



# SIR Branch 116 Trampas Topics Newsletter February 2020

**Next Meeting:** 11:30 am  
Monday, Feb. 17, 2020  
Boundary Oak, 3800 Valley  
Vista Rd., Walnut Creek

A Nonprofit Public Benefit Organization for Men Enjoying Active Retirement

## Message from Michael



Wow, we already have one month behind us! Talk about time flying!

I would first like to offer a big "Thank You" for all of you have offered your services for 2020 and especially to those members who are 're-treads' who year after year give of their time and talents to make our Branch 116 the most lively and welcoming in the area.

I would especially like to recognize retiring Board Members Harry Sherinian, Norm Alberts and Pete Coggiola. We have a new branch treasurer Alan Fitzgerald and on your behalf I would like to thank him for accepting a demanding responsibility and recognize our past treasurer Jim Nichols who has helped to keep the lights on for the past three years. Branch 116 owes you a debt of gratitude.

I would also like to welcome two new Board Members, Al Farbman and Henry Hauge.

Looking ahead, Valentine's Day is fast approaching and opportunity to let our significant others know that not only do we not take them for granted, we value their love and support as we get to play with our friends. There are some nice events taking place in the area and if any couple is interested in a romantic dinner dance on the day itself, I know the place to go!

Our dates for the Carmel outing are fixed for May 6th. and 7th. and it promises to be even better than last year. This is a super event and what makes it special is that we can also bring our partners.

This year we have one change which is causing a little confusion. **Effective January 1st, we have raised our annual dues to \$20**, which is amazing value when you reflect on what the Branch is offering. The increase is 41 cents per month. Inflation and the need to cover all Branch expenses has made the BEC take this decision. I appreciate your understanding."

And finally, at the January meeting we had 11 guests and potential new members, which is simply outstanding. Let's see if we can repeat that number in February. Well done sponsors!

Blessings to you all,

*Michael*



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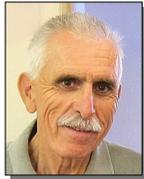
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**PLEASE CALL 322-1318**  
or email to  
**luncheon116@gmail.com**  
by the Monday prior to  
the meeting to cancel your  
standing reservation or to  
bring a guest.

## 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



Henry  
Haugse



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

# SIR Branch 116 Activity Calendar

## February 2020

Sun.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>Super Bowl</b>	<b>18-Hole Golf</b> (9:32@ Boundary Oak GC ) <b>Pickleball</b> (8:00@Heather Farms Tennis Courts)	<b>Duplicate Bridge</b> (9:00 Diablo Vly. Bridge Ctr)	<b>9-Hole Golf</b> (10:00@ Pleasanton GC)		<b>Pickleball</b> (8:00@ Heather Farms Tennis Courts)	
	9	10	11	12	13	14
	<b>18-Hole Golf</b> (9:32@ Boundary Oak GC ) <b>Pickleball</b> (8:00@Heather Farms Tennis Courts)	<b>Luncheon Bridge</b> (11:30@ Diablo CC)	<b>9-Hole Golf</b> (10:00@ Diablo Hills GC) <b>Mexican Train</b> (10:00@ TBD)		 <b>Hiking &amp; Walking</b> (8:15@ Lafayette-Moraga Regional Trail, Moraga) <b>Pickleball</b> (8:00@ Heather Farms)	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	<u><b>SIR Br. 116 Meeting</b></u> (11:30 @ Boundary Oak) <b>President's Day Holiday</b>	<b>18-Hole Golf</b> (10:00@ Spanos Park GC)	<b>9-Hole Golf</b> (10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC)	<b>Computer &amp; Tech</b> (9:30@ Elks Club)	<b>Pickleball</b> (8:00@ Heather Farms Tennis Courts)	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	<b>18-Hole Golf</b> (10:00@ Brentwood GC) <b>Book Group 1</b> (10:15@ Orinda Books) <b>Pickleball</b> (8:00@Heather Farms Tennis Courts)	<b>Luncheon Bridge</b> (9:30@ Diablo CC)	<b>9-Hole Golf</b> (10:00@ Brentwood GC) <b>\$ums Investment</b> (8:00@ Diablo Creek GC)	<b>Fishing Group</b> (8:30@ Legends-Diablo Crk) <b>Book Group 2</b> (11:00@ Ygnacio Valley Library)	<b>Hiking &amp; Walking</b> (8:15@ Nimitz Trail, Tilden Park) <b>Pickleball</b> (8:00@ Heather Farms Tennis Courts)	



