



SIR Branch 116 Newsletter December 2023

Enhancing the lives of our members through fun activities, luncheons and events while making Friends for Life

Message from Roger

The Holiday Party is a few days off and we have passed the 12/1 deadline. However, if you haven't signed up we can still squeeze you in.

Rush a check 2@65= \$130 to Alan Pope, 229 Nob Hill Dr. Walnut Creek, Ca. 94596-6708.



Hope to see you there.

Our SIR year is nearing and end. We lost some valued members this year and welcomed several new ones.

There is light at the end of the Covid tunnel and we are pretty sure it's not a train. Attendance at our luncheons showed a slow but steady gain.

The year has gone by quickly and I wish to offer my thanks to Little SIR Alan Pope, the Branch Officers and Branch Directors for their support and guidance as well as Mr. Reliable Neil Schmidt.

Activity Chairs too many to name here are the heartbeat of our Branch.

We thank each of you.

Roger Craig, Big SIR

Have a Merry Christmas & Happy New Years!

Next Year (2024)

Annual Membership Dues - \$15.00

Luncheon Cost - \$37.00

Golf 18 Hole - \$70.00

Golf 9 Hole - \$24.00

NOTE- There will be a three (3) luncheon attendance requirement in 2024

Next Meeting
Jan. 15, 2024 @
Boundary Oak, 11:30
AM

Topics Index

- \$ums Investment ... 13
- Amiable Amblers .. 14
- Big SIR Report 1
- Birthdays 4
- Bocce 10
- Book Exchange 8
- Book Group 1 8
- Book Group 2 11
- Branch Officers 2
- Bridge 9
- Calendar 3
- Dine-O-SIR 11
- Fishing 9
- Golf Clinic 14
- Golf- 9&18 Hole 15
- Holiday Party 6
- Little SIR Report 5
- Membership 4
- Mexican Train 13
- Pickleball 8
- SIR Happenings 4
- Topics Submissions . 4
- Travel 7
- Treasury 4
- Walking Tours 10
- Web Addresses 4
- Wine-O-SIR 13

Trampas Topics

Call 925-322-1318
or email to
luncheon116@gmail.com
by the Monday
prior to the meeting
to cancel your
standing
reservation.

2023 SIR Branch Officers



2023 SIR Branch Directors



2023 Support Chairmen

RAMP Department Heads

- Recruitment Don Schroeder
- Activities Mike Ward
- Member Relations Michael Barrington
- Publicity Paul Russell

Branch Support Chairmen

- Audit Committee Ron Armijo
- Nominating Committee Fred Wachowicz
- Sunshine Committee Matt Arena
- Computer Support Neil Schmidt/Phil Goff
- Webmaster Neil Schmidt/Phil Goff
- Newsletter Editor Neil Schmidt
- New Member Orientation Dave Williams
- Membership Roster Prep Phil Goff

Diversity Support Team

- Team Leader Fred Wachowicz
- Team Member Sam Beret
- Team Member Terry Sherman
- Team Member Al Satake
- Team Member Jerry Hicks
- Team Member Michael Barrington
- Team Advisor Lee Moy

Luncheon Support Team

- Attendance Mike Scheneider
- Audio Visual Neil Schmidt
- Chaplain Committee Terry Sherman
- Greeters Committee Ramacciotti, Datzman
- Raffle Committee Ben Bryce
- Storytellers Committee Mac McLoughlin/F. Schafer

Speakers Committee

- Team Member James Dawe
- Team Member Allan Farbman
- Team Member Paul Freitas
- Team Member Alan Pope

