



SIR BRANCH 171

December 2018

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

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



REMINDER: We will not have our regular club meeting the first Wednesday of December. Our big gathering for the month, and for the year, will be our annual SIR Branch 171/174 Ladies Day Holiday Luncheon – December 12.

We have over 170 signed up for the event, but need more reservations in order to fill the room. Couples and single folks are all encouraged to sign up. We will find tables of new friends and you will all have a great time.

Send in your check today and join us for a great event to kick off the holiday season. The students will have left for the holiday so there will be plenty of space to park. Campus security will reserve the parking lots right by the Soda Center for our use.

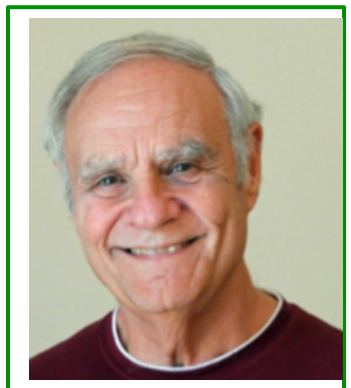
THE LAST DAY TO SIGNUP IS DECEMBER 3 !!
The sign-up form is attached to this newsletter mailing.
SIGN UP NOW !!

BIG SIR MESSAGE: BARRY LESKIN

My Fellow SIR 171 Members,

As 2018 comes to a close our Branch 171 membership is 143 members, a decline of 9% for the year. We added 13 new members, but experienced a loss of 26. We need to focus on increasing the number of new members, and in particular younger new members. Our current Branch average age is 80.

Al Donner and a small group are working on developing a flyer that promotes the value of SIRS and the benefits and activities available to members. We plan to distribute this to interest groups, religious groups, health clubs and other organizations to attract new members. But remember, **our primary source of new members comes from you**, our existing membership. I encourage you to invite friends to a luncheon and activities that match their interest. You can also invite spouses/partners to participate in our Branch activities, as other Branches have been doing.



As you know the BEC asked me to remain as Big SIR in 2019. Rick Fend will continue to be the Little SIR. We need to get others in the leadership pipeline, so are interested in those who are interested in those roles. Please contact me if you are interested. We are also in need of a Branch Chaplain to replace Tom Marnane and an Activity Chairman to replace Sam Zorich. Please let me know if you are interested in either of those positions.

The Branch 171 BEC has decided to eliminate the required lunch attendance of six meetings each year in order to be flexible about attendance and to allow members to remain “active” in our Branch. A number have homes in other areas and spend part of their year away from Lamorinda, but want to remain active members. We hope when you are not away that you will make every effort to attend the luncheon meetings.

Jonathon Korfhager of Branch 146 (925-947-1547) is coordinating a Valentine Dinner and Dance on February 16 at Boundary Oak Golf Course in Walnut Creek. The cost is \$140 per couple. There will be a band and door prizes. Please sign-up with Sir Don Rhoads (2274 Gladwin Drive, Walnut Creek, CA 94596) by January 15.

Barry Leskin, Big SIR

LITTLE SIR MESSAGE: RICK FEND

There will not be a regular club meeting in December. The Ladies Day Holiday Luncheon is our gathering for the month.

Rick’s speaker message will be back in the January 2019 newsletter.

Also, please note that SIR members whose birthdays are in December will be included in a drawing at the January meeting. The drawing will be separate from those members that have a January birthday.

