



## SIR BRANCH 171 July 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, July 3  
Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox Church Hall**

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

**REMINDER !!**

**THERE WILL BE A MEETING ON JULY 3**

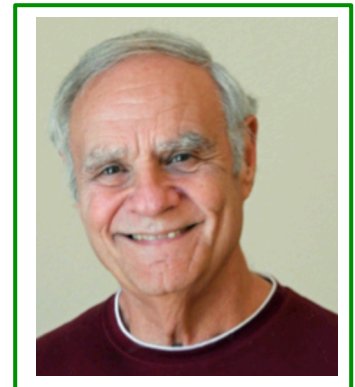
**PUT A NOTE ON YOUR CALENDAR**

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

My Fellow SIR 171 Members,

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting, the day before July 4. Get in the swing of your July 4 celebration by catching up with your SIR friends the day prior, and to hear our own photographer extraordinaire, Russ Aubry, as our speaker that day. See the Little SIR report for details on Russ' very informative talk.

Sorry this message is a little longer than most have been, but there are some very significant things going on within SIR and within the club that I need to share. Here are a few of those to bring to your attention:



- For many years SIR has had an "Active" and "Inactive" status for each of our members. Inactive status applied to members that were unable to attend meetings but wished to keep an affiliation with SIR. As per recently revised SIR State policies, the "Inactive" status is now discontinued. Detailed information about the change is in an article in the "Announcement and News" section of this newsletter.
- Over the past year and a half we have been writing about declining attendance at our meetings and the resultant financial impact on the club. One reason is that many of us have conflicting activities for that particular meeting. Another impact is that some members who cannot attend the meetings do not call into the hotline in a timely manner (deadline by 1:00pm the Saturday prior to the meeting) or do not call at all. The result is that our financial situation is declining each month. Our Club Treasurer, Bob Krompholz, has identified a number of options to address this declining balance. Please read the article in the "Announcement and News" section of this newsletter.
- Elections are coming up. The Board will discuss at the July 3 BEC meeting and approve a slate of Officers and Directors. Elections will be conducted at the August 7 Club meeting. Please contact John Haffner or me if you are interested in a position on the Board in 2020. We still need a Little SIR, so please consider filling this very important position for our Club.

A few other items:

- We have recently formed a partnership with one of the top medical research organizations in the U.S., the UCSF Medical Center. We have jointly developed a survey, focusing on aging issues, which can provide significant benefits to our organization and members. You all should have received an email about the survey on June 12 from or SIR State President, Ed Benson. If not, please reply to this newsletter emailing ([sir171-news@comcast.net](mailto:sir171-news@comcast.net)) with a request for the survey. It takes less than 10 minutes to complete electronically and needs to be completed and submitted by July 6. Survey replies are confidential. Our response can help shape future research at UCSF and elsewhere. The results of the survey will be shared at our annual meeting in August.
- Tim Freeman and his 174 counterpart have been working diligently on the venue for the December Ladies Day Holiday Luncheon. It will again be at the Saint Mary's College Soda Center and The Devil Mountain Chorus will provide entertainment. Thank you, Tim.
- Our thanks again to Monte Logan for more than 20 years as the Sunshine Chair. Eric Cho is taking over the helm starting this month. The Committee name will now be called the "Wellness Committee" and the monthly report in the newsletter will now be called the "Wellness Report".

See you on July 3

*Barry Leskin, Big SIR*

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

### **July 3 Program**

The speaker at the June 5 meeting will be our own *Russ Aubry, SIR Branch 171Club Photographer*. The topic:

#### ***"THE 1991 FIRESTORM"***

Our speaker is one of five eyewitnesses to see the 1991 Oakland Hills fire start on Sunday. His home was involved in the fire and he saved the home. Months later a live 35-foot cedar was harvested in Auburn and planted in his back yard. This "Tree of Hope" was televised nationwide at a tree lighting ceremony with the Mayors of Oakland and Berkeley. The tree has been lit in December for the past 27 years.

