



## SIR BRANCH 171

March 2016

<http://branch171.sirinc2.org/>

A Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation for Retired Men Devoted to the  
Promotion of Independence and Dignity of Retirement



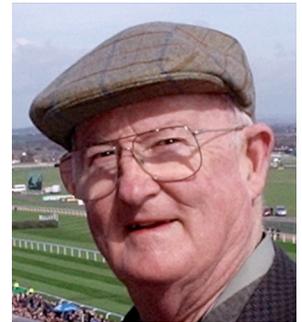
### Our next meeting will be Wednesday, **March 2** Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox Church Hall

1700 School St., Moraga  
Social time begins at 11  
Meeting begins at 11:30

**BIG SIR MESSAGE: TOM MARNANE, [chartom@pacbell.net](mailto:chartom@pacbell.net) 925-376-6312**

Fellow SIRS:

We have a goal this year to maintain our membership numbers and then increase those numbers by four (4). Thus, we need to replace members who leave us or go inactive and then add four (4) new members. In order to accomplish this we need to add on average two (2) new members per month for the rest of this year!!



THE SCORE AFTER TWO MONTHS IS NOW 2 NEW MEMBERS  
WHEN WE NEEDED 4 TO MAINTAIN THE PACE!

WE NEED TO PICK UP THE PACE. WE NEED OUR MEMBERSHIP TO FIND 18 NEW MEMBERS WHO DESERVE TO JOIN OUR FANTASTIC ORGANIZATION, WHICH BECOMES AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO MAKE NEW FRIENDS FOR LIFE AND AFTER. PLEASE DO YOUR PART TO HELP US MAKE THIS HAPPEN!!

I visited a colleague in Moraga recently who has taken it on himself to invite neighbors who he noticed were not getting out of their house over to his for a social hour or two as a good will effort. We have such a place—let's use it for the benefit of the community and ourselves.

You have seen some good changes over the last year — a recruitment committee — indoctrination of new members — three new activities — another activity including significant others. We are open to more. We offer a reduced lunch price for first time guests of \$15.00. However, we have found it financially unattractive to continue to offer a free lunch for the sponsor and new inductee when the induction takes place. We do not want to have a lunch price or dues increase, and thus have discontinued that practice.

**S** is for building on our Sensitivity to each other, Socializing and working with each other and Sense of loyalty to our organization (which include saying yes when asked to help)

**I** is for our Interest in each other and our Intent to make our organization a little better each year

**R** is for Recruiting new members to share the S and I above

*Big SIR Tom Marnane*

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**This Month's Speaker**

Our speaker in March will be Tim Kawakami, sports columnist for the Mercury News and Contra Costa Times.

In addition to analyzing all sports for the two papers, Tim maintains a twitter account, a blog and a podcast series. Tim, noted for his telling-it-like-it-is, candid style of reporting, has interviewed and written about almost every sports personality and every sports team you can think of — Kobe, Steph, Harbaugh, Baalke, York, Shaq, Montana, Buster — Tim has interviewed them all! He has also written a fascinating book about the boxing champion Oscar de la Hoya.



Tim was named the California Sports Writer of the Year in 2013 by the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Association, the first time in the 54 year history of the award that a writer from the Mercury News of Contra Costa Times was so honored. He can frequently be heard on KNBR chatting with Tom Tolbert and Gary Radnich. Needless to say, Tim is a fountain of sports knowledge and will be interesting and fun for all of us to hear him speak.

**Our April Speaker**

To continue with our general theme of health and age longevity, our speaker for April will be dietician and consultant for senior living years, Kitty Lenhart. Ms. Lenhart will address diet and other health-related issues for seniors.

**Last Month's Speaker**

During our February meeting the club was treated to an interesting, informative talk from the very personable, engaging Assembly Woman, Catharine Baker from our 16th District.

During her talk Ms. Baker covered the education, infrastructure, jobs, and financial areas. She elaborated on each area and described items she was for and some she was against. A very lively and enlightening question and answer period followed. We all came away from the meeting extremely impressed with Ms. Baker's knowledge, energy and enthusiasm.

*Little SIR Ralph Blumenthal*

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**AnnouncementsNew Member Recruiting**

Little SIR Ralph is doing a fantastic job getting excellent speakers for our meetings. A great way to get a prospective member interested in our SIR group is to have them attend a meeting and hear one of these fine speakers.

Since the monthly newsletter, which includes an announcement of the upcoming speaker, is typically delivered about ten days prior to the meeting, there often is not enough time to line up a guest. Thus, beginning this month, Ralph's report will include not only a description of the speaker and talk for the upcoming meeting, but a high level description of the talk for the subsequent meeting.

Please use this advance notice to invite a guest, and then to follow-up and recruit that guest in order to help us meet our club's 2016 new member goal.

