

Topics

SIR Branch 116 Newsletter November 2021

Enhancing the lives of our members through fun activities, luncheons and events while making Friends for Life

Message from Sam



I hope all of our members and their families are doing well.

We had a very interesting speaker for our October 18th luncheon. Our speaker was Nancy Ukai, who is director of the "50 Objects" history website which explores the WWII imprisonment of Japanese Americans through 50 artifacts.

Twelve of Nancy's family members were taken from their homes in the East Bay in 1942 and moved by train to Topaz, Utah, in 1942. Her grandmother and aunts remained in the camps until 1945. Nancy, born in Berkeley and graduated from UC Santa Cruz in 1976, moved to Japan on a Fulbright English Fellowship and she worked in Tokyo as a journalist for 14 years. She gave a very moving presentation on life internment camps during World War II.

However I was disappointed that only 54 of our members attended the presentation. Maybe we are all suffering from Zoom 'burnout'!

As you recall we had our July monthly meeting in person at Boundary Oak. After that we had to go back to Zoom meetings due Covid Delta variant and the mask requirements imposed by Contra Costa County. Last week we conducted a survey of our membership to see whether they want to go back to in-person monthly meetings at Boundary Oak. The survey results show that our members are still cautious and want to wait for lifting of mask requirements before they commit to in-person meetings. Therefore, your BEC decided to have the November 15 meeting on Zoom. BEC will decide on November 15 whether to have a special luncheon meeting or a social get-together in December.

We will have another interesting presentation during our November 15th Zoom luncheon meeting. The speaker, Neil Montgomery is a one of Brazil's leading aviation lawyers and for more than 15 years has advised foreign airlines establishing their Brazilian operation from a legal, regulatory and tax perspective. He is a published author and speaker on aviation related topics, as well as an "aero philatelist", a collector of air mail stamps. Please mark November 15 on your calendars and join us on Zoom.

We recorded the October 18th luncheon presentation by Nancy Ukai so that those members who missed it can view it via the YouTube. You can find the link in our website.

The Holiday Season is just around the corner and I wish you and your families a Happy Thanksgiving.

Sam Beret, Big SIR

Next Meeting Nov. 15 via Zoom-11:30 AM

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There will be no inperson Branch luncheon at Boundary Oak in November. Join us via Zoom on November 15th.

2021 SIR Branch 116 Officers



Big SIR Sam Beret



Little SIR Fred Wachowicz



Treasurer Alan **Fitzgerald**



Asst.Treas. Al Satake



Secretary Paul Ramacciotti



Asst. Sec. Alan Pope



Member.Sec. Phil Goff

2021 SIR Branch 116 Directors







Gary Boswell



Roger Craig



Kevin Donahue



A1 Farbman



Darrell McClaughry

2021 Support Chairmen

RAMP Department Heads:

Recruitment

Activities

• Member Relations

• Publicity

Branch Support Chairmen:

• Audit Committee

Nominating Committee

Sunshine Committee

Computer Support

Webmaster

• Newsletter Editor

• New Member Orientation

• Membership Roster Prep

Diversity Support Team

• Team Leader

Team Member

Team Member

Team Member

Team Member

Team Member

Team Advisor

Luncheon Support Team:

• Attendance

• Audio Visual

Chaplain Committee

Greeters Committee

• Raffle Committee

Storytellers Committee

Speakers Committee

• Team Member

Team Member

Team Member

Team Member Team Member Don Schroeder

Mike Ward

Tom O'Brien/Roger Craig

Allan Farbman

Ron Armijo

Michael Barrington

Matt Arena

Neil Schmidt/Phil Goff

Neil Schmidt/Phil Goff

Neil Schmidt

Dave Williams

George Pryhuber

Fred Wachowicz

Sam Beret

Terry Sherman

Al Satake

Jerry Hicks

Jim McCormick

Lee Moy

Mike Scheneider

Neil Schmidt

Terry Sherman

Terry Grummitt Ben Bryce

Mac McLoughlin/F. Schafer

Fred Wachowicz Jeff Johnson Allan Farbman

Paul Freitas

Roger Craig

2021 Activity Chairmen

		
Activity	Chairman	Asst. Chairman
	Chamman	
 Amiable Amblers 	John Riordan	Joel White
 Bocce 	Paul Russell	Harry Sherinian
 Book Group 1 	Rich Black	Steve Bort
Book Group 2	Alan Pope	Scott Clark
 Book Exchange 	John Fraser	Dick Kauffma
• Bridge	Jon Dickson	Bob Wolf
 Computer & Tech. 	Neil Schmidt	Phil Goff
 Dine-O-SIR 	Alex Lutkus	Marty Katz
 Duplicate Bridge 	Conrad Robertson	Tom Henry
Fishing	Harry Sherinian	Terry Miller
• Golf—18 Hole	Bernie Wroblewski	Jim Johnson
 Golf−9 Hole 	Dick Chaffee	D. Mclaughry
 Golf—Treasurer 	Alan Pope	,

Alan Pope Jim Barstow

Golf-Carson City David Harris

Jeff Johnson

Golf-Clinic Richard Madden • Mexican Train

Parties

• Pickleball

Poker

Saturday Tours

Golf-Carmel

\$ums in Retirement Travel

• Wine-O-SIR

Marty Katz Ed Solomon Lou Sandor

Greg Hughes Ben Smith **TBD**

Lou Meylan

Gary Bonfiglio

JJ, Harris, Eller

Harry Oberle

Alex Lutkus

A Thank You to all Br. 116 SIR Who Volunteer to be Leaders

Some Other SIR Area 16 Activities

Apple User Group	Dick Macy (Br.171)	376-1180
Astronomy	Bill Hunter (Br.8)	947-6947
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

Monthly Activities Calendar

November 2021

Sun.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	18-Hole Golf (9:35@ Boundary Oak)		9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Pleasanton GC)		Pickleball (8:00@ Heather Farms)	Gold Clinic
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	18-Hole Golf (9:35@ Boundary Oak)		9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Diablo Hills GC) Mexican Train (10:00@ Church of Christ, WC)	Veterans Day	Hiking & Walking (8:15@ Moraga Commons Parking Lot) Pickleball (8:00@ Heather Farms)	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	SIR Br. 116 Meeting (11:30 via Zoom)	18-Hole Golf (09:30@ Napa Kennedy GC)	9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC)	Computer & Tech (9:30 via Zoom) Fishing Group (8:30 via Zoom) Book Group 2 (11:00 via Zoom) Wine-O-SIR (4:00@ Breitwieser's)	Pickleball (8:00@ Heather Farms)	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	18-Hole Golf (10:12@ Paradise Valley GC)		9-Hole Golf (10:00@ TBD)	Happy Thanksgiving	Pickleball (8:00@ Heather Farms)	
28	29	30				



Branch Administration



Treasury Report

Alan Fitzgerald, Treasurer

October 26, 2021

Total Bank Acct. Balance: \$9736.79



Branch Membership

Phil Goff, Membership Chairman

Total Current Membership: 200

SIR Web Addresses

SIR 116 Web Site branch116.org

Branch 116 Golf branch116golf.org

Branch 116 Shopping Cart

sons-in-retirement-las-trampas-br-116.square.site

Area 16 Computer and Technology sirinc2.org/a16cat/

SIR Happenings State Newsletter sirinc.org/newsletters/

November Birthdays

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

- 1. Norm Alberts
- 2. Bob Anderson
- 3. Bob Campbell
- t Dec Carry
- 4. Brent Chaney
- 5. Bill Clarke
- 6. Bob Conlon
- 7. Steve Croshal

- 8. Art Donaldson
- 9. Bill Hayes
- 10. JJ Johnson
- 11. Phil Perrelli
- 12. Lonny Randall
- 13. Neil Schmidt



Sunshine

Matt Arena

SIR **John Ca**nane passed on OCTOBER 3,2021 in Athens ,Georgia. John and his wife Marie moved to be close to their children. Golf was one of John's favorite sports which he played with our members while a member of our Branch. John will be missed by his many friends in SIR.