2023 Activity Chairmen

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Chairman</u>	<u>Asst. Chairman</u>
Amiable Amblers	John Riordan	Joel White
Bocce	Bob Huck	
Book Group 1	Rich Black	Steve Bort
Book Group 2	Scott Clark	Alan Pope
Book Exchange	Dick Kauffman	
Bridge	Jon Dickson	Art Donaldson
Community Service	Jeff Johnson	TBA
Dine-O-SIR	Jerry Hicks	
Fishing	Harry Sherinian	Terry Miller
Golf—18 Hole	Bernie Wroblewski	Jim Johnson
Golf—9 Hole	Dick Chaffee	D. Mclaughry
Golf—Treasurer	Alan Pope	
Golf—Carmel	Harry Oberle	Phil Goff
Golf—Clinic	Chris Doan	
Golf—Reno	Alan Pope	
Mexican Train	Richard Madden	Alex Lutkus
Parties	Open	TBA
Pickleball	Ed Solomon	Gary Bonfiglio
Poker	Lou Sandor	
\$ums Investment	Dave Sutton, Br.8	
Sunshine	Open	
Theater	Terry Sherman	
Travel	Jeff Johnson	TBA
Walking Tours	Greg Hughes	Marty Katz
Wine-O-SIR	Dave Havlik	

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

Monthly Activities Calendar

December 2023

Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
					1 Pickleball (7:30@ WC Tennis, Heather Farm) Amiable Amblers (9:00@ Heather Farms Swim Center)	2
3	4 18-Hole Golf (9:40@ Boundary Oak)	5	6 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Dublin Ranch)	7 Sums Investment (1:30 via Zoom)	8 Pickleball (7:30@ WC Tennis, Heather Farm) Amiable Amblers (9:00@ TBD)	9
10	11 18-Hole Golf (9:40@ Boundary Oak)	12 Luncheon Bridge (10:30@ The Brass Door,	13 Holiday Party (5:30@ Boundary Oak) 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Diablo Hills) Mexican Train (10:00@ Church of Christ, WC)	14	15 Pickleball (7:30@ WC Tennis, Heather Farm) Amiable Amblers (9:00@ Lafayette Reservoir)	16
17	18 18-Hole Golf (10:32@ Diablo Creek)	19 18-Hole Golf (9:27@ Rancho Solano)	20 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Buchanan Fields) Sums Investment (1:30 via Zoom)	21 Fishing Group (8:30@ Diablo Creek)	22 Pickleball (7:30@ WC Tennis, Heather Farm)	23
24	25  Christmas	26	27	28	29 Pickleball (7:30@ WC Tennis, Heather Farm)	30



Branch Administration



Branch Membership

Phil Goff, Membership Chairman

Total Membership is 189	
Eldon Hawksworth	New Member Sponsor is Don Schroeder
Dave Newman	New Member Sponsor is Gary Bonfiglio
Richard Rossland	Resigned Moved to Las Vegas



Treasury Report

Jeff Johnson, Treasurer

	30-Nov	2023 YTD
Beg Bal 2023		\$ 10,996.81
Contributions	\$ 9,069.41	\$ 90,517.72
Disbursements	\$ (5,985.41)	\$ (87,572.35)
Net (gain/(loss))	\$ 3,084.00	\$ 2,945.37
November Cash Balance		\$ 13,942.18

December Birthdays

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

1. John Alonso	8. Lou Johnson
2. John Antczak	9. Walt Kawecki Jr.
3. Allan Chasnoff	10. John Kopchik Jr.
4. Terry Fleming	11. Ed Solomon
5. Jim Gleason	12. Jim Tamulski
6. David Harris	13. Vince Yamamoto
7. Larry Heaton	

SIR HAPPENINGS

Checkout the new and improved State SIR Happenings Newsletter. With a new editor the newsletter February 2021 has been radically expanded with lots of information about fun things that are going on in our branches.

You can find it at: <https://sirinc.org/newsletters>

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

REMINDER

All members have a standing reservation for each luncheon. Call 925-322-1318 or email to luncheon116@gmail.com

by the Monday prior to the meeting to cancel your standing reservation.

SIR Web Addresses

SIR 116 Web Site

branch116.org

Branch 116 Golf

branch116golf.org

Branch 116 Shopping Cart

sons-in-retirement-las-trampas-br-116.square.site

SIR Happenings State Newsletter

sirinc.org/newsletters/

Get a Hardcopy of Your 2024 Newsletter

If you wish to receive, a hardcopy of the Trampas Topics newsletter mailed to your home each month, the 2024 subscription fee of \$20. Send your check, made-out to "SIR Branch 116", to our Treasurer: Jeff Johnson at 3906 Quail Ridge Rd., Lafayette, 94549.

