



# SIR BRANCH 171

## March 2020

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

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



### Our next meeting will be Wednesday, **March 4** Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox Church Hall

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

#### **BIG SIR MESSAGE: RICK FEND**

First, and very hot off the press (as in February 22), Branch 171's John Haffner has assumed the role of SIR Region 5 Director. He takes over the role that Bill Holly held in 2019 and he is now my new boss. Congratulations, John.

An organization such as SIR runs on several ingredients. Last month I mentioned 'membership'. Another one is 'volunteers' that help make the organization function. I'd like to give a shout out to our guys that man the front desk at each the luncheon each month: Ken Nakashima, Francis Wong and Hal D'Ambrogia. The badge management, attendance records, and the selling and collection of lunch tickets doesn't happen by themselves.

On the subject of volunteers, Ed Beatson, our Br 171 coordinator for the Holiday Luncheon at St. Mary's the last two years, is stepping down. We are looking for a Br 171 volunteer to work with Br 174 to continue to make this event successful. It would be great to get that position lined up sooner rather than later. Ed is available to show you the ropes. Please contact me with your interest.

Our Activities Chair position has been filled. Thank you David Zeimer for volunteering. And thank you Sam Zorich for holding that position for many years.

Speaking of activities.... be sure to read about the upcoming special events that Jim Kline and Ken Fischer have put together: Golden Gate Fields Day at the Races; A's & Giants Bay Bridge Series game; Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory tour. Details and signup information are in the Announcements section of the newsletter. And take a look at the annual SIR golf tournament.

Good news ... Little SIR Graig Crossley has worked with the new caterer and straightened out a few bugs. Ice tea is coming back and lemonade is being nixed. Also, we're going back to the two tables at lunch with four lines. Should speed things up. An issue -- please wait for your table to be announced before jumping into the lunch line. Isn't that only fair to the rest of our group that are waiting patiently?

Lastly, in honor of March 17.

Knock-knock! Who's there?  
Irish. Irish who?  
Irish you a happy St. Patrick's Day!



I am looking forward to another great speaker at the meeting (see Graig's column) and a stellar performance by the SIRPemes.

*Rick Fend, Big SIR*



## **LITTLE SIR REPORT: GRAIG CROSSLEY**

Tuck Coop, member of the Speaker Committee, will be hosting the speaker at the March 4 meeting. The speaker and topic information follow.



### March 4 Program

The speaker at the March 4 meeting will be **Susan Hoffman**, Director, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI @ Berkeley)

The topic: ***“Engagement in Learning”***

### **Engagement in Learning**

You can teach an old dog new tricks --- the more varied and challenging of those new tricks, the better! Susan Hoffman will share her Berkeley experience (experiment?) with SIR members and invite them to join both the courses at the Lafayette Library as well as in Berkeley in different downtown locations. Come share your thoughts and discover new reasons and ways to stay engaged in your learning.

Susan Hoffman is a recognized leader of lifelong learning, founding OLLI at SFSU in 2002, and OLLI at UC Berkeley in 2007, where she continues to build an informal learning community of 3000 learners and 70+ faculty that provide over 100 courses a year.

With a team of scholars and researchers, she also directs OLLI’s research agenda that ranges from intergenerational co-designing to assessing learning over the lifespan and its impact on neuroplasticity, cognitive reserve and health. Susan served on the founding advisory board for SharpBrains, which offers analysis of the growing digital brain health market and pervasive neurotechnology. Her creative work includes being an American Film Institute trained film director and published writer and poet.

*Graig Crossley, Little SIR*

## MARCH LUNCHEON

### MARCH LUNCHEON MENU – St. Patrick’s Day Feast

Corn Beef & Cabbage; Potatoes and Carrots  
Fresh Fruit; Garden Salad; Dinner Rolls with Butter Chips  
Raspberry Cake; Iced Tean and/or Decaf Coffee

### MARCH SIRS BIRTHDAYS

LASLO BONNYAY -- BRAD DEWEY

STEVE PATTON – STEVE WRIGHT – DAVID ZEIMER

One of the above members with a birthday in March will win a free lunch if he attends the March meeting. Members whose birth month is in March, and who do not see their name in the above list, should 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 Rick Fend can be reached at [rickfend@yahoo.com](mailto:rickfend@yahoo.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.