## Br. 116 Treasurer's Report

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

	Jan. 2020	2020 YTD
Contributions	\$ 10,203.15	\$ 10,203.15
Disbursements	\$ (8,095.85)	\$ (8,095.85)
Net (gain/(loss))	\$ <b>2,107.30</b>	\$ 2,107.30
January Cash Balance		\$ 11,953.12



## Membership

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

### SIR 116 Membership Status

Total Current Membership is 209

- Dan Lawrencel Resigned Can't play golf due to knee
- Tom Conroy Resigned Moved to San Diego
- Bob Testa Resigned Moved to Davis
- Dick Frankel Resigned Working on Luncheon days



## Meeting Attendance

**Brent Chaney & Jim Flessner**  
(luncheon116@gmail.com)



### January 20, 2020 Meeting Attendance

Active Members:	209
Guests/Visitors:	11
Transfers & Inductees:	0
Speakers:	2
Members Excused:	29
Excused due to long term illness:	4
Members NOT excused:	12
Total Attendance:	164
% of Active Members in Attendance	78%

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

## February Lunch Menu



**THE CLUBHOUSE**  
AT BOUNDARY OAK

### SIRS 116 Luncheon February 17, 2020

#### Salad

#### **Butter Lettuce Salad**

Seasonal Berries, Citrus Segments  
Poppy Seed Balsamic Vinaigrette

#### Entrées

#### **Bistro Filet**

Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables  
Red Wine Demi Sauce

Or

#### **Rock Cod**

Herb Crusted, Rice Pilaf, Seasonal Vegetables  
Chili Butter Sauce

#### Dessert

#### **Tres Leches Cake**

Raspberry Sauce

**Note: Vegetarian entrée option is available but only via advance request. Notify "Attendance" via luncheon hotline (Phone: 925-322-1318 or Email: luncheon116@gmail.com) to be on the "Vegetarian" list.**

## February Birthdays

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

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



## Sunshine Report

Matt Arena

(marena@astound.net)

The New Year has started off with no new members joining the Sunshine Report.

We are so happy for this piece of good news but please take good care of yourselves .

It is a blessing to have over 200 members in good shape for the shape they are in.

Our spouses are an integral part of this organization and a number of you have kept us informed of your lovely ladies and their health.

So for all of our families we wish you a healthy and prosperous New Year.



## \$ums Investment Group

Tom Henry (Branch 174)

(tomh925@icloud.com)

\$UMS in Retirement meets next on **Wed February 26** at 8 AM at the Legends Restaurant at Diablo Creek Golf Course on Port Chicago Highway, Concord, just north of Hwy 4. The presenter will be Jamshed Gandhi, our own CPA, who will talk about how the new Secure Act will affect your retirement plan.

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



## Amiable Amblers

John Riordan & Joel White

(gcriordan@com, zpz2mrz@gmail.com)

Essie Naddaf led the January 14 walk on the Iron Horse Trail from the Stone Valley Road trailhead. Paul Freitas led the January 28 walk on the Lafayette-Moraga Regional Trail from the Olympic Staging Area. New walker Fred McBreen joined us on the latter walk.

Dan Green will lead the **Friday, February 14** walk north on the Lafayette-Moraga Regional Trail in Moraga. Meet at 8:15 at the trailhead in the Moraga Commons Parking lot on St Mary's Rd. The post-walk gathering will be at the Town bakery and Café, 337 Rheem Blvd, across from the Rheem Theater. RSVP to Dan at asdgreen@comcast.net .

David Geary will lead the **Friday, February 28** walk north along the Nimitz Trail in Tilden Park. Meet at 8:15 at the trailhead in the Inspiration Point parking lot and be prepared a few easy hills. The post-walk gathering will be at Geppetto's Café, 87 Orinda Way in Orinda. RSVP to David at cocgeary@gmail.com .

These walks are for individuals or couples, as spouses and significant others are encouraged to participate. The significant other/spouse is also invited to participate even when the member is unable to. Also, members and or spouses are invited to join the post-walk convocation even if they are unable to participate in a particular walk. SIR members, including those from other branches, wishing to join this mellow group or to be added to the email contact list should contact John Riordan at jriordan730@gmail.com or 925-284-3394.