Nine months after the fire, our speaker represented 135 insurers who had not yet settled with their insurance company. As an ombudsman at a Town Hall meeting with 1,000 unhappy insurance holders, he gave a talk to the Insurance commissioner, John Garamendi, and the result was hundreds of thousands of additional dollars were released to cover additional losses.

The talk will include a video. The speaker will also challenge you to review your own homeowners policy to be sure you have full and adequate coverage on your home.



*Rick Fend,  
Little SIR*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS & NEWS**

### **SIR Branch 171 Financial Status**

*The following information was provided by Bob Krompholz, Branch 171 Treasurer.*

As has been reported in the past, our cash reserves have been declining each month due to a combination of factors. Here are some background items:

- In January 2018 (17 months ago) our Board discussed and debated our need for incremental funding. The \$25 monthly luncheon fee for those attending the luncheon was simply not covering our costs. We requested a \$10 per member contribution from all active members and collected \$1,400.
- Our current cash balance @ \$5,200 has declined by 23% (\$1,200) in the first five months of 2019. This year's problem is primarily due to declining attendance.
- We have a contract with the caterer to guarantee 110 lunches per month. We have averaged selling 100 lunch tickets per month, which includes 70% of our active current membership plus guests.

#### **Recommendations:**

- Increase our monthly luncheon attendance by 10% to exceed 75%
- Increase our Branch membership by 10% to 155 active members
- Negotiate a lower guaranteed lunch amount with the caterer
- Pay for alcoholic drinks at the bar (\$1- \$2 tip jar) to cover cost
- Pay for signing out of luncheons (\$5 per month)
- Request a January 2020 contribution of \$15 to \$20 per member to cover 2019 cash depletion
- Increase our monthly lunch payments from \$25 to \$30.

**The Board will vote in November on definitive actions to boost our cash balance.**

**Please email Bob Krompholz ([rakrompholz@gmail.com](mailto:rakrompholz@gmail.com)) or contact any board member with your thoughts. Thank you.**

### **The Demise of “Inactive” Member Status**

*The following article was written by John Schick, past 171 Secretary and member of the Membership Committee. Please contact John if you have any questions or comments (see Org Chart for contact information)*

In conformance to recently revised SIR State policies, the membership status known as “Inactive” is now discontinued. All members of a branch are now to be classified as full members. The impetus for this revision is to assure that all SIR members are covered by the State SIR insurance policies.

Please note that the new policies include a provision for branch members who, for an extended period, are unable to attend monthly luncheons. They may be granted “Attendance Relief” (AR) status. A member with AR status is not required to call in for luncheon excusal. Examples of reasons for granting AR are:

- Extended medical issues
- Spousal care
- Out of the area for an extended period of time
- Temporary return to full employment
- Transportation issues

What does this mean for our branch?

- Our branch Membership Committee has contacted all 33 members who had been on our Inactive Roster, giving them the following options: (1) Return to full membership; (2) return to full membership with AR status; or (3) resign. Of these 33 members one is returning to full membership, seven opted for membership with AR status, and 25 have resigned.
- If a current member feels he cannot participate in most of the monthly meetings, which in the past would have been addressed by the member obtaining Inactive status, that member can now request AR status. This request can be made in writing to the Membership Committee or to any Board member of the branch board.
- A member on AR status is still considered a full member with all the responsibilities and privileges of full membership, including participation in branch activities, but an AR status member need not to call in to be excused for lunch attendance. However, should an AR status member desire to or is able to occasionally attend a monthly lunch, he must call in to the branch hot line the by 1:00pm the Saturday preceding the lunch.
- A member going on AR status will retain his membership badge number.

