



SIR Branch 116 Newsletter October 2023

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

Message from Roger

“Lida RoseI’m home again Rose....without a sweetheart to my name”!



Forgive me I’m just warming up for this years Holiday Party when we will be entertained by Team Harmony a spirited Barbershop Quartet. See the enclosed reservation flyer. Sign up soon. We are expecting a big turnout.

I know Halloween hasn’t arrived yet and we are looking ahead to Christmas. I started seeing holiday decorations in stores in August.

I don’t want to beat a dead horse but we will always be looking for new members to keep the SIR tradition alive. Watch for details on a recruitment booth at a Walnut Creek Farmers Market. Your participation would be appreciated.

Until next time.....I smell SUPER BOWL .

Roger Craig, Big SIR



Sign up now for our always fabulous Holiday Party on Dec. 13th

Next Meeting
Oct. 16 @ Boundary
Oak, 11:30 AM

Topics Index

- Sums Investment 8
- Amiable Amblers .. 14
- Big SIR Report 1
- Birthdays 4
- Bocce 8
- Book Exchange 6
- Book Group 1 10
- Book Group 2 11
- Branch Officers 2
- Bridge 9
- Calendar 3
- Dine-O-SIR 12
- Fishing 9
- Golf Clinic 14
- Golf- 9&18 Hole 15
- Holiday Party 5
- Little SIR Report 7
- Luncheon Menu 6
- Luncheon Speaker ... 6
- Membership 4
- Mexican Train 11
- Pickleball 12
- SIR Happenings 4
- Topics Submissions . 4
- Treasury 4
- Walking Tours 10
- Web Addresses 7
- Wine-O-SIR 7

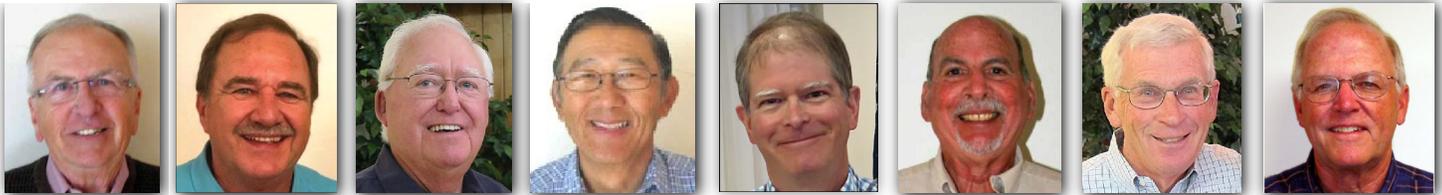
Trampas Topics

Some Important Upcoming Branch 116 Activities

Dine-O-SIR - La Finestra Ristorante	Oct. 9
Walking Tour - Treasure Island	Nov. 5
SIR Br. 116 Holiday Party	Dec. 13

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



Big SIR Roger Craig	Little SIR Alan Pope	Treasurer Jeff Johnson	Asst. Treas. Al Satake	Asst. Treas. Charlie Guthrie	Secretary Paul Ramacciotti	Asst. Sec. Greg Hughes	Member.Sec. Phil Goff
----------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------------------------	---	---	-------------------------------------	------------------------------------

2023 SIR Branch Directors



Don Benioff	Gary Bonfiglio	Kevin Donahue	Darrell McClaghry	Fred Wachowicz	Dave P. Williams
----------------	-------------------	------------------	----------------------	-------------------	---------------------

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	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

