



SIR Branch 116 Newsletter August 2024

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

Message from Alan



As I type this message, it's over 100 degrees outside. It's been incredibly hot these past couple of weeks, and more heatwaves are on the way. The days from July 3 to August 11 are considered the "dog days of summer." "Dog days of summer" comes from ancient astrology and the brightest star in the sky (besides our sun) Sirius, the Dog Star, which rises, along with the sun at dawn in the mid-to-late summer. The combined heat of our sun and Sirius during the summer are the dog days and means the "hot, sultry days of summer connected with heat, drought, sudden thunderstorms lethargy, fever mad dogs, and bad luck." Well, that's more than you ever wanted or needed to know! This year, the dog days seem to be happening more frequently. Depending on your perspective, we can either enjoy them or endure them. I like to relax with an Arnold Palmer and a good book. Whatever you do, stay safe during outdoor activities. Keep plenty of water on hand and don't overexert yourself.

If you're not yet engaged with a SIR activity, contact the chairman of the activity you're interested in to get on their notification list. The activity chairmen are listed in the roster book and in the Branch 116 newsletter.

A clarification and cooperation request: please let us know if you cannot attend our monthly luncheon. We are obligated to cover the cost of lunch for late cancellations. On the second Monday of the month, a week before the lunch, we notify Boundary Oak of the estimated number of attendees. Three days later, on the Thursday prior to the Monday luncheon, we provide Boundary Oak with a "final" attendee count. After that, we are obligated to cover the cost of lunch for the number of attendees in the final count. More importantly, we want you to join your friends, catch up, and hear what the guest speakers have to say. We understand that unexpected things come up, so we appreciate your support with this obligation. If you cannot make the monthly luncheon, please call by Thursday: (925) 322-1318 or email: luncheon116@gmail.com. Otherwise, we will be charged for the lunches.

Also, traditionally, the August meeting is Hawaiian Shirt Day. Be sure to wear your Hawaiian shirt and share the "aloha spirit" with everyone.

"Aloha spirit" is defined as "the coordination of mind and heart within each person It brings each person to the self." Regarding others, it means "mutual regard and affection and extends warmth in caring with no obligation in return." With that in mind, I hope to see you at the luncheon on August 19.



Alan Pope, Big SIR



Next Meeting

August 19, 2024 @
Boundary Oak,
11:30 AM

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Call 925-322-1318
or email to
luncheon116@gmail.com

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

Trampas Topics

2024 SIR Branch Officers



Big SIR Alan Pope	Little SIR Paul Russell	Treasurer Charlie Guthrie	Asst. Treas. Al Satake	Secretary Paul Ramacciotti	Asst. Sec. Dan Lawrence	Membership Alan Fitzgerald	Asst. Membr. Greg Hughes
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Don Benioff	Gary Bonfiglio	Jeff Johnson	Sam Beret	Roger Craig	Dave Williams
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2024 Support Chairmen

RAMP Department Heads

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------|
| • Recruitment | Don Schroeder |
| • Activities | Mike Ward |
| • Member Relations | Sam Beret |
| • Publicity | Robin Lemmo |

Branch Support Chairmen

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| • Audit Committee | Ron Armijo |
| • Nominating Committee | Roger Craig |
| • Sunshine Committee | Open |
| • 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 | Dennis Snarr |
| • 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 | Paul Russell |

2024 Activity Chairmen

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

Some Other SIR Area 16 Activities

Astronomy	Larry Lange (Br. 8)	925-254-6281
Bowling	Dan Weller (Br. 8)	925-935-5510
Cycling	Larry Kaye (Br.8)	925-698-4030
Digital Photography	Meng Horng (Br. 8)	309-287-5654
Men's Hearts Cards	Bob West (146)	925-518-8472

