



SIR Branch 116 Newsletter January 2023

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

Message from Roger

Another year slips by and I want to thank Big Sir Fred Wachowicz for his leadership throughout. We were still dealing with Covid issues, declining membership and the challenge of having necessary attendance at our monthly luncheons. We finished strong and our branch has truly weathered the storm. Thanks Fred.



The year ended with a Holiday party at Boundary Oak. Alan and Lois Pope and their merry band of elves collaborated to make a very memorable evening. Member Tony DeGrassi provided singing entertainment with an excellent selection of songs and had all of us joining him in a beautiful rendition of Silent Night.

Ron Armijo produced a great selection of eight different raffle prizes . Thanks to my wife Diane for designing and procuring the table centerpieces. Couples were delighted to take home one of the ornaments from the centerpiece. Fred Wachowicz, Dave Ladue and your new Big Sir completed the committee with a fair share of planning meetings and envelope stuffing.

Unsung newsletter editor Neil Schmidt was on hand taking pictures to record the event. Thanks Neil.

A tip of the hat to Boundary Oak for their delicious appetizers and excellent dinner.

The evening concluded with a DJ providing music to dance to. Many of us showed we can still cut a rug.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our January luncheon when we will have a speaker sure to entertain.

Again, welcome to the New Year as we look forward to making this coming year great for our branch.

Remember, our strength lies in numbers. If each of us bring in just one new member it is a goal well worth attaining.

Roger Craig, Big SIR

Year 2023

Next Meeting

**Jan. 16 @ Boundary
Oak, 11:30 AM**

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

Trampas Topics

2023 SIR Branch 116 Officers



Big SIR
Roger
Craig



Little SIR
Alan
Pope



Treasurer
Jeff
Johnson



Asst.Treas.
Al
Satake



Secretary
Paul
Ramacciotti



Asst. Sec.
Greg
Hughes



Member.Sec.
Phil
Goff

2023 SIR Branch 116 Directors



Don
Benioff



Gary
Bonfiglio



Kevin
Donahue



Darrell
McClaughry



Fred
Wachowicz



Dave
Williams

2023 Support Chairmen

RAMP Department Heads:

- Recruitment Don Schroeder
- Activities Mike Ward
- Member Relations David C. Harris
- Publicity Allan Farbman

Branch Support Chairmen:

- Audit Committee Ron Armijo
- Nominating Committee Michael Barrington
- 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
- Compliance Officer (COVID) Kevin Donahue

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 Schneider
- Audio Visual Neil Schmidt
- Chaplain Committee Terry Sherman
- Greeters Committee Ramacciotti, Grummitt
- 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 Roger Craig

2023 Activity Chairmen

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Chairman</u>	<u>Asst. Chairman</u>
• Amiable Amblers	John Riordan	Joel White
• Bocce	Paul Russell	Bob Huck
• Book Group 1	Rich Black	Steve Bort
• Book Group 2	Scott Clark	Alan Pope
• Book Exchange	John Fraser	Dick Kauffma
• Bridge	Jon Dickson	Art Donaldson
• Community Service	Jeff Johnson	
• Dine-O-SIR	Alex Lutkus	Marty 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—Treasurer	Alan Pope	
• Golf—Carmel	Jim Barstow	JJ, Harris, Eller
• Golf—Clinic	Chris Doan	Jeff Johnson
• Mexican Train	Richard Madden	Alex Lutkus
• Parties	Marty Katz	
• Pickleball	Ed Solomon	Gary Bonfiglio
• Poker	Lou Sandor	
• \$ums in Retirement	Ben Smith	
• Travel	Jeff Johnson	
• Wine-O-SIR	Dave Havlik	Lou Meylan
• Walking Tours	Greg Hughes	Mike Schneider

