



# SIR Branch 116 Newsletter September 2023

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

## Message from Roger

Who says nine holers can't still get it done? Terry Grummit scored the second hole in one in less than a year. Congrats to Terry for acing hole number 8 at Dublin Ranch.



We tried a recruitment booth at the Danville Farmers Market. Approximately 40 Branch tri-folds were handed out and early results are two new members. Of particular note was a wife picking up a tri-fold saying she was taking it home to her husband. He is now a member.

A special thanks to Jeff Johnson, Greg Hughes and Tony DeGrassi who joined me at our booth.

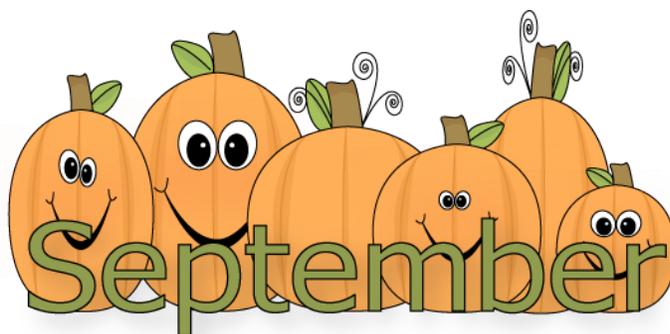
We are considering recruitment efforts at other Farmers Markets in the area.

A tip of the ball cap to Little SIR Alan Pope for arranging for our August speaker Jack Bair the Executive VP and Chief Legal Officer of the San Francisco Giants. Mr Bair revealed there is so much more to a major league franchise than just fielding a team. His presentation was both informative and entertaining.

The year is slipping by. We have lost some cherished members and gained some new ones. Attendance at luncheons continues to show a steady growth.

We hope this trend continues.

*Roger Craig, Big SIR*



**Next Meeting**  
Sept. 18 @ Boundary  
Oak, 11:30 AM

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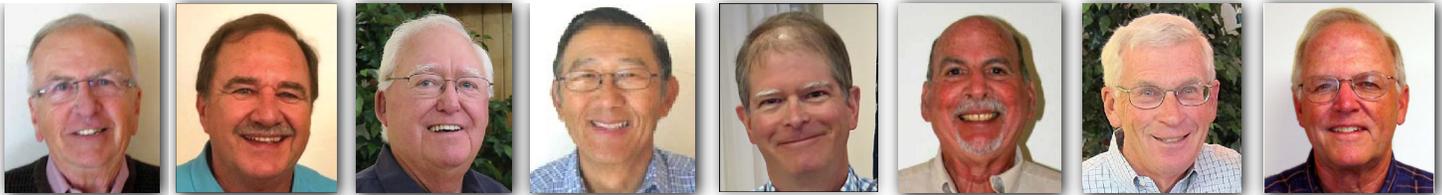
**Trampas Topics**

## Some Important Upcoming Branch 116 Activities

Theater - Anna Christie	Sept. 15
Horse Racing at Golden Gate Fields	Sept. 25
Travel - 7 SIR Travel Opportunities	Various

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	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	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

