



# SIR BRANCH 171

## January 2019

<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, January 2**  
**Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox Church Hall**

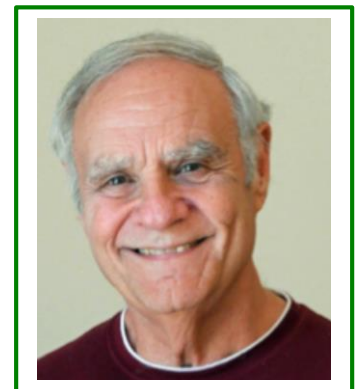
1700 School St., Moraga  
Social time begins at 11  
Meeting begins at 11:30

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

My Fellow SIR 171 Members,

This is our last newsletter of 2018, so on behalf of the Branch Executive Committee, we want to wish each of you a healthy and happy new year and thank you for your participation. Also, a special thanks to those who brought in new members to our organization.

Our joint holiday luncheon with Branch 174 was held at Saint Mary's College this past week. We had 198 attendees, including spouses and guests. Entertainment was provided by The Devil Mountain Chorus, which included music from The Beach Boys. A number of door prizes were given. Special thanks to co-chairs, Ed Beatson (171) and Frank May (174).



The Sirs State organization has changed some rules and procedures to make us more efficient and more flexible as we seek to retain existing members and add new ones. A major change is to drop the term "Inactive" for member reporting, which includes those members who do not meet luncheon attendance guidelines, and allow each Branch to decide their own guidelines. There are various considerations, including the insurance coverage for Inactive members that attend a meeting or participate in activities. There are some options for addressing this, including dues, which many branches have adopted. This area, and the various considerations, will be covered at the January BEC meeting.

We have renegotiated our guarantee for luncheon meals with our caterer. We had been guaranteeing 118 per luncheon meeting, but had been losing money most recent months since our actual luncheon attendance was about 104 to 106. The new guarantee for 2019 will be for 110 persons, so please make every effort to attend the meetings so we can meet or exceed that number.

Many members of two Sir branches lost their homes and possessions in the recent forest fires. Our 2018 President, Derek Southern, has created an opportunity to make donations to assist those members. It is called SIR GoFundMe (GFM). Donations may be made by cutting and pasting the following link into your browser -- — <http://bit.ly/Donate2ParadiseSirs>

Happy Holidays to all.

Barry Leskin, Big SIR

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**LITTLE SIR MESSAGE: RICK FEND**

The speaker on January 2 will be **Lindy Lavendar**, Community Affairs Representative, Central Contra Costa Sanitary District. The program is titled:

**“What Follows the Flush”**

Come learn about the amazing world of wastewater! Lindy will discuss almost everything Central San does, including how they use engineering, chemistry and technology to turn waste into worth by cleaning the community’s water and returning it to its customers as recycled water. Learn tips and tricks for protecting our local waters and environment.



Rick Fend, Little SIR

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**Featured Photo of the Month**



Action shot of the Walking Group before coffee at SiSi Cafe. The shot was taken at the waterfall on the Lafayette-Moraga Trail. The walk was on December 18 and was the last walk of the year. This wasn't the whole group. There were others who were either behind or ahead of the rest of the group.

*Photo provided by Joe Fitzgerald, SIR Branch 174*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS & NEWS**

### **SIR 171 OFFICERS & DIRECTORS – 2019**

Here is the list of the Officers and Board members for the upcoming year:

#### **Officers:**

Barry Leskin	- Big Sir
Rick Fend	- Little Sir
Mike Donovan	- Secretary
Al Donner	- Asst Secretary
Bob Krompholz	- Treasurer
Hal D'Ambrosa	- Asst Treasurer

#### **Directors:**

Chris Lynne	- 3 years
Eric Cho	- 2 years
Tom Westhoff	- 2 years
Stew Chalem	- 1 year
Tim Freeman	- 1 year
John Schick	- 1 year
Ralph Blumenthal	- 1 year

### **PHOTOS FROM THE LADIES DAY HOLIDAY LUNCHEON**

Our 171 photographer, Russ Aubry, took many portraits of the persons attending the event. There were too many to post in this newsletter, so our 171 webmaster, Tom Lemmer, posted them on our website. They can be viewed by cutting and pasting the following link into your internet browser -- <http://www.sirinc2.org/branch171/photos> Contact Russ ([touchless@darkersun.com](mailto:touchless@darkersun.com)) if you would like your photo emailed to you. Provide him the reference number that is under the photo.

### **NEW “DUPLICATE BRIDGE” CLUB ACTIVITY**

A Duplicate Bridge group has been added to the set of activities for our club. This is in addition to the less formal Bridge group that has met for years. See “Bridge – ACBL Duplicate” in the activities section of the newsletter (page 10) for more details on the new group. First game will be on Feb. 5.