Branch Administration



Little SIR Report

Allan Pope

As December unfolds, marking yet another year that seemed to fly by, I want to express my sincere gratitude to Roger Craig for his exemplary leadership as Big SIR the past 12 months. He has encouraged attendance at our monthly luncheons and took actions that resulted in the growth of membership in Branch 116. Our last luncheon was well attended and our speaker, Mark Triska, gave an excellent presentation about the wine industry

and wineries available to us in our own backyard in Livermore.

We eagerly anticipate your presence at the upcoming holiday party on December 13. Whether you plan on attending that holiday event or not, I wish you joy and blessings during this festive season. May your holidays be filled with warm and cherished moments with family and friends.

SIR Annual Membership Dues – What are they used for?

Curious about what your \$15 annual membership dues for 2024 will be used for? Here's what...

The largest chunk, \$10, goes to the state SIR organization in 4 quarterly installments. They use it mostly to purchase insurance to protect the organization and all its branches. What doesn't go towards insurance is used for general operating expenses and advertising – none is used for salaries. There are no paid SIR employees either at the state or local level.

The remaining \$5 is used by the Branch 116 BEC for general operating expenses – ink, paper, roster printing, postage, ... In 2024 we also included a bit more money than normal in the budget to cover recruiting expenses. It goes for things like printing flyers, putting ads in local papers, ...

Recruiting is a major focus of SIR all the way up to the state level. Branch 116 is doing better recruiting than many branches – essentially holding membership numbers constant over 2023. But we're all getting older so recruiting new (and hopefully younger) members is a constant challenge. If you have any ideas about ways to improve recruiting, the board would love to hear about them. And we have some money to fund them.

All other SIR activities – lunch, holiday parties, golf, Din-O-SIR, Wine-O-SIR, bridge, walking, ... are self-supporting. It's up to the activity chairmen to price their events in a way that covers their cost. With minor exceptions (free lunch for birthday boys and luncheon speakers are examples) no dues money supports SIR activities.

The SIR online store will open for 2024 annual membership dues payments of \$15 by credit card on 1/1/2024. We'll be ready at the January lunch to take payments by cash or check if you prefer paying that way. And remember, starting in January lunch will be \$37.

Carmel 2024 Event

We are considering an event in Carmel next September or October. The event will last two days and all SIR members with or without their spouses are invited. Also, guests are invited.

We will stay for 2 days at one of the local hotels and many will play golf at Monterey Pines and Pacific Grove. Non-golfers will have attractions such as special lunches, wine tasting, local interest tours etc. Specific activities have yet to be determined.

We will have a banquet dinner one night just to socialize with all other participants.

If there are enough people interested in such an event, we will begin working with the hotels to get a group rate. At this point we are not looking for a commitment, just an indication that it sounds like fun and you may be interested. Please send an email to Phil Goff at goffphil@gmail.com.

Branch Activities

SIR Branch 116

Wednesday, December 13th

Holiday Party

Boundary Oak, 3800 Valley Vista Rd., Walnut Creek

Recommended Attire: Business Casual

No host bar Social Hour will start at 5:30 PM and Dinner will be served at 6:30 PM
House red/white wine @ \$5/glass or \$20/bottle; bar well drinks @ \$5.00, corkage \$15

Entertainment by the **BARBERSHOP QUARTET TEAM HARMONY** followed by DJ for dancing (8:30 to 10 PM).

