



# SIR BRANCH 171 September 2018

<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, **September 5** Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox Church Hall

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

### **BIG SIR MESSAGE: BARRY LESKIN**

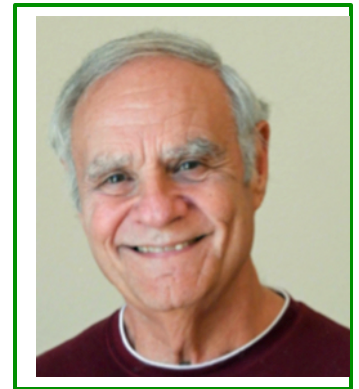
My Fellow SIR 171 Members,

The 2019 Branch Executive Committee slate was approved at the August 1 BEC and General Membership meetings. I will continue as Big SIR and Rick Fend will be the Little SIR for 2019. 2018 Little SIR Graig Crossley's unfortunate illness necessitated the succession change. I am very happy to report that Graig is recovering very well. Also approved were new Directors Chris Lynne and Gary Yancey for 3 year terms.

Branch 174 has proposed and our BEC has approved exploring the possibility of a joint SIRS Luncheon in 2019, possibly July 10. The Big SIRs and Little SIRs of both Branches are meeting to develop a proposal. Interestingly, this addresses one of SIR Vice President Ed Benson's goals -- more collaboration between the Branches.

We continue to have a concern that our summer lunch attendance is below our commitment (118) to our food provider. I have been told all branches experience low attendance the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter and that our percentage attendance is similar to other Branches. Obviously, we will monitor this through the Fall and see if we need to address minimum commitments with our caterer for next year. The past few months we have drawn funds from our budget to cover the shortfall. Our funds are solid, but we need to focus on this expenditure area.

I attended the SIRs National Conference at Thunder Valley in Roseville on August 7. We have a new and very proactive and creative 2018 Vice President, Ed Benson, who has set ambitious goals for 2019 when he will be the SIR State President. I mentioned Branch collaboration above. In addition he would like to see greater spouse/partner participation in activities. He is focusing on addressing the membership decline over the years. He is considering a modification to our logo and to remove the word "retirement" from the logo since many of our members work and there is a great pool of potential members in the work force. The current logo is at the top of this page. Take a look at a sample new logo to the right (not approved at this time) – let me know your reaction to this and to the removal/replacement of the "retirement" word. Send comments to me at [barryleskin@gmail.com](mailto:barryleskin@gmail.com)



Some innovative actions that other "successful" Branches have taken to build membership -- recruiting at YMCA's and Community Colleges (have a large population of seniors taking classes); offering a bottle of wine as a gift to those who bring in new members. A number of Branches now have a \$15.00 - \$ 20.00 annual fee that supports their recruiting efforts. Thoughts on recruiting?

I am looking forward to the SirPremes September luncheon performance. And thanks to our members – we expect four guests at the luncheon. The greeters will be Sam Zorich and Clark Vilas. See you there.

As always, I am open to any suggestions that strengthen our Branch and enhance recruiting efforts.

*Barry Leskin, Big SIR*

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## **LITTLE SIR MESSAGE: RICK FEND**

**Susan Sperry**, our September speaker and long time Moraga resident, will enlighten us with the history of Moraga from the late 1700's under Jose Joaquin Moraga to the Irvine Company in the 1950's that started the development of Moraga. The presentation will include many vintage photos.



Susan has been a member of the Moraga Historical Society since 2004 and was President 2007-2009 and 2014-2016. She was selected as the Moraga Co-Citizen of the Year in 2018, along with her husband Sam.

Susan received her BA from UC Berkeley, Teaching Credential from Cal State Hayward, and Masters Degree from Saint Mary's College. She has been a member and President of the Moraga Women's Society, received the AAUW (American Association of University Women) Gender Equity Award, and been a member of Moraga's Art in Public Spaces committee since 2016.

*Rick Fend, Little SIR*

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## **Featured Photo of the Month**



Our SIRS walking group gets bigger all the time!

This summer we are averaging nearly 20 semi-viral dudes walking every Tuesday!

Join the group -- bring a buddy or prospective member. Every Tuesday at 9 am across from the church.

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Please send in a photo that you would like to have considered for inclusion in the Photos of the Month section of the newsletter. These typically come from one of the SIR activities, but do not need to if there is another picture of a member or members that would be great to share in the newsletter. Send your choice to [sir171-news@comcast.net](mailto:sir171-news@comcast.net) by the 10th of each month for consideration. Please include a description of the photo. Cell phones work great, and also simplify emailing the photo.