October 2023

Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
1	2 Book Group 1 (10:15@ Orinda Books) 18-Hole Golf (9:40@ Boundary Oak)	3	4 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Pleasanton Ranch GC)	5	6 Pickleball (7:30@ WC Tennis, Heather Farm) Amiable Amblers (9:00@ Olympic Blvd.)	7
8	9 Dine-O-SIR (5:45@ Las Finestra, Moraga) 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 Bocce (10:00@ Clayton Courts)	13 Pickleball (7:30@ WC Tennis, Heather Farm) Amiable Amblers (9:00@TBD)	14
15	16 SIR Br. 116 Luncheon (11:30@ Boundary Oak)	17 18-Hole Golf (10:00@ Las Positas)	18 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC)	19 Book Group 2 (11:00@ Ygnacio Valley Library)	20 Pickleball (7:30@ WC Tennis, Heather Farm) Amiable Amblers (9:00@ Countrywood Shopping Ctr.)	21
22	23 18-Hole Golf (10:00@ Diablo Creek)	24 Luncheon Bridge (10:30@ The Brass Door, San Ramon)	25 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Diablo Hills) \$ums Investment (1:30 via Zoom)	26 Bocce (10:00@ Clayton Courts) Fishing Group (8:30@ Diablo Creek)	27 Pickleball (7:30@ WC Tennis, Heather Farm) Amiable Amblers (9:00@ Stone Valley Rd., West)	28
29	30 Book Group 1 (10:15@ Orinda Books) 18-Hole Golf (10:00@ San Ramon)	31				



Branch Administration



Branch Membership

Phil Goff, Membership Chairman

Total Membership is 190	
Gary Halick	New Member Sponsor is Paul Russell.
Jim Tamulski	New Member Sponsor is Don Schroeder.
Chick Walsh	Resigned Working with youth sports.



Treasury Report

Jeff Johnson, Treasurer

	9/30/23	2023 YTD
Beg Bal 2023		\$ 10,996.81
Contributions	\$ 10,039.04	\$ 65,914.20
Disbursements	\$ (12,273.58)	\$ (67,863.23)
Net (gain/(loss))	\$ (2,234.54)	\$ (1,949.03)
September Cash Balance		\$ \$9,047.78

October Birthdays

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

1. Steve Beck	11. Carl Langhorst
2. Todd Berman	12. Dan Lawrence
3. Jerry Christopherson	13. Don Marini
4. Scott Clark	14. Don Nix
5. Wayne Cook	15. Frank Portillo
6. Jed Daniel	16. Al Satake
7. Bill Foulds	17. Dick Thomson
8. John Fraser	18. Jim Wilson
9. Dave Heck	19. Jerry Zampino
10. Marty Katz	

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>

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.

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

SIR Branch 116

Holiday Party

December 13, 2023

Music, dancing, food, fun...

Don't miss it, signup now!

Branch Activities

SIR Branch 116
Wednesday, December 13th



Holiday Party



Boundary Oak, 3800 Valley Vista Rd., Walnut Creek

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.

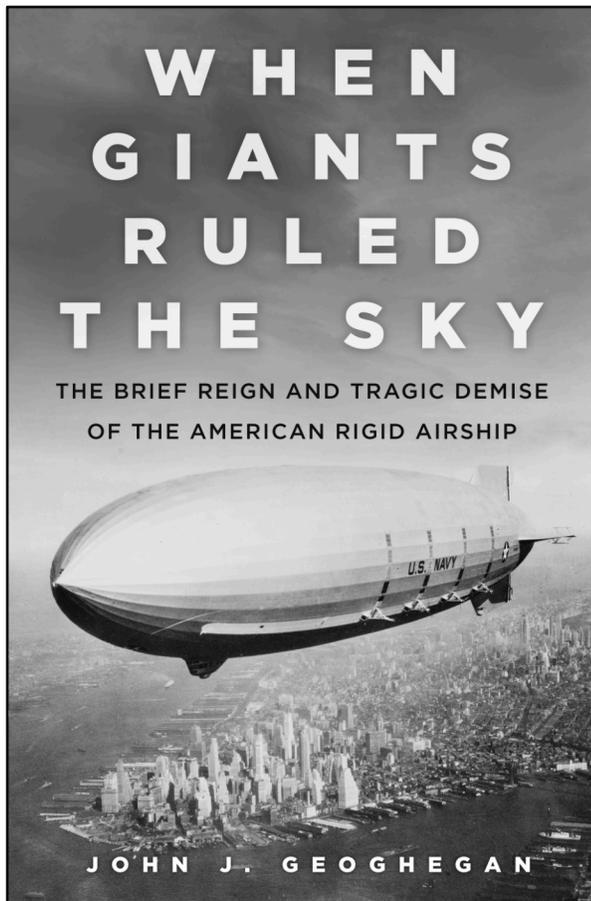
SIR Luncheon

Speaker for October Meeting

**"The Brief Reign and Tragic Demise of the American Rigid Airship"
by John J Geoghegan**

TALK DESCRIPTION: John will talk about the true but little-known U.S. Navy program to build a fleet of giant Zeppelins based in the Bay Area designed to patrol the Pacific to prevent a surprise attack by Japan in the days before radar. His talk is based on his recent book, *When Giants Ruled the Sky: The Brief Reign and Tragic Demise of the American Rigid Airship* and his recent appearance in the Smithsonian Channel's documentary, *America's Lost Airship*.

