



# SIR Branch 116 Newsletter May 2023

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

## Message from Roger

Alas, though we tried there was insufficient response to hold our annual Spring Fling. This was disappointing for sure. We welcome any thoughts that would have made this event more acceptable not only this year but in the future.



I want to thank Marty Katz and his committee for their efforts to make it happen .

So , while we normally forego a luncheon meeting in May to accommodate Spring Fling we must adhere to that as we have no contractual luncheon arrangement for May.

### NO LUNCHEON IN MAY.

The Dine-O-SIRS are enjoying good turnouts and Bob Donohue reports a nice evening and great food at The Four Brothers Chinese restaurant in Pleasant Hill.

Jerry Hicks has locked up the HAZY restaurant in Danville for June. Details will soon follow, but, I can tell you in advance you are in for some delicious BBQ spareribs in a pleasant outdoor patio .

Allan Farbman and his committee continue to delight our members with excellent speakers. A bunch of old former jocks enjoyed the stories of former NFL defensive line coach Mike Waufle.

Attendance at our luncheons continues to increase slowly but surely. This is a hopeful trend as we continue the long climb out of the Covid doldrums.

I recently took my maiden voyage on the Bocce Ball court. What a fun game and a great bunch of folks. My wife and I are looking forward to future matches.

Enjoy the nice weather and, if not sooner, we will see you at the June luncheon.

*Roger Craig, Big SIR*

**Next Meeting**  
**June 19 @ Boundary**  
**Oak, 11:30 AM**

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Trampas Topics

## REMINDER!

### There is no Luncheon Meeting in May

Call 925-322-1318  
or email to  
[luncheon116@gmail.com](mailto:luncheon116@gmail.com)  
by the Monday  
prior to the meeting  
to cancel your  
standing  
reservation.

## 2023 SIR Branch Officers



<b>Big SIR</b> Roger Craig	<b>Little SIR</b> Alan Pope	<b>Treasurer</b> Jeff Johnson	<b>Asst. Treas.</b> Al Satake	<b>Asst. Treas.</b> Charlie Guthrie	<b>Secretary</b> Paul Ramacciotti	<b>Asst. Sec.</b> Greg Hughes	<b>Member.Sec.</b> Phil Goff
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## 2023 SIR Branch Directors



Don Benioff	Gary Bonfiglio	Kevin Donahue	Darrell McCloughry	Fred Wachowicz	Dave P. Williams
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### 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	Paul Russell	
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	Open	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	Jim Barstow	Goff, JJ, Harris
Golf—Clinic	Chris Doan	
Golf—Reno	Open	TBA
Mexican Train	Richard Madden	Alex Lutkus
Parties	Open	TBA
Pickleball	Ed Solomon	Gary Bonfiglio
Poker	Lou Sandor	
\$ums in Retirement	Dave Sutton, Br.8	
Travel	Open	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