Cost, just **\$65.00** per person, tax, tip. Sign up early as maximum seats at 200
(Golf cart pick up provided from/to parking lots)



Dinner Menu

Appetizers: Crab Cakes, Spring Rolls, and Citrus Marinated Prawns with mango and chili glaze

Sunburst Salad: with baby greens, seasonal berries, oranges, gorgonzola cheese & poppy seed dressing

Entrée: Choice of:
1. Seared Marinated Bistro Fillet with caramelized shallot au jus
2. Herb & Potato Crusted Chicken Breast
3. Butter Nut Squash Ravioli with Brown Butter & Sun Dried Cranberries

Dessert: Tiramisu (Served with coffee, decaf or tea)

(cut)-----(cut)

Holiday Party

Reservation (**Deadline December 1st**)

NAME: _____

Entrée Selection: Steak ___ Chicken ___ Vegetarian ___

NAME: _____

Entrée Selection: Steak ___ Chicken ___ Vegetarian ___

E-Mail _____ No. Attending: ___ x \$65 = \$ _____

Please pay by SIR Branch 116 Shopping Cart System (use "Shopping Cart" button on our Branch website at branch116.org) or, pay by check, (make check to: SIR Branch 116 and mail your reservation/check to: Alan Pope, 229 Nob Hill Dr. Walnut Creek, Ca. 94596-6708. Call or email Alan if you have any questions. 925-899-0563 or apope4125@gmail.com)

Process: Sign in at registration table and pick up envelope with name tag, table tags, dinner selection. For table selection arrive early and place table tags provided at desired table.

New Members



New Member Dave Newman with Sponsor is Gary Bonfiglio



New Member Eldon Hawksworth with Sponsor is Don Schroeder

Branch Activities



Travel Jeff Johnson

Rose Parade & New Year's Eve Dec. 30, 2023 – Jan. 4, 2024. Cost \$3,375pp. Includes air fare, lodging, New Year's Eve party, Rose Parade, Nixon Library, coastal cities, luxury bus, lodging, 9 meals. Contact Joe Salamida 408-767-2838. ascreenman756@gmail.com

Princess 11 Nigh Inside Passage Cruise from San Francisco Rt Alaska May 26 – June 6, 2024. Ketchikan, Juneau, Skagway AK and Victoria, Canada. Cabins start \$2590 pp to \$3322 pp double occupancy SIR 143 Contact John Cardoza 209-483-7722 or johncardoza@hotmail.com

Best of Spain and Portugal April 27 – May 12, 2024.

Branch 146. Cost \$7,895pp. Madrid, Segovia, Porto, Lisbon, Seville, Gibraltar, Costa Del Sol, Alhambra, Valencia, Barcelona, round trip airfare, 15-day guided tour with Travel Director, 14 nights at centrally located 4star hotels, 5 dinners and 2 lunches including wine, all tips, transfers and baggage handling. Contact Glenn Breslin 925-288-6520 glennbreslin@gmail.com

THIS TRIP now cancelled...**Memorials of WWII Tour** Sept. 6 – 15, 2024 Cost \$4,972pp dbl. Occ. London, Portsmouth, Paris, D-Day Museum, Landing R/T air, motor coach, ferry from England to France. 8 brkfst. 4 dinner. Contact Glenn Breslin 925-288-6520 glennbreslin@gmail.com

Are you having problems contacting one of our new members?

The online SIR Branch 116 Roster is updated each month and includes all our new 2023 members. The Roster is password protected and you need the secret password access the information. If you don't know or remember the secret password, contact our Membership Secretary Phil Goff.

How to Get the Roster:

The online Roster is in the "Member Info" section of our Branch website (www.branch116.org) and the Username is "WalnutCreekBranch" (The Username is not a secret but the Password is).

Branch Activities



Book Group 1 Rich Black

Book Group #1 will discuss the following books at Orinda Books at 10.15 on the following dates

- Monday, January 8, ... "Hero of the Empire" by Millard
- Monday, January 28, ... "Longitude" by Sobel
- Monday, February 27, ... "Franklin and Winston" by Micham

Book Group #1 met on Monday, November 27, 2023 at Orinda Books to discuss "Chip War" by Chris Miller. The guys felt they had lived this one, the story of the development of the microchip to the present tension between the US and China over chip technology. New chips contain incredible circuitry and the development of devices that produce the

next generation of chips cost billions. Really! Chip development has been advanced by the military, the consumer market, major corporations and the Governments of the US, Tiwan, Japan, China, and others.