BIO: John J. Geoghegan specializes in reporting on unusual inventions that fail in the marketplace despite their innovative nature. He began his journalism career as a Special Correspondent for the New York Times, is the author of four, non-fiction books, and numerous newspaper and magazine articles. You can learn more about John's journalism career at: www.johnjgeoghegan.com



The Clubhouse at Boundary Oak Luncheon Menu

Monday, October 16th

Salad

Arugula Salad
Cranberries, Almonds, Goat Cheese
Orange Shallot Vinaigrette

Entrées

Crispy Chicken Costoletta
Yukon Gold Smashed Potatoes, Roasted
Asparagus
Creamy Lemon Sauce
– Or –

Herb Roasted Cod
Citrus Rice Pilaf, Roasted Asparagus
White Wine Tomato Basil Sauce

Vegetarian

Grilled Herb Tofu
Grilled Herb Rice Pilaf, Roasted Asparagus
Wine Tomato Basil Sauce

Dessert

Spice Cake



Book Exchange Dick Kauffman

As usual, The Book Exchange has many books for all SIR 116 members for free. The books are brought to and from the luncheon by the Branch "Sherpa Team". Come and check out the books. If you find a book that you would like to read, take it and bring a book to replace it at the next luncheon.

Happy reading.

The SIRS 116 Sherpas

Branch Activities



Little SIR Report

Allan Pope

Thank you all for attending the September luncheon. Our speaker, East Bay Parks Director John Mercurio, gave an engaging presentation about the vast East Bay Parks District which is in our own back yard. Comprised of 73 parks and over 1 million acres, which includes over 1300 trails and 55 miles of shoreline, the Parks District offers East Bay residents a wide variety of outdoor activities. Congratulations to Rich Black, who won the free lunch.

Welcome to all our new members. I encourage everyone to attend our monthly luncheon. Besides the opportunity to meet new friends, the luncheons offer interesting speakers. Our October speaker will be John Geoghegan. John will talk about the true story of a U.S. Navy program to build a fleet of giant Zeppelins, based in the Bay Area, designed to patrol the Pacific to prevent a surprise attack by the Japanese.



October Speaker East Bay Parks Director,
John Mecurio

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/



Wine-O-SIR

David Havlik

WineOSir Bordeaux Tasting



We gathered on a beautiful sunny September autumn afternoon at the home of Kathy and Jerry HWineOSir icks. We explored Bordeaux wine with a first tasting of blanc wine from area of Cadillac AOC – France. Following were each of three principal varietals of the Bordeaux Rouge: Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, and Cabernet Franc. The final tasting, the blended result of these varietals,

was 2020 Bordeaux Rouge from several wineries. Thirty-two guests enjoyed the wine, but in our opinion, Bordeaux is second best to Napa Valley Cabernets. In a 1976 Paris wine blind tasting, Napa Cabernet was judged #1 over French Bordeaux. A bonus tasting was offered of Mead, wine from the fermentation of honey.

Just before November's Thanksgiving will be the final 2023 WineOSir tasting, the third Thursday at 4:00. Put it on your calendar for camaraderie of Sirs and their best!



New Members



New Member Gary Halick
with Sponsor Paul Russell



New Member Jim Tamulski
with Sponsor Paul Russell (left)

Get the Current SIR Br. 116 Roster

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; the Password is secret).

Branch Activities

\$UMS Investment

Tom Henry (Br. 174)

We will again join Branch 128's (San Ramon) Investment Group Zoom meeting on **Wed October 25 at 1:30 PM**. Topic to be announced.

Email Dave Sutton at to be included at omhenry925@gmail



Bocce Paul Russell

We are looking for more Bocce Ball players next year for our Bocce Ball group.

