



# Trampas Topics

January, 2016

## SIR Branch 116

Next Meeting: 11:30 am,  
Monday, January 18, 2016  
Elks Lodge—1475 Creekside  
Dr, Walnut Creek, CA 94596

A Nonprofit Public Benefit Organization for Men Enjoying Active Retirement

### Sayings of 2016 Big Sir Jim Barstow



Happy New Year, and welcome to 2016! As we start 2016, let us be thankful for all the good we and our families have experienced, and hope that our blessings continue and the burdens are few. 2016 is a year in which I encourage all members of Branch 116 to participate in as many as possible of the enjoyable and fun filled activities our committee members have organized.

I am honored, and I feel privileged to be your 2016 Big Sir. Please welcome Paul Ramacciotti as our 2016 Little Sir, and Paul and I ask for your patience and understanding as we move to fulfill our new roles in Branch 116. I also wish to acknowledge the tremendous role Bob Donohue performed as our 2015 Big Sir. Bob provided Branch 116 with an enthusiastic and dedicated leader, and his contribution is greatly appreciated. Bob will continue to serve Branch 116 in 2016 as a Director.

I also wish to thank the BEC and Committee chairmen for their contributions. Without this group of volunteers our Branch could not survive. I can't thank them enough for the time and effort they put forth. I encourage our members to join a committee supporting the Branch, as we can always use more volunteers.....

As usual, Jerry Christopherson and his Christmas Dinner Dance Committee provided us with a most enjoyable Christmas Party at Boundary Oak. The selection of Boundary Oak as the venue proved to be an excellent choice. Phil Goff's photography skills provide us all with wonderful photos and memories of the event.

We will start collecting the voluntary contribution for 2016 at our January Meeting. Good News, thanks to the efforts of our 2015 staff, volunteers, and the raffle, our voluntary dues for 2016 will be reduced to \$40. Let's continue our support of all activities.

My goals for 2016 includes maintaining/increasing not only our membership but also member participation in our numerous activities. Importantly, our SIR Goal, which is to assist our members enjoy an active retirement, and to have FUN is foremost! You have my pledge that I will do everything possible to help us reach these goals.....

*Jim Barstow*  
Big SIR



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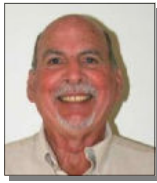
**PLEASE CALL 806-8874**  
**by the Thursday prior to**  
**the meeting to**  
**cancel your standing res-**  
**ervation or**  
**to bring a guest.**

## 2016 SIR 116 Officers & Directors



**Big SIR**

Jim Barstow  
938-2744



**Little SIR**

Paul Ramacciotti  
229-2564



**Secretary**

Fred Schafer  
648-4199



**Assist.Secretary**

Allan Chasnoff  
933-6665



**Treasurer**

Jim Nickels  
210-1512



**Asst.Treasurer 1**

Bob Shader  
939-8421



**Asst.Treasurer 2**

Al Satake  
254-9589



**Member.Sec.**

Phil Goff  
831-3692



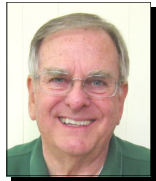
**Director**

Norm Alberts  
837-4074



**Director**

Wayne Cook  
933-8337



**Director**

Bob Donohue  
513-5141



**Director**

Al Hutchko  
827-9130



**Director**

Harry Sherinian  
846-7067



**Director**

John Story  
932-8826

## 2016 SIR 116 Committee Chairmen

|                    |                   |          |  |                   |          |
|--------------------|-------------------|----------|--|-------------------|----------|
| Activities Coord.  | J. Christopherson | 939-3973 | Host   | Frank Crua        | 932-0975 |
| Attendance         | Sam Beret         | 388-6145 | Interviewer                                    | Max Foust         | 827-9323 |
| Audit              | Ron Armijo        | 945-0637 | Membership Relations                           | Bob Donohue       | 513-5142 |
| Audio/Visual       | Neil Schmidt      | 948-8702 | Membership Roster                              | Dick Thomson      | 785-7600 |
| Book Club          | Rich Black        | 283-8376 | Mexican Train                                  | Richard Madden    | 788-4223 |
| Book Exchange      | John Fraser       | 837-7439 | " " Asst.                                      | Alex Lutkes       | 827-2828 |
| " "                | Dick Kauffman     | 838-2334 | Music Man                                      | Robbie Robinson   | 798-4276 |
| Bridge             | Jon Dickson       | 837-1178 | Newsletter Editor                              | Neil Schmidt      | 948-8702 |
| Candy Sales        | Art Vogl          | 288-0488 | " " Asst.                                      | Phil Goff         | 831-3692 |
| Chaplain           | (rotating *)      | -        | Nominating                                     | Bob Donohue       | 513-5141 |
| Computer & Tech.   | Neil Schmidt      | 948-8702 | Parties  | J. Christopherson | 393-9373 |
| Dine-O-Sir         | Ben Smith         | 820-5403 | Photographers                                  | John Peterson     | 946-0335 |
| Duplicate Bridge   | Art Donaldson     | 934-9391 | "  | Neil Schmidt      | 948-8702 |
| E-mail Contact     | Phil Goff         | 831-3692 | "  | Phil Goff         | 831-3692 |
| Fishing            | Harry Sherinian   | 846-7067 | Poker Group 1                                  | Bill Harrington   | 935-1625 |
| Golf-18 Hole       | Al Zavatero       | 933-0465 | Raffle   | Don Schroeder     | -        |
| " " Asst.          | Carlos Xavier     | 947-6756 | Sunshine                                       | Matt Arena        | 946-0404 |
| Golf-9 Hole        | Dick Chaffee      | 932-5087 | \$ums in Retirement                            | Ben Smith         | 820-5403 |
| " " Asst.          | Darrell Mclaughry | 933-1147 | Travel   | Marty Katz        | 484-0122 |
| " " Asst.          | Skip Berkson      | 437-1511 | Visitors                                       | Bernie Wroblewski | 820-3274 |
| Golf - Carson City | Tim Hubbard       | 944-0742 | Volunteers                                     | Bob Kinser        | 837-8886 |
| Golf - Carmel      | Jim Barstow       | 938-2744 | Webmaster                                      | Phil Goff         | 831-3692 |
| Greeters           | Pat Bermingham    | 930-9477 | Welcoming                                      | Jerry Kaplan      | 938-1037 |
| Guitar             | Paul King         | 938-3035 | Walking Tours                                  | Bernie Wroblewski | 820-3274 |
| Hiking & Walking   | Joel White        | 964-0994 | Wine Appreciation                              | Jack Bevis        | 254-7256 |
| Historian          | Mat Arena         | 946-0404 | * D. Aalders, M. Arena, L. Sandor, D. Williams |                   |          |