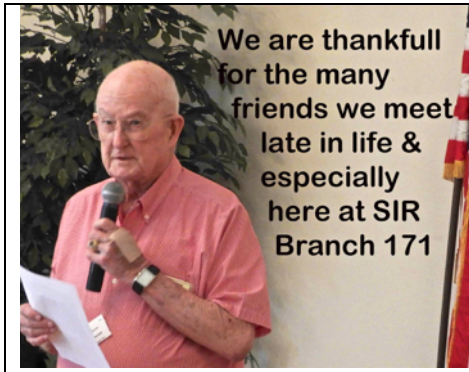
Greetes bring "Smile" to members.



one guy collects dues  
The next guy collects for wine, beer & food. Kan eye pay by credit card ?



medical discussion  
I have pain in neck. sorry, i can't hear you my finger is in my ear %



We are thankful for the many friends we meet late in life & especially here at SIR Branch 171



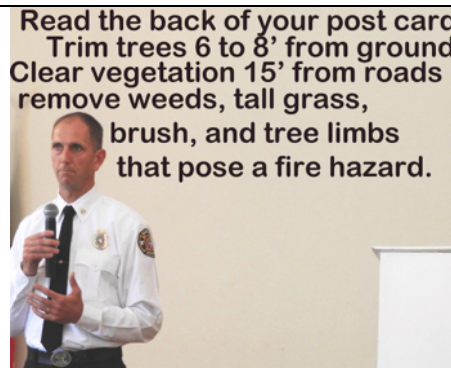
he is my guest, I just don't want to sit near him



Guest and with a smile like this, your first year dues are waived



Earthquakes: Be prepared to be on your own for 4 days. Have water, food, medicine, supplies, charcoal propane for cooking



Read the back of your post card  
Trim trees 6 to 8' from ground  
Clear vegetation 15' from roads  
remove weeds, tall grass, brush, and tree limbs that pose a fire hazard.



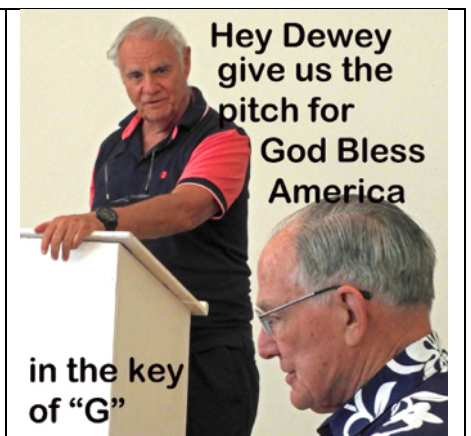
911 calls- we prefer land lines. As soon as we receive an emergency call, the station prepares the station gets ready to leave. Cell phones can take minutes longer



I really like your group. You open the bar at 11 am, you talk about fishing and dominos, and you laugh at all my jokes.



Policemen like donuts & i leard too late that fireman like ice-cream. So we gave you a card for Starbucks "You just want to keep me awake!"



Hey Dewey give us the pitch for God Bless America

in the key of "G"

## SEPTEMBER LUNCHEON

### SEPTEMBER LUNCHEON MENU

Grilled Chicken w/mango salsa; Rice Pilaf; Fresh Roasted Vegetables  
Green Salad; Fruit Salad; Dessert

### SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS TO SIRs

**ED BEATSON – RALPH BLUMENTHAL – MIKE BRODSKY – DAVID BYRENS – MICHAEL CHINN**

**ROBERT CHURCH – JERRY COMPTON – AL DONNER – KEN HALEY – GEORGE HENRICH**

**STEVEN HONDA – DENNIS KELLEHER – BOB KROMPHOLZ – MONTE LOGAN – FRANK MORI**

One of the above members with a birthday in September will win a free lunch if he attends the September meeting. Members whose birth month is in September, and who do not see their name in the above list, should contact 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 Barry Leskin can be reached at [baryleskin@gmail.com](mailto:baryleskin@gmail.com).

### 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.

*If you are inviting a guest don't forget to call the hotline at 925-377-5880. Provide the name of your guest and let us know if he is a first time guest.*

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## BRANCH REPORTS

### ATTENDANCE REPORT: FRANCIS WONG

There were 102 attendees at the last meeting, which included 96 members, one speaker, and five guests (two were repeats). There were 15 no-shows (the highest number since January) and 37 excused sign-outs. 65% of our membership attended. Our guarantee was 118, which was 16 over our actual attendance.