We've only got 3 weeks left this year, with the final week being the roll off between the top two teams of the season. We will playing at the Clayton Valley courts from 10:00am - Noon on October 12 and October 26. Each frame (or game) is should be won by two points, so the first team to get to 9 pts and is

ahead by two points will win that game. The next frame starts immediately thereafter. Once all three frames are completed, the match is over and we usually go get lunch somewhere.

I'm stepping down from being the Chairman of the group next year, and will be replaced by Bob Huck.

So, if you'd like to come see what all the fuss is about, please come down and join us.

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, 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, October 26th** at 8:30am. Come early.

After shutting down salmon for the year, nearshore rockfish is now shut down. We have to go beyond 300 feet deep for our rockfish, a long, long ride. That

doesn't leave much ocean fishing for us. Nonetheless, Bob Stein, Bob Lively, and Carl Moyer took the 3 hour ride from Emeryville on a party boat and got huge rockfish. Dr. Stein caught the only lingcod, again. Brion Beetz, Stan Wong, Pedro Contreras, and Steve Paulick went all the way to Mexico on a long range boat from San Diego. They caught several hundred pounds of yellow fin tuna and yellow tail on a much longer ride. Bob Lively and Carl Moyer caught catfish at San Pablo Reservoir. Ken Bellendir and Tom Kostik caught bass in the delta. Tom caught bass and trout in Pinecrest Lake.



Bridge

Jon Dickson

Our twice a month lunch & bridge games are at the Brass Door Restaurant in San Ramon, starting at 10:30 is open to all and i hope any in SIR's with any

interest in bridge will join us for a fun day of bridge. We play Chicago Style, changing partners every four hands. Do join us for bridge.

Reno Golf for September Days



Jayne and Captain David Harris, Jerry Hicks, Wayne Cook, Alan Pope

The Reno State SIR Golf tournament, organized and led by Davy Harris and our oncoming Big Sir, Alan Pope, was enjoyed by 20 foursomes, men and ladies. Such an excellent job for a fun competition that was enjoyed by the 80 golfers and many spouses, including the reception and awards dinner. We enjoyed three nights at the Silver Legacy with two days of golf at the arduous Toiyabe and Wolf Run courses. Our team celebrated with dinner at the famous La Strada, where we celebrated Jayne

Harris' birthday. Results for our Branch's team were excellent – we barely finished on the first day with Best Ball and on the second day with Scramble play, came in 3rd out of the 20 teams. Harris's hard earned award money went to Jayne for her birthday present. We're looking forward to next year for another enjoyable State SIR's Reno outing with several days in the Sierra Nevada and great golf courses. Plan for 2024!

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, October 2...“The Wager” by David Grann
- Monday, October 30...“The Piano Tuner” by Mason

Book Group #1 met on Monday, August 28, 2023 at Orinda Books to discuss “Horse” by Geraldine Brooks. Themes in this novel included slavery in the 19th century, racism in the 20th, a horse whose descendants win races to this day, a bit of art history and a multiracial romance. Lexington, the featured

horse, is a historical figure, as are some of the other major characters.

Mac McLoughlin recommended the book while Richard Black led the discussion with Dick Kauffman, Richard White, Paul Freitas, Tim Tinnis, Art Donaldson, John Kopchik, Jim Flessner, Jeff Johnson, Garrett Girvan, Dan Renke, Joel White and John Riordan.

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.



Walking Tours Greg Hughes

On Sunday, November 5, 2023, Walking Tours activity is visiting the Treasure Island complex. The tour starts at 10 AM in the Art Deco Building 1, 1 Avenue of Palms, San Francisco, CA, 94130. This building was originally designed as the air terminal for Pan America Airways during the years of the Clipper flights across the Pacific (1938-1945). Before entering the building participants will see the 4 Pacific Unity Sculptures. Once inside, they will view TI Naval History Mural, 251 feet wide. The free 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. Lastly, the participants will enjoy 1 hour slide lectures covering the 1939-40 Golden Gate

International Exposition. Everything is in color and you will see GGIE as it was in 1939. The presentation is being done by Ms Anne Schnoebelen, Vice President, TI Museum. The cost for the presentation is \$15 per person.