## Other SIR Area 2 (Inter-branch) Activities

|                   |                       |          |                     |                            |          |
|-------------------|-----------------------|----------|---------------------|----------------------------|----------|
| Apple User Grp.   | Dick Macy (Br.171)    | 376-1180 | Digital Photography | Bill Phelon (Br.8)         | 254-8338 |
| Astronomy         | Bill Hunter (Br.8)    | 947-6947 | Dominos             | Danny Rinaldi (Br.8)       | 825-0519 |
| Bocce             | Bob Barnes (Br.8)     | 686-0106 | Pocket Pool         | Jerry White (Br.8)         | 944-9068 |
| Bocce             | John Fernando (Br.19) | 798-9978 | \$ums Investment    | Gary Moore (A.2)           | 934-8428 |
| Bowling           | Dan Weller (Br. 8)    | 935-5510 | Table Pool          | Bill Weinberg (Area 2)     | 682-0962 |
| Darts & Pub Games | Bill Cooke (Br.8)     | 691-9325 | Tennis              | Ralph Thornicraft (Br.174) | 376-8140 |

# SIR Branch 116 Activity Calendar

## January 2016

| Sun.                    | Monday   | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday   | Sat.                      |
|-------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|---------------------------|
|                         |  |  |  |  | 1<br> | 2                         |
| 3                       | 4<br><br><b>18-Hole Golf</b><br>(9:30@ Boundary Oak GC )   | 5<br><br><b>Duplicate Bridge</b><br>(10:00@ Diablo Valley Bridge Center) | 6<br><br><b>9-Hole Golf</b><br>(10:00@ Pine Meadow GC)   | 7  | 8<br><br><b>Hiking &amp; Walking</b><br>(8:15@ Moraga Commons, Moraga)                   | 9                         |
| 10                      | 11<br><br><b>18-Hole Golf</b><br>(9:30@ Boundary Oak GC )  | 12<br><br><b>Luncheon Bridge</b><br>(11:30@ Round Hill CC)               | 13<br><br><b>9-Hole Golf</b><br>(10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC)<br><b>Mexican Train</b><br>(TBD)                   | 14   | 15<br><div><b>Walking Tour</b><br/>(10:00@Rosie the Riveter NHP, Richmond)</div>         | 16<br><b>Walking Tour</b> |
| 17                      | 18<br><br><b><u>SIR Br. 116 Mtg.</u></b><br>(11:30 @ WC Elks Lodge)<br><br><b>Martin Luther King Day Holiday</b> | 19<br><br><b>18-Hole Golf</b><br>(9:06@ Deer Ridge GC)                   | 20<br><br><b>9-Hole Golf</b><br>(10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC)  | 21<br><br><b>Computer &amp; Tech</b><br>(9:30@ Elks Club)  | 22<br><br><b>Hiking &amp; Walking</b><br>(8:15@ Lafayette Community Ctr.)                | 23                        |
| 24<br><b>Dine-O-SIR</b> | 25<br><br><b>18-Hole Golf</b><br>(10:00@ Las Positas GC)<br><br><b>Book Group</b><br>(10:15@ Orinda Books)       | 26<br><br><b>Luncheon Bridge</b><br>(11:30@ Round Hill CC)               | 27<br><br><b>9-Hole Golf</b><br>(10:00@ Diablo Hills GC)<br><b>\$ums Investment</b><br>(8:00@ Diablo Creek GC) | 28<br><br><b>Wine Appreciation</b><br>(4:00@ TBD)<br><b>Fishing Group</b><br>(8:30@Legends-Diablo Crk) | 29   | 30                        |



## Membership

**Andy Benz**

(anbenz@aol.com)

### SIR 116 Membership Status

|                           |     |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Total Current Members:    | 242 |
| This Month's Inductees:   | 0   |
| Those in Interview Stage: | 1   |
| Total in Process:         | 0   |
| On Inactive Status:       | 17  |
| Left the Branch:          | 1   |
| Waiting to be Installed:  | 0   |



### Br. 116 Treasurer's Report

**Carl Langhorst, Treasurer**

(cslangho@mindspring.com)

|                        | Dec. 2015     | 2015 YTD       |
|------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Contributions          | \$ 10,438.71  | \$ 70,515.53   |
| Disbursements          | \$ (9,584.41) | \$ (69,221.56) |
| Net (gain/(loss))      | \$ (854.30)   | \$ 1,293.97    |
| Dec. 18th Cash Balance |               | \$ 7,735.36    |

## 👉 REMINDER 👉

To cancel your standing Luncheon reservation, please call Luncheon Hotline (925-806-8874) no later than Thursday AM in the previous week.

### January Birthdays

**When you see these members, wish them a Happy Birthday!**

|                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Ken Binning     | 9. Ed Klein         |
| 2. Don Booth       | 10. "T" Legler      |
| 3. Dick Conger     | 11. John Maerzke    |
| 4. Hugh Duggan     | 12. Donald Peckham  |
| 5. Tom Eller       | 13. George Pryhuber |
| 6. Jack Fucik      | 14. Marty Ratterree |
| 7. Bill Ginter     | 15. Lou Sandor      |
| 8. Dudley Hattaway | 16. Dick Socolich   |



## January Luncheon Menu

CHICKEN CORDON BLEU  
 POTATOES AU GRATIN  
 VEGGIES  
 SALAD  
 ROLL/BUTTER  
 DESSERT/COFFEE/ ICE TEA

### SIR Website Addresses

SIR 116 Web Site  
[branch116.org](http://branch116.org)

Branch 116 Golf  
[branch116golf.org](http://branch116golf.org)

Trampas Topics  
[branch116.org/trampas/](http://branch116.org/trampas/)

Computer and Technology  
[a2cat.sirinc2.org/](http://a2cat.sirinc2.org/)

SIR Happenings State Newsletter  
[sirinc.org/sirhappenings](http://sirinc.org/sirhappenings)

State SIR Web Site  
[sirinc.org/](http://sirinc.org/)

## Do You Want Hardcopies of the Trampas Topics?

For Branch 116 members who don't like reading electronic issues on the Trampas Topics, you can select to get hardcopy distribution of the newsletter. The subscription price for receiving printed copies of the "Topics", sent to you each month in the mail, is **\$20/year**. If you want to receive, or to continue receiving printed copies in Year 2016, send a \$20 check now, payable to "SIR Branch 116", to our new 2016 Treasurer:

Jim Nickels  
 52 Ball Road  
 Walnut Creek, CA 94596





## Sunshine Report

**Matt Arena**

(marena@astound.net)

SIR **Lloyd Plank** is recovering from major surgery on his arm. He has a metal rod from his shoulder to his elbow. He plans to join us for lunch but please do not touch his shoulder .