## Featured Photo of the Month



The Walking group had a great stroll (just under 3 miles) thru the green hills of the McCosker Ranch, a little-known gem in the ERBPD system. It feels very remote. It is accessible from the Pinehurst Road, just past Canyon, between Orinda's Lost Valley and Oakland's Skyline Drive.

Photo and text provided by Jorge Escobar and Al Donner

We welcome photos from all groups. Send to [sir171-news@comcast.net](mailto:sir171-news@comcast.net) by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS & NEWS**

### **SIR 171 Member Roster**

The member roster is included as an attached file with this mailing. Please save the roster on your computer and/or print it out if you would like a hardcopy reference.

If you need the roster in the future, it may be retrieved from the private member area of the website. Note: Instructions on accessing the website member area, and to obtain your password, were provided in the February 2020 edition of the newsletter. Please send a note to [sir171-news@comcast.net](mailto:sir171-news@comcast.net) if you need that information again.

### **Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Tour – March 20**

The Historical Adventures group is sponsoring a visit to the very popular Lawrence Livermore Laboratory. This tour has been conducted many times over the years and there continue to be requests to conduct it again.

Thus, a tour is scheduled for Friday, March 20, 8:30AM-11:30. The limit is 14 persons.

After a sit down general intro about the lab's history and vital activities, you will tour by bus including visits to three world leading laboratories:

1. **National Ignition Facility** – Fusion using the world's largest laser; the size of 3 football fields
2. **National Atmospheric Release Advisory Center** – Quickly maps hazardous material released into the atmosphere such as from Chernobyl, volcano eruptions, etc.
3. **Center for Accelerator Mass Spectrometry** – Measures isotope concentrations in small samples for biomedical research, carbon dating, etc.

Spouses and guests welcome. To sign up, and to provide security clearance instructions, contact Jim Kline at 925-376-4173 or [jimjuliek@aol.com](mailto:jimjuliek@aol.com). The deadline for security clearance is March 6

### **SIR Day at the Races – March 27**

A reminder that the Golden Gate Fields outing for SIR members, spouses, and guests will be on March 27. The package includes parking, entrance, admission to the Turf Club, trip to the Winner's Circle, program, and Prime Rib Buffet. All for \$41/person.

Bring your check for \$41 per person, payable to SIR Branch 171, to the March 6 meeting or send to:

Jim Kline  
27 Fieldbrook Place  
Moraga, CA 94556

**Jim must receive the moneys by March 9.** Tickets will be mailed one week before the event.

Jim will be at the March 6 meeting for checks and questions.

***Please see the flyer at the end of this newsletter (page 17) for additional information on the event.***

## **SIR Napa Golf Tournament – April 20 & 21**

The annual SIR *“Spring Fling in the Napa Valley”* golf tournament will be held at the Eagle Vines Golf Club at Chardonnay Golf Course on Monday April 20 & Tuesday April 21. Come out and enjoy golf with other SIR members from branches around the State at one of the valleys more picturesque courses.

\$160 for the two day tournament, including green fees, cart, range balls, prizes, and day one social. SIR members and male guests must have a verifiable USGA Index. Ladies welcome – no handicap required.

**Please see the two page flyer at the end of this newsletter (pages 19 & 20) for the two day schedule and the signup sheet.** The signup sheet can be filled out online by cutting and pasting the following link into your internet browser -- <http://bit.ly/SIR-Golf-Tournament>

After completing the form, print it out, enclose a check made out to “State Golf Committee” and send to:

Pete Morelli  
216 County Down Ct.  
Roseville, CA 95678

Contact Pete at 916-772-3257 or [pmorelli2@comcast.net](mailto:pmorelli2@comcast.net) for questions. **Entries close on April 1.**

This information and more can be found on the SIR State Golf website. The site is available by cutting and pasting the following link into your internet browser -- <https://www.sirinc2.org/golf2018/>

## **State SIR Annual Bay Bridge Series – June 7**

The SIR State Sporting Events Committee has arranged for tickets for the Battle of the Bay, A's vs. Giants, on Sunday, June 7th. These events are a lot of fun as well as a way to get SIR known, The cost is \$55/ticket in the Oakland Coliseum shaded section 106.