## **Opportunities .....**

There are a few excellent opportunities for you to be involved now to help the Branch. ***Please contact Big SIR Tom at 925-376-6312 or email [chartom@pacbell.net](mailto:chartom@pacbell.net) if you are willing and able to serve in any of these positions:***

- Bartender
- Chaplain
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Webmaster

## **SIR 171 Organization Chart**

An updated version of the chart is contained on the last page of this newsletter

## **New SIRs Activity!!! -- Senior Strollers, an easy walking group**

The BEC in February added an activity to our already diverse group of things-for-SIRS-to-do.

The Senior Strollers group is a relaxed walking group for those SIRS who like to walk-and-talk-and-drink-coffee but want a more relaxed pace than our long-established Walking Group. The Senior Strollers walk once a week on Wednesday mornings for less than a mile on paved, level streets/sidewalks/paths in Central Moraga. Along the way they pause at one of the Moraga Center coffee outlets for beverages and more conversation.

Jim Countryman heads up the Senior Strollers group and sends out a weekly reminder where to meet to those on the list. To get on the Senior Strollers list just drop Jim an email at [jcountry@comcast.net](mailto:jcountry@comcast.net)

Senior Strollers has been in the experimental mode for several months and has become popular with enough sociable SIRS that the BEC unanimously agreed to make it one of our established activity groups.

Incidentally, this is the second walking group formed by Jim who, with Clay Sealy, began the original Walking Group, more than a decade ago. The original group now meets on Tuesdays at 9 a.m. across from the Serbian Church to walk about 3 miles, before ending with coffee.

## **SIR Happenings**

A periodic newsletter called "SIR Happenings" features news about SIR and various fun things that are going on in the Branches. The current and archived newsletters are available via the SIR website – place the following link into your browser to access the newsletters -- <http://sirinc.org/sirhappenings/>

The most recent edition has an article about our 171/174 Bocce Club's most recent end-of-season event at Campo di Bocce. The article was submitted by 174 Bocce Coordinator Joe Fitzgerald. Check out the article by placing the following link into your browser and viewing the article on page 6 of the newsletter -- <http://sirinc.org/sirhappenings/Happenings-2016-01-Vol-13-Issue-1.pdf>

Don MacGregor ([donmac@wavecable.com](mailto:donmac@wavecable.com)) is the SIR Happenings Editor. Please submit a story to Don for potential inclusion in a future issue.

## **SIR Haberdasher Report**

John Haffner continues to collect orders to obtain SIR logo apparel and merchandise. Please contact John ([johnhaffner@comcast.net](mailto:johnhaffner@comcast.net) or 925-376-9064) if you have any questions or are interested in placing an order.

**FEBRUARY PHOTOS & COMMENTARY** -- by Club photographer Russ Aubry (with intended typos)

To hear the Sirpremes' performance of "Let me call you sweetheart", serenading Assembly Woman Baker and members of the catering staff, place the following link into your web browser -- <https://youtu.be/KQw34gG34iQ>



# LUNCH

## FEBRUARY LUNCHEON MENU

Corned Beef, Broiled Parsley Potatoes, Cabbage  
Green salad, seasonal fresh fruit salad, dessert

## HAPPY FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS TO SIRs

❖ Brad Dewey ❖ Ray Horton \*\* ❖ Harold Knudson ❖ Steve Wright ❖

(\* = Charter Member \*\* = Honorary Life Member)

One of the above members for March will win a free lunch if he attends the March meeting. Members whose birth month is in March, and who do not see their name in the above list, should call the Big SIR prior to the meeting to ensure that their names are included in the drawing. **NOTE:** Members 90 years of age or more will receive a free lunch on their birth month each year, but they must notify the Big SIR prior to the meeting. Big SIR Tom Marnane can be reached at [chartom@pacbell.net](mailto:chartom@pacbell.net) 925-376-6312

## GUESTS AND NEW MEMBERS

### \$15 Luncheon fee for first time guest

The first time a guest attends a meeting the lunch fee is \$15. The regular luncheon fee will be charged for subsequent visits as a guest.

### Free Lunch for New Member & Sponsor

If your guest becomes a member of our branch, both the member and the sponsor will receive a free lunch the day of induction.

*If you are inviting a guest don't forget to call the hotline at 925-377-5880. Provide the name of your guest if he is a first time guest. If you have questions about this policy, call Larry Thompson, Membership Chair (925-631-9528).*

# BRANCH REPORTS

**ATTENDANCE REPORT: FRANCIS WONG** [franciscpwong@gmail.com](mailto:franciscpwong@gmail.com) 376-0967

There were 125 attendees at the February luncheon, including 120 members, two visitors, one guest, and two for the speaker. 72% of the club membership attended. 36 members signed out and there were eleven no show members.

PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THE SIR REQUIREMENT TO ATTEND SIX LUNCHEONS OF THE LAST TWELVE. ALSO, PLEASE CALL THE HOTLINE OR SIGN OUT WHEN YOU CAN'T MAKE A MEETING.