Sir **Lou Sandor** is dealing with arthritis of the spine which has slowed him down .He is on physical therapy and is making progress. His wife Zora tells me that Lou should be back to "normal" in about 6-8 weeks . Hang in there old pal.

I ASK NOT FOR A LIGHTER BURDEN BUT FOR BROADER SHOULDERS

Jewish Prover

In Memoriam John Thomas Canane

April 16, 1929 - October 3, 2021



SIR HAPPENINGS

Checkout the new and improved State SIR Happenings Newsletter. With a new editor the newsletter February 2021 has been radically expanded with lots of information about fun things that are going on in our branches.

You can find it at: https://sirinc.org/newsletters

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

Luncheon Speaker



November Zoom Meeting

November 15, 2021

"Status of Commercial Aviation" Neil Montgomery

Neil Montgomery is a one of Brazil's leading aviation lawyers and for more than 15 years has advised foreign airlines establishing their Brazilian operation from a legal, regulatory and tax perspective. He

is a published author and speaker on aviation related topics, as well as an "aero philatelist", a collector of air mail stamps.

Branch Administration



Little SIR Report

Fred Wachowicz

Trick or Treat! Hope that you are on the Treat end this year!

Our November speaker is Neil Montgomery who lives in San Paulo, Brazil and is a recognized global executive in the commercial airlines industry. Neil can advise us on covid's impact on the industry as well other significant issues in commercial airline travel. Don't miss this one which promises to be an extremely interesting discussion as we return to the world of travel.

Covid continues to recede in Contra Costa County and our prospects for a more normal 2022 and Branch 116 activities looks promising. Some worldwide locations are experiencing continuing covid assault, but it looks like our favorable prospects reflect the value of both vaccines and protease related treatments.

If you weren't able to catch last month's speaker, check it out on our Branch website. Nancy Ukai gave a truly heartwarming, factual account of the

great American Tragedy of Japanese American Internment in World War II. Many Japanese American served in our armed forces while their families lived in internment camps.

Get back into golf by joining our Golf Lesson activity which is on a roll. Maybe you can be in the next Ryder Cup!

Congratulations to both Scott Clark and Jeff Daniels who shared the October prize for getting another year younger. Well done, Guys!

Still forming our Branch Veterans Team of roughly 10 Members to handle the Pledge of Allegiance at our Luncheons and address other Veteran related functions. Let me know if you can help and expect a call from me if you are a Veteran. November celebrates all our Veterans so send Neil pictures of our military days that we can use to celebrate the days when our hair was brown and we served our country.



Branch Diversity

Fred Wachowicz

The focus of our Branch Diversity Team continues to be that of insuring that all retired or semi-retired men of any ethnic background in our community are aware of the benefits that SIR offers to make lifelong friends in our Contra Costa Community while having fun by participating in the many activities that we offer.

Our efforts do not include involvement, discussion, or participation in the various political aspects of Diversity related positions expressed in today's political action groups.

Since our last speaker as well as one of our own

members (Al Satake) are members of the Japanese American Citizens league we are making an effort to connect with this group to recruit men who may be interested in joining our SIR Branch especially given that many are avid golfers and may well enjoy our golf program which is one of the best SIR Branch golf groups across the entire organization.

Our team has also made a slight 2 word edit to the great tri-fold flyer that Al Farbman created that we can use to ensure that men of any ethnic background recognize that they are welcome to join our Branch and join in the fun and friendship.