Many of the excused absences and no-shows have not met the requirement to attend six of every twelve meetings, as per the policy below. All of us need to be attentive of this requirement so we meet our minimums as well as adhere to the requirement of the club. And please call the hotline if you will be unable to attend a meeting. **FAILURE TO CALL THE HOTLINE TO SIGN OUT WILL RESULT IN A \$25 CHARGE.**

**PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THE SIR REQUIREMENT TO ATTEND SIX LUNCHEONS OF THE LAST TWELVE.**

**PLEASE CALL THE SIR 171 "HOT LINE" at 925-377-5880 BEFORE 1:00PM ON THE SATURDAY BEFORE THE MEETING IF YOU WILL NOT BE ATTENDING THE MEETING OR IF YOU ARE BRINGING A GUEST. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THIS PROCEDURE WILL SUBJECT THE MISSING MEMBER TO THE \$25 NO SHOW CHARGE.** It is not necessary to call the HOT LINE if you have placed your name on the "Absence Notification" sheet at a prior meeting. Leave a message as soon as you can if the absence is due to a medical reason. **Please note: If you are requesting a SIR membership status change, contact Stew Chalem, Membership Chair (377-0698) rather than calling the SIR 171 HOT LINE.**

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**TREASURER'S REPORT: Bob Krompholz**

July 2018

Beginning	7,980
Receipts	2,545
Disbursements	(2,990)
Ending	7,535

Please contact Bob if you would like additional details.

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**MEMBERSHIP REPORT: STEW CHALEM  
JOHN SCHICK**

<b>ACTIVE</b>	
Prior Month:	<b>149</b>
Inductees	None
From Inactive:	None
Deductions	(1) Ted Westphal (#133), Deceased
<b>Total, This Month:</b>	<b>148</b>
<b>INACTIVE</b>	
Prior Month:	<b>30</b>
Additions:	None
Deductions	(1) John Mossman, Deceased
<b>Total, This Month:</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>APPLICATIONS AWAITING INDUCTION (This Meeting)</b>	
	<b>1</b>
<b>APPLICANT LIST</b>	
Sal Zammitti -- Sponsor, Laszlo Bonnyay	
Bert Yee -- Sponsor, Larry Monin - Recruited via Tuesday Walking Group	
Bob Schwab (former member) -- Sponsor, Karl Droese	
Richard Tietz -- Sponsor, Dick Morrison	

Membership Application Forms are always available at the desk at the meetings, or from Stew Chalem.

**ROSTER CORRECTIONS: STEW CHALEM**

<p><b>NOTE:</b> Please contact Stew Chalem whenever your personal information changes (i.e. email address, home address, and/or phone number) or whenever you wish a membership status change (i.e. to request inactive status or to resign). Stew will in turn update the master Roster.</p>
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## **SUNSHINE REPORT: MONTE LOGAN**

### **Branch 171**

- It is with deep sadness that **SIR Ted Westphal** passed away July 17th. A wonderful and dedicated man who made a very positive impact on many of our lives and contributed to our SIR's group in so many ways. He joined Branch 171 in 1995, two years after the formation, and is a life member of SIRs. A private celebration of his life will be held on Sept. 1st. His obituary was mailed to all members a few weeks ago.
- It is very sad to report the passing of **SIR John Mossman** on July 17th. He joined SIRs in 2001 and was placed on our Inactive Roster in April 2018 due to poor health. In recent years John was very active in the SIR 171/174 Apple User Group, rarely missing a meeting.

John was born in Port Arthur, Texas to Roy and Hattie Mossman. He graduated from East High School in Denver, Colorado and served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II, in the China-Burma-India Theater. John graduated from Denver University with a degree in Chemical Engineering, where he was a member of Delta Chi (the local men's honorary chemical fraternity) and served as president of the DU student chapter of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. He went on to earn a subsequent Masters Degree from M.I.T.

He worked for 40 years as a Petrochemical Engineer with Oriental Refinery, Bechtel Corporation, and Chevron. His work took him around the world to many exotic locations, including Indonesia, Korea, Libya, Abu Dhabi, and Algeria. John was truly an engineer throughout his life, completing many "DIY" projects, including the unassisted planning and construction of a deck at his home.

He was a lifetime learner, participating in Elder Hostel and other educational programs throughout the world. John is survived by his loving wife of 67 years, Juanita Caddy Mossman; sister Nancy; daughters Jan Mahumed and Judy (Robert) Brown; grandsons Todd and Jack Brown. John enjoyed a long, rich life and will be missed by many.

A Memorial Service for John will be on Sat. Sept.1st at 11:00 am at Hulls Walnut Creek Chapel, 1139 Saranap Ave., Walnut Creek. The family has asked if our SIR Chaplain, Tom Marnane, will say a few words at the Memorial Service. Tom plans to be at the service. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to a charity of their choice.

**SIR Warren Ehrhardt** was hospitalized and is recovering at Manor Care, Walnut Creek.

**SIR Jerry Borrmann** is recovering from an heart attack.

It is really good news as **SIR Al Simonsen** attended our last SIR's meeting after a long recuperation from a severe neck injury, and he is back playing in our SIR's bridge group.