## May 2023

Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
	1 <b>18-Hole Golf</b> (9:40@ Boundary Oak)	2	3 <b>9-Hole Golf</b> (10:00@ Pleasanton GC)	4	5 <b>Amiable Amblers</b> (9:00@ Lafayette Reservoir) <b>Pickleball</b> (8:00@ WC Tennis, Heather Farms)	6
7	8 <b>18-Hole Golf</b> (9:40@ Boundary Oak)	9 <b>Luncheon Bridge</b> (10:30@ The Brass Door, San Ramon)	10 <b>9-Hole Golf</b> (10:00@ Diablo Hills GC) <b>Mexican Train</b> (10:00@ Church of Christ, WC)	11 <b>Bocce</b> (10:00@ Clayton Courts)	12 <b>Amiable Amblers</b> (9:00@ WC Civic Park) <b>Pickleball</b> (8:00@ WC Tennis, Heather Farms)	13
14 <b>Mothers Day</b>	15 <b>(No 18-Hole Golf)</b>	16	17 <b>CARMEL GOLF</b> <b>9-Hole Golf</b> (10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC)	18 <b>CARMEL GOLF</b> <b>Book Group</b> (11:00@ Ygnacio Valley Library)	19 <b>Amiable Amblers</b> (9:00@ Stone Valley Rd, Iron Horse Trail) <b>Pickleball</b> (8:00@ WC Tennis, Heather Farms)	20
21	22 <b>18-Hole Golf</b> (9:26@ San Ramon) <b>Book Group 1</b> (10:15@ Orinda Books)	23 <b>Luncheon Bridge</b> (10:30@ The Brass Door, San Ramon)	24 <b>9-Hole Golf</b> (10:00@ Dublin Ranch) <b>\$ums Investment</b> (1:30 via Zoom)	25 <b>Bocce</b> (10:00@ Clayton Courts) <b>Wine-O-SIR</b> (4:00@ Jon Dickson House) <b>Fishing Group</b> (8:30@ Diablo Creek)	26 <b>Amiable Amblers</b> (9:00@ TBD) <b>Pickleball</b> (8:00@ WC Tennis, Heather Farms)	27
28	29 <b>Memorial Day Holiday</b> <b>(No 18-Hole Golf)</b>	30	31 <b>9-Hole Golf</b> (10:00@ Shadow Lakes)			



# Branch Administration



## Branch Membership

Phil Goff, Membership Chairman

Total Membership is 185	
Peter Loew	New Member. Sponsor is Ed Solomon
Essie Naddaf	Rejoined the Branch
Marv DeHeus	Resigned. In Assisted Living
Urs Christen	Resigned due to health issues
Matt Arena	Resigned. Moved to Peninsula.

## May Birthdays

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

1. Doug Aalders	13. Bruce Kessler
2. Ron Banducci	14. George Kohut
3. Ed Barney	15. Ed Lichtig
4. Ben Bryce	16. Peter Loew
5. Al Farbman	17. Darrell McClaughry
6. Jim Flessner	18. Essie Naddaf
7. Rudy Gebert	19. John Riordan
8. Chuck Gilliam	20. Tony Rohrs
9. Dave Havlik	21. Paul Russell
10. Jerry Hicks	22. Chick Walsh
11. Bob Huck	23. Mike Yale
12. Greg Hughes	24. Al Zattero

### REMINDER (but not until June)

All members have a standing reservation for each luncheon. Call 925-322-1318 or email to [luncheon116@gmail.com](mailto:luncheon116@gmail.com) by the Monday prior to the meeting to cancel your standing reservation.



## Treasury Report

Jeff Johnson, Treasurer

April 6, 2023		
Beg Bal 2023		\$ 10,996.81
Contributions	\$ 5,759.26	\$ 34,876.49
Disbursements	\$ (11,191.78)	\$ (35,295.46)
Net (gain/loss)	\$ (5,342.52)	\$ (418.97)
April Cash Balance		\$ 10,577.84



## SIR Web Addresses

SIR 116 Web Site
<a href="http://branch116.org">branch116.org</a>
Branch 116 Golf
<a href="http://branch116golf.org">branch116golf.org</a>
Branch 116 Shopping Cart
<a href="http://sons-in-retirement-las-trampas-br-116.square.site">sons-in-retirement-las-trampas-br-116.square.site</a>
SIR Happenings State Newsletter
<a href="http://sirinc.org/newsletters/">sirinc.org/newsletters/</a>

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

# SIR Luncheon

## There is no Br. 116 Luncheon in May!

The next Luncheon will be on June 19th

(You don't have to cancel your standing reservation for the May Luncheon because there isn't a May Luncheon)



Checkout the Large Turnout for Our April Luncheon

## Did You Know This About SIR?

- Our members live longer because they are active and socially engaged
- We are the largest golfing group in the Northern California Golf Association
- Our spouses/partners love SIR because it gets us out of the house
- Our wives often gather together and form lasting friendships
- Our activities keep us physically fit and mentally alert
- We have a great time, and we truly Make Friends for Life!