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

January 2023

Sun.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
1	2 18-Hole Golf (9:40@ Boundary Oak) Book Group 1 (10:15@ Orinda Books)	3	4 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Pleasanton GC)	5	6 Amiable Amblers (9:00@ Lafayette Reservoir) Pickleball (8:00@ WC Tennis, Heather Farms)	7
8	9 18-Hole Golf (9:40@ Boundary Oak)	10 Luncheon Bridge (10:30@ The Brass Door, San Ramon)	11 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Diablo Hills GC) Mexican Train (10:00@ Church of Christ, WC)	12	13 Amiable Amblers (9:00@ Railroad Museum, Danville) Pickleball (8:00@ WC Tennis, Heather Farms)	14 Golf Clinic
15	16 SIR Br. 116 Meeting (11:30 @ Boundary Oak)	17 18-Hole Golf (9:30@ Blue Rock - West GC)	18 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC)	19 Book Group 2 (12:30@ Ygnacio Valley Library)	20 Amiable Amblers (9:00@ Inspiration Pt., Tilden) Pickleball (8:00@ WC Tennis, Heather Farms)	21
22	23 18-Hole Golf (9:30@ Franklin Canyon GC)	24 Luncheon Bridge (10:30@ The Brass Door, San Ramon)	25 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Dublin Ranch GC) \$ums Investment (1:30 via Zoom)	26 Fishing Group (8:30@ Diablo Creek GC) Wine-O-SIR (4:00@ Lou Meylan House)	27 Amiable Amblers (9:00@ Civic Park, WC) Pickleball (8:00@ WC Tennis, Heather Farms)	28
29 Dine-O-SIR	30 18-Hole Golf (9:39@ Blue Rock - East GC) Book Group 1 (10:15@ Orinda Books)	31 Dine-O-SIR Sunday Brunch (12:00@ Lone Tree GC)				



Branch Administration



Branch Membership

Phil Goff, Membership Chairman

Total Current Membership: 181

Bob Loder Resigned Not able to attend lunches anymore

January Birthdays

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

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1. Ken Binning | 5. John Maerzke |
| 2. Dick Conger | 6. Lou Sandor |
| 3. Tom Eller | 7. Dennis Snarr |
| 4. Bill Ginter | 8. Dick Socolich |

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/

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

Shopping Cart Trick

Do You Remember?

If you can't remember if you paid for something via our Shopping Cart system, here is a little trick to help you "remember":

- Go to your email inbox
- Do a search for the word "Square"
- Look for emails with a title "Sons in Retirement" or "Thank you for your order!"
- Open up each of these emails and it will describe what you have purchased.



Member Relations

David Harris

SIR January Anniversaries

We recognize the members of SIR Branch 116 each month who have an anniversary with SIR.

Name	Years with SIR	Date Joined SIR
Pete Kallas	24	01/18/99
Carlos Xavier	23	01/17/00
Andy Benz	23	01/17/00
Jim Videle	22	01/15/01
Phil Goff	21	01/18/02
Lou Sandor	21	01/21/02

Jim Clizbe	19	01/19/04
Darrell McClaughry	19	01/19/04
Dan Green	17	01/16/06
Carl Langhorst	16	01/15/07
Chuck Gilliam	15	01/21/08
Gary Boswell	12	01/11/11
Allan Chasnoff	11	01/16/12
"T" Legler	10	01/21/13
Steve Bort	8	01/19/15
John Kopchik Jr.	8	01/19/15
Warren Garrison	8	01/19/15

Branch Administration



Treasury Report

Alan Fitzgerald, Treasurer

December 20, 2022		
		2022 YTD
Contributions	\$ 402.24	\$ 84,145.66
Disbursements	\$ (6,032.62)	\$ (83,521.74)
Net (gain/(loss))	\$ (5,630.38)	\$ 623.92
July Cash Balance		\$ 10,432.89
Outstanding Checks		\$ 0.00
Bank Acct Balance		\$ 10,432.89

2023 LUNCH & DUES

Lunch \$33

Annual Dues \$25

Note - We have voted to subsidize the luncheon. Annual dues are necessary to keep our branch viable. As you know, costs every where are spiraling and we have endeavored to keep costs as reasonable as possible.

2023 Budget Worksheet

Cost Elements	2023 Budget	Comments
	\$33/\$25	Lunch costs and Annual Dues per member
Annual Contributions	\$4,447.00	50 CC/130 Cash and Checks
50/50 Raffle	\$1,400.00	\$140 x 10 lunches based on 2022 actuals
Lunch Subsidy	(\$4,662.00)	38 CC/72 cash and checks
Guest & Speaker Free Lunch	(\$429.84)	10 speakers, 2 assistants
Equipment	(\$300.00)	One unit of technology equipment
Printer and Calculator		
Printing Supplies	(\$280.00)	Toner and Labels 1 set every 4 months at \$70
Roster Printing	(\$664.40)	10% increase]
New Member Expense	(\$537.30)	Sponsor Free Lunch, recruiting 15 new members
Postage	(\$150.00)	Not mailing Rosters
Officers Expense	(\$300.00)	Reduced base on 2022 expense
SIR State Assessment	(\$1,544.00)	\$8/yr per member (185 memberws) + 1/2 of new members
SIR Website Fees	(\$100.00)	We have never had this much before
Member BD Lunches	(\$358.82)	Cost of lunches @ \$35.82, Ten lunches/yr.
Publicity-2	(\$500.00)	Publicity is one of the major keys for new members
Productive Software	(\$600.00)	Some combination of communication and financial software
Totals	(\$4,579.36)	