SIR **Al Hutchko** is wearing a sling following his rotator cuff surgery. The surgery was successful however he will take a respite from golf until July.

SIR **Paul Freitas** wasn't going to let his surgery interfere with his social life. He and Anna joined us for the SIR Christmas Dinner Dance at Boundary Oak Golf Club.

SIR **Ben Smith** escorted his lovely wife Sally to the SIR Christmas Dinner Dance following her knee operation. It was great to see so many members and their wives enjoying themselves.

SIR **Jerry Hicks** gives us good news about Kathy's second hip operation. Kathy should have her final surgery in February. Here is hoping this ordeal will end after almost a full year.

SIR **Larry Johnson** is out and about. I ran into him at the grocery store and he looks just fine.

WISHING EVERY ONE AND THEIR FAMILIES A HEALTHY AND HAPPY NEW YEAR.....

Healthy  
Living



## Luncheon Speaker

**By Little Sir Paul Ramacciotti**

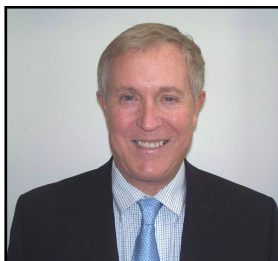
(dagobuildr@comcast.net)

### January's Luncheon Speaker:

**Dennis Koller** - Businessman and Author

**Education:** Graduate of Saint Mary's College.

**Business Career:** 14 years VP for Development, Saint Mary's College and Menlo College; Special

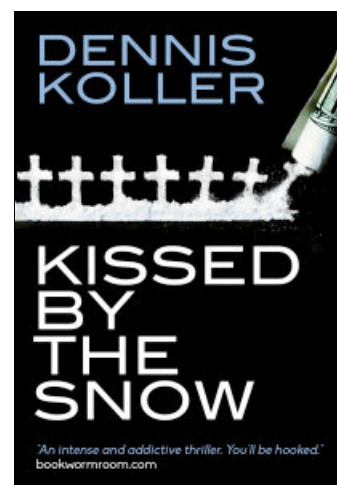
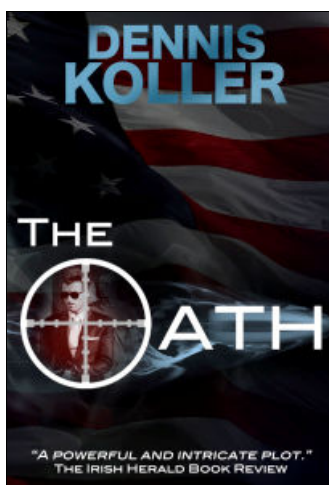


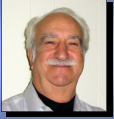
Assistant to Executive Director of the SS Jeremiah O'Brien WW II Liberty Ship at pier 45, Fisherman's Wharf.

**Author:** Novels include: "The Oath", published in March of 2014, followed by "Kissed By

The Snow" and "The Custer Papers".

**Topic:** Since more and more people are writing books, be they memoirs, "how-to" books or one of the fiction genres, Dennis would like to share his insights into how far the book business has come since the advent of Amazon and electronic books eight years ago.





## SIR Fishing Group

Harry Sherinian

(h.sherinian@comcast.net)

All SIR members and guests are welcome and, indeed, encouraged to participate in fishing trips as well as attend the monthly meetings. Next meeting will be **Thursday, January 28th**, at the Legend Sports Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course at 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Meeting starts at 8:30am.

The November and December storms slowed us down, but the local winter trout fishing is very good. Pete Gates, Carl Moyer, Terry Miller, Dick Thomson, Gordon Linebaugh, Gene Schulting, and Larry Gray all caught good sized fish from Shadow Cliffs Reservoir. Larry got his fishing from his kayak. Ralieg Davis caught an 18 lb. salmon on one of the last days of the season on board the good ship Wacky Jacky. Jackie, the captain, came to the aid of Rich Fiscina when the fog rolled in, and guided him to safety. Jackie is a legend and a wonderful lady. Joe Miscione and son continued to get ling and rock cod from Monterrey. Tom Kostik took Bruce Persons and Terry Miller to the delta for lots of small stripers. Mario Moratorio and Joe Miscione joined Rich Fiscina for a day of all Italian sturgeon fishing, releasing several undersized and keeping one legal fish. Carl Moyer got out upon the ocean bleu several times for rockfish. Tom Kostik and Harry Sherinian did some plugging for stripers and Harry caught a 26 inch striper and Tom nailed a 51 inch keeper sturgeon. Both were released. In this cold weather, you just have to work a little harder to get those fish.

This last December we had our Christmas Gala at Zeo Alfrado Restaurant, where over 50 members and guests attended. A special thanks to Pete Gates for all the planning and to Dick Thomson who assisted him. This is an annual event and is always well attended and looked forward to.

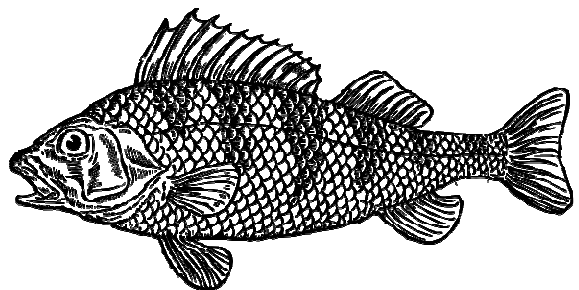
We will be very busy this winter with: delta fishing for catfish, striped bass, and sturgeon; and trout in local lakes. We live in a fishermen's paradise. We also begin our fishing related programs including

our visit to the Sportsmen's EXPO in Sacramento, and our annual trek to Bass Pro Shop and Fishermen's warehouse in Manteca.