Mexican Train Dominos

Rechard Madden

In September we had five in attendance. Richard Madden came in with 283 while close on his heels was Harry Sherinian at 285. The lead changed hands on the last round. Kirk McVean scored 360, Alex Lutkus was at 415 with Gary Bonfiglio rounding out the participants with a 486.

October we were back up to seven. That's above our average even before Covid. Alex Lutkus was first at 282. Second at 310 was Harry Sherinian while third place was Paul Freitas with 313. Since the maximum single domino can cost you 50 points these three

were within one domino of each other. The others scores were Brent Chaney 493, Kirk McVean 409, Gary Bonfiglio 368 and Richard Madden 358.

We meet at 10:00 AM on the second Wednesday of each month at the Church of Christ located at 500 Minert Road, Walnut Creek.

Please email me and if you would like to talk and I can give you a call. I will be sending out notices. Let me know if you would like to be put on our list.



BridgeJohn Dickson

We are very sorry we had to cancel our October Ladies Day Bridge on October 17th because of Covid-19 rules but hope to start up our day with the ladies next April again.

Because Diablo Country Club is having a very large members event on our day, Tuesday, October 28th, they cannot accommodate our lunch & bridge, so we had to cancel.



Computers & Tech

The next SIR Area 16 Computer & Technology meeting will be on **November 18th at 9:30 AM** via Zoom.

The discussion topic, led by Alan Baker, will be "Two-Factor Authentication: Beyond Text Messages".

When security matters, we use two-factor authentication as a second layer of protection. We usually use text messages, but recent breaches of cell phone carriers have shown that this is not the most secure approach. There are better alternatives.

These alternatives include authenticator applica-

tions and hardware keys. An authenticator app generates a unique 6-digit code every 30 seconds and a hardware key can be plugged into your computer's USB port.

In this presentation we will discuss a range of twofactor authentication methods and demonstrate an authenticator app and hardware key. If security is important to you, plan to attend on November 18th.

To attend the Zoom meeting, individuals need to sign-up for the CAT's mailing list by sending an email to SIRArea2CAT@gmail.com. A few days before the meeting, a Zoom web link that is needed to connect will be sent to members on the mailing list.

\$ums Investment

Tom Henry (Br. 174)

We will again join Branch 128's (San Ramon) Investment Group for their November/December Zoom meeting on December 8 at 1:30 PM to avoid conflict with the holidays.

The topic will be announced. Zoom instructions will be sent out later to those on the email list.

Chair Tom Henry (Branch 174) tomhenry925@gmail.com and Co-chair Dave Sutton -(Branch 8) - davesutn@comcast.net

Videos of SIR Branch 116 Luncheon Speaker Presentations

We have recently had some excellent speakers at our luncheon Zoom meetings. If you missed the meeting, you can still watch a video of the speaker's presentation via YouTube. Here is how:

- Go to <u>YouTube.com</u> on your computer
- Type "SIR Branch 116" in the YouTube search box
- Select the SIR Roster logo
- Select one of the videos on top of the screen

I recommend that, once you have found the SIR Branch 116 videos, you select the subscribe button—It makes jumping to our videos easier.

The last two presentations were outstanding—Try watching one of them first:

- October: Nancy Ukai Japanese Internment
- September: George Kourounis—Adventurer



Book Group 1 Rich Black

Book Group #1 will next meet at 10:15 on December 6 in Arbolado Park (lower parking lot) to discuss "The Bomber Mafia" by Malcom Gladwell. Members should bring a chair. In the event of inclement weather, the convenor will schedule a zoom session or find another location. Prospective new members who wish to join our+/- one-hour discussion (not a class) should contact Richard Black at Blackrw41@comcast.net

Book Group #1 last met on October 25 discuss "The Big Burn" by Timothy Egan, which told of the 3 million acre "Great Fire" of 1910. Theodore Roosevelt,

Gifford Pinchot and John Muir made conservation a recognized concept but it took a 1910 conflagration to establish the National Forest Service as a viable and stable agency. John Riordan recommended the book while Richard Black led the discussion with Mike Schneider, Mac McLoughlan, Steve Bort, Richard White, Paul Freitas, Joel White, John Kopchik, Al Farbman, Garett Girvan, Dick Kaufman, Allan Chasnoff and Art Donaldson. None of us knew about this fire but all of us wanted to know more about wild fire and previous attempts to manage it. We recommend the book with 4.3 stars



Book Group 2

Scott Clark

Book Club 2 met (via Zoom) October 21 to discuss Shadow Divers by Robert Kurson.