If you have any questions, please contact the chairman, Lee Moy, at [leehealthstudio@gmail.com](mailto:leehealthstudio@gmail.com), or by phone at 559-709-9851. To signup make a check for \$55/person to W. Lee Moy, 127 N. Helm Ave, Clovis, CA 93612. Include a stamped self-addressed envelope. **The deadline to sign-up is May 5.**

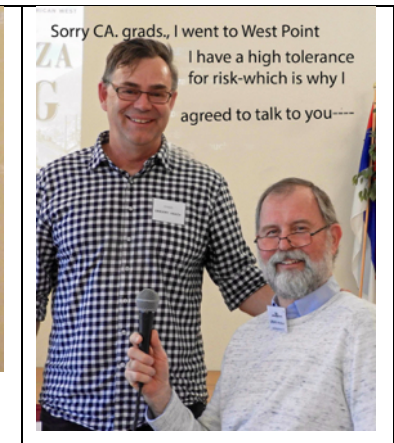
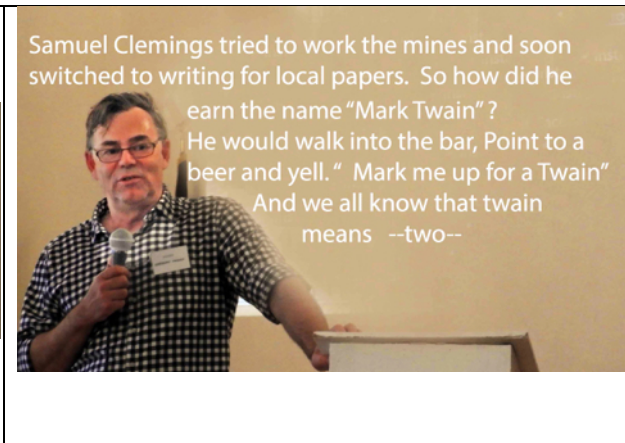
**See the flyer at the end of the newsletter (page 18).** Our Br 171 contact for this event is Jim Kline (925-376-4173 or [jimjuliek@aol.com](mailto:jimjuliek@aol.com))

## **Member Bios**

We are missing member photos from some of you. Those members without a photo have received a message to see Club Photographer Russ Aubry for a photo shoot. Please see him at a meeting.

Also, although we have bios from most of our members, we would like to get them from the rest of you. They are extremely valuable to both new and existing members. Most of you that do not have a bio have been contacted by our “Know Your SIR” chair, Rich Bellows to obtain the bio. It does not take long to create one. Please contact Rich at [rich.bellows@gmail.com](mailto:rich.bellows@gmail.com)

**FEBRUARY MEETING PHOTOS** -- by club photographer Russ Aubry (with intended typos)



## BRANCH REPORTS

### ATTENDANCE REPORT: FRANCIS WONG

There were 91 attendees at the last meeting, which included 89 members, the speaker, and a guest. There were 14 no-shows (**A HIGH FOR THE PAST 12 MONTHS !!**), 29 excused sign-outs, and 10 AR members that did not attend. There was one inductee. Member attendance, including AR members, was 63%. Member attendance, excluding AR members, was 67%

**Members, if not on AR (Attendance Relief) status, need to call the SIR 171 hotline at [925-377-5880](tel:925-377-5880) before 1:00pm on the Saturday before the meeting if they will not be attending the meeting or will be 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: ED DRASIN (Chair)

<b><u>MEMBERSHIP</u></b>		
<b>Prior Month:</b>	<b>144</b>	
<b>Inductees</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Deductions</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Jerry Compton &amp; Al Simonsen deceased</b>
<b>Total, This Month:</b>	<b>142</b>	
<b><u>APPROVALS TODAY</u></b>		
	<b>0</b>	
<b><u>APPLICANTS AWAITING INDUCTION</u></b>		
	<b>0</b>	
<b><u>APPLICANT LIST</u></b>		
	<b>None</b>	
<b>NOTES:</b>	<b>Total number of members in AR category is 10.</b>	

**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.

**NOTE:** 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.

**TREASURER'S REPORT: Bob KROMPHOLZ**

**JANUARY 2020**

Beginning	4,962
Receipts	2,555
Disbursements	(2,655)
Ending	4,862

Please contact Bob if you would like additional details.