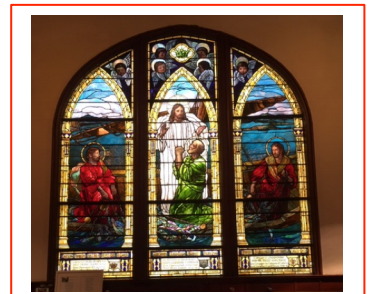
## Elections 2020

August 7, 2019 is election day for the 2020 SIR 171 Officers and Directors. The SIR leadership team will develop a slate at the July 3 BEC meeting. That slate will be presented to the membership in the next newsletter and will be voted upon by the membership at the August 7 luncheon meeting. Please contact John Haffner (Nominations Committee Chairman) or Big SIR Barry if you would like to be included on the ballot for an Officer or Director position. See Org Chart for contact information.

## Luncheon Attendance

Please be reminded of the Branch's requirement that Active members need to call the "HOT LINE" at 925-377-5880, prior to 1:00 pm on the Saturday before the monthly meeting, if they will not be attending the luncheon meeting. Failing to follow this procedure will subject the missing member to the \$25 No Show Charge. **The \$25 charge will apply if you call after the stated deadline (1:00pm the Saturday prior).**

## Feartured Photos of the Month



### **Historical Adventures Tour of Mare Island**

Despite threatening weather the May 15 visit to Mare Island went really very well. The base was opened in the 1850's and there are many historic buildings. The group just scratched the surface. The admiral's house, the 1891 dry dock, & St Peter's chapel were highlights. The chapel has one of the best collections of Tiffany stained glass windows in the country. A great place for walking or bike riding and there's a nature preserve at the south end, which is open most weekends. Also, there were four ladies along which added to the fun. *Provided by Ken Fisher*

**JUNE MEETING PHOTOS & COMMENTARY** – by club photographer Russ Aubry (with intended typos)



Chuck, welcome back after 6 months of recovery



No, the red dot does not give you a discount.  
Learn the names of 49 members and you become a full time member  
So says our faithful bill kollector



a singer, a bartender, & a guy with a lei. Life just does not get better



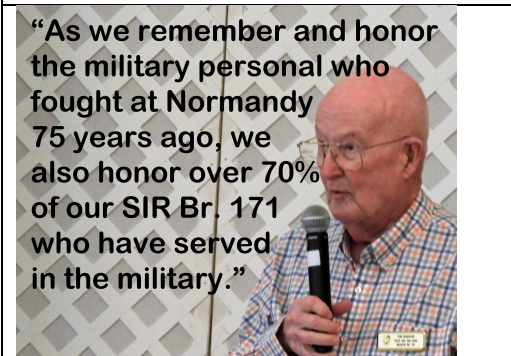
Request for caption? We just love dressing up at attending another great SIR lunch & visiting with friends



Four "kane's" dreaming about their "wahine's"



One free lunch and two ripe pineapples for wining the Hawaiian Shirt Contest. Next year it will be "wet tee contest"



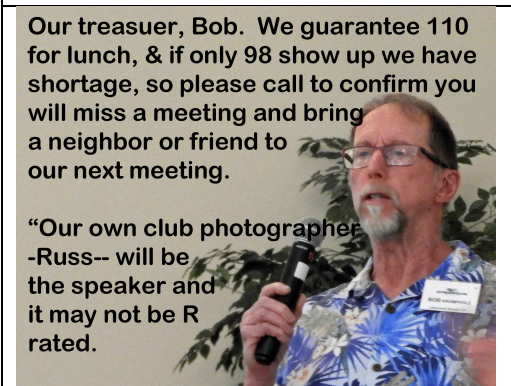
"As we remember and honor the military personal who fought at Normandy 75 years ago, we also honor over 70% of our SIR Br. 171 who have served in the military."



Tim our IT guy. New mikes have narrow cones - so hold the mike away from your mouth so it will capture your voice..



Eric is our new Sunshine Chairman and his first order of business is to thank and praise Monte for his 20 + years of his dedication of reporting the health of our members. ALoha to Monte on this Hawaiian day. "We love you Monte"



Our treasurer, Bob. We guarantee 110 for lunch, & if only 98 show up we have shortage, so please call to confirm you will miss a meeting and bring a neighbor or friend to our next meeting.