## September 2023

Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
					1 <b>Pickleball</b> (7:30@ WC Tennis, Heather Farm)	2
3	4 <b>18-Hole Golf</b> (9:40@ Boundary Oak)	5	6 <b>9-Hole Golf</b> (10:00@ Pleasanton Ranch GC) <b>Mexican Train</b> (10:00@ Church of Christ, WC)	7	8 <b>Amiable Amblers</b> (9:00@ Martinez Regional Shoreline) <b>Pickleball</b> (7:30@ WC Tennis, Heather Farm)	9
10	11 <b>18-Hole Golf</b> (9:40@ Boundary Oak)	12 <b>Luncheon Bridge</b> (10:30@ The Brass Door, San Ramon)	13 <b>9-Hole Golf</b> (10:00@ Diablo Hills GC)	14 <b>Bocce</b> (10:00@ Clayton Courts) <b>Book Group 2</b> (11:00@ Ygnacio Valley Library)	15 <b>Amiable Amblers</b> (9:00@ Lafayette Reservoir) <b>Pickleball</b> (7:30@ WC Tennis, Heather Farm) <b>Theater</b> (7:30@ Danville)	16
17	18 <b>SIR Br. 116 Luncheon</b> (11:30@ Boundary Oak)	19 <b>18-Hole Golf</b> (10:21@ Lone Tree GC)	20 <b>9-Hole Golf</b> (10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC)	21	22 <b>Amiable Amblers</b> (9:00@ Walnut Creek Civic Park) <b>Pickleball</b> (7:30@ WC Tennis, Heather Farm)	23 <b>Golf Clinic</b>
24	25 <b>18-Hole Golf</b> (10:00@ Napa Kennedy)	26 <b>Luncheon Bridge</b> (10:30@ The Brass Door, San Ramon)	27 <b>9-Hole Golf</b> (10:00@ Dublin Ranch GC) <b>\$ums Investment</b> (1:30 via Zoom)	28 <b>Bocce</b> (10:00@ Clayton Courts) <b>Fishing Group</b> (8:30@ Diablo Creek) <b>Wine-O-SIR</b> (4:00@ Jerry Hicks)	29 <b>Amiable Amblers</b> (9:00@ Osage Park) <b>Pickleball</b> (7:30@ WC Tennis, Heather Farm)	30



# Branch Administration



## Branch Membership

Phil Goff, Membership Chairman

Total Membership is 189	
Bob LaSala	Resigned
Chuck Gilliam	Resigned- Unable to participate
Nick Bowles	Passed away on 8/7/2023
Brad Stribling	New Member Sponsor Bill Foulds
Roger Tuma	New Member Sponsor Al Guzman
Andy Richman	New Member Sponsor Don Schroeder
Steve Beck	New Member Sponsor Roger Craig



## Treasury Report

Jeff Johnson, Treasurer

	8/24/23	2023 YTD
Beg Bal 2023		\$ 10,996.81
Contributions	\$ 4,548.23	\$ 52,602.22
Disbursements	\$ (5,865.23)	\$ (51,289.40)
Net (gain/(loss))	\$ <b>(1,317.00)</b>	\$ 1,312.82
August Cash Balance		\$ 12,309.63

## 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>

## September Birthdays

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

- |                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Jim Avila       | 9. Allen Leschot   |
| 2. Rich Black      | 10. Hank McDermott |
| 3. Mike Corker     | 11. Terry Miller   |
| 4. Tony de Grassi  | 12. Jim Nachtweih  |
| 5. Chris Doan      | 13. Richard Slaton |
| 6. Alan Fitzgerald | 14. Brad Stribling |
| 7. Warren Garrison | 15. Carlos Xavier  |
| 8. Jim Hemmenway   |                    |



## Sunshine

Matt Arena

The following is an health update on our longtime Sunshine leader Matt Arena sent by his eldest son Jim Arena:

*He is doing well and enjoying a break in his chemo treatment for Lymphoma at Stanford. He and our Mom, Sarah, moved to the south Bay in a senior residence in February. Mom and Dad's five children have created a caring bridge account so that their friends can keep up with them. Our hope is to continue to post updates every month whether it's health updates or whatever is going on for them. Here's the URL:*

<https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/mattsaraharena>

## 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)

In Memoriam  
**Robert "Nick" Bowles**  
 Dec 11, 1936 - Aug 7, 2023

# 2024 Officers & Directors



Gary Bonfiglio, Roger Craig, Alan Pope, Charlie Guthrie, Paul Russell, Jeff Johnson, Greg Hughes, Sam Beret (Paul Ramacciotti, Al Satake, Alan Fitzgerald, Don Benioff and Dave Williams not shown)

## 2024 SIR Branch 116 Officers and Directors

Big Sir	Alan Pope
Little Sir:	Paul Russell
Secretary	Paul Ramacciotti
Assistant Secretary	Dan Lawrence (not yet confirmed by BEC)
Treasurer	Charlie Guthrie
Assistant Treasurer	Al Satake
Membership	Alan Fitzgerald
Asst Membership	Greg Hughes
Director	Don Benioff (currently serving)
Director	Gary Bonfiglio (currently serving)
Director	Jeff Johnson
Director	Sam Beret
Director	Roger Craig
Director	Dave Williams (currently serving)

**“Thank You!” to the new 2024 SIR Branch 116 Officers & Directors.**

Your willingness to actively participate in Branch management keeps us strong.

