subsequent oil spill the US has ever experienced. The **Deepwater Horizon oil spill** (also referred to as the **BP oil spill/leak**, the **BP oil disaster**, the **Gulf of Mexico oil spill**, and the Macondo blowout) is an industrial disaster that began on 20 April 2010, in the Gulf of Mexico on the BP operated Macondo Prospect considered to be the largest marine oil spill in the history of the petroleum industry and estimated to be 8% to 31% larger in volume than any previous spill. The U.S. government estimated the total discharge at 4.9 million barrels (210 million US gal; 780,000 m3). After several failed efforts to contain the flow, the well was declared sealed on 19 September 2010. Reports in early 2012 indicated that the well site was still leaking. John Bettencourt was charge of the second response helicopter. He is a 20 year military aviation veteran



Parties
Alan Fitzgerald
 (galan.fitzgerald@gmail.com)

Spring Fling will be held in May!!

Each year the Branch has two Parties; Spring Fling and the Holiday Party. The Spring Fling is a luncheon designed for the significant others of our members. This year's committee is currently working on the Spring Fling. It will be held in May; exact date has not been determined yet nor has the location. Updated information will be provided as soon as determined. I have heard from good sources that not all the significant others were aware of the Spring Fling, step up guys. Feel free to offer any suggestions you may have about either of the Parties, after all they are for you.

January Meeting Guests



January Meeting guests Ed Soloman, John Kalan, Gary Macknin, Scott Singley, Jim Seven , and Mike Slous (not in order)



Meeting Attendance
Kevin Donahue
 (luncheon116@gmail.com)

January 21, 2019 Meeting Attendance

Active Members:	205
Guests/Visitors:	5
Transfers & Inductees:	0
Speakers:	1
Members Excused:	34
Excused due to long term illness:	2
Members NOT excused:	12
Total Attendance:	167
% of Active Members in Attendance	77%

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



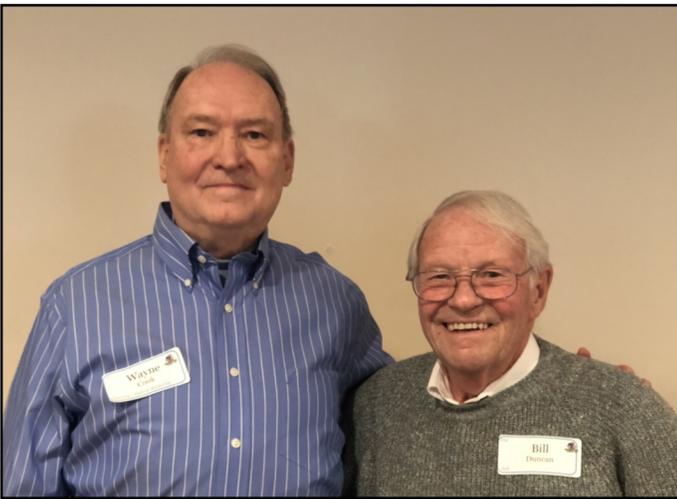
Poker
Lou Sandor
 (lsandor@astound.net)

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

New Members



**New Member Dick Frankel
with Sponsor Paul Freitas**



**Sponsor Wayne Cook with
New Member Bill Duncan**

Trampas Topics Submissions



We need your contributions and suggestions for Trampas Topics. Please send photos, news items, SIR activities, and Letters to the Editor:

Neil Schmidt, Trampas Topics Editor
trampastopics@gmail.com



Activity Chair

Fred Wachowicz
(fredwach@pacbell.net)

Activity Leaders and their assistants met for Breakfast on Jan 16th to set an agenda for improving participation in Branch activities. The Activities Team will be working with Branch Leadership to:

- a. Develop and present a monthly repetitive slide show, (special thanks to Neil Schmidt) focusing on 2 specific activities to be played on the projection screen prior to the formal startup of the luncheon meeting
- b. Develop and carry out a systematic follow-up procedure to insure that new members are invited to join the activities of their interest
- c. Communicate with other SIR Branches about successful activities
- d. Collect and utilize more activity photos to promote interest in branch activities

Based on survey results and member feedback the following new activities are currently under consideration: Bocce, Pickle, Cooking, Group Golf Lessons, Photography, chess, and some type of men's vocal group and a few others. If you haven't yet taken the survey you can complete it on line (see "SIR Br. 116 Annual Activities Survey for 2019" email sent to you on January 4, 2019) or manually via a hand-out form at the Feb Lunch meeting:

Additionally, activity leaders will be participating in CPR certification & training.