January Luncheon Speaker

Speaker for January Meeting

“Art of Aikido” by Martial Arts Specialist Jimmy Fiedman



Little SIR Report

Happy New Year to all SIRS 116 members and their families! We had a great Holiday Party in December and I want to thank Fred Wachowicz, Roger Craig, Ron Armijo, David LaDue, and Paul Russell for their help. A special shout out to Diane Craig for her beautiful design of centerpieces which made each table a work of art for attendees to enjoy.

The January luncheon speaker is Jimmy Friedman, a 6th degree black belt (Roku dan) who teaches martial

arts, specifically, aikido, locally and all over the world. Aikido is a Japanese art of self-defense that employs holds and locks and that uses the principles of nonresistance in order to counter the strength of another. Aikido does not teach conflict or how to fight. Aikido emphasizes the physical training and application of the art and personal growth within oneself. Mr. Friedman will demonstrate and discuss the art of aikido.

Luncheon Menu

Monday, January 16th, 2023

Salad

KALE CAESAR SALAD

Garlic Croutons, Shaved Parmesan Reggiano

Entrées

ALASKAN TRUE COD

Honey Roasted Carrot Puree, Broccolini, Chilies, Garlic, Romanesco Sauce

Or

ORGANIC MARY'S CHICKEN BREAST STUFFED

With Fresh Ricotta, Bloomdale Spinach, Wild Mushrooms, Rosemary Potatoes

Or

VEGETARIAN OPTION

Wild Mushrooms Risotto

Dessert

CHOCOLATE MOUSSE CAKE



Past Big SIR Fred Wachowicz handing off the gavel to the new 2023 Big SIR Roger Craig

Holiday Party (Checkout the smiles)



Holiday Party (Checkout the smiles)



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 Branch 116 Fishing Coordinator, Harry Sherinian 925-846-7067. Next meeting will be at the Legends restaurant at the Diablo Creek golf course on Port Chicago Highway and Highway 4 on **Thursday, January 26th** at 8:30am. Come early.

We closed out the year with a flourish, catching crab and rockfish from the ocean, and stripers in the delta. On one trip on the Sea Wolf from Emeryville, 6 of us got limits of rockfish and big crabs. Many more of us participated in that bonanza. Pete Gates, Tom Kostik, Harry Sherinian, and Mike Corker continued to get stripers in the delta. Bob Lively and Stan Wong got trout from our local reservoirs, and

that winter sport is just getting started. Phil Scimonnelli landed a keeper sturgeon on one of our chartered boats. We have had a banner year for chartered party boats with participation from almost all of us. Ron Lew continued his shark fishing in the bay with a nice sized leopard shark. December was also the time for our Annual Christmas Party. We had over 50 members and guests attend a fabulous evening at Zo Frado Restaurant in Pleasant Hill. A special thanks to member Pete Gates for organizing the event and Dick Thomson for helping out. Our speaker in January will be a marine biologist who did his thesis on sharks in the bay. Don't miss that. 2023 may be the best year ever for our fishing group with many, many outings planned including long range trips to Mexico.



Book Exchange

Dick Kauffman

The Book Exchange continues to thrive since its beginning, when suggested by Jerry Christopherson in 2013. The purpose of the Book Exchange is to have books available to SIRS members at no cost on an exchange basis. Bring a book, take a book or take a book and bring a book to the next meeting. This is all done on an informal basis with no paperwork.

When bringing books, please bring a book that other members will enjoy reading. We have a lot of books and don't need books of little interest. No textbooks, manuals, romance books or trashy books (however you want to define the term). Audio books on CDs are welcomed.

The Book Exchange is facilitated by "The Book Exchange Sherpas" which will be explained next month.