## Activity Chair

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



### Welcome to "The Dark Ages"

It's that time of year once again when the days are short, the air is unfriendly, and even the moon doesn't seem to shine brightly. Probably a good time to join Branch 116 Activities and have some fun! Check out Activity info in the newsletter and give the chairman a call.



If you don't see any activities you like, complete the online survey and let us know what you would like to see. So far the new possible activity leaders for 2020 are: More local day trips, more and smaller dinner groups, CPR, Cooking, Cycling, stock investing, theater/opera, wine making, ping pong, and photography.

### 2020 Activity Goals

As reported last month, the following goals will be among our objectives for 2020 and we will be reviewing these and others for acceptance by our Branch Leaders at the Feb Branch Leadership meeting.

- Annual Table Top and on-line surveys
- Volunteer Recruiting for leaders and assistants
- Work closely with other branches to develop and or share new activities
- Work with membership relations, recruiting, and publicity to keep members better informed about activities and their individual interests in participation
- Add a minimum of 3-to-5 new activities in 2020
- Recognize that our high volume activities are primary and we should therefore make them even better than they already are.
- Limit overlapping activities as much as possible

Last month we tried cutting back on activity announcements to conserve time on the agenda;

however, we have concluded that it is important to continue taking the time for individual announcements to keep members informed and advised on who to call to sign-up or ask questions.

Lastly, there is a link to our new Facebook site on our Branch web site. (Look for Facebook symbol on bottom of the Home page) Check it out. It's a good way to keep our spouses informed.



## Meeting Speaker

**Little SIR Sam Beret**  
(snb49@Outlook.com)

Finding interesting speakers is a very arduous task. I would like to introduce and commend the members of Speakers Committee headed by Allan Farbman. Paul Freitas, Roger Craig, and a recent addition Neil Fruman work very hard to find and evaluate interesting speakers for our monthly luncheons.

February 2020 luncheon speaker will be Dr Anders Jepsen. His topic will be "Detecting Land Mines with Drones".

As a geologist and a geophysicist, Dr Anders Jepsen has spent most of his career as an explorer for minerals and energy. He led expeditions to Canadian Northwest Territories for geological mapping and gold exploration, then to Argentine Andes and to Northern Labrador for minerals. He has also been active in solar energy development and studied emission of pollutant gases from active volcanoes.

Dr Jepsen has been a founder or co-founder of five high-tech companies, His current interest in applying established exploration technology to humanitarian issues developed from his long-time concern for the crisis of landmines left over from war.

Coupling a geophysical sensor with a modern programmable drone has been successfully shown as a mapping solution for magnetic landmines



## Walking Tours

Greg Hughes

(greghughes505@gmail.com)

In January, the Saturday Walking Tours Activity visited the Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary in Walnut Creek (Saranap). Completed in 2017, the 66,000 sq. ft. facility is the permanent home of the Sufism Reoriented school of worship. The tour was conducted by Ira Deitrick, President, who explained the Sufism Reoriented beliefs and practices. The highlight of the tour was seeing the 40 foot, 11 ton, "New Being" golden statue.

On **March 28**, Walking Tours group plans to visit the Marine Mammal Center in Sausalito.



## Pickleball

Ed Solomon

(edsolomon@gmail.com)

Please join us to learn Pickleball every week at Walnut Creek Tennis Club, Health Farms:

- Mondays from 8 am to 9:30 am
  - mixed doubles play
- Fridays from 8 am to 9:30 am.
  - SIR's only

Just bring Tennis Sneakers, and we have the paddles & balls

**Let's grow this SIR's activity! It's easy & fun!**

No need to call and confirm, just show up.

If there is a possibility of a weather challenge just text either, Ed or Dennis to confirm:

- Dennis 925-788-7508 c
- Ed 415-215-2684 c



Walking Tour Group at Sufism Reoriented Sanctuary on January 25th



## Br. 116 Book Group 2

Alan Pope  
(pope451@gmail.com)

Book Group 2 met on Thursday, January 23, to discuss "Between the World and Me" by Ta-Nehisi Coates. The author wrote this book as a letter to his 15 year old son to answer the question of "how one should live within a black body" in today's United States. The author answers this question by detailing his own struggles growing up in the streets in Baltimore, and dealing with institutions like the schools, the police, and the real and perceived dangers faced by black men and women in this country.