Check out the "Activities" tab on our branch web site for a description of all existing activities and give the group leader a call to join a group.

The Book Exchange Group needs 6 more members to help transport books to and from the monthly luncheon. Call or e-mail John Frazer or Dick Kauffman to help out.

Lastly, have fun in 2019.

Fred Wachowicz and Mike Ward



Sunshine Report

Matt Arena

(marena@astound.net)

SIR **Henry Sicabaig** is celebrating his 96th birthday on January 30. He is receiving Hospice Care and is in good spirits.

SIR **Larry Johnson** accidentally used his accelerator when he needed to hit his brakes. He is fine but he caused a lot of damage. This happened while in his garage. He hit a can of white paint, drove into the freezer, hit the steps into the house, and had a bill for \$ 8175 for the damage and \$3901 for car repair. He has stopped driving

SIR **Bill Harrington** fractured his pelvis and is at home recuperating. We wish him a speedy recovery.

When you arise in the morning think of what a precious privilege it is to be alive ,to breathe, to think, to enjoy, to love.



"Dine-O-SIR" Dinner Group

Alex Lutkus

(alutkus@yahoo.com)

The Dine-O-SIR Dinner Group launched the 2019 New Year with their annual "Champagne Buffet Brunch" at Crow Canyon Country Club on Sunday, January 27th. 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 and sign-up form are on page 8 of this newsletter and will also be sent out by e-mail.



Bridge

Jon Dickson

(still26@sbcglobal.net)

Our bridge yearly scores are published and our big winner for 2018, for the second (perhaps third) year in a row is Jai Yee with averaging 4,147 Points Per Game, playing 21 of 23 games in the year. Coming in second, playing all 23 bridge dates was Bob Wolf with 3,951 Points Average. Third was Joel White, playing 9 dates and having 3,947 Average points. We thank Bob Wolf for keeping our statistics and proving scores keepers don't always win!

Lunch & Games are every 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at Diablo Country Club and all are welcome to join us for a day of Chicago Style bridge. Change partners every 4 hands, meet a great group (I am biased) of SIR's and have an enjoyable afternoon of bridge.

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



Book Exchange

John Fraser & Dick Kauffman

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



The book exchange has moved to the area behind the dining room. We have a wide variety of topics and authors for your use. We welcome contributions of books that you have enjoyed. There are no rules, take as many as you can read and bring them back when you are through. If you enjoy reading you are encouraged to join our Book Club which meets on the 4th Monday of the month at Orinda books in Orinda at 10:15. Please stop by...

Branch 116 Dine-O-SIR
 March 13th and 20th
El Tapatio Restaurant & Cantina
 40 Golf Club Rd. Pleasant Hill

#1 COMBINATION

Chicken or Cheese Enchilada

#2 COMBINATION

Chicken or Cheese Enchilada
 Cheese chili Relleno

#3 COMBINATION

Carnitas Plate
 w/ guacamole & Picoo De Gallo

#4 COMBINATION

Burrito Dinner
 1 Chicken and 1 Beef Burrito

Dinner includes house salad, rice & beans, chips and salsa,
 flan desert, coffee, ice tea or soda

Cost \$25 per person all inclusive

Alcoholic Beverages

House Margarita, draft beer pints, white or red wine, well drinks

\$6 each

Wine bottle \$20

(cut)

Dine-O-SIR - El Tapatio Restaurant & Cantina

1st Date Choice: _____

2nd Date Choice: _____

E-Mail: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Entrée #	Check for Veg. Option on #1 or #2 (with cheese enchilada)

Total at \$25 each = \$ _____

Make Check to: SIR Branch 116 Dining

Mail Check to: Lou Meylan

Address: 3151 Cafeto Dr. Walnut Creek CA 94598

Phone 925-933-0675 E-mail: loumeylan@hotmail.com



Do You Like Games?
Are You Competitive?
Do You Like Wine?

Our SIR 116 game for 2019:

INVITE-A-GUEST

Win a Jeroboam of fine Italian **Barbara d'Alba**

Winners will be announced
December 2019

Each and every member is to bring a minimum of one guest to a luncheon in 2019. No exceptions. This is an obligation of all of us. Then whoever brings the most guests in 2019 will win one of these Jeroboams. Whoever converts the most guests to membership will win the other bottle. Remember, that whenever your guest becomes a member you also are awarded with one free lunch.