Happy Reading



They made it to the "Last Dance" at the Holiday Party (Croshal, Johnson, Schmidt/Assapimonwait & Lutkus)

Branch Activities



Book Group 1

Rich Black

Book Group #1 will discuss the following books on the following dates

- Monday, January 9,,, "River of the Gods" by Candace Millard
- Monday, January 30... "California Burning" by Katherine Blunt"
- Monday, February 27... "The Gotti Wars" by John Gleeson

Book Group #1 continues our +/- one hour discussion at Orinda Books, normally on the fourth Monday of the month at 10:15 am however the above schedule reflects our adjustments for the winter holidays. Prospective new members, or guys just wanting to sit in for a session, should contact Richard Black at Blackrw41@comcast.net.

Book Group #1 met on Monday December 5 to discuss "Freezing Order" by Bill Browder. In the 1990's Browder established a hedge fund, Hermitage Capital, to take advantage of opportunities in Russia.

After some considerable success Browder closed shop in Russia and moved back to London, but his Russian attorney, Serge Magnitsky, remained, was arrested, and eventually beaten to death while in detention. "Freezing Order is the tale, ultimately successful, of Browder's efforts to implement a law called the Magnitsky Act in this country and throughout the world. The law, vigorously and viciously opposed by Vladimir Putin, allows courts to freeze assets which belong to human rights abusers.

Dick Kauffman recommended the book while Richard Black led the discussion with Mac McLaughlin, John Riordan, Richard Rossland, Mike Schneider, Tim Tinnes, Nick Bowles, Jim Flessner, Paul Freitas, Garret Girvan, John Kopchik, Larry Setren and Richard White.

The group awarded the book a solid 4.0 stars.

Hope to see a newbe or two at Orinda Books in 2023.



Book Group 1 Waving Year 2022 Goodbye

Branch Activities



Community Service—On Hold

Jeff Johnson

"If a man shuts his ears to the cry of the poor, he too will cry out and not be heard"

We had a great year, serving at the Bay Area Rescue Mission serving dinner during Thanksgiving week, sorting food donated by major grocery stores at the White Pony Express, sorting donated food and packing food boxes at the Contra Costa/Solano Food Bank.

The Community Service activity will be on hold until someone steps forward to chair the activity, because I will be serving the branch as it's Treasurer next year. If you are interested in leading this activity, please contact me (jeffjohnson9000@att.net or 415-652-4840).



Wine-O-SIR

Dave Havlik

The Wine-O-SIRs met for a wine tasting event shortly before Thanksgiving at Dave and Carol Williams home. We were all asked to match four Cabernet Sauvignons with tasting notes from professional reviewers, and met this challenge with varying de-

grees of success. There is no wine tasting event in December. The next one is on **January 26th** at Lou and Carole Meylan's home. Also, after four years as leader of the Wine-O-SIRs, Lou has turned his responsibilities over to Dave Havlik.



Bocce

Paul Russell

We have completed our season of Bocce Ball for 2022. We'd like to get an additional 12 to 14 players (This includes SIRs, their wives / significant others) for 2023. We currently play at the Clayton Bocce Courts in downtown Clayton at the corner of Main and Oak streets next to Skippolinis. The matches are held every other Thursday from 10:00am to Noon.

The first team to 9 pts. wins, in order to complete the three games per match. If, however, there are a couple of teams in the middle of their last game when we reach Noon, then the team in the lead will win that game.

If you would like to join us, please email me at peruz@att.net and I'll sign you up. We look forward to you joining us in 2023.

Branch Activities



Dine-O-SIR

Jerry Hicks

Ring in the New Year with Dine-O-SIR Sunday Brunch

Ring in Dine-O-SIR 2023 with a sumptuous Mimosa Sunday Brunch on January 29th at Lone Tree Golf Club. We have a private area reserved for 72 guests with seating at 12:00 noon. Be prepared for good food, good service, and good views! Cost is \$48.00 per person, inclusive. Lone Tree's Sunday Brunches are held 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Should you arrive

before our seating reservation at 12:00 noon, it's suggested that you enjoy the Champions Bar while our tables are being prepared. A Dine-O-SIR Flyer with information and reservations is included in this edition. Please send reservations early with checks to Jerry Hicks or through our SIR Branch 116 Shopping Cart.

By Jerry Hicks, Bob Donohue, Tom Eller, Dine-O-SIR Committee



Pickleball

Ed Solomon

Join us every Friday at the Walnut Creek Tennis Center in Heather Farm from 8:00 to 9:30am. We reserve two courts every week. All you need are tennis sneakers, shorts preferred, sun screen, & we have extra paddles.