Our next meeting will be **Thursday, January 28th** at the Legend Sports Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course at 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Meeting starts at 8:30 am. Come early and have breakfast with the guys. For further information, please contact Dick Thomson, Big Fish (925-944-1760) Harry Sherinian, Branch 116 Coordinator, (925-846-7067) or Romano Gnusti, Treasurer/Secretary, (925-376-3313.)



Dick Thomson and Terry Miller showing off



## Trampas Topics Submissions



We need your contributions and suggestions for Trampas Topics. Please send photos, news items, SIR activities, and Letters to the Editor to:

Neil Schmidt, Trampas Topics Editor  
[trampastopics@gmail.com](mailto:trampastopics@gmail.com)



## Computer & Technology

Derek Southern & Neil Schmidt  
(SIR.Area2.CAT@gmail.com)



The Area 2 Computer and Technology Group announces that our next meeting will be at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge on **Thursday January 21, 2016** at 9:30 am. Sirs from all branches and their guests are welcome and invited to attend.

On January 21, 2016 the CAT presentation will be "*All Things Google*". Neil Schmidt will introduce

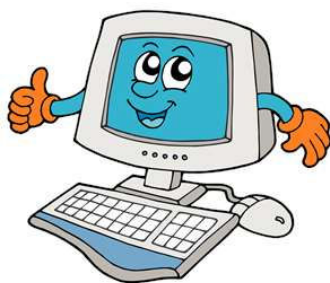


you to many of the numerous Google applications beyond the "standards" like Google Chrome,

Gmail and Google Search. Almost all Google applications are available for the PC as well as Android and iOS mobile devices. Neil will demonstrate a number of these (mostly FREE) creative tools and show you why you may want to start using them.

Some members arrive at 9:00 AM to enjoy coffee and chat before the presentation at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Drive. The presentation starts at 9:30.

We ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and cookies -- but some months are free, so come and see if our October meeting is another one of those! All SIR members and their guests (spouses included!) are welcome to attend. See you there.



## State 'SIR Happenings'

Enjoy reading *SIR Happenings* and find out about all the fun things that are going on throughout our organization. You can easily find Happenings on the SIR State Website located at:

[sirinc.org/sirhappenings](http://sirinc.org/sirhappenings)



## Wine Appreciation Group

Jack Bevis

(jackb435@comcast.net)

December is a month without a wine event. Wine Tasting events are held every other month on the last Thursday of the month from 4 to 6:30 pm. The next one will be on **January 28<sup>th</sup>**.

These informal gatherings are held at member's homes on a rotating basis, with the host selecting the wines and finger foods. Usually, four or five different wines are tasted and discussed. There is a nominal cost.

Both SIR members and their wives are invited to attend. Contact Jack Bevis at 925-254-7256, for more information.



## Top 10 New Year's Resolutions

- Spend more time with the family.
- Take more exercise - Get fit.
- Lose (loose!) weight.
- Give up smoking (again).
- Get out of dept.
- Learn a new skill, take up a new hobby.
- Put something into the community -help others.
- Get organized. Else buy shares in diary, or companies selling electronic planners!
- Become more security conscious.
- Give up drinking, at least for the first week of January!



## 2015 SIR Branch 116 Christmas Party Photos







## Br. 116 Book Club

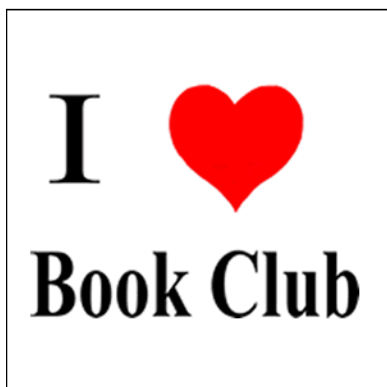
**Rich Black**

(blackrw41@comcast.net)

### **"Highest Duty: My Search for What Really Matters" by Sully Sullenberger**

Sully Sullenberger experienced a sudden, complete and symmetrical loss of thrust at 2750 feet over The Bronx when US Air Flight 1545 sucked a flock of Canada geese into its engines. Approximately three minutes later he landed the aircraft in the Hudson river with no loss of life. The book details his development as a pilot, the exact details of the collision and landing plus his growth as a husband and father. Richard Black led the discussion with John Riordan, Al Reynolds, Lytton DeSilva, Jim Scott, Tim Tinnes, Jerry Christopherson, Bob Wolf, Steve Bort, Garrett Girvin, John Kopchik, Jim Flessner and Mac McLoughlin. The group awarded the book 3.2 stars.

The group will next assemble on **January 25** to discuss "The Great Reformer, Francis and the Making of a Radical Pope" by Austen Ivereigh.



## Poker Group #2

**Jim Shurr**

(shurrjim@astound.net)

Poker Group #2 plays on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at Diablo Country Club in Diablo, from 1-4 p.m. Low stakes, good times and fun. To play, contact Jim Shurr (925-937-9142) or Jerry Kaplan (925-938-1037) at least 24 hrs before the game.



## Walking Tours

**Bernie Wroblewski**

(bbwroblewski@comcast.net)

The next Branch 116 Walking Tour is scheduled for **Saturday, January 16, 2016** at the Rosie the Riveter National Historical Park in Richmond. This tour is scheduled to start at 10:00 am. The location is 1414 Harbour Way South. Admission is free. An e-mail to past walking tour participants, and those expressing interest in this tour, will be forthcoming approximately a week before January 16th. The e-mail will contain explicit directions.



## Bridge

**Jon Dickson**

(still26@sbcglobal.net)

Our next bridge game will be **Tuesday January 12th** at Round Hill Country Club. All are welcome to join us for lunch and an afternoon of bridge, playing Chicago Style, changing partners every four hands.

We have the yearly winners totaled up and the top winner is Charlie Schmidt who had a total yearly score of 89,690 points. At a dime appoint, it would be a small fortune won! Coming in second is Jai Yee, close with 87,070 total points. Third is Jack Butler with 86,450 points. Norm Schoenfeld with 81,510 points and Bob Wolf with 81,040 points are the last two that broke the 80,000 point barrier. All played at least 20 sessions during the year.

If you have any interest in bridge, please do consider joining us on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at Round Hill Country Club.



## Hiking & Walking

Joel White

(zpz2mrz@yahoo.com)

On Wednesday December 9, the normally hale and hearty SIR Walking Group expected 14 walkers for the regular Friday walk. By the time Friday morning December 11 and 43 degree temperatures arrived, only half that number were able to meet at 8:15am. Flu, coughs, sniffles and back pain were the culprits!