John Riordon recommended the book while Richard Black led the discussion with Tod Berman, Art Donaldson, Jim Flessner, Garrett Girvan, Dick Kauffman, John Kopchik, Peter Loew, Mac McLoughlin, Dan Renke, Mike Schneider, Tim Tinnes, Richard White and Joel White. The group awarded the book 4.1 stars.

New members are always welcome. It's a discussion, not a class. If possible, contact Rich Black at Blackrw41@comcast.net ahead of time. Or just come.



Book Exchange Dick Kauffman

I would like to thank all those who brought some extra books for the Book Exchange at the November luncheon. We probably have about 200 books available, but can always use additional "good books". As a thought, after you finish reading the book you received from the holidays, and you thought it was a "good book", think about bringing it to the Book Exchange to get another "good book".

As the end of the year approaches, we hope that you have found some value from the service provided by the Book Exchange. As most of you know, the

Book Exchange is only available as a result of the volunteer "Book Sherpas" who schlep the books back and forth to the luncheon. Some of the Sherpas for 2023 are:

Doug Allen, Richard Black, Gary Bonfiglio, Art Donaldson, Bill Hayes, Gregg Hughes, John Riordan, Fred Wachowicz and Mike Ward.

A big thank you to them.

Happy Holidays and enjoy your reading,

The Book Sherpas



Pickleball Ed Solomon

Pickleball, is the fastest growing team sport in the U.S. for all ages. With the summer months coming soon, we now start **7:30 to 9 am every Friday**, at The Tennis Center in Heather Farm, Walnut Creek. Here's a brief Introduction to Pickleball...

<https://www.youtube.com/atcv=xEYsymCtIDY>

Required equipment- Paddle, balls, and tennis

sneakers. (We have extra paddles and balls) Beginners all welcome....it's the best way to see what all the excitement is about. Come on down!!!

Ed Solomon. Co-Chair ———415-215-2684 m

Gary Bonfiglio Co-Chair ———925-330-9612 m

COME ON BY TO PLAY, OR JUST WATCH!!!!

We're not bad for a bunch of **SIR Dudes!!**

Branch Activities



Fishing Harry Sherinian

SIR members and guests are welcome, and indeed encouraged, to participate in fishing trips as well as attend the monthly meetings. Contacts are Big Fish, Bob Lively 925-383-5193 or Harry Sherinian, Branch 116 Fishing Coordinator, 510-207-7067. Next meeting will be at the Legends restaurant at the Diablo Creek golf course on Port Chicago Highway and Highway 4 on Thursday, December 21st at 8:30am. Come early.

Ocean fishing for crab started November 4th, but only Pedro Contreras, Rich Fiscina, Brion Beetz, and Ron Lew have harvested the tasty crustaceans so far.

21 of us enjoyed Carl Moyer's fall fish fry in his backyard. Many of us caught stripers in the bay and delta. Bob Lucido, Brion Beetz, Carl Moyer, and Stan Wong all got trout at Shadow Cliffs Reservoir. Bob Lively tried for trout at San Pablo Reservoir, but only caught a catfish there. Harry Sherinian and Mike Corker have been fishing in the Delta with great success. On an outing last month Harry caught 15 keeper striper's, all in the 20 to 25 inch class. It must be noted that Harry fishes Catch and Release only and brings no fish home. Many fishing adventures have been cancelled due to wind and weather this year, more than normal.



Harry Sherinian with Striper caught in the Delta



November Luncheon Speaker Mark Trisha talking about Winemaking in the Tri-Valley Area



Bridge Jon Dickson

SIR's 2nd & 4th Tuesday lunch & bridge is nearing the last game of 2023 on December 12th. We WILL NOT have a second game on December 26th, so we will start off the New Year on 2nd Tuesday in January, on January 9th.

Our game on Tuesday, November 14th, found Vince Yamamoto winning with 4,560 points and Gordon Gonsalves 2nd with 4,110 points. Two others had 4,000 plus points, close, but no cigar.