### **CLASSIC FILM SERIES RETURNS TO RHEEM THEATER**

A reminder that the 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

**DECEMBER LADIES DAY LUNCHEON PHOTOS**



Our 171 photographer, Russ Aubry, took many portraits of the persons attending the event. There were too many to post in this newsletter, so our 171 webmaster, Tom Lemmer, posted them on our website. They can be viewed by cutting and pasting the following link into your internet browser --  
<http://www.sirinc2.org/branch171/photos>

Contact Russ ([touchless@darkersun.com](mailto:touchless@darkersun.com)) if you would like your photo emailed to you. Provide him the reference number that is under the photo.

## JANUARY LUNCHEON

### JANUARY LUNCHEON MENU

Grilled Chicken Breast with Mango Salsa; Scalloped Potatoes; Fresh Roasted Vegetables  
Green Salad; Seasonal Fresh Fruit Salad; Dessert

### DECEMBER & JANUARY BIRTHDAYS TO SIRs

*Since there was not a drawing at the December Ladies Day Luncheon, there will be two drawings at the January Meeting.*

#### December Birthdays

Gene Blanc --- John Burgess --- Bert Enstrom --- Herb Long  
Dick Macy --- Ed Presten --- Clay Sealy --- Tom Westhoff

#### January Birthdays

Phil Arth --- James Brown --- John Christensen --- Larry Del Santo --- Jim Gibney  
Dave Humm --- Irwin Javinsky --- Bill Magdoff --- Sev Marstead  
John Reed --- Fred Schlichting --- Pepper Wardle --- David Wood

One of the above members with a birthday in December, as well as a member with a birthday in January, will win a free lunch if he attends the November meeting. Members whose birth month is in December or January, 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 [barryleskin@gmail.com](mailto:barryleskin@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.*

## BRANCH REPORTS

### ATTENDANCE REPORT: FRANCIS WONG

There is no report this month since the Ladies Day Holiday Luncheon was held in lieu of our regular monthly meeting.

**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.

**TREASURER'S REPORT: Bob Krompholz**

**NOVEMBER 2018**

Beginning	6,799
Receipts	2,625
Disbursements	(2,733)
Ending	6,691

Please contact Bob if you would like additional details.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT: STEW CHALEM**  
JOHN SCHICK

**ACTIVE**

Prior Month:	143
Inductees	None
From Inactive:	None
Deductions	(1) Steve Honda (#117), Resigned (1) A. J. (Pepper) Wardle (#116), Resigned (1) Ed Presten (#102), To Inactive
<b>Total, This Month:</b>	<b><u>140</u></b>

**INACTIVE**

Prior Month:	32
Additions:	1 Ed Presten (#102)
Deductions	None
<b>Total, This Month:</b>	<b><u>33</u></b>

**APPLICATIONS AWAITING INDUCTION (This Meeting)**

None

**APPLICANT LIST**

David Zeimer (Transferring from Branch 174 Member, Sponsor Eric Cho (#28), To Be Inducted in January)  
Bob Schwab (Former member), Sponsor, Karl Droese

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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**

- **SIR Bryant King** - It is sad to report the passing of **SIR Bryant King**, who passed away on Nov. 19th at age 97. Bryant joined Branch 171 in May 2009 and resigned in March 2018 for medical reasons. At that time he was our second oldest member. Bryant worked many years in corporate communications, was active in community affairs, and a long-time supporter of Boy Scouts. At his request, burial services will be private.

Cut and paste the following link into your browser to view Bryant's online memorial page - <https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/eastbaytimes/obituary.aspx?n=bryant-e-king&pid=190810346&fhid=2384>

- **SIR Bill Bondy** has health problems. We wish him the best in recovery.

### **Branch 174**

- **SIR Walt Sasser**. It is sad to report the passing of **SIR Walt Sasser**, who was 82 years old. Walt joined Branch 171 in March 1995, when he was 59 years old, and transferred to Branch 174 when it was formed in June 2009. Walt was the Rooster Tailer for Branch 174 for many years. He always loved jokes. He was a very accomplished golfer. His wife Diane said there will be no formal service.

••• 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**

No bios the month.

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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.

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)

## 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
Bridge – ACBL Duplicate	Computers & Technology
Couples Dining Out	Dominos
Fishing	Golf – 18 Holes
Golf – 9 Holer	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. **Our next meeting will be held on January 27.** 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.

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](mailto: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.



**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.**

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**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.

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**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.

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**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 – ACBL DUPLICATE** (OPEN) Br. 171  
**TOM HENRY** (Br. 174)



From Tom Henry -- I am happy to announce a new Area 16 Activity open to all SIR members and guests. An ACBL\* sanctioned duplicate bridge game will be held on the first **Tuesday of the month** beginning February 5, 2019. This is an official game and will be played in accordance with the ACBL's Laws of Duplicate Bridge. Masterpoints will be awarded to the top three pairs.