"Our own club photographer -Russ- will be the speaker and it may not be R rated.



Yes, we support no parking meters in downtown Moraga



Ed leads us in "God Bless America"

# JULY LUNCHEON

## LUNCHEON MENU

BBQ Pork Ribs; Herb Potatoes; Corn  
Green Salad; Seasonal Fresh Fruit Salad; Dessert

## JULY SIRS BIRTHDAYS

*Russ Aubry – Rich Brosio – Bob Burnett – Jim Fulford – Steve Kinsey*

*Todd Royster – Robert Sirnasen – Reg Whittington – Gary Yancey*

One of the above members with a birthday in July will win a free lunch if he attends the July meeting. Members whose birth month is in July, 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 of \$25 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. Calls need to be made by 1:00pm the Saturday prior to the meeting. Provide the name of your guest and let us know if he is a first time guest.*

## BRANCH REPORTS

### **ATTENDANCE REPORT: FRANCIS WONG**

There were 90 attendees at the last meeting, which included 87 members, one speaker, one visitor and one guest. There was one inductee. There were 17 no-shows and 37 excused sign-outs.

**ONLY 62% of our membership attended, way below our 70% target !!!**

**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:** "Attendance Relief" (AR) status members need not call to be excused for lunch attendance. However, should an AR status member desire to or is able to occasionally attend a monthly lunch, he must call in to the branch hot line the Saturday preceding the lunch.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT: STEW CHALEM (Chair)**

JOHN SCHICK (Assistant Chair)  
ED DRASIN (Interim Member - Reporting)

**ACTIVE**

Prior Month:	141
Inductees	None
From Inactive	None
Deductions	(1) Alan Kite #43, Resigned, Personal Reasons (1) Lee De Mara #59, Health Reasons
Total, This Month:	<u>139</u>

**INACTIVE**

Prior Month:	33
Additions	None
Deductions	None
Total, This Month:	<u>33</u>

The Membership committee contacted the current "Inactive" members. One is returning to full membership, seven opted for membership with AR status, and 25 have resigned. "Inactive" status will not be carried in future reports.

**APPROVALS**

None.

**APPLICANTS AWAITING INDUCTION**

None.

**APPLICANT LIST**

None.

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Membership Application Forms are available at the desk at the meetings, from Ed Drasin, or on the Club website (<http://www.sirinc2.org/branch171/>). For the website, select "Application: from within the "Members" selection"

**ROSTER CORRECTIONS:** John Schick.

<p><b>NOTE:</b> Please contact John Schick 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 status change or to resign). John Schick will in turn update the Master Roster.</p>
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**TREASURER'S REPORT: Bob KROMPHOLZ**

**May 2019**

Beginning	5,309
Receipts	2,477
Disbursements	(2,727)
Ending	5,159

Please contact Bob if you would like additional details.

## **WELLNESS REPORT: ERIC CHO**

*The name of the Sunshine Report and the Sunshine Committee has changed. The word Sunshine will now become Wellness, which is used to portray illness and prognosis within the health care field.*

### **Branch 171**

- It is very sad to report the passing of **SIR Lloyd Pera** on May 24 at age 88.  
Lloyd joined Br. 171 in 2000 and went inactive in October 2018. Lloyd's career was in jewelry, first learning about watch repair during the Korean War he repaired army timepieces. Later he and his wife operated a jewelry store in Lafayette for 33 years. A celebration of life was held on June 23.
- **Gene Bell, Lauri Lehtin, Clay Claassen, and Tom Keele** are still dealing with health issues.
- **Chuck Healy and Tom Smigielski** have recovered and attended June's luncheon.