Monthly Activities Calendar

August 2024

Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
				1	2	3
					Pickleball (7:30@ WC Tennis, Heather Farm) Amiable Amblers (8:30@ Railroad Museum, Danville)	Golf Clinic
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	18-Hole Golf (9:40@ Boundary Oak)		9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Dublin Ranch)	Bocce (10:00@ Clayton Courts)	Pickleball (7:30@ WC Tennis, Heather Farm) Amiable Amblers (8:30@ Moraga Commons)	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18-Hole Golf (9:40@ Boundary Oak)	Luncheon Bridge (10:30@ The Brass Door)	9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Diablo Hills) Mexican Train (10:00@ Church of Christ, WC)	Book Group 2 (11:00@ Arbolado Park, WC) Community Srvc. (White Pony Express)	Pickleball (7:30@ Heather Farm) Amiable Amblers (8:30@ Stone Valley Rd. West) Chess (1:00@ PH Senior Ctr.)	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Baseball	SIR Br. 116 Luncheon (11:30@ Boundary Oak)	18-Hole Golf (10:00@ Redwood Canyon)	9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Buchanan Fields)	Bocce (10:00@ Clayton Courts) Fishing Group (8:30@ Diablo Creek)	Pickleball (7:30@ WC Tennis, Heather Farm) Amiable Amblers (8:30@ Heather Farms Swim Ctr.)	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	18-Hole Golf (9:00@ Lone Tree) Book Group 1 (10:15@! Orinda Books)	Luncheon Bridge (10:30@ The Brass Door)	9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Pleasanton) \$ums Investment (1:30 via Zoom)		Pickleball (7:30@ WC Tennis, Heather Farm) Amiable Amblers (No event)	



Branch Administration



Branch Membership
Alan Fitzgerald, Membership Chairman

Total Membership is 191

<u>Name</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>
Charles Collins	New Member	Don Schroeder
Staley Slivinski	New Member	Mike Corker
Mike DiMaggio	New Member	Rich Gerchow
Roger Smith	Resigned	

Note: If you change your email address or other contact information please let me know so I can update the Membership DB and the Google Group DB (used for sending out branch messages).



Treasury Report
Charlie Guthrie, Treasurer

	27-July	2024 YTD
Beg Bal 2024		\$ 11,222.12
Contributions	\$ 6,939.00	\$ 41,249.82
Disbursements	\$ (9,868.04)	\$ (42,542.20)
Net (gain/(loss))	\$ (2,929.04)	\$ (1,292.38)
July Cash Balance		\$ 9,929.74

August Birthdays

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

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Jim Barstow | 9. Jay Kellison |
| 2. Steve Bort | 10. Fred McBreen |
| 3. Dick Breitwieser | 11. Bill McCann |
| 4. Peter Coggiola | 12. Kirk McVean |
| 5. Jim Dawe | 13. Tom Slivinski |
| 6. Bob Donohue | 14. Joel White |
| 7. Paul Freitas | 15. Jeff Wirch |
| 8. Terry Grummitt | |

Branch Executive Committee (BEC) Minutes - Summary

Meeting of July 15, 2024

- **Financial:** Branch cash balance as of 7-1-24 is \$12,858.78. Reserve balance is \$12,321.07.
- **Luncheon Attendance:** 103 attendees were submitted for the June luncheon. The three menu choices for lunch were Herb Roasted Chicken, Lemon & Herb Salmon Salad and Balsamic Marinated Stuffed Mushrooms.
- **Membership:** Current active membership is 191. Three new members were welcomed in July: Charles Collins, Staley Slivinski and Mike DiMaggio. Comment sheets will be placed on tables during the monthly lunches.
- **Activities:** 23 activities are currently operating. Six additional activities are piggy-

- backed with other branches: Apple User Group, Astronomy, Bowling, Cycling, Digital Photography and Men's Hearts Cards. Three activities still need a chairperson: Sunshine, Poker and Travel.
- **July Guest Speaker:** The July guest speaker was Branch 116's Michael Barrington who spoke on the French Resistance during WWII from 1941-1945 and his book "No Room for Heroes".
- **State SIR Review:** In an effort to make SIR more attractive to today's individuals, the State SIR is reviewing all aspects of the current organizational layout, including Name, Logo, Leadership, Chapter Names, etc., to see if positive changes can be made to facilitate this goal.

Luncheon Speaker

“Contra Costa County Search & Rescue” by Jon Karlan



Little SIR
Paul Russell

August Speaker – Jon Kalan

Our Speaker for the August SIR meeting will be Jon Kalan, Administrative Executive Officer for Contra Costa County Search & Rescue (CoCoSAR), the CoCoSAR team consists of about 200 professionally trained volunteers under the direction of the Contra Costa County Sheriff Emergency Services Division.