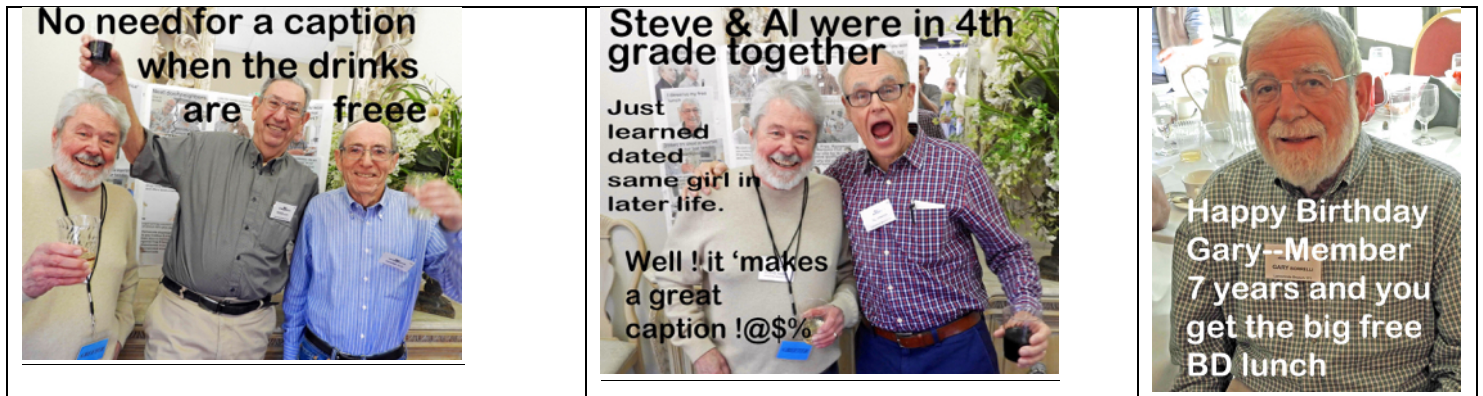


Featured Photo of the Month



The ***Historical Adventures*** group had a great day on the Bay on FDR’s USS Potomac in late October.

Ken Fischer reports – “Nice weather overall but fog kept us from going underneath the Golden Gate Bridge. We came close to the Embarcadero, Alcatraz and Angel Island, and gained some knowledge about the Potomac, FDR, creatures of the Bay, and the troll of the eastern Bay Bridge span! Our cruise included lunch as well. Everyone enjoyed it.”

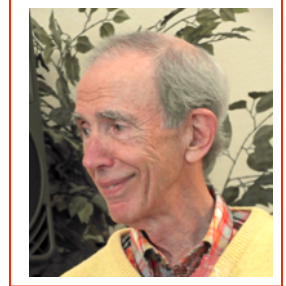


ANNOUNCEMENTS & NEWS

NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome to the two new members, Dudley Braun and Rich Sauve, inducted at the November meeting. Please introduce yourself to each of them, welcome them to the group, help them find a seat at a table, and answer any questions they might have.

SIR Dudley Braun has transferred from SIR Branch 174. He was introduced by Stew Chalem. Dudley was raised in Sacramento and lives in Lafayette. He attended Stanford and Columbia. Dudley is single and has two non-local children. Note: Dudley's Bio is in the "Know Your SIRs" section of the newsletter.



SIR Rich Sauve found us on the internet and was inducted by Stew Chalem. Rich was born in Buffalo, moved to Santa Cruz in 1962, and later to Moraga in 1984. He attended UCLA and UC Berkeley. Rich is married and has three daughters. His three grandchildren all live in the Bay Area.

CLASSIC FILM SERIES RETURNS TO RHEEM THEATER

Having received numerous requests from local residents, Derek Zemrak, owner-operator of the New Rheem Theatre, has decided to reinstate, on a trial basis, the treasured "Classic Film Series" that local movie goers have enjoyed for the last several years.

The showings will be on the second Wednesday of every month starting in January, 2019, in the small upstairs theater at the Rheem Theatre. This is the perfect venue for classic, older films. Showtime(s) will be at 4:00 PM, offering the viewing audience an opportunity to see a film and perhaps enjoy an early dinner at a nearby restaurant.

The movie schedule for the first quarter, 2019 is:

- *January 9 "A Star is Born" (1937) starring Janet Gaynor and Frederic March
- *February 13 "The Man with the Golden Arm" starring Frank Sinatra
- *March 13 "The Third Man" starring Orson Welles

Derek and his Staff look forward to welcoming all movie enthusiasts from the local communities.

Contact:

Derek Zemrak
The Rheem Theatre
350 Park Street, Moraga, CA 94556
(925) 388-0751
www.lamorindatheatres.com

LUNCHEON

There will not be a drawing for a free lunch at the December Ladies Day Holiday Luncheon. SIR members whose birthdays are in December will be included in a drawing at the January meeting. The drawing will be separate from those members that have a January birthday.

BRANCH REPORTS

ATTENDANCE REPORT: FRANCIS WONG

There were 102 attendees at the last meeting, which included 101 members, one speaker, no guests, and no visitors. There were 9 no-shows and 33 excused sign-outs. 71% of our membership attended. We missed our guarantee of 118. There were two inductees.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Bob Krompholz

OCTOBER 2018

Beginning	7,328
Receipts	2,435
Disbursements	(2,964)
Ending	6,799

Please contact Bob if you would like additional details.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: STEW CHALEM JOHN SCHICK

ACTIVE

Prior Month:	143
Inductees	1 Richard Sauve (#30), Responded to Website 1 Dudley Braun (#32), Transferring from Branch 174
From Inactive:	None
Deductions	(1) Jim Countryman (#8), To Inactive, Health (1) Bill Howard (#98), Deceased
Total, This Month:	<u>143</u>

INACTIVE

Prior Month:	33
Additions:	1 Jim Countryman (#8), Health
Deductions	(1) John Dahl (Former Big SIR), Deceased (1) Warren Ehrhardt, Deceased
Total, This Month:	<u>32</u>

APPLICATIONS AWAITING INDUCTION (This Meeting)

Richard Sauve, Responded to Website
Dudle Braun, Transferring from Branch 174

APPLICANT LIST

Bob Schwab (former member), Sponsor, Karl Droese (#108)
Business activities will delay rejoining until after first of year.