The group gave "Between the World and Me" an average of 3.4 out of 5, with a range of 2.9 to 4. The members' discussed some of the inaccuracies described in the description of events which occurred over the last 4 to 5 years, as well as the author's failure to acknowledge any progress in the struggle against racism. On the other hand, members pointed out that the book made them think about the issues still faced by blacks in the United States and what may be done to address those issues.

Michael Barrington recommended the book, while the discussion included Fred Wachowicz, Fred Schafer, Jerry Hicks, Peter Magnani, Jim Seven, Leo Vardas, Scott Clark, and Alan Pope.

The group will meet next on Thursday, **February 27**, at 11am at the Ygnacio Valley Library, located at 2661 Oak Grove Rd. in Walnut Creek. The group will discuss "The Only Woman in the Room" by Marie Benedict. This book caught the members' attention because it is about Hedy LaMar, famously known as an actress, but less well known as an inventor. We have room for more book club members, so if you are interested, we hope to see you there.



## Br. 116 Book Group 1

Rich Black  
(blackrw41@comcast.net)

Book Group #1 will meet next on Monday, February 24 to discuss "A Woman of No Importance" by Sonia Purnell. It is the custom of Book Group #1 to meet at 10:15 am at Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, in Orinda.

The group last met on January 27 to discuss "Loserthink" by Scott Adams. Joel White recommended the book and Richard Black led the discussion with Bob Wolf, Jerry Christopherson, John Kopchik, John Riordan, Garrett Girvan, Richard Rossland, Mac McLoughlin, Pail Freitas, Mike Schneider, Nick Bowles and Steve Bort.

The group largely panned this book as superficial and haphazardly considered, giving it a rating of 1.9 stars.



Fred Schafer getting ready to attend Book Group 2 meeting on January 23.



**Bocce**  
**Jim Seven**  
 (jseven1@me.com)

SIR's bocce will begin again in mid-March. I'll be contacting players from this past fall to gauge your interest for spring play. If you played in the past and enjoyed it, please recruit some friends to join us. Bocce is a fun, co-ed activity. Contact Jim Seven at jseven1@me.com with questions and/or to sign up.



**Wine-O-SIR**  
**Lou Meylan**  
 (loumeylan@hotmail.com)

The Wine O Sir group met Jan 30th at the home of Dee Formosa. The next meeting will be **March 26th** at the home of Jerry and Kathy Hicks. If you wish to attend please RSVP directly to Jerry Hicks.

## State 'SIR Happenings'

Enjoy reading *SIR Happenings* and find out about all the fun things that are going on throughout our organization. You can easily find Happenings on the SIR State Website located at:

[sirinc.org/sirhappenings](http://sirinc.org/sirhappenings)

## Some SIR Travel Opportunities

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



**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



**Bridge**  
**Jon Dickson**  
 (still26@sbcglobal.net)

SIR's lunch & bridge is 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month, playing at Diablo County Club. It is Chicago style, 6 rounds of 4-hands each, changing partners every 4 hands. Starts at 10:00 AM and gets you out before 2:30 PM. Do come and join us.

We have lunch & bridge on **December 10th** but do not play on the 4th Tuesday in December.

There is also duplicate bridge on the 1st Tuesday of the month at the Concord Bridge Center.

This is your chance to play bridge and make your grey cells work in your head. Do join us.



**Computer & Technology** Al  
**Neil Schmidt** wa  
 (SIR.Area2.CAT@gmail.com) ys

The next meeting of the SIR Area 16 Computer and Technology Group will be at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge (1475 Creekside Dr., WC) on **Thursday, February 20, 2020** starting at 9:30 am. SIR from all branches and their guests, including spouses, are welcome and invited to attend. Plan to come a little early and for coffee, goodies and to chat.

February presentation topic will be "Editing Photos With Your Mobile Devices" by Derek Southern. Derek will show you how to edit your own pictures on your smart phone. By using just a few simple sliders you can quickly make your pictures look incredibly better, you will wow and impress your friends. He will demonstrate a free app (for Android and Apple phones) called SNAPSEED. He will also mention the free version of Adobe's Lightroom for smart phones. Your phone may include a photo editor, but you'll see that Snapseed offers many more capabilities while being simple to use. Load Snapseed onto your smart phone and edit your own images, as you watch Derek's live, on-screen presentation.