Lunch is at the very popular Mersea Restaurant, <https://www.mersea.restaurant/menu>, which faces the San Francisco downtown skyline.

If you wish to participate in this event please contact Greg Hughes (925) 998-5650, greghughes505@gmail.com by Wednesday, October 18.

Greg Hughes
(925) 998-5650



Branch Activities



Book Group 2

Scott Clark

Book Group 2 met on Thursday, September 21, to discuss "Operation Pedestal" "the fleet that battled in Malta 1942" by Max Hastings.

Malta is a small island that lies near the center of the Mediterranean Sea between Sicily and the coast of North Africa. Max Hastings is an historian who provides a well-researched and very detailed and accurate description of a fleet of mostly British naval and merchant vessels which sailed from Gibraltar to Malta from August 9 to August 15 in 1942. The British controlled Malta, from which it had been attacking German supply lines to German troops in North Africa. Malta had been under siege by German and Italian forces since 1940 and without getting more fuel, supplies and other provisions to the island, Malta would fall to the Germans.

The Pedestal fleet consisted of two battleships, five aircraft carriers, 11 escorts, seven cruisers, 23 destroyers, six minesweepers, nine submarines, an ocean tug, 14 merchant vessels, and 146 war planes. Despite the British commitment to the largest fleet the Royal Navy committed to action since 1916, for five straight days the fleet ran into an equally strong and determined German and Italian resistance that

resulted in numerous bloody air-sea battles. In the end, the British suffered the loss of nine merchant ships, an aircraft carrier, two cruisers, a destroyer, and 457 men. Ultimately four merchant ships and a tanker, survived to bring the needed food, fuel, and supplies. It was a tactical victory for the Axis but a strategic win for the Allies.

As in any war, the book described many events that were going on at the same time. Some characters were mentioned throughout the story, but it was difficult to follow the numerous characters throughout the book. The group's criticism of the book was that it was at times confusing and overly detailed. On the other hand, it made the reader a part of an important battle during World II. The group gave the book an overall rating of 3.1 out of 5.

The next Book Club 2 meeting will be on **Thursday, October 19**, at 1 pm at the Ygnacio Valley library on Oak Grove Road in Walnut Creek. The group will discuss, "The Lost City of the Monkey God" by Douglas Preston. Our November book will be "The Wager" by David Grann. We welcome anyone who is interested to join us.



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 September and had nine in attendance.

With that number of players we had two groups. At one table was Alex Lutkus, Kirk McVean, Alan Polanger, John Riordan and Harry Sherinian. Their scores ranged from 179 to 404. The other table had Gary Bonfiglio, Terry Fleming, Earl Gore and Richard Madden. Their scores range from 234 to 462. We welcomed Terry Fleming as a first time player and hope to see him more in the future.

Our next meeting is scheduled for **October 11th** at 10:00am.

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

Branch Activities



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/atcqv=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!!



Dine-O-SIR Jerry Hicks

Columbus discovered America and Jeff Assadi found Moraga for his highly rated Italian Ristorante, La Finestra. Jeff will open the restaurant exclusively for our Dine-O-Sir on Monday, October 9th, which is also the Columbus Day observance. His restaurant has ambiance, with piano music on the weekends and a well-stocked bar with special cocktails. You will have a wonderful evening and enjoy the selection of three excellent entrées

We will begin social adjustment at 5:45 with dinner

served at 6:30. Wine can be ordered for reasonably priced glasses or half bottles from Chianti. See the enclosed flyer for La Finestra, salivate, and send in your reservation by check or cart not later than October 1. Take your special lady for a wonderful evening for only \$51.00 per person, inclusive of gratuity and tax.

Dine-O-Sir Committee: Jerry Hicks, Bob Donohue, Tom Eller, Larry Heaton, Mike Yale.

Branch Activities



Dine-O-SIR

Branch 116 observing Columbus Day

La Finestra Ristorante

1419 Moraga Way, Moraga, CA 94556 Tel (925) 376-444

Monday, October 9, 2023

Social Adjustment at 5:45 PM, Dinner at 6:30 PM

Cost Only \$51.00 p/p inclusive

La Finestra list
for Beers,
Wines, and
Special
Cocktails.
Pay by cash or
debit card.
Corkage \$17

Dinner Menu

Starter:

Mista salad - Organic Seasonal Mixed Greens with Dried Cranberries, Roasted Almonds, Sliced Tomato and Avocado, Tossed with Olive Oil and balsamic Vinaigrette.