# SIR Luncheon

## Speaker for September Meeting East Bay Parks Director, John Mercurio

Our Speaker for September will be East Bay Parks Director, John Mercurio.

Director Mercurio is a Concord resident who currently serves on the city's Planning Commission. He has most recently worked as the state coordinator for the American Discovery Trail Society and project advisor for the Regional Government Service Authority. John is a retired management analyst who worked for Contra Costa County for more than 17 years.

The East Bay Regional Park District comprises 73 parks and a system of interpark trails spanning over 125,000 acres in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. They provide habitat for wildlife, including many rare and endangered species. Whether you enjoy hiking, biking, fishing, swimming, nature programs, volunteer activities, or just relaxing in beautiful natural surroundings, there is a park for you.

### REMINDER

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.

## The Clubhouse at Boundary Oak Luncheon Menu

Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup>

### Salad

#### **Classic Caesar**

Hearts of Romain, Shaved Parmesan, Garlic Croutons, Caesar Dressing

### Entrées

#### **Bistro Filet**

Garlic Yukon Gold Smashed Potatoes, Roasted Carrots, Caramelized Shallot Red Wine Mushroom Jus

—or—

#### **Citrus Roasted Tilapia**

Garlic Yukon Gold Smashed Potatoes, Roasted Carrots, Lemon Capers Sauce

—or—

### Vegetarian

Three Cheese Tortellini with Roasted Tomatoes and Pesto

### Dessert

**Strawberry Cream Cake**



### Little SIR Report

Allan Pope

Again, a thanks to all of you for coming to the August lunch. Congratulations to Fred McBreen who won the free lunch. Our August speaker was Jack Bair. Mr. Bair is the Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Officer of the San Francisco Giants. Mr. Bair gave a very interesting presentation of the Giants organization, from their development of players in other countries such as Venezuela as well as their offices in the Dominican Republic. He also discussed the Giants several affiliated minor league teams and their development of Mission Rock

located south of Oracle Park. All in all, a fascinating discussion.

A new slate of Branch 116 officers was approved for 2024. I take this opportunity to encourage each of you to volunteer as an officer, activity chairman, or activity support chairman. Through your volunteer efforts you will get to know many new friends and participate in new activities. It is only through its members that Branch 116 will continue to be a great organization. We always need volunteers!

# New Members



**New Member Andy Richmond  
with Sponsor Don Schroeder**



**New Member Brad Stribling  
with Sponsor Bill Foulds**



**Sponsor Al Guzman with  
New Member Roger Tuma**



**New Member Steve Beck  
with Sponsor Don Schroeder**

# Branch Activities

## Guide to Playing Golf Faster

### 1. HAVE A PRE-ROUND ROUTINE

Put tees, ball markers, lip balm and an extra ball in your pocket.

### 2. BARE YOUR DRIVER

Leave your driver headcover off.

### 3. SHORTEN YOUR PRE-SHOT ROUTINE

The USGA recommends players hit within 20. Also limit yourself to only one practice swing or stroke.

### 4. PLAY READY GOLF

### 5. BE READY WHEN IT'S YOUR TURN, IF NOT SOONER

### 6. GO TO YOUR BALL. NOW.

### 7. PUTT, DON'T PUTTER

### 8. WATCH THE CLOCK

Check the clock every three holes and agree to try to beat a 40-minute pace (four hours for 18).

### 9. IN A CART, THINK NASCAR

Take your shot and jump back in without putting around at your golf bag.