**Members need to call the SIR 171 "HOT LINE" at 925-377-5880 before 1pm on the Saturday before the meeting if they are not going to attend (unless they filled-in the "Absence Notification" sheet at a prior meeting), or if they are bringing a guest.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** JIM FULFORD [jfulford@comcast.net](mailto:jfulford@comcast.net) 254-5419

**JANUARY 2015**

Cash Balance at January 1, 2016	8,645
Month's Receipts	239
Month's Disbursements	1,029
Cash Balance at January 31, 2016	7,855

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**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:** LARRY THOMPSON [larryandginger@comcast.net](mailto:larryandginger@comcast.net) 631-9528  
TOM LENZ [chezlenz@comcast.net](mailto:chezlenz@comcast.net) 278-1717  
JOHN SCHICK [jschick@att.net](mailto:jschick@att.net) 376-9412

CHANGES:

Active

1. Bryant King #2 has requested Inactive status

Inactive

2. Bryant King #2 added to Inactive list

INDUCTIONS

No inductions this month

ACTIVE ROSTER: = 166

INACTIVE ROSTER: = 33

NEW APPLICATIONS

None this month

APPLICANT LIST = 0

**Membership Application Forms** are always available at the desk at the meetings, or from Larry Thompson.

**ROSTER CORRECTIONS:** LARRY THOMPSON 631-9528 [larryandginger@comcast.net](mailto:larryandginger@comcast.net) - None!

**NOTICE:** Whenever your mail or E-mail, address or phone number changes please do advise Larry Thompson; he will in turn update the master Roster and advise the Newsletter staff.

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**SUNSHINE REPORT:** MONTE LOGAN [MonteGryFx@aol.com](mailto:MonteGryFx@aol.com) 376-0264

**Branch 171**

SIR Milt Bruzzone was injured in a fall. We are hoping that he will have a good recovery and he will be back soon at a SIR's meeting.

**Branch 174**

Good news. No serious illnesses reported.

•••Please try to contact SIR's with illnesses to offer your support and encouragement and keep them in our thoughts and prayers. A friendly call is welcome. Cards and letters are always appreciated. If you are aware of an ill SIR, please let Monte Logan know by e-mail or phone.

## **KNOW YOUR SIRs**

### **Bill Magdoff**

Bill is a native of San Francisco and has been a resident of Moraga with his wife Nancy for 28 years. Bill and Nancy have two sons who graduated from Campolindo High School. Greg is 34 and resides in San Diego, while Dan is 30 and resides in Pinetop, Arizona. Bill graduated from San Francisco State University in 1975 and spent 35 years working at AAA, primarily in San Francisco and later in Walnut Creek. During that time, Bill worked in the Internal Audit and Internal Investigation functions, ultimately as the Chief Audit Executive. Bill also spent many years coaching youth sports with the Moraga Baseball Association and with CYO Basketball.

Bill has a wide variety of interests including travel, sports, camping, fishing, gardening and cooking. In his younger days, Bill was an avid backpacker and has hiked and fished all over the Sierra Nevada Mountains. His favorite backpacking area is the John Muir Wilderness. Bill and Nancy have traveled extensively, both domestically and internationally. Favorite travel destinations include South Africa, Thailand, Costa Rica, Panama, Greece, Italy and Germany. In June 2015, Bill and Nancy went on a fantastic trip to Tanzania to see the Great Migration, followed by a beach holiday in Zanzibar.

### **Barry Leskin**

Barry is President of Talent Management Consulting which offers services primarily focused on the assessment and development of General Managers and the development of Business Acumen. During the past 4 years he has been engaged in business simulation work for TRI Corporation, serving clients such as Goldman Sachs, Agilent, Hewlett-Packard, Electronic Arts, British Petroleum, KLA-Tencor and others. He has also headed up Human Resources for 3 Fortune 500 companies and has been Chief Learning Officer for Chevron/Texaco and Ernst & Young. Barry has extensive experience in academia. He served as Department Chairman, Organization and Management at the University of Southern California for 9 years, was Executive Director of the EMBA and Director of the Human Resource professional track.

Managing and consulting work has taken him to Asia, Latin America, Africa, Australia and Europe. He has consulted extensively in the energy business, in professional services and more recently in the high tech area in Silicon Valley. He worked for 3 years on the General Electric WORKOUT program and has taught at GE Crotonville. He has consulted for Fortune 500 and global organizations such as GE, IBM, HP and BP.

He started the Bay Area Executive Development Network 4 years ago. About 60 organizations have participated and he continues as its co-founder. He writes a monthly column for the San Jose/Silicon Valley Business journal, "Myth and Reality in The Management of Human Resources". He is on the Board of Directors of Special Olympics and the East Bay Leadership Foundation.

Barry has BS and MS degrees in Organization and Human Resource Management from Temple University and has attended executive programs at Harvard and Columbia Universities. He lives in Lafayette with his sons, David and Daniel.

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**Know Your SIR is edited by Dave Humm [dmh2@silcon.com](mailto:dmh2@silcon.com) 376-5895.** We would like to have all of our members, who wish to do so, be included in this directory. Please write down the salient points of your life (1/2 page) and provide it to Dave (via e-mail if possible). It will then be written up in a future newsletter. Dave has copies of all past "Know Your SIR" reports. Access to them is available via e-mail; or a hard copy can be had for the cost of printing.

