



SIR Branch 116 Trampas Topics Newsletter November, 2018

Next Meeting: 11:30 am
Monday, Nov. 19, 2018
Boundary Oak, 3800 Valley
Vista Rd., Walnut Creek

A Nonprofit Public Benefit Organization for Men Enjoying Active Retirement

Sayings of 2018 Big Sir Marty Katz

October/November what busy months. We had a wonderful dinner with Dino-Sirs at Uncle Yu's. If you have never been too or it has been awhile. Make a reservation at the next Dino-Sirs Dinner. Look forward to seeing you.



We will be having an action-packed November meeting. It will also be the last formal meeting of the year and it will be my last meeting as your Big SIR. So, lets all make this the largest and most productive meeting of the year. You might ask so, what is going on at the November meeting? I am so glad you all asked.

We will be introducing and swearing in your new officers for 2019. All Vets and those associated with Veterans please send in your pictures to Neil Schmidt at TrampasTopics@gmail.com. Branch 116 will be honoring all of you. We will be putting on a Visual Collage to honor you. Lee Greenwood will be singing "Proud to be an American". See if there will be a dry eye in the house. DAYLIGHT SAVINGS, will have taken place so set your watches and be at the meeting on time. While at the meeting bring a check and sign up for the Annual Amazing Christmas Party. This is one event you all will not want to miss. This will be Jerry Christopherson's farewell Christmas Party as it's Chairman. Let's give him a positive send off. There is a rumor that yours truly a Chico State Graduate and Party Animal will likely take over as Branch 116 Party Chairman. November is also my wedding Anniversary so I am taking my wife to Hawaii. If you would not think that is enough in November, HAPPY THANKSGIVING. I am very thankful to know all of you and your families. What a Honor it is to have this privilege and to lead Branch 116. I am Very Thankful.

SEE YOU ALL NOVEMBER 19TH.

Marty Katz, Big SIR



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Christmas Dinner Dance—December 19th!



PLEASE CALL 322-1318

or email to

luncheon116@gmail.com
before 1PM the Monday
prior to the meeting to
cancel your standing res-
ervation or to bring a

2018 SIR Branch 116 Officers & Directors



Big SIR
Marty Katz
484-0122



Little SIR
Jerry Hicks
945-7465



Secretary
Fred Schafer
648-4199



Assist.Secretary
Dave Williams
216-6048



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
Peter Coggiola
820-1518



Director
David Harris
672-5543



Director
Al Hutchko
827-9130



Director
Paul Ramacciotti
229-2564



Director
Harry Sherinian
846-7067

2018 Activity Chairmen

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| • Book Group | Rich Black |
| • Book Exchange | John Fraser |
| • " " " | Dick Kauffman |
| • Bridge | Jon Dickson |
| • Computer & Tech. | Neil Schmidt |
| • Dine-O-SIR | Alex Lutkus |
| • Duplicate Bridge | Conrad Robertson |
| • Fishing | Harry Sherinian |
| • Golf-18 Hole | Bernie Wroblewski |
| • " " Asst. | Jim Johnson |
| • Golf-9 Hole | Dick Chaffee |
| • " " Asst. | Darrell Mclaughry |
| • " " Asst. | Skip Berkson |
| • Golf - Reno | Paul Ramacciotti |
| • Golf - Carmel | Jim Barstow |
| • Hiking & Walking | Joel White |
| • " " Asst. | John Riordan |
| • Mexican Train | Richard Madden |
| • " " Asst. | Alex Lutkus |
| • Parties | J. Christopherson |
| • Poker | Lou Sandor |
| • \$ums in Retirement | Ben Smith |
| • Walking Tours | Alan Fitzgerald |
| • " " Asst. | Greg Hughes |
| • Wine Appreciation | Lou Meylan |

Some Other SIR Area 16 Activities

Apple User Grp.	Dick Macy (Br.171)	376-1180
Astronomy	Bill Hunter (Br.8)	947-6947
Bocce	Bob Barnes (Br.8)	686-0106
Bowling	Dan Weller (Br. 8)	935-5510
Digital Photo.	Bill Phelon (Br.8)	254-8338
Pocket Pool	Jerry White (Br.8)	944-9068
Tennis	Ralph Thornicraft (174)	376-8140

2018 Support Chairmen

RAMP Committees (or Chairmen or Departments)

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| • Recruitment | Don Schroeder |
| • Activities | Fred Wachowicz |
| • Member Relations | Bob Donohue |
| • Publicity | Allan Chasnoff |

2018 Committee Chairmen:

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| • Audit Committee | Ron Armijo |
| • Nominating Committee | Paul Ramacciotti |
| • Sunshine Committee | Matt Arena |
| • Travel Committee | Don Murray |