On November 28th, we had 3 slams for the day, a

welcome event, since slams have been in short supply. Joel White, who had slams, came in first with 5,970 points and Ron Banducci was second with 4,570 points.

On November 28th we had 19 players attending. A good turnout. Started with 20 but some had to drop out.

We welcome any and all bridge players to join us for a fun day of bridge.

Branch Activities



Bocce
Paul Russell

We concluded the season in October and had a wonderful lunch afterward. Next year we'll begin again in April, so talk it up to see if we can get some new blood and maybe rent another court!

We play at the Clayton Bocce Ball courts at the corner

of Main st and Oak St in Clayton.

We play every other Thursday from 10:00am to 12:00pm.

Bob Huck will be the chairman for 2024.



Walking Tours
Greg Hughes

In 2023, we visited the Treasure Island Complex, the Frank Lloyd Wright's Bueler Estate in Orinda, the Tractor Museum in San Ramon, and the Niles Canyon Railway.

On Sunday, November 5, 2023, Walking Tours visited the Treasure Island complex. The tour began in the Art Deco Building One. Building One was originally designed as the air terminal for Pan American Airways during the years of the Clipper flights across the Pacific (1938-1945). Before entering the building participants viewed the 4 Pacific Unity Sculptures. Once inside, they saw the Naval History Mural, 251 feet wide. The TI Museum presents the

"You Are Here: The Story of Treasure Island" exhibit. The Exhibit explains how the island has been used for public and military roles.

After the museum the participants enjoyed 1 hour slide lectures covering the 1939-40 Golden Gate International Exposition. The presentation was done by Ms Anne Schnoebelen, Vice President, TI Museum. Everything was in color and we saw the GGIE as it was in 1939.

Lunch was at the Mersea Restaurant which faces the San Francisco downtown skyline. Mersea is very popular and their food is quite good.



Branch Activities



Book Group 2 Scott Clark

Book Club 2 met November 16 to discuss *The Wager*, by David Grann. Members in attendance rated the book 4.6/5, the highest rated book we read all year!

The Wager is historical fiction (see brief summary below) and may rightfully be described as a page-turning story of shipwreck, survival, and savagery, culminating in a court martial that reveals a shocking truth.

Book Club 2 will not meet in December. Our next meeting will be Thursday, January 18, 2024 at 11 AM, at Boundary Oaks Golf Course Walnut Creek. We will discuss two books, *Ben Franklin, An American Life*, by Walter Isaacson, and *Fever in the Heartland* by Timothy Egan. Read both books, one book, or none. All are welcome to join us for our discussion.

Contact Scott Clark for more information, 925-998-4553 or scottmclark72@gmail.com

Summary of *The Wager*

On January 28, 1742, a ramshackle vessel of patched-together wood and cloth washed up on the coast of Brazil. Inside were thirty emaciated men, barely alive, and they had an extraordinary tale to tell. They were survivors of His Majesty's Ship the *Wager*, a

British vessel that left England in 1740 on a secret mission during an imperial war with Spain. While the *Wager* had been chasing a Spanish treasure-filled galleon known as "the prize of all the oceans," it wrecked on a desolate island off the coast of Patagonia. The men, after being marooned for months and facing starvation, built a flimsy craft and sailed for more than a hundred days, traversing nearly 3,000 miles of storm-wracked seas. They were greeted as heroes.

But then . . . six months later, another, even more decrepit craft landed on the coast of Chile. This boat contained just three castaways, and they told a very different story. The 30 sailors who landed in Brazil were not heroes - they were mutineers. The first group responded with countercharges of their own, of a tyrannical and murderous senior officer and his henchmen. It became clear that while stranded on the island the crew had fallen into anarchy, with warring factions fighting for dominion over the barren wilderness. As accusations of treachery and murder flew, the Admiralty convened a court martial to determine who was telling the truth. The stakes were life-and-death--for whomever the court found guilty could hang.