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## **SIR 171 MEMBERS IN THE NEWS**

Big SIR Tom Marnane was featured on page B2 in the February 10 issue of the Lamorinda Weekly. The article discussed Tom's talk to a number of Saklan School 7<sup>th</sup> graders about his experiences as a child during the bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1941. Place the following link into your web browser to read the article "Young Pearl Vet Shares Memories"

-- <http://www.lamorindaweekly.com/archive/issue0925/Young-Pearl-Vet-Shares-Memories.html>

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When you see an article about a SIR 171 member, please send to Stan Holcenberg at [sholcenb@comcast.net](mailto:sholcenb@comcast.net). The deadline for the receipt of information for each newsletter is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month. Thanks.

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**BRANCH 171 NEWSLETTER:** Editor **STAN HOLCENBERG** [sholcenb@comcast.net](mailto:sholcenb@comcast.net), 3954 Campolindo Drive, Moraga, CA 94556. The deadline for receipt of Newsletter material by the Editor is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month. E-mail is preferred.

## BRANCH ACTIVITIES (Branches 171 & 174)

**ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN:** LARRY BEANS [larrybeans@comcast.net](mailto:larrybeans@comcast.net) 376-7306



The Activity Chairman's role is to keep in close contact with each of the chairmen of the branch activities in order to understand what they are doing and how things are going, to determine if they are planning any special activities that they want to communicate to the rest of the Branch, and to determine if there is anything special that requires assistance. Also, the Chair keeps in communication with the other branches in the area to determine if there are additional activity announcements that should be made to our branch.

The Chair is always looking for suggestions for additional activities (e.g. Chess, Cooking, Current Events Discussions, etc etc), and is the focal point to communicate with if you would like to chair any of the open activity groups.

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### ACTIVITY LIST

- Apple Users Activity
- Astronomy
- Barbershop Harmony
- Bocce Ball
- Book Club
- Bowling
- Bridge
- Computers and Technology
- Couples Dining Out
- Dominoes
- Fishing
- Golf
- Historical Adventures
- Investment Group
- Pinocle
- Poker
- Stamp Group
- Senior Strollers **(NEW ACTIVITY)**
- Table Pool
- Tennis
- Travel
- Walking
- Wine Tasting

**APPLE USERS ACTIVITY:** DICK MACY (Br. 171) [m.hobie@comcast.net](mailto:m.hobie@comcast.net) 376-1180  
JOE TRACY (BR. 174) [jotracy@comcast.net](mailto:jotracy@comcast.net) 954-7801



The meeting focus is on Apple/Mac computers, iPads, & iPhones. Each meeting includes a discussion of recent Apple/Mac announcements and releases; a roundtable discussion of applications, general rumors, issues, and problems members may be having; and a few formal topics.

***The next meeting will be on Monday, February 22***

Meetings are held in the conference room at the CC County Supervisor office at 3338 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, on the **fourth Monday of each month at 10:00 AM to noon**. The location is the fire station building across the street from El Charro restaurant. Enter left side door at top of steps. Come and be a part of the group.

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**ASTRONOMY:** GEORGE COBB (Br. 174) [gecblue@aol.com](mailto:gecblue@aol.com) 200-7749  
LARRY LANG (Br. 8)



We meet the **second Monday of each month** in the Tilden Room at the Concord Hilton Hotel on Diamond Boulevard. Our meetings commence at 1:30. Please join us for an entertaining meeting. All are welcome. Call or e-mail George ([GECBlue@aol.com](mailto:GECBlue@aol.com)) for details and further information.

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**BARBERSHOP HARMONY:** **BRAD DEWEY** (Br. 171) [ebdewey@att.net](mailto:ebdewey@att.net) 376-3349  
**RON LEIKER** (Br. 174) [leikerinda@comcast.net](mailto:leikerinda@comcast.net) 376-3884



The SIRpremes are basically a barbershop octet. We sing songs in four-part harmony. By having two people on each part, the problems caused by absences are greatly reduced – obviously. **We meet just about every Tuesday for one hour.** We take a few minutes to discuss the affairs of the world, and then get down to business, working on one or two songs, finishing by partaking of some delicious cookies, freshly baked by Brad's wife, Carol. Our self-determined purpose has been to add a little variety to the monthly luncheon meetings of Branches 171 and 174, plus the Christmas luncheon with our ladies. Our only other singouts have been for the Moraga Movers and at Sam Zorich's birthday party.

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**BOCCE BALL:** **BILL BONDY** (Br. 171) [WBondyO@aol.com](mailto:WBondyO@aol.com) 254-1266  
**JOE FITZGERALD** (Br. 174) [joefitger@aol.com](mailto:joefitger@aol.com) 376-4656



**Bocce** season for 2015 is over. The group will convene again next spring.

**When in season Bocce is played every Tuesday and Friday at 10 am** just beyond the bandstand at the Moraga Commons. Play is suspended for the rainy season and resumes in the spring. The cost is all of \$2; the game is really easy to learn and is great fun, including a lot of good chat. Call Bill for information on Tuesday play and Joe about Fridays. You can play on either or both days.