**WELLNESS REPORT: ERIC CHO**

**Branch 171**

Sad to report 171 member Al Simonsen passed away on Jan. 23, 2020. Al joined Br. 171 in 1999 and served as branch secretary just prior John Schick taking on this position. Al went on AR status in July, 2019. There will be a service at 11:00am on Saturday, March 14 at the Lafayette Orinda Presbyterian Church. A reception will be held afterwards at the Serbian Church in Moraga.

**Branch 174**

No reports this month

••• 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.

\*\*\* Please contact Eric Cho by e-mail or phone if you are aware of a passing, injury, or illness of a member.

**KNOW YOUR SIRs**

No new member bios this month

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**Know Your SIR is edited by Rich Bellows.** Rich captures bios from new members and they are published in a future newsletter. If you have been a member for awhile, did not have your bio published, and wish to have it published, please contact Rich. Please write down the salient points of your life (1/2 page).

**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 prefer.

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)*

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

**ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN:** **DAVID ZEIMER** (Br. 171)  
DAVID WHITE (Br. 174)



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

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

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**APPLE USERS GROUP:** **STAN HOLCENBERG** (Br. 171)  
JOE TRACY (BR. 174)



The group focuses 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 occur after major product announcements and developer conferences. Novices and advanced users are welcomed.

The group meets every other month on the 4th Monday of odd number months from 10:00 a.m. to noon. 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 next meeting will be held on Monday, March 23.**

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**ASTRONOMY:** (OPEN) Br. 171  
TOM FARR (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.

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



PLEASE NOTE: The Bocce group does not meet during the winter. Games will begin again in the spring of 2020.

During the 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.



In preparation for 2020.....  
For those of you that don’t know what this shot is, it is called a Casino

**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)  
MIKE COX (representing Br. 174)



The group meets at the Moraga Hacienda on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. Please arrive by 9:50 am. Play starts promptly at 10:00 am. Bring \$5 and a bag lunch. Call John for further information.

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

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

If transportation is an issue, let us know and, if possible, we can arrange rides. The group meets at the Moraga Hacienda on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. Please arrive by 9:50 am. Play starts promptly at 10:00 am. Bring \$5 and a bag lunch. Call John for further information.

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**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 Contra Costa Bridge Center, 3039 Willow Pass Rd, Concord. Guests of SIR members are welcomed. Registration is at 9:15am; lesson at 9:30am; game at 10:00am and finishes by 2:00pm.

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 (CAT) Group meetings are fun and informative where the group discusses applications for computers and technology. At each meeting there is 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.

Meetings of the Area 16 Computer and Technology Group are held the 3rd Thursday of each month (except June and December) from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, 1475

Creekside Drive.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 19. The presentation was not available as of the printing of this newsletter. Please check the CAT website for further information as the date approaches -- -- <https://sirinc2.org/a16cat/>

Members usually arrive around 9:15 to enjoy coffee and a chat with friends and new acquaintances before the presentation. Whether you are a beginner or a seasoned user, the group tries to offer something for everyone. They ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and pastries.

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)



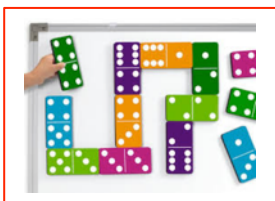
The group dines out every other month at a fine location in the East Bay. Planning for the venue rotates among the various members of the group.

The next gathering will be on March 18 at the Moraga Country Club.

Contact Sam if you are interested in joining 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. [Our next meeting will be Thursday, March 26](#) at the Legends Sports Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord, starting at 8:30 am. 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.

**February Results:** The trout season is off to a strong start with several members scoring nice sized trout at San Pablo and Lafayette Reservoirs.