### 10. MAKE IT EASY FOR OTHERS TO PLAY FASTER

### 11. MINIMIZE THE DAMAGE OF A LOST BALL

The entire foursome does not have to look for a ball. Two can look, two should play.

### FINALLY, IF ALL ELSE FAILS...

If your group cannot keep up with the group in front of you, invite the group behind you to play through.

# 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 925-846-7067, Branch 116 Fishing Coordinator. Next meeting will be at the Legends restaurant at the Diablo Creek golf course on Port Chicago Highway and Highway 4 on **Thursday, September 28th** at 8:30am. Come early.

We continued to catch halibut and striped bass in the bay, almost everybody cashed in. Rockfish season started in mid-July on a bouncy ocean that settled down after a week. Too many of us to list brought home the tasty rockfish and ling cod. Some days were better than others. Tom Kostik, Mike

Corker, and Ken Bellender got black bass in the delta. Steve Paulick, Stan Wong, Brion Beetz, Tom Caldwell, Ray Pixton, and Tom Chapman travelled to Stampede Reservoir for 3 days of good kokanee fishing. Phil Scimonelli fished from the shore at Bodega Bay for some surf perch. Soon they will resume planting trout in our local lakes when they cool a bit. That is always enjoyable for our SIR fishermen. Let's go FISHIN!!! August was also the time for our annual Bar-B-Que. About 50 members and guests were treated to a great dinner at the lovely home of Brian Beetz. Brian and his gracious wife hosted this event for the second year, and, as last year it just great.



Bar-B-Que at Brian Beetz's Home



SIR Jeff Johnson in Montana



## Wine-O-SIR

David Havlik

The WINE-O-SIRS met at the home of Tom and Ellen Eller in July, where we tasted a range of Zinfandel wines, from current to 'old vine (20 year old vines) to 'ancient vine' (70 year old vines). Everyone had

a favorite but no one wine stood out from the rest. There is no wine tasting event in August; the next will be on **September 28th** at the home of Jerry and Kathy Hicks.

# 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.



August Luncheon Speaker Jack Bair talking about SF Giants Baseball

## SIR Web Addresses

SIR 116 Web Site

[branch116.org](http://branch116.org)

Branch 116 Golf

[branch116golf.org](http://branch116golf.org)

Branch 116 Shopping Cart

[sons-in-retirement-las-trampas-br-116.square.site](http://sons-in-retirement-las-trampas-br-116.square.site)

SIR Happenings State Newsletter

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

# Branch Activities



## Book Group 2

Scott Clark

Book Club 2 August book was Billion Dollar Whale: The Man Who Fooled Wall Street, by Tom Wright & Bradley Hope.

A true story of greed and hubris from two Wall Street Journal reporters, Billion Dollar Whale reveals how a young Malaysian social climber pulled off one of the biggest financial heists in history — right under the nose of the global financial industry—exposing the shocking secret of elite wealth, banking, Hollywood, and politics. The dust had yet to settle on the 2009 global financial crisis when an unlikely Wharton grad, Jho Low, was setting in motion a fraud of unprecedented gall and magnitude, one that would come to symbolize the next great threat to the global financial system. To be sure, Low had plenty of help from a corrupt Malaysian prime minister, Goldman Sachs, numerous banks and investors, and compliance officers who were only too willing to look the other way and ignore their own protocols for monitoring investments.

Some members found the amount of greed and

fraudulent behavior revealed in this story to be too much to bear; they finished half or less of the book. Most felt the book was not well written.

And what of the fate of the perpetrator, Jho Low? He is rumored to be living in Macau China or on his 140 million dollar yacht anchored in international waters.

Our group scored this book a 1.5/5, the lowest rated book we have read.

The next two meetings of Book Club 2 and books chosen are as follows:

10/19/2023, The Lost City of the Monkey God, by Douglas Preston. Meeting will be at 11 AM, at Arbolado Park Walnut Creek, in front of the basketball courts.

11/16/2023, The Wager: A Tale of Shipwreck, Mutiny, and Murder, by David Grann. Meeting place to be determined.