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**BOOK CLUB:** **Bob Krompholz** (Br 171 chair) [krompholz@comcast.net](mailto:krompholz@comcast.net) 253-0912  
**Al Dessayer** (Br 171 co-chair) [dessayer@pacbell.net](mailto:dessayer@pacbell.net) 376-7430



**NEW CLUB:** The goal of the club is to develop an agreed upon list of books which club members will discuss at future monthly meetings. An attempt will be made to vary the selections to include the latest best sellers as well as some classics, bacon fiction and non fiction.

Each member will select a book he has read or would like to read and suggest it to other members, who will then read the book and be ready for discussion at subsequent meetings. This is a great way not only to continue your reading enjoyment but also to discuss your comments and ideas with intelligent, curious, cerebral fellows like yourself

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**BOWLING - AREA 2:** **LLOYD WEST** (Br. 19) 228-9037



Area 2 Tournament bowling is held at Diablo Lanes in Concord on the **4th Thursday of each month**. Be there at 9:30 am. League Bowling is also available every Wednesday at 10 am. There is also open bowling on Tuesdays at 10 am for practice. More members are welcome. Call for more information.

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**BRIDGE:** **GREG TCHERKOYAN** (Br. 171) [gresta2@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gresta2@sbcglobal.net) 838-0361  
**STEWART KNUDSEN** (Br. 174) [svknudsen619@aol.com](mailto:svknudsen619@aol.com) 376-4919



We meet at the Moraga Hacienda on the **second and fourth Tuesdays of each month**. Please arrive by 9:50 am. Play starts promptly at **10:00 am**. Bring \$5 and a bag lunch. Call Greg or Stu for further information.

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**COMPUTERS & TECHNOLOGY:** **DEREK SOUTHERN** (Br. 8) [Derek.southern@gmail.com](mailto:Derek.southern@gmail.com) 253-1646



The Area 2 Computer and Technology Group announces that our next meeting will be at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge on Thursday March 17, 2016 at 9:30 am. Sirs from all branches and their guests are welcome and invited to attend.

We are planning a presentation by a representative from Lawrence Livermore labs. The subject and speaker are not set yet, so please watch the Area 2 CAT website ([A2cat.sirinc2.org](http://A2cat.sirinc2.org)) for an announcement of the details. They have a tremendous scope of research there, from super computers for weather forecasting to developing diagnostic tests for a wide range of ailments. They are leaders in many fields, so

come to hear a very interesting talk.

We look forward to seeing you 9:15 AM, March 17, 2015, at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Drive. We ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and cookies -- but some months are free, so come and see if this meeting is another one of those! All SIR members and their guests (spouses included!) are welcome to attend. See you there.

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**COUPLES DINING OUT** SAM ZORICH (BR. 171) [samzorich@yahoo.com](mailto:samzorich@yahoo.com) 376-7799



The March gathering of the Dining Around group will be on Wednesday, March 23 at Il Pavone Restaurant in Walnut Creek at 5:45pm in order to catch the early bird special at \$19.95. Couples Dining Out members respond to Lee De Mara, 254-8667, by March 15.

Thank you Karl Droese for a great time at the Lafayette Park Hotel. Having a private room made it very special.

The group dines out every other month. Karl Droese is scheduling the next gathering, tentatively scheduled for January 27 at the Lafayette Park Hotel.

Please contact Sam Zorich if you would like information about the group.

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**DOMINOES** Tom Westhoff 376-2609 [westhoff40@comcast.net](mailto:westhoff40@comcast.net)



The new SIR 171 Domino group meets every Thursday at Moraga Royale at 1:00pm. Contact Tom for information and to determine space availability.

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**FISHING: KARL DROESE** (Br. 171) [kdroese@comcast.net](mailto:kdroese@comcast.net) 376-0468 PAUL DUBAW (Area 2)



All SIR members and guests are welcome and, indeed, encouraged to participate in fishing trips as well as attend the monthly meetings. **Next meeting will be Thursday, March 24th** at the Legends Sports Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course at 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord, starting at 8:30am.

We made our annual trek to the Sportsmen's Expo in Sacramento, and also visited Bass Pro Shop and Fisherman's Warehouse in Manteca. Both ventures were well attended. One member caught and released a 74 inch sturgeon, (120 pounds according to the chart). This was his first sturgeon and biggest fish ever. Another member caught and tagged a 53 inch sturgeon the next day. Two others caught and released many small stripers and several keeper sturgeons. Usually reliable Shadow Cliffs was dismal this winter. However, San Pablo Reservoir produced nice limits of rainbows for three members. Our newly elected Big Fish fished while in Hawaii catching a 15 lb ono, an 8 lb red snapper plus several tasty blue snappers.