Others fished for sturgeon, striped bass, and flounder in the Delta.

**Activities Scheduled for March and April:** Several sturgeon/striper trips on member boats to various locations on the Delta and Sacramento River; guided striper trip on the Sacramento River. several trout fishing trips to San Pablo, Lafayette, and Contra Loma reservoirs and to Shadow Cliffs; Striper fishing at Pt. Pinole Pier; trout fishing at Lake McSwain; the Fred Hall Sportfishing show; our annual shopping trip to Fishermen's Warehouse and Bass Pro Shop with lunch at Black Bear Diner and our annual Fishing Group auction

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



March's Monday sanctioned events include [Boundary Oaks on March 9](#) and [Metropolitan on March 23](#). We welcome new members of all skill levels.

Check out our schedule and other information on our club at our website [www.sirlamorindagolf.com](http://www.sirlamorindagolf.com) Don't forget that Steve Wright ([sirgolf94570@yahoo.com](mailto:sirgolf94570@yahoo.com)) organizes informal outings on some "off" Mondays, Wendell Pleis ([pleiswg@comcast.net](mailto:pleiswg@comcast.net)) has an active Thursday group each week at either Franklin Canyon or Diablo Creek, and Tim Freeman ([timfre@comcast.net](mailto:timfre@comcast.net)) heads up a Friday morning 9-hole group at the Diablo Hills course in Walnut Creek. Lots of opportunities to get together to enjoy each other's company plus to share the exhilaration of good/lucky shots and the frustration of those "occasional" bad ones.

The SIR 171/174 golf website 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.

**HISTORICAL ADVENTURES:** **JIM KLINE** (Br 171 co-chair)  
**KEN FISCHER** (Br 171 co-chair)  
**TOM FARR** (BR. 174)



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.

**COUNTY-WIDE RE-CYCLING PLANT TOUR** -- There will be a tour to the county wide recycling plant in Pittsburg for **February 26th in the morning**. If you are interested in what happens to that card board and all those bottles, this is your chance. Contact Ken ( [keninmoraga@gmail.com](mailto:keninmoraga@gmail.com) ) for additional information or to sign-up.

**LAWRENCE LIVERMORE NATIONAL LABORATORY TOUR** -- The Historical Adventures group is sponsoring a visit to the very popular Lawrence Livermore Laboratory. This tour has been conducted many times over the years and there continue to be requests to conduct it again. Thus, a tour is scheduled for **Friday, March 20, 8:30AM-11:30**. The limit is 14 persons.

After a sit down general intro about the lab's history and vital activities, you will tour by bus including visits to three world leading laboratories:

1. **National Ignition Facility** – Fusion using the world's largest laser; the size of 3 football fields
2. **National Atmospheric Release Advisory Center** – Quickly maps hazardous material released into the atmosphere such as from Chernobyl, volcano eruptions, etc.
3. **Center for Accelerator Mass Spectrometry** – Measures isotope concentrations in small samples for biomedical research, carbon dating, etc.

Spouses and guests welcome. To sign up, and to provide security clearance instructions, contact Jim Kline at 925-376-4173 or [jimjuliek@aol.com](mailto:jimjuliek@aol.com). The deadline for security clearance is March 6

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Please inform Jim or Ken if you have requests or suggestions for additional adventures.  
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Please see the Announcement & News section of this newsletter (pages 4 and 5) for information on the following activities that are coordinated from within the Historical Adventures group by Jim Kline:

- SIR Day at the Races – March 27
- State SIR Annual Bay Bridge Series – June 7

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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 next on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month at the Legends Restaurant at Diablo Creek Golf Course on Port Chicago Highway, Concord, just north of Hwy 4.

**The next meeting will be on Wednesday, February 26, at 8 a.m.** The speaker The presenter will be Jamshed Gandhi, our own CPA, who will talk about how the new Secure Act will affect your retirement plan.

**The following meeting will be on Wednesday, March 25, at 8 a.m.** The presenter will be Damien Couture of Walnut Creek Wealth Management.