We began at Sweet Affair bakery for a clear crisp walk through Heather Farm park and along the Regional Trail to the pedestrian overpass by Pleasant Hill BART. Pictured left to right are survivors Andrea Green, Mary Alice Donaldson, Richard Black, John Riordan (in shadow), Dan Green, and David Geary. Behind the camera is Art Donaldson. All sent wishes for quick recoveries to their missing companions. They missed conversation and bakery treats in a cozy setting at Sweet Affair.

The **Friday, January 8, 2016** HAPPY NEW YEAR walk will be led by Dan Green, meeting at the usual time 8:15am at the Moraga Commons, St Mary's Road at Moraga Road in Moraga. RSVP to Dan asdgreen@comcast.net

The **Friday January 22** walk will be led by Richard Black, meeting at 8:15am at the Lafayette Community Center at 500 St. Mary's Road. Please RSVP to Richard blackrw41@comcast.net

Anyone wishing to be added to the e-mail reminder list should contact Joel White 964-0994 or zpz2mrz@yahoo.com.

**Want a Free Lunch ?  
Sponsor a New Member !**



"The Hearty Ones" who showed up for the Dec. 11th hike.

## \$ums Investment Group

Gary Moore (Branch 174)

(mooregh1@gmail.com)

The Area 2 \$ums Investment Group will meet on **Wednesday January 27, 2016**, at 8:00 a.m. at the Legends restaurant at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway, Concord.

Our guest speaker again this January will be Tom Kopas of the Pring Turner Capital Group. Tom's topic will be Financial Outlook—2016, and will address many of today's topical questions.

Tom is one of our most popular guest speakers having been invited to present to the \$ums Investment Group each year since 2002. He is a principal and portfolio manager at Pring Turner Capital Group in Walnut Creek. Tom co-authored a book published by McGraw Hill entitled "Investing in the Second Lost Decade".

The Legends restaurant opens at 7:00 a.m., so come early and have a leisurely break-fast with your colleagues prior to the meeting. Plan to attend this meeting and bring a prospective SIR.

Co-Chairmen: Tom Henry (Br-174) 925-284-5724  
David Sutton (Br-8) 925-686-0158



## SIR Travel

By Marty Katz, Travel Chairman  
(mctkatz@pacbell.net)

Pick up brochures, forms, etc., at the travel desk at the luncheons. If we run out of these and you are still interested in the trip, please ask your travel chairman and he will have one sent to you. Payment should be made to the travel agency arranging the event unless otherwise stated:



### Area 2 SIR Travel Opportunities

**Mar 25-Apr 10, 2016: Big Band Voyage Across the Atlantic Ocean.** 16 day all inclusive cruise across the Atlantic on the Crystal Symphony. Relish the blissful luxury of days at sea, highlighted by visits to Bermuda, the Azores, Barcelona,, Bandol, and Monte Carlo. Cost from \$3665. Ken Richter, Br.146, Walnut Creek, 925-689-6217.

### Other SIR Travel Opportunities

**Dec 29-Jan 2, 2016: New Year's Eve at the Broadmoor in Colorado Springs.** This AAA Broadmoor five star hotel is the Grand Dame of the Rockies. Tour includes home pick-up, RT airfare to Denver from Sacramento, Royal Gorge Bridge and lunch on the Royal Gorge train. City tour of Colorado Springs and much more. Cost \$1975 includes taxes, fees, and gratuities. Lee Suess, Br 96, 209-296-2235.

**Dec 29-Jan 2, 2016: New Year's in Scottsdale.** Ring in the New Year at the fabulous Hilton Double Tree Paradise Valley Resort. Enjoy tours of Oak Creek Canyon, Sedona, Phoenix & Scottsdale for New Year's Eve highlighted with a wonderful dinner along with Popular music of the Big Band era! Contact Bruce Bentley, 831-465-6590, for more information.

**Mar 10-16 ,2016: Azaleas, Plantations & Cajuns.** Experience the hospitality and charm of the south through educational tours of Natchez, Baton Rouge, Lafayette and New Orleans. See spring in full bloom with the surrounding flowers at historic

sites and plantations. 3 nights Baton Rouge & 3 nights New Orleans 7 day, 13 meals from \$2105 Bruce Bentley, Santa Cruz, Br 20, 831-465-6590

**Apr 16-25, 2016: Heritage of America.** 10 day escorted tour of New York, Philadelphia, Amish Country, Gettysburg, Shenandoah Valley, Monticello, Williamsburg, Mt Vernon, Washington DC. Cost of \$3299 includes Cancellation insurance, air tax fees, surcharges, hotel transfers, gratuities and & RT air fare. Bill Rodman, Br.38, San Jose, 408-274-4521 or Hank Clark 408-223-6464.

**Apr 17-25, 2016: AMA waterways Tulip Time Cruise.** 8 night river cruise through the Netherlands and Belgium aboard the AmaSerena riverboat. You will visit Amsterdam, Volendam, Edam, Antwerp, Ghent, Bruges, Kinderdijk and Keukenhof Gardens. Trip includes air, transfers, guided excursions, wine or beer with dinner, free WiFi and more. Cost \$5950 to \$7950 depending on cabin. Jim Stoner, Br.114, 408-238-8458 or Larry Martinson 408-528-0746.

**May 9-21, 2016: Kenya Safari Adventure.** Visit the best game reserves to see hundreds of animals. Game drives in the mornings and late afternoons. This tour is active and exciting! 4 & 5 star hotels, Mt Kenya National Park, Lake Nakura National Park, Amboseli National Park, Samburu National Game Reserve and Maasai Mara. 13 days, 28 meals. Starting at \$3975, Bruce Bentley, Br.20, Santa Cruz, 831-465-6590.

### Additional SIR Travel Opportunities on State Web

The quarterly State SIR Happenings Web Site at: [sirinc.org/sirhappenings/](http://sirinc.org/sirhappenings/) offers additional SIR travel options.





## Book Exchange

**John Fraser & Dick Kauffman**

(wokeagle@aol.com & rkkauffman@gmail.com)



When you finish that book that you received for a Christmas present, bring it to your SIRS luncheon and exchange it for another book. Remember, no charges, no late fees, no sign ups, just bring a book and take a book or take a book and bring one to the next luncheon.

