



SIR Branch 116 Trampas Topics Newsletter April 2020

Next Meeting: No scheduled lunch meetings until further notice due to COVID-95.

A Nonprofit Public Benefit Organization for Men Enjoying Active Retirement

Message from Michael



We are living in very strange and challenging times. Our anxieties are increased due to the inconsistent messages and confusion between the experts in our government in this time of national crisis. It is hitting each one of us very hard and especially those organizations that focus on social activities.

People handle the restrictions of being 'cooped' up, in different ways, from those of us with 'hermit' tendencies who enjoy the increased amount of quiet time, to the purely outgoing eccentrics in the branch who would love to play golf seven days a week. I think most of us fall somewhere between the two. But nonetheless our routines have changed dramatically.

The BEC of 116 has held two meetings to try to stay on top of events which seem to be changing by the minutes. Our meetings are of course not face to face, but virtual: we are using the internet to connect with others.

In the most recent communication from the BIG SIR State President, he reminded us that "all SIR activities are cancelled until further notice." This is not information that you want to hear, I am sure, but it falls in line with the current directives from both the State and Federal Government.

As a result, there will be NO lunch meeting on April 20th.

In addition, the golf outing to Carmel has been cancelled. Depending on the course of the virus and the consequent restrictions or not, it may be possible to re-schedule it. However, we do know that this could not be later than early June.

Our Spring Fling with the Ladies has been cancelled. It will probably happen later on in the year.

Appreciating that some of our members live on their own and others that feel the need to be in regular contact other branch members, we are exploring various ways to make this happen. For those of you not familiar with it, and for those of you who are interested, you will have the opportunity to be introduced to the use of ZOOM, an excellent and simple way of communication as a group electronically. You will be hearing from us, and from various leaders in the branch, as to how we will move forward.

Blessings to you all and be safe.

Michael



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NOTE:

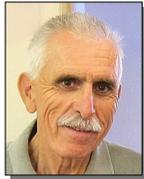
All SIR activities have been cancelled until further notice due to COVID-95. Virtual meetings such as Zoom meetings are ok; however, participants are to stay in their homes with only family members.

Please email or call any BEC member if you have any questions/news regarding branch activities or members

2020 SIR Branch 116 Officers



Big SIR
Michael
Barrington



Little SIR
Sam
Beret



Treasurer
Alan
Fitzgerald



Asst.Treas.
Al
Satake



Secretary
Fred
Schafer



Assist.Sec.
Paul
Ramacciotti



Member.Sec.
Phil
Goff

2020 SIR Branch 116 Directors



Gary
Boswell



Roger
Craig



Al
Farbman



David
Harris



Fred Wa-
chowicz



Jerry
Hicks

2020 Activity Chairmen

Activity	Chairman	Asst. Chairman
• Amiable Amblers	John Riordan	Joel White
• Bocce	Jim Seven	
• Book Group 1	Rich Black	Steve Bort
• Book Group 2	Alan Pope	
• Book Exchange	John Fraser	Dick Kauffman
• Bridge	Jon Dickson	Bob Wolf
• Computer & Tech.	Neil Schmidt	Phil Goff
• Dine-O-SIR	Alex Lutkus	Team Members
• 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 - Carmel	Jim Barstow	JJ, Harris, Eller
• Golf - Carson City	Tim Hubbard	Oberle, Harris
• Mexican Train	Richard Madden	Alex Lutkus
• Parties	Marty Katz	
• Pickleball	Ed Solomon	
• Poker	Lou Sandor	
• Saturday Tours	Greg Hughes	
• \$ums in Retirement	Ben Smith	
• Travel	TBD	
• Wine-O-SIR	Lou Meylan	

2020 Support Chairmen

RAMP Department Heads:

- Recruitment Don Schroeder
- Activities Fred Wachowicz
- Member Relations Tom O'Brien
- Publicity Jim McCormick

Support Chairmen:

- Audit Committee Ron Armijo
- Nominating Committee Jerry Hicks
- Sunshine Committee Matt Arena

Luncheon Support:

- Attendance Mike Schneider
- Audio Visual Neil Schmidt
- Chaplain Committee Terry Sherman
- Greeters Committee Terry Grummitt
- Raffle Committee Ben Bryce
- Speakers Committee Sam Beret/ Al Farbman
- Storytellers Committee Mac Mcloughlin
- Cash Collection Ron Banducci