Dine-O-SIR Jerry Hicks

Ring in the New Year with Dine-O-SIR 10:00 AM Sunday Brunch

Happy New Year and celebrate 2024 with a sumptuous Mimosa Sunday Brunch on **January 28th** at Lone Tree Golf Club. We have a reserved area for about 50 guests with seating at 10:00 AM. Lone Tree has spacious for many more; invite friends to join with us. (In the case that 49er's are still in the NFL playoffs, the schedule indicates later afternoon.)

Be prepared for good food, good service, and good views! Cost is \$47.50 per person, inclusive. A Dine-O-SIR Flyer with information and reservations is included in this edition. Send reservations with checks to Jerry Hicks.

Happy Holidays by Dine-O-SIR Committee: Jerry Hicks, Bob Donohue, Tom Eller, Larry Heaton, Mike Yale

Branch Activities



Dine-O-SIR Sunday Mimosa Brunch January 28th, 2024



At 10:00 AM (Seating reservation not before 9:59!)

**Lone Tree Golf Course
4800 Golf Course Road, Antioch**

Overlooking the 18th green and lake

Cost of \$47.50 inclusive per person

Typical Buffet:

Mimosa and Juices

Pastries and Rolls

Fruits and Salads

Shrimp and Smoked Salmon

Eggs and Meats

Custom Omelet and

Prime Rib Carving Stations

Waffles and French Toast

Dessert Table

Coffee and Tea Served



**Sir 116 Sunday 10:00 AM Mimosa Brunch at
Lone Tree Golf Club, Antioch; January 28, 2024**

Name: _____ **E-Mail** _____

Name: _____ **No. Attending** ____ **x \$47.50 = \$** _____

Check payable to: SIR Branch 116 Dining

Mail to: Jerry Hicks at 74 Amberwood Lane, Walnut Creek, CA 94598

Call or e-mail if you have questions: C) 925-360-0447 or jerryhicks@astound.net

Branch Activities



Mexican Train Dominos Richard Madden

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 normally meet at 10:00 AM on the second Wednesday of each month at the Church of Christ

located at 500 Minert Road, Walnut Creek.

We met in November and had six in attendance. Those present were Gary Bonfiglio, Earl Gore, guest, Richard Madden, Kirk McVean, Alan Polanger and Harry Sherinian. Their scores ranged from 170 to 485. We congratulate Alan Polanger with his score of 170 as the first place winner.

Our next meeting is scheduled for December 13th at 10:00am.

You can contact Richard Madden, maddenram@sbcglobal.net or 925.788.4223



Wine-O-SIR David Havlik

The WINE-O-SIRS met at Dave and Judy Havlik's home for our November wine tasting. The theme of this event was Spanish wines and appetizers.



Spanish wines are made from different grapes, using varieties such as A l b a r i n o , Tempranillo and Garnacha rather than Chardonnay,

Merlot and Zinfandel. Their wine-making processes are also somewhat different. The end results are wines that differ from California's, and tasting several of them was fun and even educational for

some of the members. Spanish cheeses, cured meats, and empanadas were an important part of the tasting, together with an almond-fig cake that paired with the final sherry.

The next tasting event is on **January 25th**. More details will be in the next Newsletter.



\$UMS Investment Tom Henry (Br. 174)

Due to the holidays, we will meet early in December. We will again join Branch 128's (San Ramon) Investment Group Zoom meeting on **Thursday December 7 at 1:30 PM**. Please adjust

your calendars. The topic will be year-end tax planning.

Email Dave Sutton at to be included at omhenry925@gmail

Branch Activities



Golf Clinic Chris Doan

While the Golf Clinic is on winter break, we are offering a classroom session on Course Management on **January 13**. Explore game strategy, risk/reward considerations for each shot, options and risks when in trouble, game improvement (stroke reduction) strategies, etc. etc.

Mark your calendar now if interested. Golf Pro Pete Asselin will lead this Club House session with ample time for questions and discussion that is important to your game. The mental game is certainly a very big part of golf so it should prove to be quite beneficial to all.

How to register and participate in 2024:

- Start by getting on the Clinic email list. Send request to cdoan99@gmail.com to be added.
- Each Clinics details will be communicated by e-mail ... reservations are made by responding to that e-mail.
- That's all there is to it ... hope you will join us in 2024 to tune up your game.