**Happy Reading!**



## "Mexican Train" Dominos

**Richard Madden**

(maddenram@sbcglobal.net)

"Mexican Train" is a domino game which uses a set of Double Twelve Dominoes. From 2 to 8 can play. Each player draws 11 to 15 dominoes. The number of dominoes each player draws depends on the number of players. The object of the game is to play all your dominoes. When you draw your hand you set it up so that the adjacent dominoes match. During the play of a round there are things that can derail your train so that you cannot play. This can make the game very interesting and a lot of FUN!

We plan to meet on the second Wednesday of each month. The location of the meeting will be determined by the number of players we have.

You can contract Richard Madden, maddenram@sbcglobal.net or 925.788.4223



## "Dine-O-Sir" Dinner Group

**Ben Smith**

(bjsssmith@aol.com)

By popular demand we are returning to Crow Canyon Country Club for our 2016 New Year Kick-Off Sunday Champagne Brunch. Last year we had a sell-out group and had to place some people on the waiting list. Be sure and get your reservations in early as this is a real enjoyable event. It is all set for **Sunday January 24, 2016** starting at 10:30 AM and continue till 2:00 PM. The price will be **\$34 per person, all inclusive**. This will be a Bountiful Brunch with more that you can eat----and then some.---- So come hungry.

Full details of the event will be sent out in the next week, by e-mail. A few of the food station selections are as follows:

- Champagne & fruit juices
  - Large selection of fresh fruits and salads
  - Prime Rib meat cutting station
  - Made to order Omelette Bar
  - Bacon, sausage, eggs, waffles, hot cakes
  - Sea food bar, Chicken, fish etc.
  - Cheese Board- Asian Food selections
  - Dessert Bar with cakes, pie, cookies, pastries--- and more
  - All alcoholic drinks other than the Brunch
- Champagne will be available on a No Host basis.

Send your reservation request and checks to Ben Smith, 1837 Lackland Dr. Alamo, CA 94507

bjsssmith@aol.com You want to pace yourselves and come hungry for this event. Seating is limited so get your reservations in early. Reservations become firm on a first to pay basis. Most tables will be set for eight people. This will be a fun event and we look forward to joining our fellow Dine-O-Sirs in a relaxing atmosphere to bring in the New Year.





## SIR Branch 116 Golf

By Al Zavattero, Golf Chairman  
(jandazav@juno.com)

We have an active golf organization consisting of 18-hole and 9-hole groups. A small annual donation is required to play in either group.

The 18-hole group plays once a week in a Tournament format with play alternating between local courses and courses that may be 10 to 50 miles away. Those playing in the 18-hole group must be members of the Northern California Golf Association (NCGA) and establish a handicap index. You may join the NCGA through our SIR club or through another club.

Foursomes in both the 18-hole and 9-hole groups are arranged so that players can meet and enjoy playing with most, if not all, the other players in the branch.

All our events are listed in the Trampas Topics and on our web site at [branch116.org/116-golf](http://branch116.org/116-golf). Join up with us and enjoy outings with a great bunch of guys at some great courses with reasonable prices.



## Nine Hole Info

Dick Chaffee, 9-Hole Chairman  
(rwchaffee@sbcglobal.net)

SIR 116 9-Hole Golf Club membership is open to all Branch members and guests regardless of your golfing ability. We play every Wednesday starting at 10:00am. We rotate playing Buchanan Fields-Concord, Diablo Hills-Walnut Creek, and other 9 hole courses in the area.

The 9 Hole Golf Club is organized into a single flight. The weekly Champion is the player with the lowest net score. The weekly Champion is awarded 3 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> place 2 and 3<sup>rd</sup> place 1. The 2016 Champion will be the golfer with the highest point total.

In December, we will again hold our 9 Hole Golf Championship Tournament. The Tournament will be 3 rounds of golf. One round at each of the courses we play. The Tournament Champion will be the golfer with lowest net total for 2 rounds. If a participant plays all 3 rounds, he can choose which 2 rounds will count.

## Latest SIR 116 Golf Info Available on Our Golf Web Site

The Golf Website addresses (old & new beta) are:  
[branch116.org/116-golf](http://branch116.org/116-golf) or [branch116golf.org](http://branch116golf.org) (beta)

Please bookmark it in your "Favorites" list of websites to access information on the following:

- 2016 Golf Schedule: Dates, times, and courses as well as detailed information on costs, payment information, deadlines, and special event facts.
- 18-Hole Pairings: Shows captains, teams,

starting times & handicaps for next event.

- 18-Hole Leaders and Results: Shows results from recent events and leaders in each group.
- Paid-In-Advance Sign-Ups: Shows checks that have been received for the next 3-4 pre-paid outings.
- Boundary Oak Sign-Ups: Shows who has signed-up for the next two Boundary Oak sessions.

### January 9-Hole Schedule

| Date    | Time  | Location        | Organizer    |
|---------|-------|-----------------|--------------|
| Wed. 06 | 10:00 | Buchanan Fields | Dick Chaffee |
| Wed. 13 | 10:00 | Diablo Hills    | Mike Murphy  |
| Wed. 20 | 10:00 | Buchanan Fields | Dick Chaffee |
| Wed. 27 | 10:00 | Brentwood       | Skip Berkson |

### January 18-Hole Schedule

| Date    | Time  | Location     | Organizer    |
|---------|-------|--------------|--------------|
| Mon. 04 | 9:30  | Boundary Oak | Fred Schafer |
| Mon. 11 | 9:30  | Boundary Oak | Fred Schafer |
| Tue. 19 | 9:06  | Deer Ridge   | Fred Schafer |
| Mon. 25 | 10:00 | Los Positas  | Fred Schafer |

# 18-Hole Results

Delta View -- Monday December 28, 2015

Official Scorer:  
Phil Jenkins

| Flight 1     |              |    |   | Flight 2  |               |    |   | Flight 3  |                   |               |   | Flight 4  |                  |     |   |
|--------------|--------------|----|---|-----------|---------------|----|---|-----------|-------------------|---------------|---|-----------|------------------|-----|---|
| 1st          | David Harris | 68 | 3 | 1st       | Carlos Xavier | 71 | 3 | 1st       | Don Schroeder     | 75            | 3 | 1st       | Bill Hemmelsbach | 71  | 3 |
| 2nd          | Bill McCord  | 71 | 2 | 2nd       | Bob Testa     | 75 | 2 | 2nd       | Bernie Wroblewski | 76            | 2 | 2nd       | Conrad Robertson | 73  | 2 |
| 3rd          | Jim Johnson  | 77 | 1 | 3rd       | Hugh Duggan   | 77 | 1 | 3rd       | Alex Lutkus       | 78            | 1 | 3rd       | Art Vogl         | 76  | 1 |
| Low Gross    |              |    |   | Low Gross |               |    |   | Low Gross |                   |               |   | Low Gross |                  |     |   |
| David Harris |              |    |   | 88        | Carlos Xavier |    |   |           | 92                | Don Schroeder |   |           |                  | 105 |   |
| Bill McCord  |              |    |   | 88        |               |    |   |           |                   |               |   |           |                  |     |   |