### **Branch 174**

- It is very sad to report the passing of **SIR Jim Bill**.  
Jim joined Branch 171 in 2000 and transferred to Branch 174 upon its inception. Jim was a California native, a graduate of Bishop O'Dowd High School, St. Patrick's Seminary and the American College in Rome where he was ordained as a Catholic priest. Later he studied for a degree in accounting and retired as Controller for Gilchrist Timber. He was very active in the Bridge activity group. A mass in Jim's memory was held May 20.
- **Ken Branch** is going through dialysis and is in ICU.

•••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 inform our new Eric Cho by e-mail or phone.

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## **KNOW YOUR SIRs**

### **LEWIS LIPPARD**

Lew was born in Washington, DC and lived there for ten years before the family moved to Statesville, a small town in the piedmont area of North Carolina. He went to Georgia Tech as a Co-Op student (alternating semesters of study and work). His work semester was at NACA (now NASA). While there, Lew worked with punch card computers, making and testing models, and specifying test aircraft instrumentation.

After leaving Tech, he returned to Washington where he had fond memories as a child. In particular was revisiting the Smithsonian Museums, which took three weeks to complete. In Washington he was the Data Processing Manager at a publication involved in Washington politics. Also, in Washington Lew continued his education at George Washington University and American University. The most important event in Washington, however, was meeting a lovely woman doing graduate work at Georgetown University, who became and still is his lifelong wife, friend, and companion.

The second important event in Washington was joining a new company to the area, UPS, as they inaugurated their operations. His progress in the company included an assignment to a team in New York planning the further expansion of the company into the southeastern states, the Industrial Engineering group Manager for the New England states, and corporate assignments as Data Processing group analyst, a manager in the Industrial Engineering group, and a manager in the Strategic Systems group. Throughout these assignments Lew mostly managed special groups investigating corporate issues; as one example, expanding air operations. While working in corporate assignments, he obtained an MBA from Fordham University.

After retiring, they moved to Hilton Head, SC, until their daughter had a son and his wife said they were moving to California to be near him. Thus, for the past twenty years they have been west coasters instead of east coasters.



Lew's interests have been sailing and currently tennis. They also have been fortunate to travel extensively, India and Africa among their favorites.

Lew is looking forward to being a member of SIRS and meeting many new friends.

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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)

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

### **ACTIVITY LIST**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <a href="#">Apple Users Activity</a>       | <a href="#">Astronomy</a>                  |
| <a href="#">Barbershop Harmony</a>         | <a href="#">Bocce Ball</a>                 |
| <a href="#">Book Club</a>                  | <a href="#">Bowling</a>                    |
| <a href="#">Bridge – Social</a>            | <a href="#">Bridge – ACBL Duplicate</a>    |
| <a href="#">Computers &amp; Technology</a> | <a href="#">Couples Dining Out</a>         |
| <a href="#">Dominos</a>                    | <a href="#">Fishing</a>                    |
| <a href="#">Golf – 18 Holes</a>            | <a href="#">Golf – 9 Holer</a>             |
| <a href="#">Historical Adventures</a>      | <a href="#">Investment Group</a>           |
| <a href="#">Pinochle</a>                   | <a href="#">Poker</a>                      |
| <a href="#">Stamp Club</a>                 | <a href="#">Table Pool</a>                 |
| <a href="#">Tennis</a>                     | <a href="#">Travel</a>                     |
| <a href="#">Walking – Original Group</a>   | <a href="#">Walking – Senior Strollers</a> |
| <a href="#">Walking – Big Hikers</a>       | <a href="#">Wine Tasting</a>               |

### **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 meeting will be on July 22. 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.

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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)  
RICK AVATERO (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 Rick Avatero 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 Rick Zavatero (Branch 174) at 683-2373 a call for information

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



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.

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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.

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**BRIDGE -- SOCIAL:** **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

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**BRIDGE – ACBL DUPLICATE** (OPEN) Br. 171  
**TOM HENRY** (Br. 174 & Area 16)



Area 16 duplicate bridge is held on the 1st Tuesday of each month at the American Contract Bridge Center (First Christian Church Fellowship Hall), 3039 Willow Pass Rd, Concord (phone: 925-935-2273). Guests of SIR members are welcomed.