### Get Involved!

- Try a new Branch Activity
- Volunteer to:
  - Serve on the Branch Board of Directors
  - Chair an existing or new Branch Activity
  - Serve in a Branch Department (Publicity, Member Relations, Recruiting, Activity Coordination)
  - Serve in a Branch Support role (Tech Support, Communications, Party Team, Sunshine, Monthly Luncheon Team)

**Contact Big SIR Roger Craig or Fred Wachowicz to Volunteer**

# New Members & Awards



New Member Peter Loew with Sponsor Ed Soloman

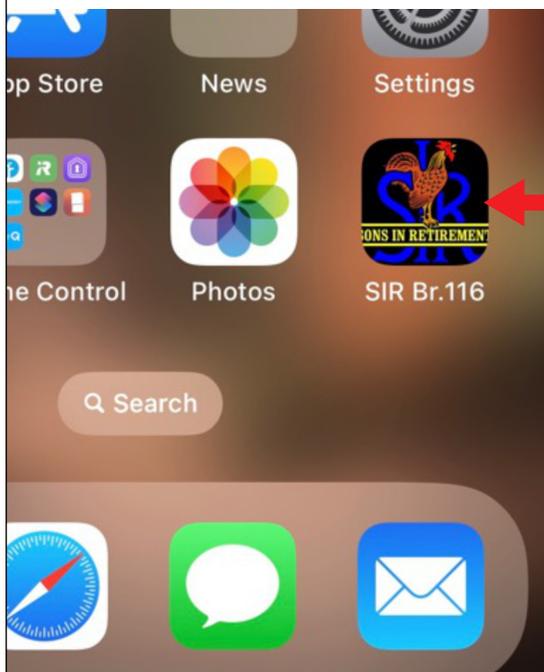


Pete Kallas receiving Senior SIR Presidential Award from Big SIR Craig

## Computer Tip

(As demonstrated at April Luncheon)

You can easily add a SIR Br. 116 app icon to your iPhone that will allow you to easily access all your SIR information (Next meeting, Speaker, Newsletter, Shopping Cart, Golf, etc.). See example below...



SIR Br.116 icon on iPhone Home Screen

### How to add app icon to your iOS home screen:

- Go to the SIR Br. 116 web address ([branch116.org](http://branch116.org)) in you your browser
- Select "Share" icon → 
- Select "Add to Home Screen"
- Change the icon name ("SIR Br.116" in the example)

# Branch Administration

## 2023 Branch Survey

Thank you for taking the time to let us know how our branch is doing. We received 69 responses to the survey.

The voting for new activities in order of priority is: Computer Tech, West Coast Travel, group theater, CPR, 1-3 week travel, investment, photography, iron chef, bowling, cycling, opera, chess, beer & wine making.

Several excellent suggestions for improvement were offered in the survey and include the following:

1. Continue improving the quality of food at the monthly meetings
2. Publish and distribute the BEC minutes to our membership and briefly review key items at the monthly meeting
3. Reduce member table noise while the guest speaker is making his/her presentation and improve sound & projection systems
4. Continue to provide top quality speakers and use Zoom if needed for those you cannot attend personally
5. Easy method for members to submit suggested improvements or concerns

6. Schedule speaker at 11:00 am followed by lunch then business
7. Insure that table seating is as open as possible for members to find a seat
8. Promote tried and true word of mouth recruiting with incentives for sponsors
9. Branch web site training for members
10. Better calendar management
11. Continue to promote and expand leadership roles for members and ask new members to serve as greeters to get to know the membership

There were several other suggestions that had 1 mention and which are also being considered for action by the BEC.

If you would like to see the complete worksheet of every suggestion and concern just let Fred Wachowicz know at [fredwach@pacbell.net](mailto:fredwach@pacbell.net).