## "Dine-O-SIR" Dinner Group

Alex Lutkus

(alutkus@yahoo.com)

The Dine-O-SIR group kicked off the 2020 New Year with their annual Sunday Champagne Buffet Brunch at Crow Canyon Country Club on Sunday, January 19, 2020. As in past years, it was a tremendous success.

The next Dine-O-SIR event will be held on Wednesday, March 25, 2020 at Zio Fraedo's Italian Continental Restaurant in Pleasant Hill. The dining event will be managed by Marty Katz and Bob Price. Detailed information and the reservation form may be found on the following page.



## "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!

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



Branch 116 SIR and their wives enjoying the Annual Sunday Champagne Buffet Brunch at Crow Canyon Country Club on January 19th.

# Branch 116 Dine-O-Sirs

Wednesday, March 25, 2020 Dining Event

## Zio Fraedo's Italian Continental Restaurant

611 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill, CA

SOCIAL HOUR WILL START AT 6:00 PM and Dinner will be Served at 6:45 PM

Wines (by the glass), beer and bar cocktails at \$5.00; Bottles of house wine at \$20.00

(Corkage will be available at \$15.00)

Appetizers will be available during the cocktail hour – Fried Zucchini and Fried Calamari

### Dinner Menu

ENTREES - Choice of:

1. New York Steak
2. Chicken Toscana
3. Salmon
4. Pasta Primavera

(All Entrees will include a starch and fresh vegetables)

POST DINNER: Dessert (Chef's choice)

Coffee or Hot Tea

**Cost, just \$40.00 per person, tax and tip included**

(cut)-----cut)

### Zio Fraedo's, Wednesday, March 25, 2020

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Entrée Selection: NY Steak \_\_\_\_ Chicken Toscana \_\_\_\_ Salmon \_\_\_\_ Pasta Primavera \_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Entrée Selection: NY Steak \_\_\_\_ Chicken Toscana \_\_\_\_ Salmon \_\_\_\_ Pasta Primavera

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ No. Attending: \_\_\_\_ x \$40 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check to: SIR Branch 116 Dining

Mail to: Bob Price, 31 Corte De Oro, Moraga, CA 94556-1615

Call or e-mail Marty Katz if you have questions. (925) 484-0122



## 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 27<sup>th</sup>, 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 510-207-7067, Branch 116 Fishing Coordinator.

Our winter trout season is off to a slow start. Phil Scimonelli caught one!!! Tom Kostik, Joe Misicione, and Ron Lew caught some stripers, sturgeon, and flounders in the delta. Stan Wong, Brion Beetz, and Bob Stein went out upon the ocean blue for sandabs and crabs. Limits of crabs and disappointment with the dabs. A fine group of us went to the Fishing Expo in Sacramento for bargains. Just a quick mention of our great Christmas Party that we had in December at Zio Freado's. We had a great turn out of over fifty members and guests. A special thanks to our chairman's of the event Pete Gates and Dick Thomson.



## Golf Lessons

Jerry Zampino

(Jzam40@yahoo.com)

Hello both experienced as well as beginning golfers.

We are doing a bit of retooling of our Golf Lesson Activity to keep the activity as flexible as possible while maintaining a steady routine for lesson schedules.

There will be a section in our upcoming Annual Activity Survey to ask about your interest and preferences for Golf Lessons going forward.

One major constraint that we have this time of year is that the range cannot open during rainy days since the balls cannot be retrieved due to the soggy conditions on the range.

If you are not already on the Golf Lesson e-mail list, just let me know and I will add you to the list for updates and scheduling information.



## SIR Web Addresses

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

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

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

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

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



## Book Exchange

John Fraser & Dick Kauffman

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



Everyone is invited to take advantage of the book exchange in the rear of the dining room, a wide variety of topics, fiction and non fiction. Spring Cleaning? Bring books that you have enjoyed, they are always welcome. We do need help in moving the books out of Boundary Oaks, just grab a box. I would be big help



**SIR Branch 116 Golf**  
 By Bernie Wroblewski, Golf Chairman  
 (bbwroblewski@comcast.net)

**New Golf Handicap System**

Beginning in 2020 the Northern California Golf Association (NCGA), and hence our Branch 116, will become part of the World Handicap System. The intent is to have all golf organizations worldwide come under a unified system. There will be revised methods to calculate one's Index, Handicap, and post scores.