Improve your golf game in 2024!

FORE!



Amiable Amblers John Riordan

November walkers included Todd Berman, Richard Black & Donna Arganbright, Art & Mary Alice Donaldson, Dick Frankel, Paul & Anna Freitas, David & Colleen Geary, Dan & Andrea Green, John & Gail Riordan, and Tim & Dianne Tinnes.

On November 3 we walked north along the Iron Horse Trail from the Walnut Creek Civic Park, with a post-walk gathering at Caffe La Scala. On November 10 we walked east along the Ygnacio Canal Trail from San Miguel Park, with a post-walk gathering at the Countrywood Panera Bread. On November 17 we walked southwest along the Lafayette-Moraga Trail from the Lafayette Community Center, with a post-walk gathering at the Moraga Town Bakery and Café.

The December walks will begin at 9:00AM. On **December 1** we will meet at the parking lot by the Heather Farm Swimming Pool and walk west along the Contra Costa Canal Trail; the post-walk

gathering will be at the Black Bear Diner in the Countrywood Shopping Center. The trail and post-walk venue for the **December 8** walk are TBD. On **December 15** we will meet at the west end of the Lafayette Reservoir and walk counter-clockwise around the lower loop; the post-walk gathering will be at the Rising Loafer 3643 Mt Diablo Blvd in Lafayette. There will be no walks on **December 22 and 29** because of the proximity of the holidays.

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. SIR members, including those from other branches, wishing to join this mellow group or to be added to the email contact list should contact me at jriordan730@gmail.com or 925-284-3394. Also contact me if you wish to be removed from the list for future emails

Branch Activities



SIR Golf

Bernie Wroblewski, Golf Chairman

The Golf Website is: branch116golf.org
Please bookmark it in your "Favorites" list of websites to access information on the following:

- Annual 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,

starting 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.

2024 SIR Golf Dues

It is time to renew your membership with the SIR Branch 116 Golf Club.

There are three options for you:

Option 1) Cost: \$70

18-Hole Golf with an NCGA membership. Allows you to play all 18 and 9 hole events and includes membership in the NCGA, giving you an GHIN / USGA number to post scores. The Branch 116 Golf membership is \$24 and the 2024 NCGA dues is \$46.

Option 2) Cost: \$24

18-Hole Golf membership. Allows you to play all 18 and 9-hole events, but you must have an active NCGA membership with another club.

Option 3) Cost: \$24

9-Hole Golf membership. Allows you to play all 9-hole events. No NCGA membership is required.

Credit card payment will be available for all three options. Go to the SIR Branch main website and

look to the right side and click the "SHOPPING CART" tile. Then, click the "2024 Annual Golf Renewal" tile. From there, you can select which option you wish to pay for.

If you prefer, you can bring your check (no cash) to the SIR luncheon on October 16.

Or, you can send a check to the Golf post office box.
SIR BRANCH 116 GOLF

PO Box 683

Lafayette, CA 94549-0683

The deadline for joining the 2024 Golf Club is December 1, 2023. If you are currently a member of SIR Branch 116 18-hole or 9-hole golf club, and you do NOT wish to renew, please let David Harris know.

If you have any questions, please e-mail David Harris at DcHa65@gmail.com, or call him at 925 672-5543.

You Can Help to Improve the Pace of Play

For both tee shots and fairway shots (and if need be for putting), just go. While it's proper to have the person farthest away hit first, time can be saved over a round by whomever is "ready" to go ahead and hit.

December 9-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Wed. 06	10:00 AM	Dublin Ranch	Marty Katz
Wed. 13	10:00 AM	Diablo Hills	D.McClaughry
Wed. 20	10:00 AM	Buchanan Fields	Dick Chaffee
Wed. 27	10:00 AM	No golf	-

December 18-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Mon. 04	9:40 AM	Boundary Oak	-
Mon. 11	9:40 AM	Boundary Oak	-
Mon. 18	10:32 AM	Diablo Creek	-
Mon. 25		No golf	