Scheduled events for March and April include several sturgeon/striper trips to the Delta; Trout fishing at Shadow Cliffs, Lake Del Valle, San Pablo reservoir and Lake McSwain; and a fly and spin fishing trip to Pyramid Lake NV

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**GOLF – 18 HOLES: GENE BELL** (Br. 171) [gdbell1@comcast.net](mailto:gdbell1@comcast.net) 284-1786  
TONY SCHOEMEHL (Br. 174) [tonyliby@comcast.net](mailto:tonyliby@comcast.net) 376-1471



Any members who are interested in joining the Golf Group, please complete the application that is available at the following link -- <http://branch174.sirinc2.org/golf/home.htm> There is also a 2014 schedule and contact information at the link.

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**HISTORICAL ADVENTURES: TED WESTPHAL** (Br. 171) [tawiii@att.net](mailto:tawiii@att.net) 283-2172



There are no tours currently scheduled. Plans for 2016 may include dates for tours of the Rosie The Riveter National Memorial (plus the nearby ship 'Red Oak Victory'), in addition to other docent led tours of historical significance in the Bay Area. We would very much like to identify additional, possibly less known destinations that any member would care to suggest. So please send an e-mail to Ted ([tawiii@att.net](mailto:tawiii@att.net)) with any idea you might like to offer!

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**INVESTMENT GROUP:** TOM HENRY (Br. 174) [tomh925@icloud.com](mailto:tomh925@icloud.com) 254-5724  
David Sutton (Br-8) 686-0158



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The Area 2 \$ums Investment Group will meet on **Wednesday February 24, 2016**, at 8:00 a.m. at the Legends restaurant at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway, Concord.

The presenter for February will be Joan M. Grimes JD. Ms. Grimes is an estate-planning attorney and will talk about the newest addition to the estate planning process: Portability. The estate tax credits of each spouse are preserved without a complicated AB trust or the publicity of Probate. Come and learn about this development in estate law.

The Legends restaurant opens at 7:00 a.m., so come early and have a leisurely breakfast with your colleagues prior to the meeting. Plan to attend this meeting and bring a prospective SIR.

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**PINOCHLE:** BILL KORN (Br. 171) [blairkorn@comcast.net](mailto:blairkorn@comcast.net) 376-1643



The Sirs pinochle game is held **every Wednesday morning at 9:30** at the Moraga Royale on the corner of Country Club Drive and Moraga Road. We play in a comfortable private room and many of us stay there for a delightful lunch, at a very minimal cost. The Wednesday game is moved back to Tuesday on the Sirs meeting day. We hope you can attend as we have a good time. If you don't know pinochle we will teach you, as it is not difficult. We hope to see some new players in the near future.

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**POKER:** DICK MEDEL (Br. 174) 376-5568 & BILL WIEGMANN (Br. 174) [bigwieg@comcast.net](mailto:bigwieg@comcast.net) 376-6088



Our low-stakes poker group meets the **fourth Wednesday of each month from 12:30 to 4:30pm**. We meet at various locations. To join us please contact Dick or Bill for information.

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**SENIOR STROLLERS:** JIM COUNTRYMAN [jcountry@comcast.net](mailto:jcountry@comcast.net) 631-1766 **NEW ACTIVITY**



Meets every **Wednesday** at 9 AM for an easy walk of less than a mile around/near the Moraga Center, generally with a stop for coffee at some point along the way. Contact Jim to get on the mailing list the starting point (which varies).

If you want a longer walk, try the WALKING group.

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**STAMP GROUP:** LARRY BEANS (Br. 171) [larrybeans@comcast.net](mailto:larrybeans@comcast.net) 376-7306; Rich Sjoberg (Br. 174) 254-1661



We meet on the **Friday following Branch 171 lunch meeting at 9:30 am**. The group meets at Larry Beans' home at 20 Carr Drive in Moraga. Please call Larry or Rich for more information, or if you would like to attend.

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**TABLE POOL:** AREA #2: BILL WEINBERG 682-0962



We usually have three or four pool games going when we meet on the **1st & 3rd Mondays at 11:30 am** at Masse's – 2721 North Main in Walnut Creek. The cost is \$5.00 for as long as you want to play. We also have SIR members from other branches joining us and we usually play about 2 hours but not everyone stays for the final curtain. Haven't played in years? Come join us. All SIRs are welcome.

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**TENNIS:** JIM COUNTRYMAN (Br. 171) [jcountry@comcast.net](mailto:jcountry@comcast.net) 631-1766  
RALPH THORNICROFT (Br. 174) [grtincal@aol.com](mailto:grtincal@aol.com) 376-8140



The Tennis Group plays at St. Mary's College **every Tuesday and Thursday. Times vary between 8:00am and 8:30am, depending on the weather.** Players are at varying skill levels, mostly around the

**TRAVEL:** **BOB SPELLMAN** (Area 2 Chmn.) [bobjo@astound.net](mailto:bobjo@astound.net) 934-8428  
**JOE TRACY** (BR. 174) [jotracy@comcast.net](mailto:jotracy@comcast.net) 954-7801



**Mar 7-10, 2016: Arizona Spring Training.** Accommodations for 3 nights at the Hampton Inn, Tempe. Round trip Air from Bay Area to Phoenix. All breakfasts & 1 dinner plus home pickup, luggage handling, taxes and drivers gratuities. Cost \$995 for land and approximately \$1295 including air. Contact Larry Yarberry, Br 8 925-890-9245.