Luncheon Support:


- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| • Attendance | Kevin Donohue |
| • Audio Visual | Neil Schmidt |
| • Chaplain Committee | Art Donaldson |
| • Greeters Committee | Paul Ramacciotti |
| • Interviewer | Max Foust |
| • Raffle Committee | Don Schroeder |
| • Speakers Committee | Jerry Hicks |
| • Storytellers Committee | Pete Coggiola |

Membership Relations Committee

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| • Computer Support | Neil Schmidt |
| • Email Contact | Phil Goff |
| • Membership Roster | George Pryhuber |

SIR Branch 116 Activity Calendar

November 2018

Sun.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
			9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC)	1	2	3
4	18-Hole Golf (9:32@ Boundary Oak GC)	Duplicate Bridge (10:00 Diablo Valley Bridge Ctr.)	9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Diablo Hills GC) Mexican Train (10:00@ TBD)	8	Hiking & Walking (8:15@ North parking lot in Arbolado Park, WC)	10
11	18-Hole Golf (9:32@ Boundary Oak GC)	Luncheon Bridge (11:30@ Diablo CC)	9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC) \$ums Investment (8:00@ Diablo Creek GC)	Computer & Tech (9:30@ Elks Club) Fishing Group (8:30@ Diablo Creek GC)		17
18	<u>SIR Br. 116</u> <u>Meeting</u> (11:30 @ Boundary Oak)	18-Hole Golf (No Event)	9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Brentwood CC)	 Happy Thanksgiving	Hiking & Walking (No Hiking Event)	24
25	18-Hole Golf (9:30@ Poppy Ridge GC) Book Group (10:15@ Orinda Books)	Luncheon Bridge (11:30@ Diablo CC)		Wine Appreciation (4:00@ Mike Schneider House)	30	



Br. 116 Treasurer's Report

Jim Nickels, Treasurer
(bjnickels@sbcglobal.net)

	Oct. 2018	2018 YTD
Contributions	\$ 5,692.90	\$ 59,702.34
Disbursements	\$ (7,362.08)	\$ (61,985.32)
Net (gain/(loss))	\$ (1,669.18)	\$ (2,282.98)
Oct. 31st Cash Balance		\$ 5,849.99

November Birthdays

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

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Norm Alberts | 9. Bill Hayes |
| 2. Bob Anderson | 10. JJ Johnson |
| 3. Bob Campbell | 11. Oscar Krikorian |
| 4. Brent Chaney | 12. Jim McCormick |
| 5. Bill Clarke | 13. Phil Perrelli |
| 6. Bob Conlon | 14. Neil Schmidt |
| 7. Steve Croshal | 15. Bob Testa |
| 8. Art Donaldson | 16. Art Vogl |

**Want a Free \$25 Lunch ?
Sponsor a New Member !**



Membership

Phil Goff
(philgoff@yahoo.com)

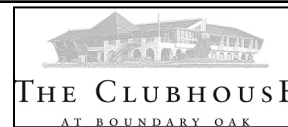
SIR 116 Membership Status

Total Current Membership is 207

Returned from Inactive to Active:

- Dick Savage

November Lunch Menu



SIRS 116 Luncheon

November 19, 2018

Salad

Spicy Carrot Salad

Baby Greens, Pineapple, Citrus Segments
Champagne Vinaigrette

Entrees

Holiday Turkey Dinner

Yukon Gold Mashed Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables, Turkey
Gravy

Or

Pan Seared Pacific Dory

Rice Pilaf, Seasonal Vegetables
Roasted Tomato Caper Sauce

Or

Roasted Vegetable Napoleon

Layered & Served with Melted Plum Tomatoes & Fresh Basil

Dessert

Pumpkin Cheesecake

Crème Anglaise, Whipped Cream

SIR Website Addresses

SIR 116 Web Site (With new design)

branch116.org

Branch 116 Golf

branch116golf.org

Computer and Technology

a2cat.sirinc2.org/

SIR Happenings State Newsletter

sirinc.org/sirhappenings



Meeting Speaker

2018 Little SIR Jerry Hicks
(jerryhicks@astound.net)



Our November luncheon includes a salute to our veterans who have served our country so honorably. One hundred years ago, the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month the armistice was signed, ending WWI, the “war to end all wars”! We are so happy to have **Colonel Chris Starling** join us on this special day.

The son of a retired Navy captain, Chris Starling graduated with a BA from the Virginia Military Institute and was commissioned as an infantry officer in 1988. He has served in the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Marine Divisions and participated in Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, and Iraqi Freedom.