Retirement is no longer required as long as one is able to attend our luncheons and participate in our activities. We are looking for younger active members.

When bringing a guest, let us know a week prior by email: luncheon116@gmail.com or phone 322-1318.

\$ums Investment Group

Tom Henry (Branch 174)

(tomh925@icloud.com)

\$UMS in Retirement meets again on **Wed Feb 27** at 8 AM at the Legends Restaurant at Diablo Creek Golf Course on Port Chicago Highway, Concord, just north of Hwy 4.

Our speaker will be Jamshed Gandi, CPA. He's the Branch 8 member who spoke to us last January about the new tax law. A significant amount of Jamshed's services are related to income and estate taxes, retirement planning, wealth preservation and business valuations. He will update us on the law and help us prepare for the 2018 tax filing season.

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



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 28th** in 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. Contacts are Harry Sherinian Branch 116 Fishing Coordinator 510-207-7067.

In this past bleak midwinter very few fished, and they did not catch anything. So much for the past. We will soon send a group to the Sacramento Sportsmens Expo Show. San Pablo reservoir opens February 2nd and will be a welcome relief. Sturgeon fishing will continue, and hopefully we will catch one. Our speaker in February was John McManus from the Golden Gate Salmon Association. Keeping us informed of the status of our salmon future as well as water in the delta and predations to the delta by our southern neighbors. We have many fishing trips and events planned for 2019, you should come join the fun!



January Meeting speaker Gabriel Szilardi-Tierney playing the banjo



Hiking & Walking

John Riordan & Joel White

(gcriordan@com, zpz2mrz@gmail.com)

Richard White led the Friday January 11 walk from the Moraga Commons north on the Lafayette-Moraga Regional Trail. The storm let up for walkers Art and Mary Alice Donaldson, David and Colleen Geary, Dan and Andrea Green, John Riordan, Dennis and 4-legged Riley Snarr, Tom Welte, Joel and Susan White, and Richard and Aase White. We really hustled to reach the falls before the 30-minute turnaround; see photo below. The post-walk convocation was at the Ranch House Café; the breakfasts were large and tasty.



January 11 walkers at the waterfall

Paul Freitas led the Friday January 25 walk from the Stone Valley Road Trailhead south on the Iron Horse Trail. It was a cold but sunny morning for walkers Richard and Donna Black, Steve Bort, Art and Mary Alice Donaldson, Dick Frankel, Paul Freitas, David and Colleen Geary, Dan and Andrea Green, Essie Naddaf, John Riordan, and Richard and Aase White. The post-walk convocation was changed from Cherubini to Panera Bread because of the large turnout; see photo below.

John Riordan will lead the **Friday February 8** walk.



January 25 walkers at Panera Bread

We will meet at 8:15 at the Walnut Creek Civic Park parking lot off Civic Drive, which offers 3 hours free parking. We will walk east on the Creek Walk and then north on the Iron Horse Trail. Post-walk convocation will be at Caffé La Scala, 1655 N Main St. RSVP to John at gcriordan@comcast.net . Call his cell phone 925-391-5749 if you're running late.

Dan Green will lead the **Friday February 22** walk. We will meet at 8:15 at the Lafayette Christian Church parking lot, 584 Glenside Drive, and walk north on the Lafayette-Moraga Regional Trail toward downtown Lafayette. Post-walk convocation will be at Town Bakery and Café, 337 Rheem Blvd., Moraga. RSVP to Dan at asdgreen@comcast.net . Call his cell phone 925-408-2412 if you're running late.

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 is a particular walk.

Anyone, including those from other SIR branches, wishing to join this mellow group, or to be added to the e-mail contact list, should contact John Riordan at gcriordan@comcast.net or 925-284-3394.



Br. 116 Book Group

Rich Black

(blackrw41@comcast.net)

The Book Group met on Monday January 28, 2019 to discuss "The Bad-Ass Librarians of Timbuktu" by Joshua Hammer, dealing with the discovery and preservation of ancient manuscripts from the golden age of Timbuktu in the 14th and 15th century when it was a progressive center of North African scholarship. In the late 20th Century donors from all over the world contributed to the collection and restoration of these manuscripts and then in the first decade of the 21st century they were preserved from jihadi destruction by the above mentioned Timbuktu librarians. Much of the book also described political upheaval in Mali during these two decades.