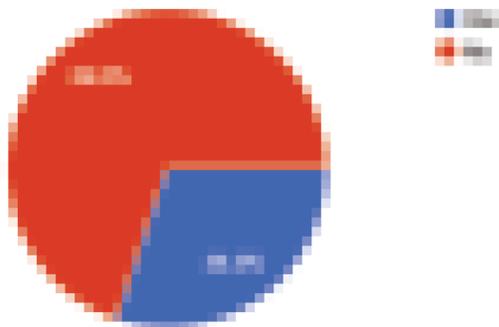
Thanks again for taking the time to answer the survey.

Fred Wachowicz

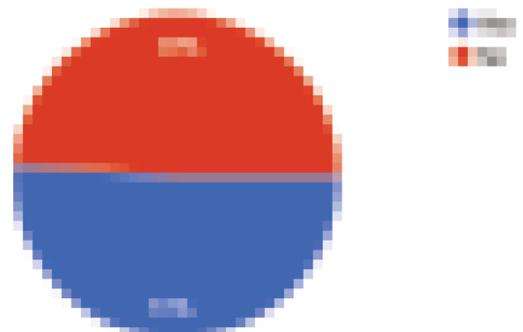
## “Women in SIR” Br. 116 Membership Survey Results

(This info has been forwarded to the State SIR)

Do you suggest all members should be required to have a membership?  
 Yes/No



Do you suggest all dining table members be required to have a membership?  
 Yes/No



# 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 and Harry Sherinian, Branch 116 Fishing Coordinator, 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, May 25th** at 8:30am. Come early.

The drought is over, the floods begin. Very normal California weather. Some fishing has resumed, trout

and stripers, halibut in the bay, but rock fishing and salmon fishing are not happening. No salmon fishing at all this year, nor rock fishing till June, and then only in 300 feet or more. On July 15th regular rock fishing resumes. Meanwhile halibut in the bay are being severely overfished. BUT, Tom Kostik, Brion Beetz, Stan Wong, and Mike Corker caught stripers in the delta. Trout are biting in San Pablo Reservoir and Contra Loma Reservoir, but only Bob Lively in his kayak has caught any. We can only hope and pray for a fishier tomorrow.



## Bocce

Paul Russell

We had our first match on April 13th at the Clayton Courts in downtown Clayton. The matches will be held every other Thursday the with our next match being tomorrow at 10:00am - noon (April 27th).

I just realized that by the time you receive this newsletter, the matches on April 27th will be over and our next match will be Thursday May 11th.

Anyone that would like to participate and is a SIR or thinking of becoming one is welcome to join. This is a coed activity for you and your spouse / significant other.

Just reach out to me via email at peruz@att.net or you can call me at 925.207.0784.



## Book Exchange

Dick Kauffman

The Book Exchange has lots of books available to our Sirs members, for FREE!

Come by the book tables in the bar area and see whether there are any books that might be of interest to you. If you find a book that you would like to read, just take the book and bring another book in

exchange to the next luncheon or whenever you remember to bring a book. This is all an informal process with no paperwork or hassle for your benefit, if you want to use this service.

Come by and browse our books.



Books just waiting to be picked up at the Luncheon book table



## Wine-O-SIR

David Havlik

There was no WINE-O-SIRS activity in April. The next wine tasting event will be at Jon Dickson's home in Alamo on **Thursday, May 25th**, at 4:00 PM. Hope to see you all there.

# 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, May 22... "The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hall" by Robert Dugoni
- Monday, June 26... "Sapiens" by Yuval Harari
- Monday, July 24... "Elephant Company" by Vicki Croke
- Monday, August 28... "Horse" by Geraldine Brooks
- Monday, September 25... "The Rose of Tibet" by Lionel Davidson

Book Group #1 met on Monday, April 24 at Orinda Books to discuss "Apeirogon" by Colum McCann. The novel has an eclectic paragraph structure and chapter numbering as it expands on the episodic

consciousness of two fathers, one Israeli and one Palestinian who have lost daughters to sectarian violence. Interspersed with the narrative are episodic references to a variety of topics tangentially related to their interests.