### **Branch 174**

- We were deeply saddened to hear of the passing of past **Big SIR Dan Cawthon**. Dan had transferred to inactive status last October due to declining health.

Dan was Branch 174's first guest speaker when he entertained our members with his rendering of the one man drama of the life of Father Damien de Veuster, a Belgian missionary priest, recounting the priest's years spent at the Leper Settlement on Molokai where, as a new priest with only four years of religious training, he won the hearts of his parishioners at Puna and Kohala.

Dan had been a member of the faculty at Saint Mary's College where he was instrumental in establishing the Performing Arts Department, which he chaired for 15 years. He taught courses in acting, theatre history and criticism and directed dozens of student productions.

Dan was a member of Actors' Equity Association. He performed at the Berkeley Repertory Theatre, the San Jose Repertory Theatre, the California (Berkeley) Shakespeare Festival, and other theatres in the Bay Area. He first performed Damien at the Berkeley Stage Company and toured the production extensively in the United States and Europe for several years, culminating in a two-week run at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

He was the Artistic Director for Playwrights' Theatre at the Eugene O'Neill Foundation, Tao House (in Danville, California). Among the many productions he directed at the Foundation was O'Neill: The Rhythms of His Soul, a musical revue he wrote which includes over seventy songs imbedded in O'Neill's plays.

•••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.

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## **KNOW YOUR SIRs**

### **SEVERIN (SEV) MARSTED**

Sev grew up in New Haven, CT. He graduated from Hamilton College, a small private college in up-state New York, in 1961 with a degree in Business.

For his military service he served with the U.S. Army Reserve's very small Transportation Corps. Sev says that somehow the Army thought he was qualified to be a railroad brakeman! After basic training at Ft. Dix, NJ, and for subsequent summers, he went to Ft. Eustis, VA, the location of the Army's railroad unit.

After the Army, he returned to New Haven where he joined a division of Emerson Electric. A vacation to the Bay Area in 1964 prompted his request for a transfer to the company's San Francisco branch to handle electric motor sales to the region's industries. He changed careers in 1969 to become a stockbroker. Realizing that an MBA would open more choices in finance, he returned to school, graduating from Stanford's Graduate School of Business. Upon graduation, he joined Dodge & Cox as a securities analyst. The balance of his career was with the investment counseling firm, Bailard, Biehl & Kaiser, where he managed families' finances.

Sev's initial marriage did not work out, but produced three wonderful children, Linsay, Brooks and Thatcher, all Miramonte graduates. In 1990, Sev married Margie Handal of Lafayette. That added three step-children, Ali, Jennifer, and Sarah, to his extended family. He now has four grandchildren and five step-grandchildren.

Sev's primary outside interests include fly-fishing and history-based travel. He also enjoys classes at the local colleges and universities and model railroading.

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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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**BRANCH 171 NEWSLETTER:** Editor **STAN HOLCENBERG**. The deadline for receipt of Newsletter material by the Editor is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month. E-mail to [sir171-news@comcast.net](mailto:sir171-news@comcast.net) is preferred.

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Also enjoy reading SIR Happenings, our State Newsletter, and find out about all the fun things that are going on throughout our organization. You can find the most recent edition of SIR Happenings on our SIR State website -- click on the following link, or cut and paste the link into your browser to view -- [www.sirinc.org/sirhappenings/](http://www.sirinc.org/sirhappenings/)  
Some very interesting articles highlighting news of interest from other SIR branches including several of our branches in Area 2. Send comments and article to [jlsabo2@comcast.net](mailto:jlsabo2@comcast.net) or [HappeningsEditor@gmail.com](mailto:HappeningsEditor@gmail.com)

**NOTE: THERE IS AN AUGUST 2018 ISSUE THAT WAS RECENTLY PUBLISHED.** Plug the following into your browser -- [www.sirinc.org/sirhappenings/](http://www.sirinc.org/sirhappenings/)

## **BRANCH ACTIVITIES (BRANCHES 171 & 174)**

**ACTIVITY LIST** (items in blue are informational; items in red have updated information)

<b>Apple Users Activity</b>	<b>Astronomy</b>
<b>Barbershop Harmony</b>	<b>Big Hikers</b>
<b>Bocce Ball</b>	<b>Book Club</b>
<b>Bowling</b>	<b>Bridge</b>
<b>Computers and Technology</b>	<b>Couples Dining Out</b>
<b>Dominoes</b>	<b>Fishing</b>
<b>Golf</b>	<b>Historical Adventures</b>
<b>Investment Group</b>	<b>Pinochle</b>
<b>Poker</b>	<b>Stamp Club</b>
<b>Senior Strollers</b>	<b>Table Pool</b>
<b>Tennis</b>	<b>Travel</b>
<b>Walking</b>	<b>Wine Tasting</b>

**ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN: SAM ZORICH** (BR. 171)



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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**APPLE USERS ACTIVITY: DICK MACY** (Br. 171)  
**JOE TRACY** (BR. 174)



Meetings are held on a bi-monthly basis. The group focuses on Apple/Mac computers, iPads, & iPhones. Meetings include a roundtable on products, applications, rumors, issues, problems, and Q & A. Special discussions will occur after major product announcements and possibly after developer conferences.