Closest to: Hole: #3 - Bill McCord, Greg Hughes -- Hole: #13 - Jim Johnson, Phil Jenkins

Diablo Creek -- Monday December 21, 2015

Official Scorer:

Canceled -- bad weather

Boundary Oak -- Monday December 14, 2015

Official Scorer:  
Art Vogl

| Flight 1    |              |    |   | Flight 2  |              |    |   | Flight 3  |                   |                   |   | Flight 4  |                |              |    |
|-------------|--------------|----|---|-----------|--------------|----|---|-----------|-------------------|-------------------|---|-----------|----------------|--------------|----|
| 1st         | Jim Johnson  | 69 | 3 | 1st       | Hugh Duggan  | 65 | 3 | 1st       | Bernie Wroblewski | 68                | 3 | Tie 1st   | Carl Langhorst | 68           | 3  |
| 2nd         | David Harris | 70 | 2 | 2nd       | Bob Donohue  | 71 | 2 | 2nd       | Ben Bryce         | 74                | 2 | Tie 1st   | Randy Welker   | 68           | 3  |
| 3rd         | Al Zavertero | 71 | 1 | 3rd       | Harry Oberle | 75 | 1 | 3rd       | Alex Lutkus       | 78                | 1 | Tie 3rd   | Fred Schafer   | 73           | 1  |
|             |              |    |   |           |              |    |   |           |                   |                   |   | Tie 3rd   | Matt Arena     | 73           | 1  |
| Low Gross   |              |    |   | Low Gross |              |    |   | Low Gross |                   |                   |   | Low Gross |                |              |    |
| Jim Johnson |              |    |   | 85        | Hugh Duggan  |    |   |           | 90                | Bernie Wroblewski |   |           |                | Randy Welker | 95 |

Closest to: Hole: #2 - Jim Johnson, Conrad Robertson -- Hole: #12 - Wayne Smith, Don Schroeder

Boundary Oak -- Monday December 7, 2015

Official Scorer:  
Jim Johnson

| Flight 1        |                 |    |   | Flight 2  |               |    |   | Flight 3  |               |               |   | Flight 4  |                  |                 |     |
|-----------------|-----------------|----|---|-----------|---------------|----|---|-----------|---------------|---------------|---|-----------|------------------|-----------------|-----|
| 1st             | Alan Fitzgerald | 65 | 3 | 1st       | Hugh Duggan   | 65 | 3 | 1st       | Don Schroeder | 73            | 3 | 1st       | Robbie Robinson  | 68              | 3   |
| 2nd             | Jim Johnson     | 69 | 2 | Tie 2nd   | David Carlson | 74 | 2 | 2nd       | Jerry Hunter  | 75            | 2 | 2nd       | Sam Beret        | 71              | 2   |
| 3rd             | Jim Barstow     | 69 | 1 | Tie 2nd   | Jim Clizbe    | 74 | 2 | 3rd       | Pete Coggiola | 79            | 1 | 3rd       | Conrad Robertson | 72              | 1   |
|                 |                 |    |   | Tie 2nd   | Harry Oberle  | 74 | 2 |           |               |               |   |           |                  |                 |     |
|                 |                 |    |   | Tie 2nd   | John Story    | 74 | 2 |           |               |               |   |           |                  |                 |     |
|                 |                 |    |   | Tie 2nd   | Jim Videle    | 74 | 2 |           |               |               |   |           |                  |                 |     |
| Low Gross       |                 |    |   | Low Gross |               |    |   | Low Gross |               |               |   | Low Gross |                  |                 |     |
| Alan Fitzgerald |                 |    |   | 84        | Hugh Duggan   |    |   |           | 90            | Don Schroeder |   |           |                  | Robbie Robinson | 101 |
|                 |                 |    |   |           |               |    |   |           |               |               |   |           |                  | Sam Beret       | 101 |

Closest to: Hole: #2 - David Carlson, Don Schroeder -- Hole: #12 - Alan Fitzgerald, Robbie Robinson

Deer Ridge -- Monday November 30, 2015

Official Scorer:  
Jim Clizbe

| Flight 1   |              |    |   | Flight 2  |             |    |   | Flight 3  |                   |                   |   | Flight 4  |                      |              |    |
|------------|--------------|----|---|-----------|-------------|----|---|-----------|-------------------|-------------------|---|-----------|----------------------|--------------|----|
| 1st        | Al Zavertero | 64 | 3 | 1st       | Hugh Duggan | 61 | 3 | 1st       | Wayne Cook        | 67                | 3 | 1st       | Matt Arena           | 64           | 3  |
| 2nd        | Bill Clark   | 65 | 2 | 2nd       | Bob Testa   | 67 | 2 | 2nd       | Mark Jordan       | 71                | 2 | 2nd       | Fred Schafer         | 66           | 2  |
| Tie 3rd    | Frank Crua   | 69 | 1 | Tie 3rd   | John Story  | 71 | 1 | 3rd       | Bernie Wroblewski | 72                | 1 | 3rd       | Jerry Christopherson | 68           | 1  |
| Tie 3rd    | Phil Goff    | 69 | 1 | Tie 3rd   | Jim Clizbe  | 71 | 1 |           |                   |                   |   |           |                      |              |    |
| Low Gross  |              |    |   | Low Gross |             |    |   | Low Gross |                   |                   |   | Low Gross |                      |              |    |
| Bill Clark |              |    |   | 82        | Hugh Duggan |    |   |           | 85                | Bernie Wroblewski |   |           |                      | Fred Schafer | 97 |

Closest to: Hole: #7 - Hugh Duggan, Matt Arena -- Hole: #13 - Phil Goff, Alex Lutkus