While on active duty, Colonel Starling commanded the 2d Battalion, 2d Marines in Camp Lejeune, NC and the 23d Marines in San Bruno, CA. Chris completed his fifth deployment to the Persian Gulf area in July 2007 as the Commanding Officer of the Battalion Landing Team. His staff assignments included Assistant Professor of Military Science at the US Military Academy, West Point; Chief of the Partnership Division at US Africa Command in Stuttgart, Germany; and the senior US Military Advisor to the Emirati Presidential Guard in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

Colonel Starling retired from the Marine Corps in 2014. In 26 years serving as an infantry officer, he made ten overseas deployments including three combat tours. Upon retirement, he became the Director of Military and Veteran Affairs at the Marines’ Memorial Association in San Francisco, CA. In 2017 he began his current role as Operations Director at VetsInTech, a nonprofit organization supporting veterans with programs for employment, education, and entrepreneurship in the tech industry.

Chris still found time to earn a Master’s degree in Public Administration from the City University of New York. Additionally, he has represented the

Marine Corps as a revered Hoover Fellow at Stanford University where he wrote about China’s expanding influence in Africa.



**Big SIR Marty Katz presenting
“Twenty Years of Membership” awards to
Tim Hubbard and Allen Leschot**



Special Events

Jerry Christopherson
(jchris161k@aol.com)

This years annual **Christmas Dinner Dance** is on Wednesday, **December 19, at Boundary Oak**, Starting at 6pm with a social hour at 5pm

If you haven't decided yet, think about the following:

- A great Meal
- Dancing
- Door prizes
- Appearance by Santa
- High School Singers
- A few surprises
- Fellowship with your brother SIR's



CONVINCED?

Then sign up using the reservation form in this Trampas Topics or at our table at Novembers Meeting.

DON'T MISS OUT

(see page 8 for signup form)



Hiking & Walking

John Riordan & Joel White

(gcriordan@com, zpz2mrz@gmail.com)

David Geary led the Friday September 28 walk at the Lafayette Reservoir on a cool, overcast morning. Richard and Donna Black, Art and Mary Alice Donaldson, David and Colleen Geary, Dan Green, John Riordan, Joel and Susan White enjoyed the walk. The trail was newly paved, and an employee opened the mid-way gate just in time for Art and John to walk the full loop. Post-walk convocation was at Lafayette Chow, but service was so slow that several walkers had to leave prematurely.

Steve Bort led the Friday October 12 walk on the Iron Horse Trail south from the Stone Valley Road trailhead. It was a crisp sunny morning for walkers Steve Bort, Art and Mary Alice Donaldson, Anna Freitas, Dave Geary, Dan and Andrea Green, John and Gail Riordan, Richard and Aase White. Paul Freitas also joined us for the post-walk convocation at Panera Bread.

John Riordan led the Friday October 26 walk on the Bay Trail south from the San Leandro Marina Park trailhead. It was a gorgeous morning by the Bay. Walkers were Dan and Andrea Green, Dick Frankel, Paul Freitas, John and Gail Riordan, and Richard and Aase White. The post-walk lunch at nearby El Torrito was delicious and left everyone satiated.

Al Farberman will lead the **Friday November 9** walk. We will meet at 8:15 at the lower parking lot in Arbolado Park and walk north along the canal trail. Post-walk convocation will be at Denica's. RSVP to Al at allanfarberman@aol.com. Call his cell phone 925.708.0668 if you're running late.

There will be **no walk on Friday November 23** because of the Thanksgiving holiday.

All walks are with or without significant others. The significant other/spouse is also invited to participate even when the member is unable. Also, members and/or spouses are invited to join the post walk convocation even if they are unable to participate in a particular walk.

Anyone, including those from other SIR branches, wishing to join this mellow group, or to be added to the e-mail contact list, should contact John Riordan at gcriordan@comcast.net or 925-284-3394.



Br. 116 Book Group

Rich Black

(blackrw41@comcast.net)

The Book Group met on Monday October 22 to discuss "Educated" by Tara Westover, a memoir of a woman loyal to her isolated and deeply flawed family who through prodigious efforts attains advanced education and perspective on her upbringing.

Nick Bowles recommended the book and Rich Black led the discussion with Bob Wolf, Tim Tinnnes, Richard White, Art Donaldson, John Riordan, Mike Jerry Zampino, Jim Flessner, Mike Barrington, Garret Girvan, Dick Kauffman, Richard Rossland, Mac McLoughlin, Paul Freitas, Richard Frankel, Alan Pope and Jerry Christopherson.

While almost all found the book a compelling read and excellent fodder for discussion, there was less consensus of the emotional state of the author at the conclusion of the book. The group awarded it 3.8 stars.