Meetings are held in the conference room at the CC County Supervisor office at 3338 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette. The bi-monthly meetings are held at 10:00am and conclude by noon. The location is the fire station building across the street from El Charro restaurant. Enter the left side door at top of steps. Novices and advanced users are welcomed. Come and be a part of the group. **The next scheduled will be held on Monday, September 24.**

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**ASTRONOMY:** (OPEN) Br. 171  
**GEORGE COBB** (Br. 174)  
**BILL HUNTER** (Area 16 - 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)  
**RON LEIKER** (Br. 174)



The SIRpremes are a barbershop octet, composed of members from both 171 and 174, that sing songs in four-part harmony. By having two people on each part, the problems caused by absences are greatly reduced – obviously. The group's self-determined purpose has been to periodically add a little variety to the monthly luncheon meetings of Branches 171 and 174, plus the Christmas luncheon with the ladies.

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**The SIRpremes are in need of new blood!**

This activity has been in existence for a number of years; however, recently, we have lost many of our members. We are a barbershop octet that sings songs in four-part harmony. Notwithstanding, there is great interest by those remaining in our group to continue this very enjoyable and rewarding activity. All parts are open, but another tenor would be delightful. So, if you are with Branch 171 or Branch 174 and have any interest or any questions regarding our group, please give Brad Dewey (Branch 171) at 376-3349 or Ron Leiker (Branch 174) at 376-3884 a call for information.

The group meets every Tuesday at 3:00 pm at Brad Dewey's. Contact Brad Dewey, Sam Zorich, or Ron Leiker for additional information.

**BIG HIKERS: AL DONNER** (Br. 171)



One of three SIRS walking groups, the Big Hikers aims to engage SIRS who want some longer and stronger routes than our two around-town walking groups. The "Big Hikers" offer opportunities to do some hikes more than 3 miles in length and sometimes do a little more elevation. They can be further afield, Mt. Diablo or other regional parks, such as Vasco Caves. The Big Hikers operate on a varied schedule, trying to do a couple hikes each month. They go to interesting places as the spirit moves us. Contact Al Donner (to get the on the Big Hikers notice list. If you want a slower pace, try either the WALKING or the SENIOR STROLLERS group. BIG HIKER walks are scheduled periodically.

**BOCCE BALL: STEVE PATTON** Br. 171  
**ED PROTIVA** (Br. 174)



**BOCCE PLAY IS OPEN FOR THE SEASON**

Wee are happy to announce that Steve Patton has assumed the 171 coordinator role for this very popular activity.

Bocce is played every Tuesday and Friday. The group meets at 10 am, just beyond the bandstand at the Moraga Commons, located at the corner of Moraga Road & St Mary's Rd (next to the bandstand). The cost is all of \$2; the game is really easy to learn and is great fun, including a lot of good chat. You can be a part of this great group of guys, and can play on either or both days.

The Bocce game consists of 4 players on each court, creating 2 teams of 2 members each. Each team has one player at each end of the court. It is quite easy to learn.

**BOOK CLUB: BOB KROMPHOLZ** (Br 171 co-chair)  
**AL DESSAYER** (Br 171 co-chair)



The group develops a twelve month calendar of agreed upon book selections with each member hosting a book review where we will discuss his book. An attempt is made to vary the selections to include the latest best sellers as well as some classics and non fiction.

Each member selects a book he has read or would like to read and suggests 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 diversify your reading enjoyment, but also to discuss your comments and ideas with other intelligent, curious, cerebral fellows like yourself.

Book reviews are usually scheduled on the last Wednesday of the month @ 7-8pm. There are currently 12 members of the club. Contact Bob or Al if you are interested in joining.

**BOWLING:**

(OPEN) Br. 171  
**AREA 2: MIKE CROFF** (Area)



Area 2 Tournament and league bowling is held at Clayton Valley Bowl **every Wednesday**. Be there at 9:30 am. More members are welcome. Call for more information.

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**BRIDGE:** JOHN SCHICK (Br. 171)



The group meets 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 John for further information.

Over the years attrition has taken its toll, so at this time we are looking for new players. If you have ever played bridge in your life or are still playing, please consider joining us, regardless of what level you play at.