Nick Bowles and Mike Barrington recommended the book while Richard Black led the discussion with Bob Wolf, Tim Tinnis, Richard White, Art Donaldson, Mike Barrington, Garret Girvan, Richard Rossland, Alan Pope, Al Farbman, Mike Schneider, Bob Wolf, Paul Freitas, Joel White, Mac McLaughlin, Richard Frankel, Steve Bort, John Riordan, Dick Kaufkman and Jerry Christopherson.

This part cultural, part military, part intellectual history described Mali which was an unknown part of the world to the guys who awarded it 3.28 stars.

The group agreed to meet again on **February 25** to discuss "The Long Haul" by Finn Murphy.

The Book Group meets at 10:15 am at Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, in Orinda.



Wine Appreciation Group

Lou Meylan

(loumeylan@hotmail.com)

The January Wine Appreciation get together was hosted by Dick and Claudia Conger. Featured were five delicious wines from Portugal, enhanced by wonderful hors d'oeuvres. A wonderful way to spend a late afternoon.

Our March get together will be hosted by Dave and Carol Williams on **March 28, 2019**.



The Book Group discussing "The Bad-Ass Librarians of Timbuktu" on January 28, 2019



Saturday Tours

Greg Hughes

(j6464h@yahoo.com)

On **January 19, 2019**, the Saturday Tour visited the Benicia Capital State Historic Park and docent tours were provided for both the Capital Museum and for the adjoining Fisher Hanlin House. The next Saturday Tour will be in March. Stay tuned...



Saturday Tours Group standing in front of Benicia State Capital Building (1/19/2019)



“Mexican Train” Dominos

Richard Madden

(maddenram@sbcglobal.net)

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

We had eight players who attended the January Mexican Train meeting held at Robbie Robinson's home. Thanks, Robbie for hosting the event since I was out of town.

Scores ranged from 277 to 486. Harry Sherinian just edged out Kirk McVean 277 to 280. Better luck next time. Alex Lutkus was next with 314, followed by Bob Wolf, 334, Robbie Robinson, 380 and Gary Bonfiglio at 415. We were happy to have a new member, Dan Lawrence who did well as a newbie with an adjusted score of 465. (by adjusted I think since he had to leave early, he gets the highest score of each round missed). Paul Freitas was our anchor at 486.

We meet at 10:00 AM on the second Wednesday of the month, except when we have conflicts, at the Church of Christ located at 500 Minert Road, Walnut Creek. This month our meeting location is yet to be determined. I will send an announcement when the location is set.

I hope to get Couples Train back on the track in March.

Some SIR Travel Opportunities

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

NCGA Golf Events

Gentlemen,

I have played in many of these NCGA outings over the last few years and they are great fun, on courses you would not normally be able to get on.

You can play any tee you want and make up your own foursome. You get lunch, range balls, carts, and a tee prize (usually golf balls).

I highly recommend playing a few events. Many this year are in Contra Costa County.

If you haven't already you will need to register with NCGA and also sign up for each event.

Let me know if you have questions or need help with the registration process I'd be happy to help

Warren Garrison
SIRS Golf Group



Computer & Technology

Neil Schmidt

(SIR.Area2.CAT@gmail.com)

The Area 16 Computer and Technology invites you to our next meeting at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge on **Thursday, February 21, 2019** starting at 9:30 am. Come early for coffee, goodies, and chat.

The February 21st presentation will be “*Smart Home Starter Kit*” by Neil Schmidt. There are many new and creative smart home devices that may be added to an existing home for added convenience, improved home security and increased energy efficiency. Neil is going to present some examples of devices available, their cost and “Do-It-Yourself” (DIY) steps needed to implement both a simple, as well as a fully integrated, smart home ecosystem. Using automation, motion detection, geofencing, and other control techniques, smart home systems can be fun to implement and extremely useful.

Note that we ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and cookies. All SIR members and their guests (spouses included!) are welcome to attend. See you there...