It will take a few weeks for NCGA to make the switch to the new system. We will not be able to post scores for the first few weeks in January 2020. Once the new system is up and running NCGA will inform us so posting can resume. There will likely be some modifications to the way posting is done under the new system.

We will keep everyone informed of the new system requirements once we get the information from NCGA.

**Scorers are needed** for 2020. Contact Jim Johnson to signup.

**Hole-In-One Insurance:** New golfing members should put \$5 in the pot for insurance.



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

The SIR Branch 116 Nine Hole Golf Club plays every Wednesday morning. First tee time is 10:00am. Golfers of all levels are welcome. All events are scored on a handicapped basis. An NCGA index is not required. You may use your NCGA index if you have one. If not, we will compute an index for you based on your SIR 9 hole scores. **To sign up for an event**, please call the SIR Branch 116 Golf Club Hot Line, 925-906-5355. State that you want to sign up for the 9 hole event on (give the date). Or, **if you receive our 9 hole golf e-mail announcements, reply to the e-mail.**

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

**Latest SIR 116 Golf Info Available on Our Golf Web Site**

The Golf Website is: [branch116golf.org](http://branch116golf.org)

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

- **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. 05	10:00	Pleasanton	Marty Katz
Wed. 12	10:00	Diablo Hills	D.McClaughry
Wed. 19	10:00	Buchanan Fields	Dick Chaffee
Wed. 26	10:00	Brentwood	D.McClaughry

**February 18-Hole Schedule**

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Mon. 03	9:32	Boundary Oak	Harry Oberle
Mon. 10	9:32	Boundary Oak	Harry Oberle
Mon. 18	9:30	Spanos Park	Harry Oberle
Mon. 24	9:36	Brentwood	Harry Oberle

# 18-Hole Results

## Blue Rock Springs West - January 27, 2020

David harris - Official Scorer

<u>Flight 1</u>		<u>Flight 2</u>		<u>Flight 3</u>		<u>Flight 4</u>	
Tie1st David Harris	70 3	1st Bill McCord	65 3	1st Dick Chaffee	71 3	1st Bill Hemmelsbach	75 3
Tie1st Jim Johnson	70 3	2nd Al Hutchko	69 2	2nd Kevin Donahue	75 2	2nd Greg Hughes	81 2
3rd Don Schroeder	75 1	3rd Bernie Wroblewski	70 1	3rd Alex Lutkus	81 1	3rd Dave Carlson	83 1
<u>Low Gross</u>		<u>Low Gross</u>		<u>Low Gross</u>		<u>Low Gross</u>	
David Harris	85	Bill McCord	90	Dick Chaffee	101	Bill Hemmelsbach	
				Kevin Donahue	101		
<u>Closest to #3</u>		<u>Closest to #3</u>		<u>Closest to #3</u>		<u>Closest to #3</u>	
Jim Johnson		Al Zavattero					

## Franklin Canyon - January 21, 2020

Dirk Meyer - Official Scorer

<u>Flight 1</u>		<u>Flight 2</u>		<u>Flight 3</u>		<u>Flight 4</u>	
1st Jim Johnson	65 3	1st Jim Barstow	63 3	1st Kevin Donahue	75 3	1st Bill Hemmelsbach	68 3
2nd Don Schroeder	67 2	2nd Bernie Wroblewski	68 2	2nd Alex Lutkus	77 2	2nd Terry Sherman	69 2
3rd David Harris	76 1	3rd Dirk Meyer	70 1	3rd	1	3rd Greg Hughes	73 1
<u>Low Gross</u>		<u>Low Gross</u>		<u>Low Gross</u>		<u>Low Gross</u>	
Jim Johnson	83	Jim Barstow	85	Kevin Donahue	102	Terry Sherman	101
<u>Closest to #17</u>		<u>Closest to #17</u>		<u>Closest to #17</u>		<u>Closest to #17</u>	
Jim Johnson		Jim Barstow				Terry Sherman	