Mac McLaughlin recommended the book while Richard Black led the discussion with Nick Bowles, Dick Kauffman, Steve Bort, Mike Schneider, Richard White, Paul Freitas, Larry Setren, Richard Rosland, and Joel White.

The unique composition and the angst inspired by the topic made the book tough to rate but in the end the group awarded it 3.5 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.



Book Group 1 at their April Meeting



## Bridge Jon Dickson

Lunch & Bridge on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at Brass Door Restaurant in San Ramon. We encourage all bridge players to join us for a day of bridge, with laughs. If you don't get the cards, you might as well laugh!

Our total points per session continues to be on the low side. On April 11th, Dave Williams came in first with 5,590 points, a good winning score, and

Ron Banducci with 4,780 and was second. Then in April 25th, Dennis Snarr came in first with 4,370 and Art Donaldson was second with 4,150. Our average was still just over 3,000, so we are not setting the game fire.

Our next games are on **May 9th** and **23rd**. Hope to see you there at 10:30 AM.

# Branch Activities



## Book Group 2 Scott Clark

Book Club 2 met April 20 to discuss the book *Horse* by Geraldine Brooks.

Despite the simplicity of the title, the authors novel is a heart-pounding American epic that gallops backwood and forward in time to tell a story about race and freedom, horses and art, and the lineage of not just ancestors but actions. In present day we meet Theo Northam, a black art historian who is researching 19th century equestrian paintings, and Jess, a bone specialist who is called to help uncover an old horse skeleton lost somewhere in the Smithsonian. When the reader flashes back to the 1850's, there is Jarret Lewis, an enslaved groom for Lexington---a horse that will become the fastest thoroughbred ever to race---who desperately wants

to be free but will do anything for the horse he's raised, Weaving together these different narratives, *Horse* tells a distinctly American story that shines a light on the legacy of slavery and the pursuit of independence. Like the races Lexington runs, this is a fast, exciting, and all together remarkable read.

The 12 members in attendance rated the book 4.8, the highest rated book we have ever read. We thank Fred Schafer for the recommendation.

Our next meeting will be on **May 18** at Arbolado Park in Walnut Creek. Look for the tables near the tennis courts. We will discuss *The Last Green Valley* by Mark Sullivan. All are welcome to attend. Contact Scott Clark (925.998.4553) for more information.



## Pickleball Ed Solomon

Pickleball, the fastest growing team sport in the U.S. for all ages. We meet every Friday from 8 am to 9:30 am, at The Tennis Center in Heather Farm, Walnut Creek. Here's a brief Introduction to Pickleball...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=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 —925-330-2697 m



# Branch Activities



## Dine-O-SIR Jerry Hicks

### Dine-O-Sirs Extravaganzas

Ivan Li and his brothers, from Hong Kong, established the Three Brothers Chinese restaurants. On April 20 they provided a delicious banquet for 62 diners, with round Lazy Susan tables for 10. The round turntables made for good conversations and for spinning the wheel to steal dishes from diners on the opposite side of the table. Ivan and his wife, Julie, efficiently bartended, served individual Wonton soup, and brought delicious dishes one after the other, while a brother was the chef preparing our feast. Ben Smith joined us; he was the creator of Dine-O-Sirs, launched in 2009!

Shakespeare's Midsummer Eve is the Summer

Solstice. Hazy Barbeque of Danville will present a delicious dinner on **Wednesday, June 21** for the Summer Solstice, the longest day of the year with 16 hours of sunlight. Our evening will begin at 5:30 for social hour, with music by Tony and Maura de Grassi. Bring your voices to join them in songs. Look at the attached flyer for information and menu for \$41 per/person inclusive. Send your reservation and payment ASAP, preferably by check. Hazy BBQ is available for 70 diners on the patio: get your reservation and payment in early!