Entrée' Selection:

1. **Rigatoni di Parma**- Rigatoni pasta with prosciutto, Gorgonzola cheese, sun-dried Tomato and spinach in a Light Cream Sauce
2. **Ravioli ai Gamberi**- Spinach and cheese Raviolis with jumbo prawns, Roasted bell peppers, spinach, tomatoes, in a Light Gorgonzola Cream Sauce
3. **Porchetta al Prosciutto Crudo**- Thinly Sliced Pork Tenderloin with Prosciutto, Asparagus and port wine Cream Sauce, Served with Cheese Spinach Raviolis

Dessert:

Spumoni- Italian gelato with vanilla, chocolate Candied Fruits
Coffee or tea on request

La Finestra Ristorante, October 9, 2023

NAME: _____ Entrée: _____

NAME: _____ Entrée: _____

Number of Attendees: _____ x \$51 = \$ _____

Please send your reservation with entrée selection and check made to: **SIR Branch 116 Dining**

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

For Information, email to jerryhicks@astound.net or phone (925) 360-0447

Add \$1.75 per person if using Branch Shopping Cart

Branch Activities



Amiable Amblers John Riordan

September walkers included Todd Berman, Richard Black & Donna Arganbright, Steve Bort, Art & Mary Alice Donaldson, Al & Nancy Farbman, Dick Frankel, Paul & Anna Freitas, David & Colleen Geary, Dan Green, Dave & Debbie LaDue, Essie Naddaf, John & Gail Riordan, Brad Stribling (new Ambler), Tim Tinnes, Tom & Mary Welte, and Joel & Susan White.

On September 8 we walked in the Martinez Regional Shoreline, with a post-walk gathering at States Coffee and Bread. On September 15 we walked around the Lafayette Reservoir, with post-walk gathering at The Rising Loafer. On September 22 we walked north on the Iron Horse trail from Civic Park, with a post-walk gathering at Caffe La Scala. On September 29 we walked on the Iron Horse Trail from Osage Park, with a post-walk gathering at the Danville Black Bear Diner.

The October walks will begin at 9:00AM. The **October 6** walk will gather at the Olympic Blvd Staging Area and walk west on the Lafayette-

Moraga Trail; the post-walk gathering will be at the Lafayette Starbucks, 3343 Mt Diablo Blvd. The **October 13** walk is to be determined. The **October 20** walk will gather at Panera Bread in the Countrywood Shopping Center and walk east along the Contra Costa Canal Trail; the post-walk gathering will be at Panera Bread. The **October 27** walk will gather at the Stone Valley Rd West trailhead and walk north along the Iron Horse Trail; the post-walk-gathering will be at nearby Peet's Coffee.

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.

Take Less Time to Play Golf

Never walk back to get a yardage for your shot. You can use the markers in the fairway or the cart path while driving or walking to your ball. If you are using a range finder, start to use it once you are a

few steps behind your ball. It may appear trivial, but over the course of an 18 hole round these practices can save several minutes.



Golf Clinic Chris Doan

The 2023 Clinic schedule was completed in September so will transition to a winter break. We will offer a classroom session on Course Management during the winter and plan to start the 2024 Clinic series in the spring.

During the break, our Clinic Pro, Pete Asselin, who supports the SIRs Clinic is available for private lessons at a discounted rate of \$60/hr. Contact him directly at adub1816@yahoo.com for an appointment.

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 Clinic details will be communicated by e-mail ... reservations are made by responding to the e-mail.
- That's all there is to it ... hope you will join us in 2024 to tune up your game.

FORE!

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.

October 9-Hole Schedule

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

October 18-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Mon. 02	9:40 AM	Boundary Oak	Rich Madden
Mon. 09	9:40 AM	Boundary Oak	Rich Madden
Tues. 17	10:00 AM	Las Positas	Rich Madden
Mon. 23	10:00 AM	Diablo Creek	Rich Madden
Mon., 30	10:00 AM	San Ramon	Rich Madden