CoCoSAR responds 24 hours a day, seven days a week, every week of the year in almost any conditions. Callouts may involve a wilderness search for a missing climber, a technical rope rescue to extricate an injured subject, a downed aircraft search, rescue and recovery, an evidence search in support of law enforcement, emergency support for natural disasters such as the 2013 Morgan Fire on Mt. Diablo or the 2018 fire in Paradise, CA.

The Clubhouse at Boundary Oak **Luncheon Menu**

Monday, August 19th

Salad

Spinach, Blue Cheese, Mandarins, Candied Walnuts, Balsamic Vinaigrette

Entrées

Chicken Piccata

Herb Marinated Chicken, Herbed Rice Pilaf, Seasonal Vegetables, Creamy White Wine Lemon Caper Sauce

Breaded Filet of Sole

Breaded and Fried Filet of Sole, Herbed Rice Pilaf, Seasonal Vegetables, Zesty Tartar Sauce

—or—

Vegetarian

Asiago Stuffed Gnocchi

Asiago Stuffed Potato Gnocchi, Seasonal Vegetables, Creamy Tomato Sauce

Dessert

Key Lime Pie

SIR Day at the Ball Park

August 18, 2024
Oakland Coliseum
Sunday, 1pm



Mail \$70 check made out to Lee Moy,
Mail with stamped return envelope to:

Lee Moy, 127 N. Helm Ave
Clovis, Calif 93612

include phone number
& your email address

Tickets will be mailed to you.

Deadline: 8/8/24

Lee Moy, State SIR Sports
Leehealthstudio@gmail.com
(559) 709-9851

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)

New Members



New Member Mike Dimaggio
with Sponsor Rich Gerchow



New Member Tim Slivinski (R)
with Sponsor Mike Corker



New Member Charles Collins
with Sponsor Don Schroeder



Book Exchange Dick Kauffman

The Book Exchange says Thanks!

Thanks to all of you who brought extra books to build up the Book Exchange inventory. This should enhance the selection of books available to all of us.

At the next luncheon come on by and check out the new books that are available.

Happy reading,
The Book Sherpas



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, Phil Scimonelli 661-917-8060 and Harry Sherinian, 510-207-7067 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, **August 22nd** at 8:30am. Come early.

Weather continues to keep us off the water locally as we are having one of the windiest springs and

summers ever. Wind is not a friend to fishermen. Nonetheless, Stan Wong, Carl Moyer, Alan Grabenstein, Brion Beetz, Gordon Linebaugh and Phil Scimonelli did get halibut and stripers in the bay. Lee Clark, Carl Moyer, and Sam Oomen caught rockfish and lingcod from the ocean. Ken Bellinder travelled all the way to Indiana for some black bass. Ron Lew, Stan Wong, and Tom Kostik got there bass right here in the California Delta. And, finally, Ron, Stan, Phil Scimonelli and Gary Palhegyi got stripers there.

Branch Activities



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."

We had a hearty turn out at White Pone Express's new facility on July 18th, breaking down in-coming produce crates and packing for redistribution to food banks, kitchens and other worthy causes

One August 15th we will be working for the Contra Coste/Solano Food Bank in Richmond as well as at a similar activity in Pittsburg giving out food to the needy.



REMINDER!

Bring your food donations for the Food Bank barrel which will be located at the entrance to our lunch next Monday at Boundary Oaks.

Food Drive Most Needed Items

Peanut Butter, Whole Grain Cereals, Hearty Soups, Dried or Canned Beans, Canned Poultry, Meat & Tuna, Canned Fruit in Juice, Nonperishable Ready to Eat Meals, Canned Vegetables, Brown Rice, Whole Wheat Pasta, Canned Tomato Products

PLEASE NO EXPIRED ITEMS AND NO GLASS CONTAINERS



Bocce Bob Huck

We are about half way through our season and everything is going well. It's nice that we play at 10:00am to avoid most of the heat. Participation continues to be very good. Just for the fun of it we do keep points based on which teams have the most

wins. Please let me know if you are interested in joining bocce next season. We play every other Thursday from mid April to mid October at the Bocce Courts in Clayton.