Recruitment Committee

- Recruiting Don Schroeder
- Guest Packet Don Schroeder
- Guest Follow-up Don Schroeder
- Guest Statistics Phil Goff
- Sponsor Program Don Schroeder
- New Member Orientation Dave Williams
- New Member Packet Phil Goff

Membership

- Member Relations Tom O'Brien
- Membership Secretary Phil Goff
- Membership Roster George Pryhuber
- Awards/Recognition Michael Barrington

Publicity

- Publicity Jim McCormick
- Newsletter Editor Neil Schmidt
- Internal Communications Michael Barrington

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

Some Other SIR Area 16 Activities

Apple User Group	Dick Macy (Br.171)	376-1180
Astronomy	Bill Hunter (Br.8)	947-6947
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



Br. 116 Treasurer's Report

Alan Fitzgerald, Treasurer
(galan.fitzgerald@gmail.com)

	Mar 2020	2020 YTD
Contributions	\$ 355.00	\$ 16,318.85
Disbursements	\$ (816.17)	\$ (14,598.17)
Net (gain/(loss))	\$ (461.17)	\$ 1,720.68
Mar. 28 Cash Balance		\$ 11,566.50



Membership

Phil Goff
(philgoff@yahoo.com)

SIR 116 March Membership Status

Total Current Membership is 206

- John Peterson Passed away on 2/24/2020
- Jerry Hunter Passed away on 2/29/2020



Sunshine Report

Matt Arena
(marena@astound.net)

PAST BIG SIR **Jerry Hunter** (2006) passed on February 29. Jerry lead the Branch with distinction. He played a significant role in the golf program. Jerry provided the scores for the golfers as far back as the Boulder Creek tournaments as well as the Carson City events. What was so admirable was the accuracy of his calculations when ever he provided the scores for any tournament. Jerry was a dedicated member who will be missed.

SIR **BILL McCORD** celebrated his 92 second birthday on March 29 with a steak dinner provided by his wife June and glasses of bubbly to mark the occasion. Bill can't wait until the golf courses reopen. Happy Birthday Bill.

This a time to be hopeful while you keep your family safe.

In Memoriam
Jerry Hunter
June 2, 1934 – February 29, 2020

In Memoriam
John Avery Peterson
March 11, 1936 – February 14, 2020

April Birthdays

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

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. John Canane | 8. Mac McLoughlin |
| 2. Dick Chaffee | 9. Joe Ostler |
| 3. Jim Clizbe | 10. Alan Pope |
| 4. Denny Giambastiani | 11. Bob Shader |
| 5. Bill Hemmelsbach | 12. Ben Smith |
| 6. Ron Henrickson | 13. Duane Spencer |
| 7. Richard Madden | 14. Marsh Stashyn |



Parties

Marty Katz
(mctkatz@pacbell.net)

2020 Spring Fling Cancelled

It is with a heavy heart that this years Spring Fling has been Canceled. Boundary Oak is shut down, the SIR President has ordered all SIR activities are canceled and we have all been told to Separate and Stay Indoors for our Health and Well Being.

Have a glass of Wine with your Special Someone and maybe a little Fling may occur.

I wish you all Safe Keeping.

Marty



Carmel Golf Outing

Jim Barstow
(jbarstow@aol.com)

Carmel Golf Outing - POSTPONED, without a define date currently set for 2020. We are considering June 3rd and 4th, with a decision to be made by the end of April. Any definite date / decision will be immediately posted on the SIR Branch 116 Golf Website.



Br. 116 Book Group 1

Rich Black

(blackrw41@comcast.net)

Book Group #1 will meet on Zoom on Monday, April 6, to discuss "13 Hours ...in Benghazi" by Mitchell Zuckoff. It is the custom of Book Group #1 to meet at 10:15 am. This is a new plan and replaces an e-mail previously sent Book Group #1 members with other dates.

Several of us did a run-through on Zoom recently and we think we can make this work. (It should be possible. Book Group #2 has already done it.) So here is what you do if you have a laptop.

Set your URL to <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/4024780645>. Join us at 10:15 on Monday, April 6, 2020.

If you have an I-Pad, I-Phone or Android, you will need to download an app and then sign on.

If you will join us by telephone only, dial (408) 638-0968. At the prompt enter the Meeting ID: 402 478 0645 and then press #. To disconnect, please hang up.

Sound intimidating? E-mail Rich Black to set up an on-line or by-phone tutorial.