Your Committee: Jerry Hicks, Bob Donohue, Tom Eller, Larry Heaton, Mike Yale.



Folks enjoying the Three Brothers Chinese Event on April 20



## Golf Clinic Chris Doan

The SIR Golf Clinic is quite fortunate to have a very good, dedicated pro (Pete Asselin) who teaches at Diablo Creek Golf Course. The clinic is offered on Saturdays only due to Pete's schedule constraints. One hour group sessions are offered for \$30. Spouses are welcomed to participate in the Clinic offerings.

Please take a moment to email me (cdoan99@gmail.com) if you are interested in taking advantage of future offerings. In addition, please let me know what aspects of the game you are interested in. Our

approach to date has focused on tuning golf skills, for both the physical and mental sides of the game.

Your input will help us shape the next series ... if we don't have sufficient interest, however, we will take a long break and reassess next year.

With sufficient support, we will plan to start the next Clinic series in June.

FORE!

# Branch Activities

# DINE-O-SIR



**Branch 116 June 21, 2023, Buffet Outdoor Patio**

200 Hartz Avenue, Danville

**Cost \$41.00 per person inclusive**

**Thursday, June 21, 2023. Social Hour at 5:30, Dinner at 6:30 PM**

**Featured Performance with Tony de Grassi, Guitar and Singing**

Special price Red and White Wines, Beers, frozen cocktails, and Beverages; Corkage \$15

## Buffet Dinner Menu

### **Appetizers for Social Hour:**

Bruschetta and Brisket Meatballs

### **Dinner Buffet:**

Chicken, Brisket, and Salmon with sauces

Sides: Creamy Slaw, Potato Salad, Brisket Beans

### **Delicious Decadent Dessert:**

Fudge Brownie Bar, Brown Butter Mallow Bar

**Parking:** Few spaces in lot, City parking across the street, few street spaces

Detach\*\*\*\*\*

***Hazy Barbeque on the Patio, Wednesday, June 21, 2023***

**Must be received no later than June 13, 2023**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Attendees \_\_\_\_ @ \$41.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*Check to SIR Branch 116 Dining, c/o 74 Amberwood Lane, Walnut Creek, CA 94598, or  
Payment by: Branch 116 Shopping Cart - <https://sons-in-retirement-las-trampas-br-116.square.site/>

# Branch Activities



## Walking Tours Greg Hughes

On April 16 the Walking Tours Group visited Frank Lloyd Wright's Buehler estate in Orinda, CA. The Buehler House was once named the most beautiful home in the world by the American Institute of Architects and Designers. The Interior Department lists the home on the National Register of Historic Places.

In addition to the Buehler House the property also contains a game room/ workshop, pool house, children's playhouse, gazebo, and Japanese

teahouse. Everyone also enjoyed seeing an extensive collection of art and collectibles (cameras, pocket watches, jade jewelry, and China).

The property has natural streams, waterfalls, and an immense koi pond. The 4 acres of ground were designed by Henry Matsutani who designed the Japanese Teahouse in Golden Gate Park.

In June, the Walking Tours Activity plans to do a "backstage" tour of the Leshner Theater complex.



Walking Tour Group at Frank Lloyd Wright's Wright's Buehler Estate in Orinda on April 16

## \$ums Investment Dave Sutton (Br. 8)

We will again join Branch 128's (San Ramon) Investment Group Zoom meeting on **Wed May 24** at 1:30 PM. The topic will be announced.

Email Dave Sutton at Branch 8 to be included (<mailto:davesutn@comcast.net>).