Contact Scott Clark for more information, 925-998-4553.



## Theater

Terry Sherman

### O'NEILL'S "ANNA CHRISTIE" ON SEPTEMBER 15

Three area Branches of SIR are working together to promote a Theater Party for an award-winning play by Pulitzer-Prize playwright Eugene O'Neill at Danville's Tao House.

"Anna Christie" will be staged in the Old Barn at the Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site in the hills above Danville on Friday evening **September 15** for a 7:30 p.m. performance.

Members of SIR Branch 146, Branch 116 and Branch 128 have joined together for this Theater Party event. A special discount is available for members and guests of these three SIR Branches.

Tickets are \$60 on sale on the Eugene O'Neill's Foundation's website beginning July 6. There will be a special page on this website offering a limited number of \$5 discounts for members of the three SIR

Branches. Tickets are available for purchase on July 6; purchase by August 15 to get the discount. Click on <https://eugeneoneill.org/event/sirs-tickets-to-anna-christie-sept-15/>.

Information on required shuttle access to the National Historic Site via NPS from Museum of San Ramon Valley in downtown Danville will be provided on the website: [eugeneoneill.org](http://eugeneoneill.org). If you need further information, contact Terry Sherman (dtsh@sbcglobal.net); (925-786-0598).

O'Neill is America's only Nobel Prize-winning playwright. He lived at Tao House in the hills above Danville from 1936-194, where he authored many notable works including "Long Day's Journey into Night" and "The Iceman Cometh." "Anna Christie" premiered in the 1920s, and evolved to become one of O'Neill's most popular works, and one of his only two comedies.

# 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/atchv=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!!**



## Bocce Paul Russell

G'day fellow ballers, I just wanted to give you an update on what's going on at bocce ball this year and what's coming up this year so, we've got one more match in August on the 31st. Then in **September we'll play on the 14th and the 28th**. We'll play our last regular match on October 12th and have the two highest scoring teams roll off on the 26th.

We have matches every other Thursday from 10:00am to noon with lunch following if you're

willing. We normally have lunch at Ed's Mudville Grill or La Veranda in Clayton, which is, by the way, where we play bocce ball. The courts are located just as you turn into Clayton at the corner of Main St. and Oak St.

If you're interested in becoming involved next year please call me at 925 207-0784 or you can email me at peruz@att.net. The more the merrier!

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

We will again join Branch 128's (San Ramon) Investment Group Zoom meeting on Wed September 27 at 1:30 PM. Topic to be announced.

Email Dave Sutton to be included.(mailto:davesutn@comcast.net).



## Bridge Jon Dickson

We have had 16 players for two sessions in row as many are heading out on vacations as summer ends. Of course, we are not worried about going back to school or jobs, in our retired state.

On August 8th, Vince Yamamoto ran away with first place prize with 5,710 points and Don Benioff a distant second with 4,500 points. Some guys get all the cards!

Our August 22nd game had Jerry Christopherson

coming in first with 4,100 points and Jai Yee a close 2nd with 4,090 points . Dan Green was right behind with 4,010 points, showing us just a few extra tricks count.

Our twice a month lunch & bridge games at 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.

# Branch Activities



Big SIR Roger Craig and Jeff Johnson recruiting SIR members at the Danville Farmers Market. They were also joined by Greg Hughes and Tony DeGrassi.



**Hole-In-One!**  
By Terry Grummitt on the 8<sup>th</sup> Hole (133 Yds) at Dublin Ranch GC on August 22



## Community Service Jeff Johnson

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

Good news! The Community Service activity will start-up again at the beginning of next year. In the meantime, I hope to have a couple of events lined

up for this coming November and December. And I am working with the CCC/Solano Food Bank to have a food donation barrel at our November lunch meeting. If you are interested in participating this worthwhile activity, please contact me (jeffjohnson9000@att.net or 415-652-4840).