The group agreed to meet again on **November 26** to discuss "Red Notice" by Bill Browder.

The Book Group meets at 10:15 am at Orinda Books, 276 Village Square, in Orinda.



Morgan Galli talking about the California High Speed Rail Project at October Meeting



Sunshine Report

Matt Arena

(marena@astound.net)

SIR **Jack Butler** passed away on October 10, 2018. Jack most enjoyed playing Bridge with his fellow SIR group and he was one the founders of the BOOK CLUB. He will be missed by his many friends.

SIR **Bob Campbell** was hospitalized with pneumonia but is home recovering. He sees some light at the end of the tunnel but will probably miss the next luncheon.

SIR **Lonny Randall** continues to recover from foot surgery. Knowing Lonny he will be back sooner than later.

ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE. BUT A LITTLE CHOCOLATE NOW AND THEN DOESN'T HURT.



Meeting Attendance

Kevin Donahue

(luncheon116@gmail.com)

October 15, 2018 Meeting Attendance

Active Members:	2077
Guests/Visitors:	1
Transfers & Inductees:	0
Speakers:	1
Members Excused:	45
Excused due to long term illness:	3
Members NOT excused:	11
Total Attendance:	140
% of Active Members in Attendance	71%

Members not excused will be asked to pay for their missed lunch.



Bridge

Jon Dickson

(still26@sbcglobal.net)

SIR's Ladies Day, Couples Lunch & Bridge at Diablo Country Club was held on Tuesday, October 16th and 38 showed up for a fun day of bridge. 44 were originally scheduled to play but some we're not able to make the game. 38 players totaled 9-1/2 tables, playing Chicago style and all played to win. 4 slams were made in the afternoon and ion the final result Dee Formusa and Jon Dickson came out on top in a rather low scoring afternoon. Linda Gross & Mike Schneider came in second. Our next couples lunch & bridge game will be next April so do mark your calendars for that party.

Our standard SIR's lunch & bridge games are on the **2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month** at Diablo Country Club. All interested in playing bridge are welcome to join is at our games. Call if you have an interest in bridge.

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



Book Exchange

John Fraser & Dick Kauffman

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



The Book Club sponsors a book exchange before every monthly meeting. We have a wide variety of titles on tables opposite the bar at Boundary Oaks, you are encouraged to browse and take home books that interest you. We are currently at full capacity so no new donations are necessary. We can use some help moving the books at the end of the meeting as we cannot store them at Boundary Oaks, your help would really be appreciated. Read and enjoy!!



THE 2018 EDITION OF SIR BRANCH 116'S

CHRISTMAS DINNER DANCE!

Wednesday, December 19, 2018 – 5:00 to 10:30PM

The Clubhouse at Boundary Oak

3800 Valley Vista Road, Walnut Creek 94598

5:00-6:00 Registration and No Host Bar

6:00-7:00 Entertainment/Brief Business Meeting

7:00-10:30 Dinner/Door Prizes/Dancing

Choice of Entree @\$55.00 per person:

Vegetable Wellington

Grilled Marinated Bistro Filet

Pan Seared Salmon with Ginger Salsa

Includes salad, seasonal vegetables and dessert



CHRISTMAS DINNER DANCE - Boundary Oak - 12/19/2018

RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 10, 2018

(Circle entrée choice)

NAME: _____ Salmon Filet Veggie

NAME: _____ Salmon Filet Veggie

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: SIR Branch 116 (\$55.00 Per Person)

MAIL CHECK TO: Lou Sandor, 581 Cesar Court, Walnut Creek, CA 94598-2228

I WOULD LIKE TO RESERVE A TABLE WITH THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE: (tables of ten)



Walking Tours

Alan Fitzgerald

(galan.fitzgerald@gmail.com)

During the past year the following Saturday Walking Tours were held:

- SF Cable Car Museum
- Black Hawk Museum
- Oakland Aviation Museum
- Mare island Museum
- Bonsai Gardens in Oakland
- SF Asian Art Museum

I would like to thank all the members who supported these tours by joining us. If you get a chance next year attend the tours, they can be very interesting. Keep your eye on the section in the newsletter for upcoming events.

\$ums Investment Group

Tom Henry (Branch 174)

(tomh925@icloud.com)

\$UMS in Retirement meets again on **Wed Nov 14** at 8 AM (2nd Wednesday this time due to Thanksgiving) at the Legends Restaurant at Diablo Creek Golf Course on Port Chicago Highway, Concord, just north of Hwy 4.

Our speaker will be Joan Grimes, J. D., who will speak about income tax in preparation for the first filings under the new law.