\$UMS Investment Tom Henry (Br. 174)

As usual we will Zoom with SIR Branch 128 (San Ramon) on the 4th Wednesday at 1:30 PM (except for Nov and Dec when the dates change due to the holidays).

Email Dave Sutton to be included or to learn the

topic.

Chair: Tom Henry, Branch 174,
tomhenry925@gmail.com

Co-chair: Dave Sutton, Branch 8,
davesutn@comcast.net

Branch Activities



Wine-O-SIR David Havlik

It is shaping up to be a very dry summer for the WINE-O-SIRS. The July tasting was canceled and there is none scheduled before September. Our next

tasting will be on September 26th. Look for details in the September SIRS Newsletter.



Walking Tours Greg Hughes

Friday, August 23, 2024 – Lafayette City Tour:

Mary McCosker, Lafayette Historical Society, will provide a one hour presentation covering the history of Lafayette. Mary's presentation will cover the indigenous Sakalan Indians, the Spanish/Mexican period, and the activities of the early pioneers (Elam Brown). Her presentation begins at 10 in the Lafayette City Library's small conference room, (3491 Mt Diablo Blvd, Lafayette).

Mary's presentation is followed by a 45 minute guided walking tour of the historical downtown buildings. The route is roughly 8-10 blocks, and it is relatively flat.

Mary is doing her presentation for free. However, Greg & Jim are collecting \$10 from every SIR

participant as a donation to the Lafayette Historical Society.

Free parking is available in the Lafayette Library. Free and metered street parking is available in the immediate neighborhood. Some street parking spaces have a 2 hour limit. If you plan to stay for lunch you will need to allow 4 hours of parking.

Lunch will be at Uncle Yu's (999 Oak Hill Rd, Lafayette).

If you wish to participate please send an email to either Greg or Jim by Friday August 9.

Additionally, if you have questions please contact Greg Hughes (greghughes505@gmail.com, 925-998-5650, or Jim Tamulski (tamulski.james@gmail.com), 415-297-2655).



Chess Gary Bonfiglio

New Branch Activity-CHESS

Chess, a new joint branch activity with BR 8, 116, 146 was formed last month. They meet every second and fourth Fridays at Pleasant Hill Senior Center, 233 Gregory Lane, PH. We play in the Game Room Noon to 3 pm in the afternoon. We welcome any one from beginners to expert

players. Please remember to bring your chess set and any beverage you will enjoy during the activity. As we go forward, you will need to become a member of PH Senior Center for a modest fee of \$20 per year. Any questions, contact Gary Bonfiglio of our branch at 925-330-9612. crlbonfiglio@yahoo.com

Branch Activities

New Computer Technology Activity

In our 2024 Membership Survey, almost 40% of our voting members indicated that they were interested in a new Branch “Computer Technology” activity. It received more votes than any other desired new activity in the survey.

Members Garrett Romain and Neil Schmidt have briefly discussed the possibility of starting up a Computer Technology group.

To startup this activity, we need to have at least 2 or

3 more individuals to help organize the startup including finding a place to meet, determining discussion topics, and getting presenters.

If you are interested in joining the team to help organize a new Computer Technology group, please contact Garrett Romain or Neil Schmidt.

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/



Dine-O-SIR

Jerry Hicks

Waaay! “back to the future” of March of 2009, Ben Smith put together a Committee and brought to our Branch 116 dinners of fun and friendship. The time machine brings back to the first Dine-O-Sirs at Forli Restaurant in Alamo. It was thought that we might have about 50 members and spouses; it turned out to be 70! That was 15 years ago and finally we are returning.

Forli Restaurant & Bar in Alamo is well known as good Italian food and, incidentally, they have music several weekends. Our Dine-O-Sir dinner will be

Wednesday, August 28 with social adjustment at 5:45 and dinner at 6:30. Their location is easy to drive to and plenty of adjacent parking. You will enjoy for good prices for their no-host Happy Hour, ending at 6:00, so you may want to arrive several minutes early and enjoy wine, beer, or cocktails with your friends. The cost for the dinner evening is \$60.00 p/p inclusive. Send your reservation and check to Jerry Hicks as per the flyer.