**Mar 13-17, 2016: Spring Training with #SIR 146.** 5 day trip with something for everyone. Upon arrival in Phoenix you will be transferred to your accommodations at the Embassy Suites for your 4 night stay. Amenities include hosted breakfast and happy hour. All meals during your stay are included. You will enjoy morning activities that include a variety of local attractions and guest speakers. Your game tickets are the best seats available. Every effort will be made to include A's and Giants games. Cost of \$1795.00 includes RT to and from airport, three games, 4 night accommodations, tours, and guide services. Contact Ken Richter, Br 146, 689-6217.

**Mar 25-Apr 10, 2016: big Band Voyage Across The Atlantic Ocean.** 16 day all inclusive cruise on the Crystal Symphony. Relish the blissful luxury of days at sea, highlighted by visits to Bermuda, the Azores, Barcelona, Bandol and Monte Carlo. Cruise cost from \$3665. Join SIR 146 on May 14th, 2015 at 1:30 pm for a special cruise presentation and extra savings opportunities. Contact Ken Richter, Br 146, 925-689-6217.

**May 3-5, 2016: Vatican Splendors exhibit at the Reagan Presidential Library.** The Vatican exhibit only travels every other year so don't miss the opportunity to experience 2,000 years of Vatican art and history. You will also visit the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library. Cost \$591.00 including RT motorcoach, 2 night stay at the Pepper Tree in Santa Barbara, baggage handling, 6 meals, guided tours of the Library, and Santa Barbara Mission, with a visit to Solvang, and drivers gratuity. Contact Ken Richter, Br. 146, 925-689-6217

**Sep 13-26, 2016: Essence of the Elbe: Berlin to Prague.** 13 day river cruise tour aboard the M/S River Allegro, a privately owned 90 passenger ship exclusively for American Travelers. Ports of call include Prague, Dresden, Meissen, Torgau, Wittenberg, Magdeburg and Berlin. Trip includes 2 night hotel stay in Prague and 3 nights in Berlin, 29 meals, 10 exclusive tours with headsets, transfers, port charges, gratuities for local guides, motorcoach drivers and a dedicated Program Director. Cost \$3595 to \$4195 depending on Cabin. Contact Ken Richter, Br. 146, 925-689-6217.

**Sep 28-Oct 3, 2016: Custer State Park.** Feel the thunder of pre-historic beasts as they rumble by during this fall tradition in the beautiful Black Hills. This one of a kind program also includes the Buffalo Roundup Art Festival, a buffalo steak dinner, a ride on the famous 1880 train, Rushmore, Crazy Horse and much More. Cost \$1565 or \$2065 with air. Contact Larry Yarberry, Br. 8, 925-890-9245.

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**WALKING:** **AL DONNER** (Br. 171) [aaidonner@gmail.com](mailto:aaidonner@gmail.com) 376-1594  
**LYLE DECK** (Br. 174) [lgdeck@aol.com](mailto:lgdeck@aol.com) 254-3829



If you feel left out of something good, come join the group. Just show up across from the Serbian Church by 9 am any Tuesday and you are good to go. No initiation fees, hazing or other sophomoric rituals, just walking and talking and coffee after. The group walks for about three miles.

And if you want a slower pace, try the SENIOR STROLLERS group.

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**WINE TASTING:** **GENE BELL** (Br. 171) [gdbell1@comcast.net](mailto:gdbell1@comcast.net) 284-1786  
**JON LEUTENEKER** (Br. 174) [jonleuteneker@comcast.net](mailto:jonleuteneker@comcast.net) 376-7035



There are now two wine tasting groups. Both are couples events and normally held in-home starting about 7:00 p.m. with a cost per person averaging about \$15. Jon Leuteneker is chairman of the group that meets on the **second Tuesday of each month** - this group has a full roster. Gene Bell is chairman of the group that meets on the **third Tuesday of each month** - membership in this group may still open.

# SIR ORGANIZATION 2016 (02/21/2016)

STATE PRESIDENT  
REGION 6 DIRECTOR  
AREA 2 GOVERNOR

DON DILL  
ED BENSON

SIR Inc. Website: <http://www.ririnc.org>  
Area 2 Website: <http://area2.sirinc2.org/>  
Branch 171 Website: <http://branch171.sirinc2.org/>

## BRANCH 171

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OFFICERS

BIG SIR	TOM MARNANE	376-6312
LITTLE SIR	RALPH BLUMENTHAL	254-6935
SECRETARY	JOHN SCHICK	376-9412
ASST. SEC.	AL DONNER	376-1474
TREASURER	JIM FULFORD	254-5419
ASST. TREAS.	HAL D'AMBROGIA	284-1723