Come on guys? What else have you got to do? Start reading "13 Hours" and get ready to Zoom.



Br. 116 Book Group 2

Alan Pope

(pope451@gmail.com)

Book Club 2 met on Thursday, March 26 via Zoom videoconference, to discuss "Say Nothing" by Patrick Radden Keefe.

Say Nothing, a nonfiction book, reads as a part history, part crime novel about the Irish Republican Army ("IRA") from the early 1970's and leading up to the 1998 signing of the Good Friday Agreement between the governments of the United Kingdom, Northern Ireland, and the Government (Republic) of Ireland. After the Good Friday Agreement, Boston College created an archive of transcripts of interviews with some IRA participants involved in the conflict. The author used those transcripts to write Say Nothing.

Overall, the group rated "Say Nothing" a 3.8 out of 5; with a range of 2.8 to 4.5. Most members learned a lot about the IRA during the violent period from the 1960's to the late 1990s. Special thanks to Michael Barrington for his first-hand accounts of his experience living outside of Belfast in the early 1970s and his knowledge of the IRA's conflict with the British.

The next Book Club 2 meeting will be on **Thursday, April 30**, at 11 am either by Zoom videoconference. The group will discuss "The Splendid and the Vile" by Erik Larson. This is a nonfiction account of Winston Churchill's first year as prime minister during the German Blitz, May 10, 1940 to May 10, 1941. We have room for more book club

Contact me for information on participating in the April 30th Book Group 1 Zoom meeting.



Amiable Amblers at Inspiration Point
on February 28



Activity Chair
Fred Wachowicz & Mike Ward
 (fredwach@pacbell.net)



Staying Connected During Trying Times

Well guys, it looks like most of our activities are on the shelf for a while, hopefully to return soon! Book Club is holding calls but all of our in-person events remain on hold.

In the meantime our Branch is planning to organize on-line functions using the **Zoom** product that you may have already used or heard of.

This product enables groups to set up on-line meetings (via PC, Laptop, or Smartphone) for group discussions, presentations, and many other forms of virtual activities. Many churches, schools, businesses, and social groups are already using Zoom along these lines. Your Grand kids can probably fill you in on the details about **Zoom**.

A Branch group (Schmidt, Beret, Goff, Ward, and Wachowicz) is looking at Zoom capabilities to see how we could deploy the application for Lunch Table Groups, Activity Groups, General Member Q&A groups, and various other working teams.

Zoom is easy to use, requires minimal technical skills, effective, and capable of meeting our needs to keep our Branch members connected during trying times.

Look for further details from us in the next couple of weeks to get the “**Zoom Ball**” rolling.

SIR Web Addresses

SIR 116 Web Site
branch116.org

Branch 116 Golf
branch116golf.org

Computer and Technology
<https://sirinc2.org/a16cat/>

SIR Happenings State Newsletter
sirinc.org/sirhappenings

State SIR Web Site
sirinc.org/

Venmo – Quick Pay Money Transfer Option that is FREE

The Branch has a Venmo Account tied to our checking account for member transfers.

- First Name: WcTrampas
- Last Name: Fitzgerald
- User ID: Sirbranchonesixteen

What can you do with Venmo?

You can make payments directly to the Treasurer for **Branch Activities such as Lunch, Annual Dues, Parties, and maybe Dine-O-Sirs without writing a check**. The Treasurer gets notified of payment and pulls the money into the checking account and notifies the Activity Chair of your payment.

Advantages:

- Avoid the pay line at Lunches
- Avoid having checks outstanding for long periods of time (makes book keeper happy)
- Payment not made until a few days before event cut-off date.

How to use Venmo:

- Member down loads Venmo application for their phone from the App Store.
- Create an account following instructions on the App that will link your Bank Account to Venmo.
- Initiate payment by selecting the Branch Account by searching on “first name” or “User ID”. Enter the amount of payment and identify the purpose of the payment, i.e., Lunch (current month) payment.
- Payments need to be made prior to any cut-off dates for the activities and the Thursdays prior to the monthly Luncheon. This gives the system and Treasurer time to process payments and the Treasurer time to notify activity chair of payment.



A way to stay connected with your friends

Big SIR Michael Barrington practicing his golf putting during "Stay at Home"



Marty & Carolyn Katz Message



Screen-Shot of March 30th BEC Virtual Meeting



FIRST CLASS MAIL

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.