We play for fun and though we may give advice, we never criticize. Some of us play conventions, many play mostly basic bridge. Please contact John Schick if you are interested and we will get you signed up. (see *Organization chart for contact information*).

If transportation is an issue, let us know and, if possible, we can arrange rides. The group meets 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 John for further information.

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**COMPUTERS & TECHNOLOGY:** (OPEN) Br. 171  
**NEIL SCHMIDT** (Area - Br 116)



The Area 16 Computer and Technology Group meetings are fun and informative where we discuss applications for computers and technology. At each meeting we have a presentation on a topic covering everything from antivirus programs, ways to back up your data, digital photography, genealogy research, smart phones and many other topics. It's a great way to learn about new technology and to also get answers to your computer questions or problems.

The **next meeting of the Area 16 Computer and Technology Group will be at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge on Thursday September 20, 2018 starting at 9:30 am**. Members from all branches and their guests are welcome and invited to attend. Plan to come early for coffee, goodies and chat.

SIR Phil Goff will present detailed instructions about downloading, installing and running the most popular password manager program called LastPass. It's the best way to store all of your passwords and have the program automatically enter them when you visit a secure website. Lastpass works on Desktops, laptops, smartphones and both PC's and Apple. Once you start using it, you will wonder how you ever got along without it. No more forgotten passwords or nasty messages that your username or password is incorrect.

Additionally, Phil will show you how to send and receive text messages with ease. As most of you know, younger people and all business people, constantly use texting.. We know that typing text messages on those small screens is nearly impossible, so Phil will show you how to dictate and edit your messages with ease. Also, we show how to attach photos and even send emojis. We'll do it in real time so bring your smartphones and you will become a texting pro.

Presentation notes should be available on the CAT Web page ([a2cat.sirinc2.org](http://a2cat.sirinc2.org)) several days prior to the meeting. We look forward to seeing you around 9:15 AM, Thursday September 20.. We ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and cookies. See you there.

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Information about the group, including current and past presentations, is available on the SIR Area 2 Computers and Technology website -- <http://a2cat.sirinc2.org/> Make sure you are on the CAT mailing list by sending an e-mail request to: [sir.area2.cat@gmail.com](mailto:sir.area2.cat@gmail.com)

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**COUPLES DINING OUT SAM ZORICH (Br. 171)**



Our next dinner on [September 20th](#) will be hosted by Russ and Annette Aubry at their home. Russ' sister, who is a professional chef will prepare the meal.

[The group dines out every other month](#) at a fine location in the East Bay. Planning for the venue rotates among the various members of the group.

**DOMINOES TOM WESTHOFF (BR 171)**

The SIR 171 [Domino group meets every Thursday](#) at Moraga Royale from 1:00pm – 3:00pm. Contact Tom Westhoff for further information.

**FISHING: KARL DROESE (Br. 171) HARRY SHERINIAN (Area 16)**



All SIR members and guests are welcome and encouraged to participate in fishing trips as well as attend the monthly meetings. [Next meeting will be Thursday, September 27th](#) at the Legends Sports Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course at 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord, starting at 8:30am. You can order breakfast and have it served in the meeting room.

Whether you fly fish, spin fish, troll or bait fish there will be events of interest. If you are new to fishing or are interested in trying a different type of fishing we have experienced and knowledgeable members happy to share their expertise, and even their equipment. With over 100 events scheduled throughout the year, some type of fishing is available almost every week.

**August results:** A large number of members are fishing for salmon and everyone is scoring. A truly splendid season, the best in years, and big fish too. Some found time to go after other local species as well, including halibut, ling cod, rock fish, and sharks in salt water; and striped and black bass in fresh water. One member fished in Georgia for striped bass and in Florida for yellow tail; two others fished Alaska for salmon and halibut; and Karl Droese fished at the East Cape, Baja along with several Br. 174 members for dorado and tuna.

**Activities Scheduled for September and October:** Several SF Bay and Ocean trips on private boats, party boats and six packs for salmon, striper, halibut, rock fish and lingcod; several striper/black bass outings in the Delta; rainbow trout/catfish trips to San Pablo Reservoir and Shadow Cliffs (shore and boat); rainbow trout fishing at Davis Lake (fly fishing and trolling); four days at Lake Almanor for brown and rainbow trout (trolling with guides); Two days or more at Pyramid Lake, NV for Lahontan cutthroat trout (fly fishing, spin fishing and trolling); and our annual fish fry with SIRs in the Kitchen.

**GOLF – 18 HOLES: GENE BELL (Br. 171)  
BILL WADSWORTH (Br. 174)**



We enjoyed August outings to Chardonnay in Napa, Hiddenbrooke in Vallejo, Spanos Reserve in Stockton, and Lake Chabot in Oakland.