# Branch Activities



## Amiable Amblers John Riordan

Walkers last month included Todd Berman, Richard Black & Donna Arganbright, Alan and Lynda Chasnoff, Dave LaDue, Art and Mary Alice Donaldson, Al & Nancy Farbman, Terry Fleming, Paul Freitas, David & Colleen Geary, Dan Green, John & Gail Riordan, and Joel & Susan White. On March 31 we walked from Arbolado Park along the Ygnacio Canal Trail with a post-walk gathering at Starbucks. Dave LaDue led the April 7 walk in Newhall Community Park with a post-walk gathering at Huckleberry's. On April 14 we walked from the Lafayette Community Center along the Lafayette-Moraga Trail, with a post-walk gathering at the Moraga Town Bakery and Cafe. Joel White led the April 21 walk on the Iron Horse Trail from the Railroad Museum, with a post-walk gathering at Crumbs. Art Donaldson led the April 28 walk along the Contra Costa Canal Trail from the Countrywood Shopping Center, with a post-walk gathering at Panera Bread.

The May walks will begin at 9:00AM. The **May 5**

walk will gather at the Lafayette Reservoir parking lot and walk clockwise around the loop trail, with a post-walk gathering at Tutu's. The **May 12** walk will gather at the Walnut Creek Civic Park and walk north along the Iron Horse Trail, with a post-walk gathering at Caffe La Scala. The **May 19** walk will gather at the Iron Horse Trailhead on Stone Valley Rd West in Alamo, with a post-walk gathering at Peet's Coffee. The **May 26** walk is TBD because of its proximity to the Memorial Day weekend.

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](mailto: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.

We still have several members who are traveling but

we were able to have our April Meeting at Gary Bonfiglio's. Playing were Alex Lutkus, Harry Sherinian, Gary Bonfiglio and Dave LaDue. The scores ranged from 235 to 688. I will try to get a meeting organized for May. If you are not on our email list and would like to keep up with the latest let me know.

Please email me and if you would like to talk and I can give you a call. A notice will be sent out when the May plan is determined. Let me know if you would like to be put on our list.

You can contact Richard Madden, [maddenram@sbcglobal.net](mailto:maddenram@sbcglobal.net) or 925.788.4223

# Branch Golf



**SIR Golf**  
Bernie Wroblewski, Golf Chairman

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

## 40 Second Golf Rule

New USGA Rule: Rule 5.6 encourages prompt pace of play by recommending that:

- Players should recognize that their pace of play affects others and they should play promptly throughout the round (such as by preparing in

advance for each stroke and moving promptly between strokes and in going to the next tee),

- A player should make a stroke in no more than **40 seconds** (and usually in less time) after the player is able to play without interference or distraction.

## May 9-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Wed. 03	10:00 AM	Pleasanton GC	Marty Katz
Wed. 10	10:00 AM	Diablo Hills	D.McClaughry
Wed. 17	10:00 AM	Buchanan Fields	Dick Chaffee
Wed. 24	10:00 AM	Dublin Ranch	Marty Katz
Wed. 31	10:00 AM	Shadow Lakes	T. deGrassi

## May 18-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Mon. 01	9:40 AM	Boundary Oak	Greg Hughes
Mon. 08	9:40 AM	Boundary Oak	Greg Hughes
17-18		Carmel Outing	Phil Goff
Mon. 22	9:26 AM	San Ramon	Greg Hughes

## SAVE THE DATES- 2023 Reno Golf Outing

In 2023, we will go back to Reno for golf. The dates will be **Tuesday, Sept. 5 to Friday, Sept. 8.**

We will play Toiyabe Golf Club and Wolf Run Golf Club.

We will arrive Tuesday, play Toiyabe on Wednesday and Wolf Run Golf Club on Thursday, and come

home on Friday. Group dinners will be on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. There will be activities for the men and woman who do not play golf. Save the dates.

There will be more details about the outing next month.

## Golf "Pay in Advance" Change

We no longer pay in advance by credit card for "away" golf outings. Rather, payment for "away" outings will be made at the course on the day of the event, just like we do at Boundary Oak.

Signing up for "away" tournaments is still available through our web page, but only by filling in the "Pay at the Course" box.