# Branch Activities



## Dine-O-SIR Jerry Hicks

Dine-O-SIR enjoyed an evening at the Brass Door restaurant, featured their "House Specialty" Prime Rib. Although all entrées were excellent, the Prime Rib, devoured or taken home in "doggie bags", was the most popular entree selected by our diners. The Brass Door dinner was offered on two Wednesday evenings in order to accommodate everyone. Social adjustment was spirited, with friendly conversations and ample wine and cocktails. We welcomed five new couple members to Dine-O-Sirs. This is the fifth time we have enjoyed dinner at the

Brass Door. Those that missed this popular dinner must look forward a future date!

Your Dine-O-Sir committee is working to plan our next dinner in October. When the plans are in place, you will be notified with an email and flyer. Also, we will have the information in the Las Trampas October newsletter.

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



## Horse Racing

**Golden Gate Fields  
SIR Day at the Races**  
GGF - 9/25/23  
\$76/buffet/TurfClub

Wonderful scenery, excellent food + drinks. Plenty smiles and lots of laughter. Memories. You can bet on it.

Address/mail check to Lee Moy, 127 N. Helm Ave, Clovis 93612; Leehealthstudio@gmail.com;  
Text (559) 709-9851

**Deadline 9/20/23. \$76/per person**

Optional: Wear Kentucky Derby style hats.

# Branch Activities



## Travel Jeff Johnson

Below are travel opportunities from other branches. Feel free to contact the organizers directly.

#	Trip	Dates	Cost	Includes	Contact
	Colorado Rockies, Rails and Western National Parks	9/10/23 to 9/18/2023	\$3649	Airfare, 11 meals, Coach, 4 National Parks. Tour Director, Bus Transport and all admissions.	John Pletsch, 408-504-1255 <a href="mailto:jeplet@sbcglobal.net">jeplet@sbcglobal.net</a>
2	Ballroom Dance Cruise – California Coast	10/7/23 to 10/14/23	Starts \$749 interior room	Princess Cruise Amenities. Ballroom dancing and instruction.	Michael Gervais at 916-337-1623, - SIR Branch 98
3	Croatia and Its Islands - Cruise	9/24/23 to 10/23/23	\$6714 to \$7214 depending upon cabin	Round Trip Airfare Highlights: From Dubrovnik, 7-night Adriatic Cruise to Multiple destinations on Croatia Coast	Bill Britton 925-200-1062. <a href="mailto:bill.britton@comcast.net">bill.britton@comcast.net</a>
4	Autumn Colors Boston to Boston Bus Tour	10/13 to 10/22 2023	\$4330	Includes air & bus transportation. Highlights: Boston, Mohawk Trail, Mount Washington.	Bill Stires 209-544-2684. <a href="mailto:bstires46@gmail.com">bstires46@gmail.com</a>
5	Rose Parade and New Year's Eve	12/30/23 to 1/4/24	\$3375	Includes air fare, lodging, New Year's Eve party, Rose Parade, Nixon Library, coastal cities, luxury bus, lodging, 9 meals.	Contact Joe Salamida 408-767-2838. <a href="mailto:ascreeenman756@gmail.com">ascreeenman756@gmail.com</a>
6	Best of Spain and Portugal	4/27/24 to 5/12/24	\$7895	Airfare and 15 day guided trip. 5 dinners, 15 breakfasts, 2 lunches. Includes Tips	Glenn Breslin 925-788-6520 <a href="mailto:glennbreslin@gmail.com">glennbreslin@gmail.com</a>
7	Memorials of WW 2	9/6/24 to 9/15/24	\$4972	Airfare and 10 day trip, highlighting WW2 events in England (Blitz), Normandy (D-Day) and Paris (Nazi Occupation). 9 breakfasts and 4 dinners.	Glenn Breslin 925-788-6520 <a href="mailto:glennbreslin@gmail.com">glennbreslin@gmail.com</a>



## Book Exchange Dick Kauffman

There are lots of books available to SIRS members, for FREE. Come by our many tables of books and see whether there is a book of interest for you. If you see a book you want to read, just take it and bring another book to exchange at the next luncheon or whenever you remember to bring a book. All of this is done on an informal basis.

Come by and check out the books.