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

Trampas Topics Submissions



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

Neil Schmidt, Trampas Topics Editor
trampastopics@gmail.com



Computer & Technology

Neil Schmidt

(SIR.Area2.CAT@gmail.com)

The next Computer & Technology meeting will be **November 15th**. The presentation topic for this meeting will be "Photoshop Elements-2019 and Another Photo Editing Option". Barry Brown, our resident Photoshop expert, will demonstrate some of the exciting new photo editing features now available with this PC based program. New features available in Version 2019, as advertised by Adobe, include "Adobe's Sensei" that automates photo editing, precise selection made effortlessly, and stunning creations, etc. Barry will also demonstrate another, lower cost, photo editing option to Photoshop Elements.

The Area 16 Computer and Technology Group meetings are fun and informative where we discuss applications for computers and technology. At each meeting we have a presentation on a topic covering everything from antivirus programs, ways to back up your data, digital photography, genealogy research, smart phones and many other topics. It's a great way to learn about new technology and to also get answers to your computer questions or problems.



"Dine-O-SIR" Dinner Group

Alex Lutkus

(alutkus@yahoo.com)

The Dine-O-SIR Dinner Group had a delectable, two night, dining event in October at Uncle Yu's Chinese Restaurant. The savory variety of Asian morsels were so delicious and plentiful that many guests departed for home with a bag of lavish leftovers.

October's event brings the 2018 Dine-O-SIR dining schedule to a close. We are now planning for the 2019 Dine-O-SIR Dinner Group schedule of events. Stay tuned for future announcements.

The Dine-O-SIR Committee wish you all the best during the remainder of 2018.



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, November 15th**, in the Legend Sports Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course at 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Meeting starts at 8:30am, come early. Contact Harry Sherinian 510-207-7067 Big Fish and Branch 116 Fishing Coordinator.

IMPORTANT: THE NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER MEETINGS ARE ON THE THIRD THURSDAY, NOT THE FOURTH.

Our 10th annual fish extravaganza with the Branch 8 Sir's in the kitchen was the usual delight, the big event since last report was Dick Thomson catching and releasing another big sturgeon from San Pablo Reservoir. Last years were 5 footer, this year 6 footer. Carl Moyer and Ron Lew were busy for the entire 2 hours it took to bring the beast to the boat for the release. As far as we know, no one but Dick has caught a sturgeon from this small lake. The salmon fishing upon the ocean is over, an incredible and marvelous year, Ralieg Davis was the last of us to get the pink meat. But, Bob Stein, Brion Beetz, Carl Moyer, Terry Miller and son, and Ron Lew all caught rock fish and ling cod. Chuck Vanoncini caught great Rainbow Trout on the upper Sacramento River. Tom Kostik, Mike Corker, Terry Miller and Harry Sherinian all caught stripers in the delta. Our winter trout and sturgeon season begins now.



Poker

Lou Sandor

(lsandor@astound.net)

Contact Lou Sandor at 925-944-1634 or lsandor@astound.net if you are interested in joining the Poker group



Chuck Vanoncini on the Sacramento River



We Want Your Photos!

We are collecting "old time" photos of our veteran members in their uniform. These photos are to be used in a special **Veteran's Appreciation Slideshow** to be shown at our **November Meeting**. If you are a veteran and want to be included in the slideshow, send a photo or two to trampastopics@gmail.com. Include the approximate year and location of each photo.



SIR Travel

Don Murray

(dmurray721@comcast.net)

Jan 30 –Feb 15, 2019: Princess Panama Canal

Cruise: Ft. Lauderdale to San Francisco. 15 nights Aboard the Coral Princess. Pre-Cruise hotel in Ft. Lauderdale. 9 Port of Calls. Price includes Air Fare, Bus R/T to Airport and return Pier. Baggage handling for one suitcase. Price range from \$3525 to \$4975 Double Occupancy. For additional information please contact Bill Stires #143 209 544-2684

Feb 15-Mar 2, 2019: Cruise from San Francisco to Ft Lauderdale. 15 day cruise aboard the Coral Princess with port stops at Cabo San Lucas, San Juan Del Sur, Puntarenas, Fuerte Amador, cruising through the Panama Canal, Cartagena, and Ft Lauderdale. Cost ranges from \$3390 to \$4190 depending on stateroom and includes, home pickup, shipboard meals and entertainment, R/T airfare, luggage handling, transfers, all drivers and porters, gratuities, all applicable taxes. For additional information please contact Archie Belogolovsky 408 767-2838. arkadybel@gmail.com