Unfortunately summer-time travel and some serious illnesses have dampened our participation recently. As we approach Fall, we hope to get more guys out on the course and do have a couple of new members.

In September, our official events are at [Paradise Valley in Fairfield on 9/10](#) and [Blue Rock Springs East in Vallejo on 9/24](#). There are two “practice” outings: one at Diablo Grande in Patterson on 9/3 (Labor Day) and another at San Geronimo outside San Rafael on 9/17.

Gordon Steele has thumped his opponents to reach the final of our club championship. He awaits the winner of a couple more matches to determine who will assume the title of *champion golfer of the year* and receive the fabulous engraved glass trophy.

The SIR 171/174 golf website ( [www.sirlamorindagolf.com](http://www.sirlamorindagolf.com) ) includes the membership application, a list of current members, the 2017 schedule, the results of prior events, and other pertinent information for members and prospective members.

**HISTORICAL ADVENTURES:** JIM KLINE (Br 171 co-chair)  
KEN FISCHER (Br 171 co-chair)



The group focuses on highly popular and educational tours. The Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Port Chicago National Memorial, Computer History Museum, and Oakland Aviation Museum are some of the sites that have been included in the past.

There are two upcoming outings – visiting the Eugene O'Neill house in Danville and taking a cruise on President Franklin Roosevelt's USS Potomac.

The first outing will be a SIRs guided tour on **Thursday, September 13, of the Eugene O'Neill house** in Danville where America's only Nobel Prize winning playwright wrote his most memorable plays. The 1 hour 15 minute tour begins at 9:50 AM at the old Danville train station where we board a van to the house. Limited to twelve people. Spouses and guests welcome. Stairs and uneven walking surfaces. **Sign up at the September 5 meeting.**

The second outing will be a cruise on Franklin Roosevelt's yacht, the **USS Potomac**, from Jack London Square. The date planned is **October 27th** and the duration of the cruise is three hours. The theme of this cruise is Creatures of San Francisco Bay. **Bring your wife -- tell her you're taking her on a cruise! Preliminary signups will be taken at the September 5 meeting.**

Please inform Jim or Ken if you have requests or suggestions for additional adventures.

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**INVESTMENT GROUP:** (OPEN) Br. 171  
**TOM HENRY (Br. 174)**  
DAVID SUTTON (Br-8)



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**\$UMS in Retirement is back from its summer break.** We'll meet again on **Wed Sep 26 at 8 AM** at Legends Restaurant at Diablo Creek Golf Course on Port Chicago Highway, Concord, just north of Hwy 4.

Our speaker will be one of our regulars, John W. Hutchinson of Stifel, Nicolaus & Co., Walnut Creek. His topic is "The place for municipal bonds in your portfolio."

The Legends opens at 7 AM. Come early and have a leisurely breakfast with your colleagues prior to the meeting.

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\$ums, the investment activity of SIR Area 2, *normally* meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month (check \$SUMS website below to verify). The time is 8:00AM to 9:30PM. The location in the Legends Restaurant at the Diablo Creek Country Club on Port Chicago Highway 1/4 mile North of Highway 4. The Legends opens at 7 AM. Come early and have a leisurely breakfast with your colleagues prior to the meeting.

**BTW, we ask that everyone donate \$2 each month to cover expenses.** We pay the restaurant \$40 each time in lieu of tips and rent. If everyone pays, we break even with 20 attendees. But not everyone pays and we're going in the hole. Please remember the donation box.

Information about the group, including past and current presentations, is available on the \$UMS website -- <http://a2sums.sirinc2.org/>

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**PINOCHLE: BILL KORN (Br. 171)**



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:** OPEN) Br. 171  
**DICK MEDEL** (Br. 174) & **BILL WIEGMANN** (Br. 174)



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** (Br 171)



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. For an even longer walk, with some elevation, try the BIG HIKERS group.

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**STAMP and COIN GROUP:** **LARRY BEANS** (Br. 171) STAMPS  
**BRUCE BERMAN** (BR 171) COINS



**We usually meet on the Friday following the Branch 171 monthly meeting at 9:30 am.** The group meets at Larry Beans' home at 20 Carr Drive in Moraga. Please call Larry questions and a possible change of meeting schedule.

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**TABLE POOL:** (OPEN) Br. 171  
AREA 16: **BILL WEINBERG**



We usually have three or four pool games going when we meet **each Monday 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)  
**RALPH THORNICROFT** (Br. 174)



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 3.0 range. Members' wives are invited to join us, so let them know they are welcome. Call Jim or Ralph for information.