Your Dine-O-SIR committee: Jerry Hicks, Bob Donohue, Tom Eller, Larry Heaton, Mike Yale

Branch Activities



Dine-O-SIR

Branch 116 on August 28, 2024. Enjoy dining together at

Forli Restaurant & Bar

3160 Danville Blvd, Alamo

Cost of \$60.00 per person inclusive

Wednesday, August 28. Social Hour at 5:45 PM, Dinner at 6:30 PM

Happy Hour until 6:00 PM

Wines (\$7) and Beer (\$5); Wells (\$7); Corkage \$25.

Dinner Menu

Salad: Ceasar

Entrée Choices:

Gnocchi alla Sorrentina (Vegan)

Tortellini Bolognese

Chicken Piccata

Dessert:

Gelato

Parking: Shopping Center with plenty of parking

Detach*****

Forli Restaurant, Wednesday, August 28, 2024

Must be received no later than August 20, 2024

Name: _____

Entrée: _____

Name: _____

Entrée: _____

Number of Attendees @ \$60 .00 = \$ _____

Check to SIR Branch 116 Dining, c/o 74 Amberwood Lane, Walnut Creek, CA 94598

Call Jerry if you have questions at 925-360-0447 or jerryhicks@astound.net

Branch Activities



Book Group 2 Scott Clark

Book Club 2 met on July 18 to discuss James by Percival Everett. The 9 members in attendance voted the book 4.3/5.

Our next meeting is scheduled for August 15, 11:00 AM, at Arbolado Park, Walnut Creek. We will discuss The Frozen River, by Ariel Lawton. The book is a historical mystery inspired by the life and diary of Martha Ballard, a renowned 18th-century midwife who defied the legal system and wrote herself into America history. Whether you have read the book or not, all are welcome to attend.

Our September 19 meeting we will discuss A Killing on the Hill, by Robert Dugoni.

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

James, by Percival Everett

James is a modern day interpretation of the character Jim in Mark Twain's The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn.

When the enslaved Jim overhears that he is about to be sold to a man in New Orleans, separated from his

wife and daughter forever, he decides to hide on nearby Jackson Island until he can formulate a plan. Meanwhile, Huck Finn has faked his own death to escape his violent father, who has recently returned to town. As readers of American literature know, this begins the dangerous journey by raft down the Mississippi River toward the elusive and too-often-unreliable promise of the Free States and beyond.

While many narrative pieces of Adventures of Huckleberry Finn remain in place (floods & storms, stumbling across both unexpected death and unexpected treasures in the myriad stopping points along the rivers banks, encountering the scams artists posing as the Duke and Dauphin...) Jim's experience, intelligence, and compassion are shown in a radically new light. Jim has become James and is no longer a helpless companion. Now, he's a remarkably smart linguist, reader, writer and philosopher who is forced to play dumb for survival but is actually fighting for his family, freedom, dignity, self determination and the right to tell his own story.



Branch Activities



Book Group 1 Rich Black

Book Group #1 will discuss the following books at Orinda Books at 10:15 am on the following dates.

- Monday, August 26... "Road to Surrender" by Thomas
- Monday, September 23... "There, There" by Orange
- Monday, October 28... "The Women" by Hannah

Book Group #1 met on Monday, July 22, 2024 at Orinda Books to discuss the novel "American Dirt" by Jeanine Cummins, a fictional account of a woman fleeing with her son from gang assassination in Mexico. Theirs is an epic journey, largely on the perilous top of freight cars, which includes extortion

by corrupt officials, exposure to the elements, gang roadblock "tolls", and the constant threat of detection by the vindictive gang chief.

Book Group #1 came away from the discussion with a better appreciation for the travails of immigrants and the threat of gang violence which impels them to attempt to cross our southern border.

Tod Berman introduced the book while Richard Black led the discussion with Art Donaldson, Dick Kauffman, John Kopchik, Mac McLoughlin, Dan Renke, John Riordan, Brad Stribling, and Tim Tinnes. Book Club #1 awarded the book an engaging 4.3 stars.



Bridge Jon Dickson

We must be in the summer doldrums, as fewer are showing up to play bridge and scores are trending low. On July 8th, Dan Green come in first place with 3,790 points, Jon Dickson was second with 3,780 and Dave Williams was third with 3,710 points. A close run for top money.