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

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/> \_\_\_

**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  
**DON MERSON** (BR 174)



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

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



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

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**TENNIS:** (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)



**June 6, 2020, Grand Baltic Sea Voyage**—Small Ship Adventure by Overseas Adventure Travel. Ports of call include This upcoming great trip to the Baltic departs June 6, 2020 and we have 9 Sirs signed up already, but there is still room for more if you act soon. 14 days from \$8,255 includes international airfare from Sacramento. 14 days from \$6,695 without international airfare. Single Supplement: \$1,395. Trip extensions available to Copenhagen and/or Stockholm from \$1,295 each. Please mention code GO-23630 when booking. Reservations & Information call 1-800-955-1925 [www.oattravel.com/crb2020](http://www.oattravel.com/crb2020). For details contact Milt Smith (Br. 146) (925) 285-2897 [miltsmith549@gmail.com](mailto:miltsmith549@gmail.com).

**September 14-26, 2020 Imperia Splendors and OBERAMMERGAU.** Tour includes home pickup, round trip airfare, professional tour manager, 19meals, 11 nights first-class hotel, land transportation via private deluxe coach, admission to all activities indicated. Tour highlights: Munich welcome dinner, visit the famous Hofbrauhaus, Prague guided sightseeing, Hradcany Castle , Bratislava the capital of Slovakia, Budapest guided sightseeing, Danube cruise, Salzburg guided walking tour and special dinner at St. Peter Stiftskeller restaurant, Oberammergau Passion Play. Cost \$6,267 includes estimated airfare. Larry Yarberry (Br. 8) 925 890-9245 [l.yarberry42@comcast.net](mailto:l.yarberry42@comcast.net)

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:

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

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**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)

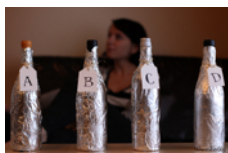


One of three SIRS walking groups, the Big Hikers aims to engage SIRS who want some longer and stronger routes than our two around-town walking groups. The **"Big Hikers"** offer opportunities to do some hikes more than 3 miles in length and sometimes do a little more elevation. They can be further afield, 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 -- March 2020

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Apple Users Activity	23-Mar				
Astronomy	2nd Monday of month				
Barbershop Harmony		Every Tuesday of month			
Bocce Ball	2020 Season begins in May				
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				19-Mar	
Couples Dining Out	18-Mar				
Dominoes				Every Thursday of month	
Fishing				March 26	
Golf	March 9 & 23				
Golf - 9 Holvers					Each Friday
Historical Adventures	Feb. 26 & March 20				
Investment Group			Feb. 26 & Mar. 25		
Poker			4th Wednesday of month		
Stamp & Coin Club					First Friday after Club Meeting
Table Pool	Every Monday 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			



## **SIR Day at the Races – March 27**



Many of us attended the SIR Day at the Races last year. Feedback -- a fantastic event !!

Golden Gate Fields has set up another SIR day for us this year. Here is the event and signup information:

**Who:** SIR Members, Spouses, and Guests  
**What:** Horse Races and Prime Rib Buffet  
**When:** Friday, March 27, 2020  
**Where:** Golden Gate Fields, Berkeley  
**Gates Open:** 11:00am  
**Buffet Hours:** 12:00pm – 3:30pm  
**First Race:** 12:45pm  
**Cost:** \$41 per adult

**Includes:** Parking, admission & reserved seating, daily racing program, Prime Rib Buffet and tax & tip for the food servers

**Signing up:** Bring your check for \$41 per person to the March 4 meeting or send to:

Jim Kline  
27 Fieldbrook Place  
Moraga, CA 94556

Make check payable to “Pacific Racing Association”

Deadline for receiving checks is March 9.

Tickets will be mailed to you approximately one week prior the race day.

Jim will be at the March 4 meeting for checks and questions.

# Join the Slugfest State SIR Annual Bay Bridge Series



**SIR Day at the Ballpark**  
**June 7, 2020, Sunday, 1pm**  
**Oakland Coliseum, Section 106 (shaded)**  
**Cost: \$55/ticket**



**INSTRUCTIONS:** Make a \$55/pp check to W. Lee Moy. Include a self-stamped return addressed envelope to W. Lee Moy, 127 N. Helm Ave, Clovis, CA 93612. Deadline May 5, 2020.