Games are played at the Contra Costa Bridge Center; 3039 Willow Pass Road in Concord. Registration begins @ 9:15AM; a lesson with Ravi Bhalla begins @ 9:30AM; play starts at 10:00AM and finishes before 2:00PM. **Reservations are required**. If you wish to play please contact Tom Henry [[bridgewiz612@gmail.com](mailto:bridgewiz612@gmail.com)]

This activity is fully sanctioned by the American Contract Bridge League and, as such, ACBL Master Points will be awarded to the top three pairs

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**COMPUTERS & TECHNOLOGY:** (OPEN) Br. 171  
Dick Curry Br. 174  
**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.

Our next meeting will be July 18, 2019 at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge (1475 Creekside Dr., WC) starting at 9:30 am. Our presentation topic will be on "Windows 10 Tricks". Neil will introduce several new and different ways to expand the functionality of your Windows 10 computer. These techniques are useful for both Windows 10 novices as well as useful for more experienced users. Members will also be encouraged to contribute

their own “tricks” as well. SIR from all branches and their guests, including spouses, are welcome and invited to attend. Plan to come a little early and for coffee, goodies and to chat.

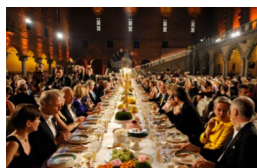
Presentation notes should be available on the CAT Web page (<https://sirinc2.org/a16cat/>) several days prior to the meeting. We look forward to seeing you around 9:15 AM, Thursday September 20.. We ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and cookies. See you there.

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Information about the group, including current and past presentations, is available on the SIR Area 2 Computes 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](mailto:sir.area2.cat@gmail.com)

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



Lew Edwards will host the next dinner gathering, which will be on **Wednesday, July 10** at La Finestra in Moraga.

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, July 25th** 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.

**June Results: Wow!** Salmon Season is off to a great start with lots of members fishing out the Gate and at Half Moon Bay on six packs, and party boats with almost everyone catching nice kings up to 30 lbs. Halibut fishing has been equally amazing with members fishing from private boats, six-packs and party boats, catching many of these tasty flatfish from the Bay. One member caught a 29 lb catfish at San Pablo Reservoir. Four others caught near limits of kokanee at New Melones Reservoir. Six of our fishermen trolled for landlocked king salmon at Lake Oroville. Our fly fishermen had some great outings catching wild trout on the lower Sacramento River and many shad on both the Yuba and Sacramento rivers. Another group caught rockfish out the Gate. Two others scored on striped bass and black bass in the Delta. We had a large turnout for a fish fry at a members home.

**Activities Scheduled for July and August:** Several salmon/rockfish/halibut trips out the Gate and in the Bay on member boats and six packs; shark fishing in the Bay; a guided kokanee trip on Stampede Reservoir; kokanee/trout on Lake Berryessa in member boats; trout and catfish on San Pablo Reservoir; striper/black bass on the delta; and a backyard BBQ at a members home.

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



Led by Vice Chair, Steve Wright, our club championship bracket has been set in a drawing performed by our former champ and potential hall of famer Tuck Coop. During the highly anticipated bracketology event Tuck displayed his vaunted humility and the giving attitude that we've all come to respect...or maybe the right word is "expect!" The match play has begun and in the next few months we'll find out who will succeed last year's winner, Bill Wadsworth, as the Champion Golfer of the Year.

Meanwhile, our members will enjoy outings in July at Las Positas on the 8th, Redwood Canyon on the 15th, and Blue Rock Springs West course on the 22nd. Check out our website at [www.sirlamorindagolf.com](http://www.sirlamorindagolf.com) and join our fun group.