April 24-28, 2019: San Antonio Spring Fiesta: 5 day tour includes, Fiesta Flambeau Parade, City Tour, Tower of Americas, River Walk, Alamo, also Home Pick up, R/T Airfare, Professional Tour Manager, Deluxe Motor coach w/ restroom, 4 Nights Hotel Accommodation at Drury Plaza Hotel Riverwalk, 8 meals: All 4 breakfasts, 1 lunch and 3 dinners – Plus all taxes and Gratuities, Baggage Handling for 1 suitcase per person (except airline Baggage fees) Contact for additional information, Roy Newman #45 530 755-3713
roy.newmand@comcast.net or Talbot Tours 800 6629933

July 25 – Aug 3, 2019: Alpine Swiss Villages: Unpack twice, an In-Depth Look at the World Famous Bernese Oberland, Plus Swiss Confederation (National) Day Celebration!!! 7 Nights in the quaint alpine village of Wengen (1000 people at 4,800 feet, surrounded by 14,000 foot mountains like the Eiger, Monch and Jungfrau. And 1 Night in Zurich. Includes R/T Air and Airport Transfer, 15 Meals,

Taxes and Gratuities. Price DO \$5375 – Single \$5995 For further Information contact Roy Newman 530 755-3713 roy.newman@comcast.net

Aug 23 – Sept 9, 2019 Princess Cruise Iceland and Norway on the Pacific Princes R/T London (Dover) Includes Home Pickup, R/T Air, 1 Pre-night London, 14 day cruise, Luggage Handling for One suitcase, All transfer between the Airport, Ship and Pier. Plus All Driver and porter Gratuities and Pre-Trip Orientation. Prices DO Inside \$6032 to Balcony \$7212-Single Inside \$10362 to Balcony \$12732 For further information contact Archie Belogolovsky 408 253-3956 arkadybel@gmail.com or Joe Salamida 408 7672838 ascreenman756@gmail.com #54

September 7-22 2019: - TASTE OF BORDEAUX: AMA Waterways Cruise on Almadolce, 4 Night Pre-Cruise-Spain – 3 Night Post Cruise Loire Valley/Paris. Price range from \$7995 Fixed Window to Suite with French Balcony \$9930. All transfers and Airfare included. Contact Jim Stoner 408 238-8458



Some SIR Travel Opportunities

SIR Area 16 web site has many other travel opportunities. Check them out at: <http://area2.sirinc2.org/>



Wine Appreciation Group

Lou Meylan

(loumeylan@hotmail.com)

The next Wine Appreciation meeting will be **November 29th** from 4pm to 6pm. It will be hosted by Mike Schneider but held at the home of Lou Meylan. If you plan to attend please rsvp to Mike Schneider at 510-543-7034 or email to schnei-



"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!

The train master has some catching up to do as he missed reporting for the last three months. Yes, we have been playing.

August 8th we had eight players. Our winner was Alex Lutkus with 237. We had five players who scored in the 300's, Richard Madden-324, Brent Chaney-339, Dan Seaberg (guest from Minnesota)-342, Kirk McVean-364 and Bob Wolf-384. Rounding out the field was Gary Bonfiglio with 453 and Harry Sherinian at 521. That is very uncharacteristic for Harry.

September 12th we had seven players. Richard Madden came in first with a 205 followed by Harry Sherinian with 236, Gary Bonfiglio with 298, John Riordan with 311, Kirk McVean with 336, Bob Wolf with 354 and Brent Chaney with 385. The scores were low as no one scored 499 or more.

On October 3th we played a week early as the train master was traveling. We had five players and the leader in the clubhouse was Richard Madden with 196. Bob Wolf came in second with 247 followed by Brent Chaney with 287. Kirk McVean (521) and John Riordan (523) were neck and neck as anchors.

We meet at 10:00 AM on the second Wednesday of the month, except when we have conflicts, at the Church of Christ located at 500 Minert Road, Walnut Creek. Our next meeting is on November 14th.

The attendance for Couples Train has been sparse lately. The month of November will be tough to

schedule with Thanksgiving.

I will be sending out notices. Let me know if you would like to be put on our list.

You can contract Richard Madden at:

maddenram@sbcglobal.net or 925-788-4223

2019 Golf Membership Dues

It is time to renew your SIR Branch 116 Golf Club Membership for 2019. For 2019, the SIR Branch 116 18-Hole Golf Club dues will be \$20 and the NCGA membership will be \$39. For the 9-Hole golf group, the dues will be \$15.

- 9-Hole Group Only \$15
- 18-Hole & NCGA with another club \$20
- 18-Hole & NCGA with Br.116 \$59

18-Hole Golf membership includes the 9-Hole Golf membership.

Please bring your 2019 Golf Membership dues check to the November SIR meeting or send it to the SIR P.O. Box. (SIR BRANCH 116 GOLF, P. O. Box 683, Lafayette, CA 94549-0683). Please add "2019 Membership" to the memo line on your check.