Then on July 23rd, Jai Yee was first with 4,250 points,

Denny Morrissey was a close second with 4,230 points, and Dick Chaffee came in third with 3,570 points.

It is lunch & bridge at The Brass Door Restaurant in San Ramon, every 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month. We play Chicago scoring, changing partners every four hands. We welcome all bridge players.

Branch Activities

New Branch 116 “Travel” Activity

A new Branch 116 “Travel” activity to Carmel is scheduled for Sept. 11th & 12th.

This year we are expanding our annual two day Carmel Golf event to include more area activities for non-golfers. You can choose to stay at the Carmel Mission Inn with other Branch members, attend a group dinner at the Lagano Swiss Bistro (a short walking distance from the hotel), and visit some of the many Monterey area sites with other

non-golfing Branch members or individually.

Carmel weather is typically beautiful in September so join us there. See details on the next page.

Signup deadline is August 1

Contact David Harris if you miss the deadline to see if you can still get in.



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/atc?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 ———925-330-9612 m

COME ON BY TO PLAY, OR JUST WATCH!!!!
We’re not bad for a bunch of **SIR Dudes!!**



Amiable Amblers John Riordan

July walkers included Art & Mary Alice Donaldson, David & Colleen Geary, Dan & Andrea Green, John & Gail Riordan, and Brad Stribling. On July 21 we walked north on the Iron Horse Trail from the Walnut Creek Civic Park with a post-walk gathering at Buttercup. The other July walks were canceled for a variety of reasons.

The August walks will all begin at 8:30. On **August 2** meet at the Railroad Museum in Danville and walk north on the Iron Horse Trail; the post-walk gathering will be at the Danville Black Bear Diner. On **August 9** meet at the Moraga Commons and walk northeast on the Lafayette-Moraga Trail; the post-walk gathering will be at the Moraga Town Bakery and Café. On **August 16** meet at the Stone Valley Rd West trailhead in Alamo and walk south on the Iron Horse Trail ; the post-walk gathering will

be at Peet’s Coffee. On **August 23** meet at the Heather Farm Swim Center and walk west on the Contra Costa Canal Trail; the post-walk gathering will be at the Countrywood Black Bear Diner. There will be no walk on **August 30** because of the Labor 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 or 925-284-3394. Also contact me if you wish to be removed from the list for future emails.

Branch Activities



Branch 116 Carmel 2024 Event Golf at Monterey Pines & Pacific Grove Wed/Thu Sep 11th and 12th



Hotel — Our Group Hotel is the newly renovated Carmel Mission Inn (855-235-3915.) We have a SIR Branch 116 rate of \$199/night for Sep 10, 11 & 12. All additional fees are waived except for taxes. Total cost will be \$224.40/night. You may stay 1, 2 or 3 nights, but if you check out early you will be charged for an additional night. Reservations may be cancelled 72 hours in advance.

Deadline for Hotel, Golf and Restaurant Reservations is August 1!

Golf Courses — We will be playing at Monterey Pines on Wednesday, 9/11 and Pacific Grove on Thursday, 9/12. Tee times are 11:00 and 10:00 respectively.

Wednesday's Dinner — We will have a banquet dinner at 7:00 PM at the Lugano Swiss Bistro which is a short distance from the Hotel

We plan to arrange a special lunch location on Wednesday for non-golfers.

Cost — You are responsible for your own Hotel reservations/payments. Please call the Hotel directly at 855-235-3915 to make your reservations and tell them you are with SIR Branch 116 to get the special rate. Send a check to David Harris for the Golf Green Fees and the Banquet dinner shown below.

Detach Here -----

Carmel Valley Event, Sept 11th & 12th

Name: _____ Name: _____

Email Address: _____ Tel No.: _____

No. golfing for 2 days x \$188 _____ (if walking or playing one day, call David Harris)

No. having dinner at Lugano Swiss x \$66 _____

Total \$ enclosed _____

Lugano Swiss entrée choices. Please check the choices for each person::

Choice of house salad _____ or Vegetable Barley soup _____

Chicken picatta (polenta and vegetables) _____

Sand Dabs (risotto and vegetables) _____

Prawns Spaghetti (marinara sauce, green onions, capers & tomatoes) _____

Pork Schnitzel (red cabbage and spaetzel) _____

Dessert is Apple Strudel with French vanilla and caramel sauce.