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:

- 2018 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. 06	10:00	Buchanan Fields	Dick Chaffee
Wed. 13	10:00	Diablo Hills	D.McClaughry
Wed. 20	10:00	Buchanan Fields	Dick Chaffee
Wed. 27	10:00	Brentwood	D.McClaughry

February 18-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Mon. 4	9:32	Boundary Oak	Harry Oberle
Mon. 11	9:32	Boundary Oak	Harry Oberle
Tues. 19	9:30	Canyon Lakes	Harry Oberle
Mon. 25	9:30	Deer Ridge	Harry Oberle

18-Hole Results

Blue Rock Springs West 2-28-19

David Harris - Official Scorer

<u>Flight 1</u>			<u>Flight 2</u>			<u>Flight 3</u>			<u>Flight 4</u>		
1st	David Harris	66 3	1st	Gary Boswell	66 3	1st	Ron Armijo	72 3	1st	Conrad Robertson	72 3
2nd	Don Schroeder	74 2	2nd	Al Zavattero	67 2	2nd	Jim Clizbe	78 2	2nd	Wayne Cook	79 2
3rd	Phil Goff	76 1	3rd	Harry Oberle	70 1				T3	Robbie Robinson	87 1
<u>Low Gross</u>			<u>Low Gross</u>			<u>Low Gross</u>			<u>Low Gross</u>		
	David Harris	83		Gary Boswell	88		Ron Armijo	104		Conrad Robertson	110
				Al Zavattero	88						
<u>Closest to #3</u>			<u>Closest to #3</u>			<u>Closest to #3</u>			<u>Closest to Hillside #2</u>		
	David Harris			Al Zavattero			Ron Armijo				

Brentwood (C/H), Tues, Jan 22 2019

Phil Jenkins - Official Scorer

<u>Flight 1</u>			<u>Flight 2</u>			<u>Flight 3</u>			<u>Flight 4</u>		
1st	Michael Barrington	55 3	1st	Gary Boswell	75 3	1st	Bob Donohue	80 3	1st	Robbie Robinson	81 3
2nd	Phil Goff	69 2	2nd	Harry Oberle	76 2	2nd	Dave Carlson	89 2	2nd	Conrad Robertson	85 2
3rd	Don Schroeder	77 1	3rd	Al Hutcho	77 1				T3	Greg Hughes	87 1
									T3	Phil Jenkins	87 1
<u>Low Gross</u>			<u>Low Gross</u>			<u>Low Gross</u>			<u>Low Gross</u>		
	Michael Barrington	72		Gary Boswell	96		Bob Donohue	106		Robbie Robinson	118
				Harry Oberle	96						
<u>Closest to Hillside #2</u>			<u>Closest to Hillside #2</u>			<u>Closest to Hillside #2</u>			<u>Closest to Hillside #2</u>		
	Don Schroeder										

Boundary Oak 1-14-19

Bob Donohue, Official Scorer

Event Cancelled

Boundary Oak 1-7-19

Special Events Committee, Official Scorer

Two-Man Six Shooter Special Event Touranment



2019 First Half Leaders (As of Blue Rock Springs West, Mon. Jan. 28, 2019)

<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>
David Harris	3	Gary Boswell	6	Bob Donohue	3	Conrad Robertson	5
Don Schroeder	3	Harry Oberle	3	Ron Armijo	3	Robbie Robinson	4
Michael Barrington	3	Al Zavattero	2	Dave Carlson	2	Wayne Cook	2
Phil Goff	3	Al Hutcho	1	Jim Clizbe	2	Greg Hughes	1
						Phil Jenkins	1

Some of the New PGA Golf Rules that affect SIR Golf

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. You must now drop from knee height (not shoulder height) b. Time to search – 3 minutes (NOT 5 minutes) c. If you accidentally move your ball when searching for it, replace it without penalty d. No penalty for a double hit – It only counts as one stroke e. No penalty if your ball hits you or your equipment accidentally after a stroke f. No penalty if your ball strikes the flagstick when you have chosen to leave it in the hole g. You can't take relief from a penalty area unless you are at least 95% certain your ball is in the | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> penalty area h. In bunkers you can move loose impediments i. In bunkers you cannot touch the sand with your club in the area right in front of or right behind your ball, during your backswing or in taking practice swings j. Unplayable ball in bunker – extra option to drop outside the bunker for 2 penalty strokes k. Pace of Play – it is recommended that you take no longer than 40 seconds to make a stroke (and usually you should be able to play more quickly than that) and Ready Golf in stroke play is encouraged |
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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>
February 19	Canyon Lakes	Feb. 5	\$40
February 25	Deer Ridge	Feb. 20	\$35
March 19	Paradise Valley	Mar. 8	\$45
March 25	Franklin Canyon	Mar. 11	\$33

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.