If you have any questions about SIR Branch 116 Golf membership, please contact David Harris at davyharris@aol.com.

No 18-Hole Golf on Thanksgiving Week

Due to Thanksgiving week, there will be no "away" golf outing for the 18-hole group on the Tuesday following our November 19 luncheon meeting.



SIR Branch 116 Golf

By Bernie Wroblewski, Golf Chairman
(bbwroblewski@comcast.net)

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.

In addition to the Tournament format, Special Events such as Match Play, Best Ball, Scramble, and others are also periodically scheduled.

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. 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, 2nd place 2 and 3rd 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 is: branch116golf.org

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

- **2018 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, start-

ing 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.

November 9-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Wed. 07	10:00	Buchanan Fields	Dick Chaffee
Wed. 14	10:00	Diablo Hills	D.McClaughry
Wed. 21	10:00	Buchanan Fields	Dick Chaffee
Wed. 28	10:00	Brentwood	Skip Berkson

November 18-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Mon. 5	9:32	Boundary Oak	Alan Fitzgerald
Mon. 12	9:32	Boundary Oak	Alan Fitzgerald
Tue. 20	-	No event	-
Mon. 26	9:30	Poppy Ridge	Alan Fitzgerald

18-Hole Results

Rancho Solano, Mon, Oct 22, 2018

Al Hutchko, Official Scorer

Flight 1

1st Phil Goff 64 3
2nd Jerry Hicks 67 2
3rd Mel Williams 77 1

Flight 2

Tie 1st Dirk Meyer 65 3
Tie 1st Harry Oberle 65 3
Tie 3rd Frank Portillo 69 1
Tie 3rd Al Zavattero 69 1

Flight 3

1st Al Hutchko 67 3
2nd Bob Testa 80 2
3rd No One

Flight 4

1st Bill Hemmelsbach 69 3
2nd Conrad Robertson 71 2
Tie 3rd Matt Arena 76 1
Tie 3rd Fred Schafer 76 1

Low Gross

Phil Goff 79

Low Gross

Dirk Meyer 87
Harry Oberle 87

Low Gross

Al Hutchko 92

Low Gross

Bill Hemmelsbach 106

Closest-to

Mel Williams

Closest-to

Hank McDermott

Closest-to

Al Hutchko

Closest-to

Wayne Cook

Paradise Valley, Tue, Oct 16, 2018

Gary Boswell, Official Scorer

Flight 1

1st David Harris 67 3
2nd Jim Barstow 68 2
3rd Denny Giambastiani 70 1

Flight 2

1st Don Schroeder 63 3
2nd Gary Boswell 68 2
3rd Bernie Wroblewski 70 1

Flight 3

1st Al Hutchko 70 3
2nd David Carlson 74 2
3rd Brent Chaney 82 1

Flight 4

1st Robbie Robinson 73 3
Tie 2nd Conrad Robertson 75 2
Tie 2nd Fred Schafer 75 2

Low Gross

Denny Giambastiani 81

Low Gross

Don Schroeder 82

Low Gross

Al Hutchko 95

Low Gross

Robbie Robinson 111

Closest-to

Michael Barrington

Closest-to

Gary Boswell

Closest-to

Al Hutchko

Closest-to

Wayne Cook

Boundary Oak, Mon, Oct. 8, 2018

Wayne Cook, Official Scorer

Flight 1

1st David Harris 65 3
2nd Jerry Hicks 67 2
3rd Tie Jim Barstow 69 1

Flight 2

1st Don Schroeder 67 3
2nd Tom O'Brien 68 2
3rd Tie Harry Oberle 69 1
3rd Tie Al Zavattero 69 1

Flight 3

1st Tie Kirk McVean 70 3
2nd Pete Coggiola 72 2
3rd Tie David Carlson 73 1
3rd Tie Jed Daniel 73 1