The game will be held at the Contra Costa Bridge Center; First Christian Church Fellowship Hall; 3039 Willow Pass Rd.; Concord, CA. Registration will begin at 9:15AM. A lesson is available from Ravi Bhalla at 9:30AM. The game will begin at 10:00AM. The cost is \$7.00 plus \$2.00 if you take the lesson.

The Area 16 chairman is Tom Henry of branch #174 and the game director is Conrad Robertson of branch #116. \* ACBL -- American Contract Bridge League

**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.

**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 was no topic available as of this newsletter publication. Please check the CAT web page for information as the date approaches (see next paragraph).

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.

Information about the group, including current and past presentations, is available on the SIR Area 2 Computers and Technology website -- [http://a2cat.sirinc2.org/](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)**



The next dinner will be held at the Claremont Country Club on Wednesday, Jan. 16. It will be arranged by Fred Patton

[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.

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**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.

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**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, January 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. 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.

**December results:** Striper fishing on the Delta has been awesome with many fish caught by our members. Four of our fishermen had a productive rock cod/crab combo trip on a party boat. Six members fished for sturgeon on the Delta with Rich Ficina catching a lunker. Fishing at Shadow Cliffs was excellent including a couple of 5 lb rainbows.

**Activities Scheduled for January:** several sturgeon/striper/black bass outings on the Delta; rainbow trout trips to Shadow Cliffs (shore and boat).

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



The golf group closed out 2018 at Metropolitan GC in Oakland. We look forward to a full 2019 schedule of 30 official outings starting with Paradise Valley in Fairfield on January 7 and Brentwood CC on January 21. Sign up with Bill Wadsworth ([1wadsy@gmail.com](mailto:1wadsy@gmail.com)) or Ron Leiker ([leikerinda@comcast.net](mailto:leikerinda@comcast.net)). Our informal other Mondays, called the Monday Fanatics, start with Redwood Canyon on January 14 and Rooster Run on January 28. Contact Steve Wright ([sirgolf94570@yahoo.com](mailto:sirgolf94570@yahoo.com)) to sign up for those Monday Fanatics dates.

Our officers for 2019 are Bill Wadsworth, Interim Chair; Steve Wright, Vice Chair; Ron Leiker returns as Handicap Chair; and Bill Wadsworth, Treasurer. We are always looking for new members of any skill level to come out and play with our fun group. Check out our website at [www.sirlamorindagolf.com](http://www.sirlamorindagolf.com)."

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.

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**GOLF – 9 – HOLER:** **TIM FREEMAN** (BR. 171)



For those that don't want to play 18 holes, or want to play a shorter course on occasions, there is a 9 hole group that meets each Friday morning at Diablo Hills Golf Course in Walnut Creek. Tim Freeman coordinates this and sends out a note to all members on his interested party list each week, a few days before the game, to see who is interested in playing. Lunch follows at the Diablo Hills clubhouse. Contact Tim (see Org Chart for contact info) if you would like to be added to the interested party list.

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**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.

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



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\$UMS in Retirement meets again on **Wed Jan 23** at 8 AM at the Legends Restaurant at Diablo Creek Golf Course on Port Chicago Highway, Concord, just north of Hwy 4.

The speaker will be Andrew Parrott of Edward Jones. His topic will be his firm's 2019 economic and stock market outlook. I'm sure we all want to find out what's going to happen in the New Year.

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

\$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 is 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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**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:** (OPEN) (Br 171) Al Donner oversees the activity.



Meets **every Wednesday** at 9:15 AM for a casual slower-paced, shorter distance, level-land, sidewalk group of walkers. No plans ahead. Just meet in front of SiSi's at 9:15 every Wednesday morning to walk and then have coffee.

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:** (OPEN) (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)

**Rain rules now in play.** That is, if it is raining on Tuesday mornings when we walk, our default exercise drill is to meet in front of **Nation's** in the Rheem Shopping Center. We walk the full length of the Rheem Center back and forth a couple of times, then coffee in Nation's. The idea is to stay under the ample overhangs of the shopping center and stay dry while we get exercise. Usually we announce it in advance, but changing weather conditions occasionally prevent us from notifying the herd, so if it is raining and we are not at the usual Tuesday meeting place, Rheem is where you will find us.

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.

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**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 -- January 2019

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Apple Users Activity	Next meeting Jan, 27				
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			
Bridge - ACBL Duplicate		2nd Tuesday - next is Feb. 5			
Computers and Technology				See notice on pg. 10	
Couples Dining Out	Jan. 16				
Dominoes				Every Thursday of month	
Fishing				4th Thursday of month	
Golf	Each Monday				
Golf - 9 Holers					Each Friday
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			