Wine is discounted 15% and corkage is \$20.

Make out your checks to "SIR Branch 116 Golf" and mail them to David Harris at 1143 Discovery Way, Concord, 94521 (Checks will be held until the event date.)

Questions? Call or email Phil Goff (925-212-8520, goffphil@gmail.com)

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 July with eight in attendance. Those present were Gary Bonfiglio, Earl Gore, guest, Alex Lutkus, Richard Madden, Kirk McVean, Alan Polanger, Ken Ridings and Harry Sherinian. Our scores ranged from 293 to 602. Richard was low with 293. The average score was 416.

Come join us at our next meeting in August. The date and location has not been selected so give me a call or email me.

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



Golf Clinic Chris Doan

The Golf Clinic is designed specifically for the SIR Golfer and Spouse/Significant Other. It is focused on "tuning up" your game and shaving off some strokes to have a more enjoyable outing. Since the most improvement can normally be gained in the short game, we start the series at the green and work back to the tee box.

The 2024 rotation will begin with...

- Putting & Sand Shots June 15
- then Chipping July 13
- then 50-70 Yards Short Game Aug 3
- followed by Fairway Shots Aug 24

- and finally, Tee Shots Sep 21

How to register and participate:

- 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.

Hope you will join us in 2024 to tune up your game. Mark your calendars now so you don't miss clinic topics which are important to you.

FORE!

2024 Golf Match Play Championship

Final Match Play was played July 8th at Boundary Oak with another close, exciting, and fingernail biting, waiting for the final putts on the final hole of the final match. The competitors of Jack Minicucci and Al Zavattero were up three for Jack and Zav coming back fast to close the first nine at even. The

next 8 holes were up and down, and their match was even entering hole 18. On the final putts on 18, Jack prevailed and won for 2024 Match Play. Congratulations to great sixteen of SIR 116 Match Players and special noted for finalists Zav and Championship Jack Minicucci.

Branch Activities



SIR Golf

Bernie Wroblewski, Golf Chairman

We have an active golf organization consisting of 18-hole and 9-hole groups. A small annual donation is required to play in either group. The 18-hole group plays once a week in a Tournament format with play alternating between local courses and courses that may be 10 to 50 miles away.

In addition to the Tournament format, Special Events such as Match Play, Best Ball, Scramble, and others are also periodically scheduled.

Those playing in the 18-hole group must be members of the Northern California Golf

Association (NCGA) and establish a handicap index. You may join the NCGA through our SIR club or through another club.

Foursomes in both the 18-hole and 9-hole groups are arranged so that players can meet and enjoy playing with most, if not all, the other players in the branch.

All our events are listed in the Trampas Topics and on our web site at branch116.org/116-golf. Join up with us and enjoy outings with a great bunch of guys at some great courses with reasonable prices.



9-Hole Golf

Dick Chaffee

The 9 Hole Golf Club is open to SIR golfers of all levels. We play every Wednesday morning except holidays at 4 courses in the area. This year, each month, we are playing Pleasanton Golf Club, Diablo Hills, Buchanan Fields and Dublin Ranch. Our first tee time is 10:00am. Some months have a fifth Wednesday. On the fifth Wednesdays, we schedule

special 9 hole events at courses in the area.

If you would like to play 9 hole golf, please contact Dick Chaffee, the 9 hole golf chairman, (925)-932-5087.

If you would like more information on 9 hole golf, please visit our Branch 116 golf web site.

Golf Website

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.

August 9-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Wed. 07	10:00 AM	Dubline Ranch	Chris Doan
Wed. 14	10:00 AM	Diablo Hills	D.McClaughry
Wed. 21	10:00 AM	Buchanan Fields	Dick Chaffee
Wed. 28	10:00 AM	Pleasanton	D.McClaughry

August 18-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Mon. 05	9:40	Boundary Oak	Phil Goff
Mon. 12	9:40	Boundary Oak	Phil Goff
Tues. 20	10:00	Redwood Cyn.	Phil Goff
Mon. 26	9:00	Lone Tree	Phil Goff