W. Lee Moy  
State SIR Sports  
[LeeHealthStudio@gmail.com](mailto:LeeHealthStudio@gmail.com)  
(559) 709-9851

You're Invited to the annual SIR

ENTRY FEE \$160/PERSON

# spring fling In Napa Valley

**LADIES WELCOME!**

COME OUT AND ENJOY GOLF WITH OTHER SIR MEMBERS FROM BRANCHES AROUND THE STATE AT ONE OF THE VALLEYS MORE PICTURESQUE COURSES

**Eagle Vines Golf Course (BOTH DAYS!!!)**  
**Monday April 20<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday April 21<sup>st</sup> 2020**

Day One 9:00 AM Shotgun Start  
All players will check in at Eagle Vines GC  
Men – Individual Low Net by Flight  
Ladies – Scramble  
After Golf - Burger Luncheon & No Host Bar

Day Two 9:00 AM Shotgun Start  
All players will check in at Eagle Vines GC  
Men & Ladies – 4 Person Team, 2 Best Balls



APPLICATIONS AT [WWW.GOLF.SIRINC2.ORG](http://WWW.GOLF.SIRINC2.ORG) – HOSTS: Pete Morelli  
SIR Members & male Guests must have a verifiable USGA Index, Ladies no Index required

# SIR Napa Spring Fling Golf Tournament

## Eagle Vines Golf Club

### Napa Valley, CA

Monday April 20<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday April 21<sup>st</sup>

Ladies Welcome - No handicap required

- Day 1 9 AM Shotgun Eagle Vines GC  
Men – Foursome of your choice – Individual Low Net (by Flight)  
Ladies – Scramble – A, B, C, & D players computer assigned
- Day 2 9 AM Shotgun Eagle Vines GC  
Men - 4 Person Team, 2 Best Balls – Foursomes assigned by computer  
Ladies – 4 Person Team, 2 Best Balls – Foursome of your choice

Closest to Pin Contests (Front & Back nines) both days – multiple flights

Pay top 30% of Field Both Days

All players, men and ladies, check in at the course being played that day!

To enter, complete the application below and send it with a check, made payable to STATE GOLF COMMITTEE for the full amount of the Entry Fee, \$160.00 per person to:

Pete Morelli 216 County Down Ct. Roseville, CA 95678

Entries Close April 1<sup>st</sup> – 144 Player Limit

For questions about the tournament you may contact Pete at one of the following two options:

Phone: (916) 772-3257 or email at [pmorelli2@comcast.net](mailto:pmorelli2@comcast.net)

ONLY THE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY U.S. MAIL WITH FULL PAYMENT WILL BE CONFIRMED AND ACCEPTED

(Cut here)

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## APPLICATION AND ENTRY FORM

A TWO-DAY TOURNAMENT TO BE HELD AT Eagle Vines GC, Chardonnay Golf Course  
THE COST PER PLAYER IS \$160, INCLUDING GREEN FEES, CART, RANGE BALLS, PRIZES, AND DAY ONE SOCIAL

***Form can be filled in online! When done just print your completed form and mail it along with your check.***

1. NAME \_\_\_\_\_ NCGA # \_\_\_\_\_ BRANCH \_\_\_\_\_ TEL \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ (Will be used for confirming receipt of entry)

2. NAME \_\_\_\_\_ NCGA # \_\_\_\_\_ BRANCH \_\_\_\_\_ TEL \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ (Will be used for confirming receipt of entry)

3. NAME \_\_\_\_\_ NCGA # \_\_\_\_\_ BRANCH \_\_\_\_\_ TEL \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ (Will be used for confirming receipt of entry)

4. NAME \_\_\_\_\_ NCGA # \_\_\_\_\_ BRANCH \_\_\_\_\_ TEL \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ (Will be used for confirming receipt of entry)

**ELIGIBILITY: Men SIR member and guests must have a verifiable USGA INDEX with any golf club.**

**Women guests have no requirement for a handicap.**

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