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

ROSTER CORRECTIONS: STEW CHALEM

NOTE: 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.

SUNSHINE REPORT: MONTE LOGAN

Branch 171

- **SIR John Dahl** -- It is sad to report the passing of **SIR John Dahl** on Oct. 25th. John was a long time member with his membership going back to 1993 with a member number of 3. John was our 3rd Big SIR in 1996. He was Newsletter Editor from 1996 - 2006 and an Honorary Life Member. He served as Historian for SIR's for the years 2007 - 2014. He went inactive in 2014. John provided us with many happy experiences. He was a good man.

Cut and paste the following link into your browser to view John's online memorial page --
<http://www.lastingmemories.com/memorial/john-leonard-dahl>

John's memorial service will be on November. 30th at 11:00 am at Hillcrest Congregational Church, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523.

- **SIR's Jack Flanagan** and **Fred Schlichting** both have health problems. We wish them the best in getting well.

Branch 174

- **SIR Bill Sumner** -- It is sad to report the passing of SIR Bill Sumner on Monday, Nov.19th. He was 86 years of age. Bill was the Big SIR in Branch 171 in the year 2007 and the Big SIR in Branch 174 in years 2009 and 2010 where he helped start the new branch. He was an Honorary Life Member. As we all know, he was a great teller of jokes. Bill enjoyed playing bridge. He was the classic southern gentleman. His family roots are in Alabama. We will miss him.

... 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

Dudley Braun

In 1939, baby Dudley Braun was delivered in Berkeley. He grew up in Sacramento with two brothers and spent a lot of time at the family's summer Sierra cabin. Dudley attended Principia, a religious boarding high school in St. Louis and had his first introduction to serious full-time winter weather...team football in snow and mud. Brrr.

After earning an engineering degree at Stanford, Dudley went to work on the "Polaris" defense missile project at Aerojet General for a couple of years, then took a break with a six-month solo trip around the world. He had kindled a broader interest in business so when he returned, he attended Columbia in Manhattan for a couple of years, earning an MBA.

Finally, the pull of California and easy access to Sierra backpacking led Dudley back to a variety of roles in new product planning and product marketing management, mostly with the Palo Alto XSoft, a division of Xerox. He stayed involved with the development of productivity systems for big businesses such as Laser printers, Ethernet, document creation, and facsimile. His corporate career was wistfully spiced by thoughts of entrepreneurship and inventing. Dudley holds one electronic communication device patent.

A word that can easily be applied to Dudley is "Active". His past interests include ham radio, camping, private pilot, tennis, bocce ball, Rotary service projects, investing, and the Orinda hiking club. Currently he watches for and rejoices in new technology breakthroughs that promise a better life for all, plus does charity work for Habitat for Humanity and 'Loaves & Fishes' lunch service. Dudley's main current satisfaction is collaboratively building small projects in Lafayette Community Co-op Garden (raised beds, tool shed, worm habitat, fencing, trellising, benches, etc.). He is on the lookout for further woodworking projects in any context.

Somehow, he has time to watch rugby, NBA, and the NFL on TV, plus nature documentaries and do-it-yourself shows. He also enjoys classical and jazz music. Dudley was married 32 years but is now single, has two children who are not nearby and no grandchildren.

Know Your SIR is edited by Dave Humm 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.

BRANCH 171 NEWSLETTER: Editor **STAN HOLCENBERG**. The deadline for receipt of Newsletter material by the Editor is the 15th of the month. E-mail to sir171-news@comcast.net is preferred.

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/
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 or HappeningsEditor@gmail.com

BRANCH ACTIVITIES (BRANCHES 171 & 174)

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

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

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.

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



Meetings are held bi-monthly on the 4th Monday of odd number months from 10:00 a.m. to noon. **The next two meeting will be held on November 26 and January 28.** The meetings are held in the conference room of the Contra Costa County District 2 Supervisor's Office at 3338 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette, adjacent to the fire station and across from El Charro restaurant. Enter through the left side door at top of steps.

The meetings focus on Apple/Mac computers, iPhones, iPads, and other Apple devices. Meetings include a roundtable on products, applications, rumors, issues, problems, and Q & A. Special discussions will occur after major product announcements and developer conferences. **The November 26 meeting** will include a discussion of recent announcements (MacAir, iPad Pro, Mac Mini, and Mojave).

Novices and advanced users are welcomed. Come and be a part of the group.