## 2015 18-Hole Leader Board

| FLIGHT 1         |                 |    | FLIGHT 2          |                |    | FLIGHT 3          |                   |    | FLIGHT 4          |                      |    |
|------------------|-----------------|----|-------------------|----------------|----|-------------------|-------------------|----|-------------------|----------------------|----|
| Index 0.0 - 17.9 |                 |    | Index 18.0 - 23.7 |                |    | Index 23.8 - 28.2 |                   |    | Index 28.3 - 36.4 |                      |    |
| 1                | Bill Clark      | 24 | 1                 | Hugh Duggar    | 32 | 1                 | Don Schroeder     | 29 | 1                 | Matt Arena           | 19 |
| 2                | Jim Johnson     | 18 | 2                 | John Story     | 24 | 2                 | Terry Grummitt    | 28 | 2                 | Carl Langhorst       | 15 |
| 3                | Frank Crua      | 17 | 3                 | Harry Oberle   | 19 | 3                 | Bernie Wroblewski | 18 |                   | Randy Welker         | 15 |
|                  | Al Zavattero    | 17 | 4                 | Bob Testa      | 15 | 4                 | Mark Jordan       | 15 | 4                 | Jim Nickels          | 13 |
| 5                | David Harris    | 15 | 5                 | David Carlson  | 12 | 5                 | Peter Coggiola    | 14 | 5                 | Fred Schafer         | 11 |
| 6                | Bill McCord     | 14 | 6                 | Al Hutchko     | 10 | 6                 | Al Serafino       | 10 |                   | Terry Sherman        | 11 |
| 7                | Alan Fitzgerald | 9  | 7                 | Dick Socolich  | 7  | 7                 | Kevin Donahue     | 9  | 7                 | Robbie Robinson      | 10 |
| 8                | Jim Barstow     | 8  |                   | Jim Videle     | 7  | 8                 | Wayne Cook        | 7  |                   | Art Vogl             | 10 |
|                  | Neil Schmidt    | 8  | 9                 | Jim Clizbe     | 6  |                   | Jerry Hunter      | 7  | 9                 | Bill Hemmelsbach     | 8  |
| 10               | Phil Goff       | 7  |                   | Bob Donohue    | 6  | 10                | Richard Madden    | 3  |                   | Phil Jenkins         | 8  |
| 11               | Dirk Meyer      | 3  | 11                | Frank Portillo | 4  |                   | Kirk McVean       | 3  | 11                | Conrad Robertson     | 5  |
|                  | Mel Williams    | 3  | 12                | David Ferm     | 3  | 12                | Ben Bryce         | 2  | 12                | Brent Chaney         | 4  |
| 13               | Jerry Hicks     | 2  |                   | Bob Price      | 3  |                   | Max Foust         | 2  | 13                | Sam Beret            | 3  |
| 14               | Norm Alberts    | 1  |                   | Carlos Xavier  | 3  |                   | Alex Lutkus       | 2  |                   | Chuck Gilliam        | 3  |
|                  |                 |    | 15                | Bob Conlon     | 2  | 15                | Dick Chaffee      | 1  |                   | Marty Katz           | 3  |
|                  |                 |    | 16                | Bob Huck       | 1  |                   | Troy Powell       | 1  |                   | Jai Yee              | 3  |
|                  |                 |    |                   |                |    |                   |                   |    | 17                | Jerry Christopherson | 2  |
|                  |                 |    |                   |                |    |                   |                   |    |                   | George Pryhuber      | 2  |
|                  |                 |    |                   |                |    |                   |                   |    | 19                | John Peterson        | 1  |
|                  |                 |    |                   |                |    |                   |                   |    |                   | Al Satake            | 1  |

### 18-Hole Leaders -- First Half 2015

| Pos | NAME         | Pnts | 1 | Pos | NAME        | Pnts | 1 | Pos | NAME             | Pnts | 1 | Pos | NAME             | Pnts |
|-----|--------------|------|---|-----|-------------|------|---|-----|------------------|------|---|-----|------------------|------|
| 1   | Frank Crua   | 27   |   | 1   | Hugh Duggar | 45   |   | 1   | Bernie Wroblewsk | 33   |   | 1   | Matt Arena       | 22   |
| 2   | Jim Barstow  | 23   |   | 2   | Bob Testa   | 29   |   | 2   | Troy Powell      | 28   |   |     | Conrad Robertson | 22   |
| 3   | Al Zavattero | 21   |   | 3   | John Story  | 21   |   | 3   | Don Schroeder    | 18   |   | 3   | Robbie Robinson  | 17   |

## 18-Hole Pay In Advance Deadlines

| <u>Event Date</u>          | <u>Location</u>   | <u>Deadline</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Tuesday, January 19, 2016  | Deer Ridge        | Jan-10          | \$30          |
| Monday, January 25, 2016   | Las Positas       | Jan-15          | \$43          |
| Tuesday, February 16, 2016 | Brentwood         | Feb-7           | \$32          |
| Monday, February 22, 2016  | San Ramon         | Feb-6           | \$32          |
| Monday, February 29, 2016  | Callippe Preserve | Feb-13          | \$47          |
| Monday, March 7, 2016      | Sequoyah CC       | Feb-20          | \$50          |

Send checks made out to SIR Branch 116, Golf, PO Box 683, Lafayette, CA 94549-0683



RETURN TO: Neil Schmidt  
2231 San Miguel Dr.  
Walnut Creek, CA  
94596-5805

**Sons In Retirement: A non profit Organization for Men Enjoying Active Retirement**

### **Rules of Attendance and Membership for SIR Branch 116**

RULE 100. A member may be notified in writing by his Branch of the pending termination of his membership (Rule 107) should he be responsible for any of the following:

Miss three (3) consecutive regular luncheon meetings without having been excused by contacting the designated Branch Attendance person prior to the meeting date.

Did not attend one-half (5) of the regular luncheon meetings within the previous twelve consecutive month period. NOTE: Excused meetings cannot be included to achieve the minimum attendance.

RULE 101. Certification of attendance by a member at another Branch meeting will be considered as a credit to his attendance record. (Maximum of 2 visits per calendar year).

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### **Non Responsibility Declaration**

RULE 345: All activities arranged for or by, Sons In Retirement, Incorporated, and its Branches, are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their guests who desire to participate. Sons In Retirement, Incorporated, and its Branches do not assume any responsibility for the well being or safety of the participants or their property, in any matters pertaining to said activities.

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### **Checks for Trips**

Trips of 2 days and 1 night or less may be made payable to the Branch conducting the trip. Trips in excess of 1 night must be made payable to the travel agency involved.