### DIRECTORS

LARRY THOMPSON	631-9528
AL FOLEY	376-2809
TIM FREEMAN	283-5945
STAN HOLCENBERG	283-5466
MIKE DONOVAN	376-0387
AL DONNER	376-1594 (msgs)
SAM ZORICH	376-7799

### PAST BIG SIRs

1994 BILL TEUTSCHEL  
1995 DAN REGO  
1996 JOHN DAHL  
1997 RAY HORTON  
1998 ELLS LANGLEY  
1999 CHARLIE DINES  
2000 JIM SWEENEY  
2001 CLAY SEALY  
2002 DENNIS BROSSART  
2003 BILL MUESER  
2004 GENE BELL  
2005 TOM KELLY  
2006 DAN FLOWER  
2007 BILL SUMNER  
2008 FRED GEORGE  
2009 JIM GIBNEY  
2010 DICK MACY  
2012 KARL DROESE  
2014 SAM ZORICH

2011 PHIL ARTH  
2013 JOHN HAFFNER  
2015 TIM FREEMAN

### COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

MEMBERSHIP	LARRY THOMPSON	631-9528
	TOM LENZ	278-1717
	JOHN SCHICK	376-9412
GREETERS	TOM LENZ	278-1717
ATTENDANCE	FRANCES WONG	376-0967
ACTIVITIES	LARRY BEANS	376-7306

NEW MEMBERS	AL DONNER	376-1474
CHAPLAIN	DICK MACY (OPENING)	376-1180
INDUCTIONS	LARRY THOMPSON	631-9528
HISTORIAN	JOHN DAHL	687-7636
PIANIST	FRANK GRANNIS	284-2724

SUNSHINE	MONTE LOGAN	376-0264
MICROPHONE	CLAY SEALY	376-4481
BAR MGMT	(OPEN), LEW EDWARDS, & LARRY CORREIA	

WEBMASTER	GARY BORELLI (OPENING)	376-6151
BRANCH AUDIT	KEN FISCHER	631-0328
	BOB MEADOWCROFT	631-0194
PUBLICITY	TOM LENZ	278-1717
LADIES DAY	MIKE DONOVAN	376-0387

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

JOHN HAFFNER, SAM ZORICH, PHIL ARTH, RAY HORTON

### NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

EDITORS	STAN HOLCENBERG	283-5466
	PHIL ARTH	376-3784
	JOHN HAFFNER	330-9930
PHOTOGRAPHER	RUSS AUBRY	510-644-2692
KNOW YOUR SIR	DAVE HUMM	376-5895

### HONORARY LIFE AND HONORARY SENIOR LIFE MEMBERS

JOHN DAHL RAY HORTON CLAY SEALY TED WESTPHAL

### ACTIVITY

APPLE USERS  
ASTRONOMY  
BARBER SHOP HARMONY  
BOCCE BALL  
BOWLING  
BRIDGE  
COUPLES DINING OUT  
COMPUTERS & TECH.  
DOMINOES  
FISHING  
GOLF – 18 HOLES  
HIST. ADV. & VETS  
INVESTMENT  
MODEL RAILROAD  
PINOCHLE  
POKER  
STAMPS  
TABLE POOL  
TENNIS  
TRAVEL  
WALKING  
WALKING / SR. STROLLERS  
WINE TASTING

### BRANCH 171 COORDINATOR

DICK MACY 376-1180  
*OPEN*  
BRAD DEWEY 376-3349  
BILL BONDY 254-1266  
*OPEN*  
GREG TCHERKOYAN 838-0361  
SAM ZORICH 376-7799  
*OPEN*  
TOM WESTHOFF 276-2609  
KARL DROESE 376-0468  
GENE BELL 284-1786  
TED WESTPHAL 283-2172  
*OPEN*  
TOM WESTHOFF 376-2609  
BILL KORN 376-1643  
*OPEN*  
LARRY BEANS 376-7306  
*OPEN*  
JIM COUNTRYMAN 631-1766  
  
AL DONNER 376-1594  
JIM COUNTRYMAN 631-1766

### BRANCH 174 COORDINATOR

JOE TRACY 954-7801  
  
RON LEIKER 376-2845  
JOE FITZGERALD 376-4656  
  
STU KNUDSEN 376-4919  
  
DICK CURRY 376-5541  
  
TONY SCHOEMEHL 376-1471  
  
GARY MOORE 254-8742  
GEORGE McLAIN 283-1957  
  
DICK MEDEL/BILL WIEGMAN 376-5568/376-6088  
  
RALPH THORNICROFT 376-8140  
JOE TRACY 954-7801  
LYLE DECK 254-3829  
  
GENE BELL 284-1786

### AREA 2 CHAIRMAN

BILL HUNTER 254-6281  
  
LLOYD WEST 228-37  
ROD SPICER 935-5306  
  
DEREK SOUTHERN 253-1646  
  
DICK THOMSON 944-1760  
RAY WEISZ 240-0425  
  
LEARY WONG 457-0807  
  
BILL KORN 376-1643  
  
BILL WEINBERG 682-0962  
  
BOB SPELLMAN 934-8428  
  
JON LEUTENE