The SIRS 116 Sherpas



# Branch Activities



## Amiable Amblers John Riordan

August walkers included Todd Berman, Richard Black & Donna Arganbright, Art & Mary Alice Donaldson, Al & Nancy Farbman, Dick Frankel, Paul & Anna Freitas, David & Colleen Geary, Dave LaDue, Dan Green, Essie Naddaf, John & Gail Riordan, Tom & Mary Welte, and Joel & Susan White.

Joel White led the August 4 walk from the Railroad Museum north along the Iron Horse Trail, with a post-walk at Sideboard. Dick Frankel led the August 11 walk from Heather Farm Park west along the Contra Costa Canal Trail, with a post-walk gathering at Panera Bread. On August 18 we walked from the Moraga Commons north along the Lafayette-Moraga Trail, with a post-walk gathering at the Town Bakery and Café. On August 25 we walked from San Miguel Park east along the Ygnacio Canal Trail, with a post-walk gathering at the Black Bear Diner.

The September walks will begin at 9:00AM. There will be **no walk on September 1** because of its proximity to the Labor Day weekend. On **September 8** we will meet at the Martinez Bocce courts and walk

in the Martinez Regional Shoreline; the post-walk gathering will be at the States Coffee and Bread. On **September 15** we will meet at the Lafayette Reservoir and walk counter-clockwise around the lower loop; the post-walk gathering is to be determined. On **September 22** we will meet at the Walnut Creek Civic Park and walk north along the Iron Horse Trail; the post-walk gathering will be Caffe La Scala. On **September 29** we will meet at Osage Park and walk south on the Iron Horse Trail; the post-walk gathering will be at the Black Bear Diner.

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.



## Golf Clinic Chris Doan

We have designed the 2023 schedule incorporating input and ideas from the SIR Golfing community. Starting in June, the new rotation and schedule will end with...

- Tee Shots Sep 23
- as well as a classroom session on Course Management (date TBD).

Other details about the Clinic offerings ...

**Clinic Location:** Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway, Concord

**Clinic Pro:** Pete Asselin, dedicated to the SIRs Clinic and also available for private lessons at a discounted rate of \$60/hr.

**Times** offered for Saturday Clinics: 9:15, 10:30, 11:45 and 1:00

**Skill Level:** All from low handicappers to beginners

**Clinic Fees:** \$30 for one hour Clinics

**How to register and participate:**

- Start by getting on the Clinic email list. Send request to [cdoan99@gmail.com](mailto: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 2023 to tune up your game.

# Branch Activities



## Mexican Train Dominos Richard Madden

Mexican Train" is a domino game which uses a set of Double Twelve Dominoes. From 2 to 8 can play. Each player draws 11 to 15 dominoes. The number of dominoes each player draws depends on the number of players. The object of the game is to play all your dominoes. When you draw your hand, you set it up so that the adjacent dominoes match. During the play of a round there are things that can derail your train so that you cannot play. This can make the game very interesting and a lot of FUN!

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

located at 500 Minert Road, Walnut Creek.

We met in August and had seven in attendance. Present was one guest, Earl Gore, Gary Bonfiglio, Alex Lutkus and Richard Madden, Kirk McVean, Alan Polanger and Harry Sherinian. The scores ranged from 274 to 478.

Please email me and if you would like to talk and I can give you a call. Let me know if you would like to be put on our list.

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



## 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.

### September 9-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Wed. 06	10:00 AM	Pleasanton GC	Marty Katz
Wed. 13	10:00 AM	Diablo Hills	D.McClaughry
Wed. 20	10:00 AM	Buchanan Fields	Dick Chaffee
Wed. 27	10:00 AM	Dublin Ranch	Marty Katz

### September 18-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Mon. 04	9:40 AM	Boundary Oak	Gary Boswell
Mon. 14	9:40 AM	Boundary Oak	Gary Boswell
Tues. 22	10:21 AM	Lone Tree	Gary Boswell
Mon. 28	10:00AM	Napa Kennedy	Gary Boswell