Pickleball is a fun sport for all ages that combine many elements of tennis, badminton, & ping-pong,

played on badminton sized court. The rules are simple and the game is easy for beginners to learn.

Dennis Snarr, has volunteered to work with beginners interested in learning this fun game. Just call Ed at (415) 215-2684 to reserve a spot and have fun!



Sunshine

Matt Arena

SIR **John Fraser** after a recovery and recuperating he will be returning from time away in Hawaii and Palm Springs, Ca. He has had his share of illnesses and we hope he can start the new year in good health .

PAST BIG SIR **Robbie Robinson** has been in his facility for over one year and a half. His wife tells me that he is receiving excellent care .Robbie spends much of his time resting and does not get much ac-

tivity. Nancy tells me this is not unusual for a Dementia patient. Here is wishing their family good wishes for the New Year.

To every family in Branch #116 may you experience a HAPPY NEW YEAR .

If you want to change the world go home and love your family

Mother Teresa

Branch Activities



Dine-O-SIR



Sunday Mimosa Brunch

January 29th, 2023

At 12:00 Noon (Seating reservation not before 11:59!)

Lone Tee Golf Course

4800 Golf Course Road, Antioch

Overlooking the 18th green and lake

Cost of \$48.00 inclusive per person

Typical Buffet:

(Comparable of Crow Canyon)

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 Mimosa Brunch at
Lone Tree Golf Club, Antioch; January 29, 2023*

Name: _____ E-Mail _____

Name: _____ No. Attending ____ x \$48= \$ _____

SIR Branch Shopping Cart or 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



Amiable Amblers

John Riordan

December walkers included Richard & Donna Black, Lynda Chasnoff, Art & Mary Alice Donaldson, Dick Frankel, Paul & Anna Freitas, David & Colleen Geary, Dan Green, Essie Naddaf, John & Gail Riordan, and Tom & Mary Welte. On December 2 Dan Green led the walk along a frosty Lafayette-Moraga Trail, with a post-walk gathering at Starbucks. On December 9 we walked the Lafayette-Moraga trail from the Moraga Commons to the flowing waterfall, with a post-walk gathering at the Moraga Town Bakery and Cafe. On December 16 we walked along the Contra Costa Canal, with a post-walk gathering at Panera Bread.

The January walks are scheduled to commence at 9:00AM. RSVP to jriordan730@gmail.com. The **January 6** walk will meet at the west end of the Lafayette Reservoir parking lot and walk counter-clockwise along the loop; the post-walk gathering will be at Tutu's. The **January 13** walk will meet at the Museum of the San Ramon Valley (aka Railroad

Museum) in Danville and walk north along the Iron Horse Trail; the post walk gathering will be at Crumbs. The **January 20** walk will meet at inspiration Point in Tilden Park and walk north along the Nimitz Trail; the post-walk gathering will be at Geppetto's. The **January 27** walk will meet at Civic Park and walk north along the Iron Horse Trail; the post-walk gathering will be at Caffe La Scala.

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.



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.

The Christmas season took its toll on our regular monthly game.

You can contact Richard Madden, madden-ram@sbcglobal.net or 925.788.4223

Branch Activities



Walking Tours

Greg Hughes

On Saturday, **February 25**, the Walking Tours Activity plans to visit the David and Eliza Glass House Museum, in San Ramon. This Victorian Home was built in 1877, and relocated to the Forest Home Farms park in 2010. SIR's will enjoy a 60 minute Guided tour of the house and gardens.

For SIR's that have lived in this area for years, this is the same white Victorian house that is visible from the 680 freeway.

The Forest Home Farms park also has a Museum of restored farm tractors, a Garage Museum covering farm life activities. a self guided tour of Walnut harvesting operations. These other displays/exhibits will also take 60 minutes to see.

The house tour is restricted to 12 participants at one time. However, we are planning on 20 participants for this event. To accommodate everyone we are scheduling two house tours. The first house tour begins at 11, and the second starts at 12. Participants will visit the Farm Home Park facilities when they are not doing the house tour.

We will be collecting roughly \$5 from everyone at the start of the tour.

After the tour we will schedule a lunch at a local cafe (TBD).

Notify Greg Hughes (925) 998-5650, or Marty Katz (925) 484-0122 if you plan to attend.



Bridge

Jon Dickson

We are adapting to our new venue, The Brass Door Restaurant in San Ramon, each game settling in a bit more. Tuesday, December 13th was the last game of the year, we will be resuming our 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month on **Tuesday, January 10th**.