Flight 4

1st Matt Arena 67 3
2nd Conrad Robertson 70 2
3rd Fred Schafer 71 1

Low Gross

David Harris 83

Low Gross

Don Schroeder 87

Low Gross

Al Hutchko 100

Low Gross

Kevin Donahue 105

Closest-to #2

Al Hutchko

Closest-to #2

Al Zavattero

Closest-to #2

Al Hutchko

Closest-to #2

Bill Hemmelsbach

Two-Man Match Play Results

Harris/Arena def Wroblewski/Hutchko 7 and 6

Two-Man Better Ball Results

1st Harris/Arena - 58

2nd Tie Schroeder/Schafer - 83

2nd Tie Boswell/Zavattero - 63

2nd Tie Hicks/Vogl - 63

Lone Tree, Mon, Oct. 1, 2018

Harry Oberle, Official Scorer

Flight 1

1st Jim Barstow 66 3
2nd Denny Giambastiani 68 2
3rd Mel Williams 73 1

Flight 2

1st Don Schroeder 70 3
2nd Tie Marty Katz 73 2
2nd Tie Carlos Xavier 73 2

Flight 3

1st Tie Randy Welker 69 3
2nd Tie Pete Coggiola 74 2
2nd Tie Jai Yee 74 2

Flight 4

1st Art Vogl 70 3
2nd Fred Schafer 72 2
3rd Bill Hemmeslbach 73 1

Low Gross

Denny Giambastiani 80

Low Gross

Don Schroeder 89

Low Gross

Randy Welker 96

Low Gross

Art Vogl 107

Closest-to #5

Jim Barstow

Closest-to #5

Marty Katz

Closest-to #5

Pete Coggiola

Closest-to #5

Greg Hughes

Two-Man Match Play Results

Schafer/Madden def Goff/Robertson 3 and 2

Barstow/Welker def Giambastiani/Coggiola 8 and 7

2018 Second Half Leaders (As of Paradise Valley, Tue, Oct 16, 2018)

<u>FLIGHT 1</u>		<u>FLIGHT 2</u>		<u>FLIGHT 3</u>		<u>FLIGHT 4</u>	
<u>Name</u>	<u>Pts</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Pts</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Pts</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Pts</u>
Jim Barstow	18	Harry Oberle	20	Dave Carlson	19	Fred Schafer	15
Jim Johnson	16	Al Zavattero	18	Al Hutchko	17	Conrad Robertson	15
Phil Goff	15	Don Schroeder	15	Richard Madden	8	Wayne Cook	11
David Harris	12	Bernie Wroblewski	13	Pete Coggiola	8	Art Vogl	11
Mel Williams	12	Marty Katz	4	Kirk McVean	7	Jerry Christopherson	9
Jerry Hicks	7	Bob Price	3	Terry Grummitt	6	Matt Arena	7
Denny Giambastiani	3	Hank McDermott	3	Bob Testa	6	Bill Hemmelsbach	7
Alan Fitzgerald	3	Charles McInnis	3	Terry Sherman	4	Robbie Robinson	5
Jim McCormick	2	Tom O'Brien	3	Randy Welker	4	Kevin Donahue	4
Don Benioff	1	Dirk Meyer	3	Brent Chaney	4	Greg Hughes	2
Bill McCord	1	David Ferm	2	Bob Conlon	2	Phil Jenkins	2
		Carlos Xavier	2	Jai Yee	2		
		Gary Boswell	2	Jim Nickels	1		
		Frank Portillo	2	Al Satake	1		
				Jed Daniel	1		

2018 First Half Winners (June 25, 2018)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Pts</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Pts</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Pts</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Pts</u>
Jim Barstow	28	Don Schroeder	25	Al Hutchko	40	Wayne Cook	24

Golf Hotline: The Golf Telephone Hotline can be reached at 925-906-5355.

You may leave a message to register for 9-Hole & 18-Hole tournaments, cancel a previous registration, make special requests for pairings, ask to be added to a waiting list after the deadline and check to see if a tournament has been cancelled due to inclement weather or other reasons.

- If you are registering for Boundary Oak, please indicate whether you are Walking or Riding.
- If you are registering for Paid-in-Advance tournaments, please mail your check prior to the deadline to SIR Branch 116 Golf, P. O. Box 683, Lafayette, CA 94549-0683.

Electronic Signups and Cancellations

Please note that you may also signup for Boundary Oak & Paid-in-Advance tournaments on this website. Simply navigate to 18-Hole Group/Schedules & Signups and choose either Boundary Oak or Paid-in-Advance. You may cancel a previous signup either by using the telephone hotline or by sending an email to branch116golf@gmail.com.

18-Hole Pay In Advance Deadlines

<u>Event Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Amount</u>
November 26	Poppy Ridge	Nov. 21	\$47
December 17	Brentwood	Dec. 7	\$35

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 & Membership for SIR Branch 116

RULE 100. A member shall be notified in writing and/or telephone by his Branch of the pending termination of his membership 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 of the regular luncheon meetings within the previous twelve consecutive month period. NOTE: Excused meetings cannot be included to achieve the minimum attendance.
- All legitimate alternatives to termination shall be explored. The member's response may suggest an alternative to termination such as inactive status.

RULE 101. Certification of attendance by a member at another Branch meeting will be considered as a credit to his attendance record. Individual Branches may limit the number of make-ups during a 12-month period.

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.

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.