## Boundary Oak - January 13, 2020

Harry Oberle - Official Scorer

<u>Flight 1</u>		<u>Flight 2</u>		<u>Flight 3</u>		<u>Flight 4</u>	
1st Mike Howard	75 3	Tie1st Jm Barstow	71 3	1st Tom O'Brien	72 3	1st Jed Daniel	72 3
2nd Alan Fitzgerald	76 2	Tie1st Bernie Wroblewski	71 3	2nd Terry Grummitt	73 2	2nd Conrad Robertson	74 2
3rd Don Schroeder	77 1	Tie1st Al Zavattero	71 3	3rd Jim Clizbe	77 1	3rd Greg Hughes	75 1
<u>Low Gross</u>		<u>Low Gross</u>		<u>Low Gross</u>		<u>Low Gross</u>	
Alan Fitzgerald	91	Jim Barstow	94	Tom O'Brien	99	Jed Daniel	105
<u>Closest to #12</u>		<u>Closest to #12</u>		<u>Closest to #12</u>		<u>Closest to #12</u>	
Alan Fitzgerald		Al Zavattero		Kevin Donahue		Terry Sherman	

## Boundary Oak - January 6, 2020

Four Man Scramble No individual Scores - Official Scorer

## 18-Hole Leaderboard

### 2020 First Half Leaders (As of Blue Rock Springs West - January 27, 2020)

<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>
Jim Johnson	6	Jim Barstow	6	Kevin Donahue	5	Bill Hemmelsbach	6
Don Schroeder	4	Bernie Wroblewski	6	Tom O'Brien	3	Greg Hughes	4
David Harris	4	Al Zattero	3	Alex Lutkus	3	Jed Daniel	3
Mike Howard	3	Bill McCord	3	Dick Chaffee	3	Conrad Robertson	2
Alan Fitzgerald	2	Al Hutchko	2	Terry Grummitt	2	Terry Sherman	2
		Dirk Meyer	1	Jim Clizbe	1	Dave Carlson	1

### Some Golf Tips on Improving the "Speed of Play" (from Golf Digest)

- Play like you have only three hours to finish the round before the sun sets.
- Agreeing to play "ready golf" is essential for a casual round. But you'll play even faster if you keep putting until your ball is conceded or holed.
- Waiting? Take as many practice swings/strokes as you want. Your turn? **You get one.**
- Always be moving forward. If you have to double back for anything—bag, cart, clubs—you're losing time.
- Hit your ball first, then help others search. They'll typically find the ball without your help.
- **Unless the cart is going to or from a tee box, there should never be more than one person in it.**

**Golf Hotline:** The Golf Telephone Hotline can be reached at 925-906-5355.

You may leave a message to register for 9-Hole & 18-Hole tournaments, cancel a previous registration, make special requests for pairings, ask to be added to a waiting list after the deadline and check to see if a tournament has been cancelled due to inclement weather or other reasons.

- If you are registering for Boundary Oak, please indicate whether you are Walking or Riding.
- If you are registering for Paid-in-Advance tournaments, please mail your check prior to the deadline to SIR Branch 116 Golf, P. O. Box 683, Lafayette, CA 94549-0683.

### **Electronic Signups and Cancellations**

Please note that you may also signup for Boundary Oak & Paid-in-Advance tournaments on this website. Simply navigate to 18-Hole Group/Schedules & Signups and choose either Boundary Oak or Paid-in-Advance. You may cancel a previous signup either by using the telephone hotline or by sending an email to [branch116golf@gmail.com](mailto:branch116golf@gmail.com).

## 18-Hole Pay In Advance Deadlines

<u>Event Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Amount</u>
February 18	Spanos Park	Feb. 10	\$42
February 24	Brentwood	Feb. 13	\$35
March 17	Las Positas	Mar. 9	\$44
March 23	Paradise Valley	Mar. 12	\$45
March 30	Lone Tree	Mar. 21	\$38

Send checks made out to SIR Branch 116 Golf, PO Box 683, Lafayette, CA 94549-0683



**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.

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### **Non Responsibility Declaration**

**RULE 345:** All activities arranged for or by, Sons In Retirement, Incorporated, and its Branches, are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their guests who desire to participate. Sons In Retirement, Incorporated, and its Branches do not assume any responsibility for the well being or safety of the participants or their property, in any matters pertaining to said activities.

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### **Checks for Trips**

Trips of 2 days and 1 night or less may be made payable to the Branch conducting the trip. Trips in excess of 1 night must be made payable to the travel agency involved.