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**TRAVEL:** **ERIC CHO** (Br 171)  
**JOE TRACY** Br 174)  
**TOM MOLINARI** (Area 16)



**Trips currently scheduled in 2018-19 and sponsored by our SIRs Area 16 follow:**

**Sep 8-15, 2018: Colorado Train Trip.** 7-day trip with stops at the US Airforce academy, Pikes Peak, Garden of the Gods, Colorado National Monument and Colorado Museum. Cost \$3035 and includes 15 meals, R/T Air, home pickup and back, professional tour manager. Larry Yarberry, Br 8, 925-890-9245.

**Oct 6, 2018: Fleet Week on the San Francisco Belle.** Join fellow SIR members for a day on the bay watching the Blue Angels perform right over your heads. Indulge in a hosted buffet lunch, as you

sip on free-flowing champagne and enjoy background music from the on board D.J. Depart 11:30 and Return 6:00pm. Cost 144.00 /151.00 depending on participation. Milt Smith, Br.146 925-285-2897

**Dec 3, 2018: Luxury Bus Trip.** You will travel to Sciabica Olive Oil Co, Hilmar Cheese Factory and Duarate Farms. Just in time for Holidays,olive oil, cheese and poinsettias. Cost \$93.00. Milt Smith, Br 146, 925-285-2897.

**June 1-18, 2019: Machu Picchu & the Galapagos.** Small ship adventure to Lima, Cazco, Machu Picchu Quito and 4 night Galapagos Cruise. Cost is \$6995 including airfare, transfers and taxes, 38 meals, 21 small group activities , 2 local Trip Leaders, Gratuities for local guides , drivers, ship crew and luggage porters. Milt Smith, Br 146, 925-285-2897.

**Trips for 2018-19 that are tracked by State Travel Chairman Tom Molinari include:**

- Aug 22 – 30, 2018 --- Colors of Provence River Cruise Tour
- Sept 3 – 13, 2018 --- Alaska Inside Passage
- Sept 8, 2018 --- Colorado Train Trip
- Sept 13 – 23 --- Alaska Inside Passage
- Sept 17 – 25, 2018 --- The Big E
- Sept 20 – 27, 2018 --- Islands of New England
- Oct 21 – 31, 2018 --- Crystal Mozart River Cruise
- Oct 24 – Nov 2, 2018 --- Tastes and Sounds of the South
- Nov 5 – 13, 2018 --- Branson, MO – Bentenville, ARK and Beyond
- Dec 30, 2018 – Jan 3, 2019 --- Tucson New Years with Tucson (two tours)
- Jan 30 – Feb 15, 2019 --- Princess Panama Canal Cruise
- Feb 15 – Mar 2, 2019 --- Cruise from San Francisco to Ft. Lauderdale
- April 24 – 28, 2019 --- San Antonio Spring Fiesta
- July 25 – Aug 3, 2019 --- Alpine Swiss Villages
- Aug 23 – Sept 9, 2019 --- Pacific Princess Cruise Iceland and Norway
- Sept 7 – 22, 2019 --- Taste of Bordeaux

Check the SIR Area 2 website for the details, cost, and contact information for these trips. Cut and paste the following link into your internet browser -- <http://www.area2.sirinc2.org/Travel.pdf> If you have trip information you would like to post on the area website, send the information to Tom Molinari by the 25th of the month. Only trips of at least 4 days or more in length will be listed



**WALKING:** **AL DONNER** (Br. 171)  
**LYLE DECK** (Br. 174)

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. If you want to try a faster pace, try the BIG HIKERS group.

**WINE TASTING:** **GENE BELL** (Br. 171)  
**JON LEUTENEKER** (Br. 174)



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.

## Activity Calendar -- September 2018

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Apple Users Activity	Sept. 24				
Astronomy	2nd Monday of month				
Barbershop Harmony		Every Tuesday of month			
Big Hikers	As scheduled				
Bocce Ball		Every Tuesday			Every Friday
Book Club			Last Wednesday of month		
Bowling			Every Wednesday of month		
Bridge		2nd & 4th Tuesday of month			
Computers and Technology				3rd Thursday of month	
Couples Dining Out	20-Sep				
Dominoes				Every Thursday of month	
Fishing				4th Thursday of month	
Golf	Sept. 10 & 24				
Historical Adventures	Sept. 13				
Investment Group			Sept. 26		
Pinochle			Each Wednesday of month		
Poker			4th Wednesday of month		
Stamp & Coin Club					First Friday after Club Meeting
Senior Strollers			Every Wednesday of month		
Table Pool	Every Month of month				
Tennis		Every Tuesday of month		Every Thursday of month	
Travel	No meetings scheduled. Only trips				
Walking		Every Tuesday of month			
Wine Tasting		2nd & 3rd Tuesday of month			