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) for details and further information.

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.

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

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.

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 CLOSED FOR THE SEASON.

WILL BEGIN NEXT APRIL OR MAY

When in season, 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.

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.

URGENT --- 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.

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.

There will not be a meeting in December. The next meeting of the Area 16 Computer and Technology Group will be at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge on Thursday January 17 starting at 9:30 am.

Past and upcoming presentation notes are available on the CAT Web page (a2cat.sirinc2.org). Upcoming presentation notes are usually available on the site several days prior to the meeting. We look forward to seeing you around 9:15 AM on the meeting day. We ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and cookies. See you there.

Information about the group, including current and past presentations, is available on the SIR Area 2 Computers and Technology website -- <https://sirinc2.org/a16cat/> Make sure you are on the CAT mailing list by sending an e-mail request to: sir.area2.cat@gmail.com

COUPLES DINING OUT SAM ZORICH (Br. 171)



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.

There will not be a gathering in November. Fred Patton will organize January's dinner at the Claremont Country Club.

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, December 20th 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.

November results: Our winter trout and crab seasons are off to a great start. Rich Facina and Pedro Contreras took 8 other members on their boats out the Gate for limits of crabs. Nine members fished local lakes for limits of trout. Another of our fisherman caught several large trout at Lake Berryessa. Nine members were treated to great striper fishing on the Delta. Two of our fly fishermen scored well on cutthroat trout at Pyramid Lake NV. Ron Lew caught several yellowfin tuna on a long range trip out of San Diego. Thirty SIR fishermen showed up for our annual fall fish fry.

Activities Scheduled for December: several sturgeon/striper/black bass outings on the Delta; rainbow trout trips to Shadow Cliffs (shore and boat); Our annual Holiday Dinner.

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

Our 2018 champion is Bill Wadsworth, who barely squeaked by Gordon Steele on the the first extra hole after a back and forth 18 regulation holes at Rancho Solano. Gordon birdied the last hole to force the playoff in the epic final match.

The golf club was scheduled to hold its annual meeting after the November luncheon...1:30pm on the 14th. The group will still play golf on most Mondays through the middle of December – Dec. 3 at Monarch Bay, Dec. 10 at Cosmopolitan, and Dec. 17 at Chardonnay (informal outing). The 2019 schedule is now posted on the website -- www.sirlamorindagolf.com.

The SIR 171/174 golf website (www.sirlamorindagolf.com) includes the membership application, a list of current members, the 2018 schedule, the results of prior events, and other pertinent information for members and prospective members. There is typically an event on most Mondays.

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.

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

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



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There is no \$UMS in Retirement meeting in December Andrew Parrott of Edward Jones will be the **January 23** speaker.

\$ums, the investment activity of SIR Area 2, *normally* meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month (except when it doesn't -- 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. Bring a friend or significant other.

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/> _____

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

TRAVEL: (OPEN) Br 171
JOE TRACY Br 174)
TOM MOLINARI (Area 16)



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

May 2-13, 2019: 12 Day Cruise and Land Tour. Including a 8-day Mediterranean Cruise aboard the Crystal Serenity sailing from Athens to Rome with a one night pre-cruise stay in Athens and two night stay in Rome. Port stops include Navplion, Santorini, Valletta, Taormina and Sorrento. Cost is \$5350 to \$7595 which includes all beverages restaurants, room service, entertainment, gratuities, fitness center, and enrichment classes. Milt Smith, Br 146, 925-285-2897.

Aug 23-Sep3, 2019: 12 Day Land and Sea Scenic Alaska Adventure. 4-day pre-cruise Denali Tour followed by an 8-day cruise from Anchorage to Vancouver on the Crystal Symphony. Ports of call include Seward, Hubbard Glacier, Juneau, Skagway, Ketchikan, and Tracy Arms Glacier. Cost of \$5250 to \$6425 now includes everything. Milt Smith, Br 146, 925-285-2897

Check the SIR Area 2 website for the details, cost, and contact information on additional 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

Activity Calendar -- December 2018

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Apple Users Activity	Next meeting Jan 28				
Astronomy	2nd Monday of month				
Barbershop Harmony		Every Tuesday of month			
Big Hikers	As scheduled				
Bocce Ball	Closed for the season. Will begin next April or May. Tuesdays and Fridays				
Book Club			Last Wednesday of month		
Bowling			Every Wednesday of month		
Bridge		2nd & 4th Tuesday of month			
Computers and Technology				Next meeting Jan 17	
Couples Dining Out	Next gathering in January				
Dominoes				Every Thursday of month	
Fishing				4th Thursday of month	
Golf	Dec. 3, 10, & 17				
Historical Adventures	None scheduled				
Investment Group			Jan. 23		
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			