The SIR 171/174 golf website ( [www.sirlamorindagolf.com](http://www.sirlamorindagolf.com) ) includes the membership application, a list of current members, the 2019 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 ([timfre@comcast.net](mailto:timfre@comcast.net) ) 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)**



**WESTERN RAILWAY MUSEUM TOUR -- 10:30 THURSDAY JULY 11 (\$9)**

Ride authentic historic streetcars and interurban electric trains through the picturesque Montezuma Hills which is actually over the historic main line of the Sacramento Northern Railway - so you'll see exactly what passengers saw around a century ago! Check out the 50 historic cars that are on display, and really get up close to some history changing locomotives.

The **Western Railway Museum**, 5848 CA-12, Suisun City, CA 94585 (Between Suisun City and Rio Vista) -- opens at 10:30 AM. Meet Thursday, July 11, for carpooling at 9:30 AM - place TBD. \$9 payable at the entrance. Buy Lunch in the Museum Café or bring your own for the shaded picnic grounds

Spouses and guests welcome. [Sign up at the July 3 meeting or contact Jim Kline at 925 376 4173 or \[jimjuliek@aol.com\]\(mailto:jimjuliek@aol.com\)](#)



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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 June 26 and on July 24](#) at 8 AM at the Legends Restaurant at Diablo Creek Golf Course on Port Chicago Highway, Concord, just north of Hwy 4.

Our guest speaker on June 26 will be one of our regulars, Tom Kopas of Pring Turner Capital Group. He will discuss: Continued Bull Market? Or is a Cyclical Bear Market Ahead? Come and find out which.

[Our guest speaker on July 24](#) will be Kevin Gahagen of Mosaic Financial Partners, San Francisco. He will talk about possible signs of recession in current financial statistics and indicators.

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

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.

If you regularly have breakfast at Legends, ask the cashier for a Legends card. Once you're signed up, you get \$5 off your bill every time you get up to \$100.

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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**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.

**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.

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**TRAVEL:** (OPEN) Br 171  
JOE TRACY Br 174)  
**TOM MOLINARI** (Area 16), [stmolinari@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stmolinari@sbcglobal.net)



**Trips currently scheduled in 2019 and sponsored by our SIRs Area 16 follow:**

**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

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The quarterly **State SIR Happenings** travel web page at <http://www.sirinc.org/Travel.pdf> offers additional SIR travel options. There are upcoming tours to:

July 25 – Aug 3, 2019 Alpine Swiss Village  
Aug 23 – Sept 9, 2019 Princess Cruise Iceland and Norway on the Pacific Princes  
September 7-22 2019 Taste of Biordeaux

Be sure to check these tours out !!

Contact Tom Molinari to add trips to the list (*contact information is contained in the link above*).

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**WALKING:** *There are three walking groups. There is a group for each of us based on our needs and abilities*

**WALKING – ORIGINAL GROUP**

**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

**WALKING -- 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.

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**WALKING -- 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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**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 -- July 2019

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Apple Users Activity	22-Jul				
Astronomy	2nd Monday of month				
Barbershop Harmony		Every Tuesday of month			
Bocce Ball		Each Tuesday			Each Friday
Book Club			Last Wednesday of month		
Bowling			Every Wednesday of month		
Bridge		2nd & 4th Tuesday of month			
Bridge - ACBL Duplicate		First Tuesday of month			
Computers and Technology				18-Jul	
Couples Dining Out	10-Jul				
Dominoes				Every Thursday of month	
Fishing				4th Thursday of month	
Golf	July 8, 15, 22				
Golf - 9 Holvers					Each Friday
Historical Adventures	11-Jul				
Investment Group			June 26 & July 24		
Poker			4th Wednesday of month		
Stamp & Coin Club					First Friday after Club Meeting
Table Pool	Every Month of month				
Tennis		Every Tuesday of month		Every Thursday of month	
Travel	No meetings scheduled. Only trips. See newsletter section				
Walking - Original Group		Every Tuesday of month			
Walking -- Senior Strollers			Every Wednesday of month		
Walking -- Big Hikers	As scheduled				
Wine Tasting		2nd & 3rd Tuesday of month			