We wish all bridge players and non-bridge players and families a joyous Holiday Season. See you in January, if not on December 13th.

\$ums Investment

Dave Sutton (Br. 8)

We will again join Branch 128's (San Ramon) Investment Group Zoom meeting on **Wed Jan. 25** at 1:30 PM. The presenter will be Prof. Fred Fuld of SIR Branch 19. He will discuss leading future industries including lists of companies (and their charts) that are representative of these. Fred retired from the financial services industry where he worked for over 30 years, working as an investment advisor, market maker at the Pacific Stock Exchange, and vice president of an investment management com-

pany. He is the author of several books and has given presentations for the Museum of American Finance, Cal State University East Bay, the San Francisco Money Show, the Las Vegas Money Show, the University of Houston, American Mensa Society, and many other venues.

Email Dave Sutton to be included at:
davesutn@comcast.net

Branch Activities



Book Group 2

Scott Clark

Book Club 2 met December 15 to discuss The Girl with Seven Names by Hyeonseo Lee.

This book provides insight into life under one of the world's most ruthless and secretive dictatorships – and the story of one woman's terrifying struggle to avoid capture/repatriation and guide her family to freedom.

As a child growing up in North Korea, Hyeonseo Lee was one of millions trapped by a secretive and brutal totalitarian regime. Her home on the border with China gave her some exposure to the world beyond the confines of the Hermit Kingdom and, as the famine of the 1990s struck, she began to wonder, question and to realize that she had been brain-washed her entire life. Given the repression, poverty and starvation she witnessed surely her country could not be, as she had been told “the best on the planet”?

Aged seventeen, she decided to escape North Korea. She could not have imagined that it would be twelve years before she was reunited with her family.

This is the unique story not only of Hyeonseo's escape from darkness into light, but also of her coming of age, education and the resolve she found to rebuild her life – not once, but twice – first in China, then in South Korea. Strong, brave and eloquent, this memoir is a triumph of her remarkable spirit.

Nine members joined our discussion. We rated the book 3.75/5. Our thanks to Jerry Hicks who recommended this book

Our next meeting will be on **January 19** at 12:30 at the Ygnacio Valley library. We will be discussing The Escape Artist by Jonathan Freedland. All are welcome to attend. Contact Scott Clark for more information, 925-998-4553.



Golf Clinic

Chris Doan

One of the benefits of living in Northern California is the mild weather and the ability to play golf year round. The SIR Golf Clinic exists to help make the game more enjoyable to those who participate. The Clinic will continue to be open to SIR Members and spouses or significant others.

The January Clinic will take place on **Saturday the 14th**. Instead of a predetermined topic for everyone, you name the topic you want to focus on this month. We first offered this format in December but

had to cancel the Clinic due to a schedule conflict.

In order to participate, you will need to be on the Clinic Register and Mailing List. If you would like to be added for the 2022/2023 season or have any questions about the Clinic, please email Chris Doan at cdoan99@gmail.com.

Have a Happy New Year ... we look forward to having you sign-up in the New Year!

FORE

Branch Golf



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.



January: 9-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Wed. 04	10:00	Pleasanton GC	Marty Katz
Wed. 11	10:00	Diablo Hills	D.McClaughry
Wed. 18	10:00	Buchanan Fields	Dick Chaffee
Wed. 25	10:00	Dublin Ranch	Marty Katz

January: 18-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Mon. 02	9:40	Boundary Oak	Jerry Hicks
Mon. 09	9:40	Boundary Oak	Jerry Hicks
Mon. 17	9:30	Blue Rock West	Jerry Hicks
Mon. 24	9:30	Franklin Canyon	Jerry Hicks
Mon. 30	9:39	Blue Rock East	Jerry Hicks



Hole-In-One in 9-Hole Golf!

Don Marini on 12/14/22 at Diablo Hills, Hole #4

18-Hole Pay In Advance Deadlines

<u>Event Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Tuesday, Jan. 17	Blue Rock West	Jan. 09	\$39
Monday, Jan. 24	Franklin Canyon	Jan. 16	\$42
Monday, Jan 30	Blue Rock East	Jan. 23	\$39

Sign-up for Golf via Branch 116 Shopping Cart System at: sons-in-retirement-las-trampas-br-116.square.site



RETURN TO: Neil Schmidt
2231 San Miguel Dr.
Walnut Creek, CA 94596-5805

FIRST CLASS MAIL

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