The book opens in 1991 when a New Jersey scuba boat operator receives a tip about a unknown mystery boat found at the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean, 60 miles off the Jersey Coast. The boat turns out to be a German WW 2 U-boat, found at a depth of 230 feet in the frigid Atlantic waters,"its ruined interior a macabre wasteland of twisted metal, tangled wires, human bones-all buried under decades of accumulated sediment." No identifying marks were visible on the submarine or the few artifacts brought to the surface. No historian, expert, or government had a clue as to which U-boat the men found. Over the next six years an elite team of divers embarked on a quest to solve the mystery. Along the way,

three divers would lose their lives. The two lead divers, Chatterton and Kohler, at first bitter rivals, would be drawn into a friendship with each other and with the drowned German U-boat sailors who were former enemies of their country.

Six members and one guest joined our Zoom meeting. The overall rating of 4.7/5 reflects the members enjoyment & enthusiasm for this book.

The next Book Club 2 meeting will be on Thursday, November 18, at 11 am by videoconference using the Zoom app. The group will discuss, Facing the Mountain by Daniel James Brown. Whether you have read the book or not, we welcome anyone interested to join us. Contact Scott Clark if you want to join the Zoom discussion.



Fishing Harry Sherinian

All SIR members and guests are welcome, and indeed encouraged, to participate in fishing trips as well as attend the monthly meetings. Contacts are Big Fish Ron Lew 925-550-4166 and Harry Sherinian 925-846-7067 Branch 116 Fishing Coordinator. Next meeting will be at the Legends restaurant at the Diablo Creek golf course on Port Chicago Highway and Highway 4 on **Thursday**, **November 18th at 8:30am.** BECAUSE OF THE HOLIDAYS, OUR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER MEETINGS ARE ON THE THIRD THURDAY, NOT THE FOURTH.

We are all in agreement, 2021 is one of the worst years in our fishing history. Short salmon season, bay overfished, lakes so low they look like creeks, WIND, WIND, AND MORE WIND. Some of us

found trout far away. Brion Beetz and Stan Wong found some nice rainbows at Lake Almanor. Martin Steinpress and Chuck Vanoncini did separate guided flyfishing trips to the Sacramento river. Very memorable, Martin caught a nice steelhead, Chuck caught a nice salmon, both caught some trout. Tom Kostik got trout and smallmouth bass at Pinecrest lake.. Tom and Brion caught some black bass in the delta. Stan Wong and Brion Beetz limited out on stripers in the delta. Carl Moyer got some rockfish from the ocean; but failed to get any trout from San Pablo reservoir. He did catch a 10 lb catfish there. We had our fishing group meeting in person, and that was pleasant. The promise of an El Nina winter should give us much needed water.



Amiable Amblers

John Riordan

On October 8 we walked north along the Iron Horse Trail from the trailhead at Stone Valley Rd. John Riordan led the walk, accompanied by Art & Mary Alice Donaldson, Dick Frankel, Paul & Anna Freitas, Dan & Andrea Green, Gail Riordan, Tim & Diane Tinnes, and Joel White. The October 22 walk was cancelled because of rain.

Dan Green will lead the Friday **November 12** walk. We will meet at 8:15 in the Moraga Commons parking lot off St Mary's Rd and walk north along the Lafayette-Moraga Regional Trail. RSVP to Dan at asdgreen@comcast.net .

There will be **no walk on November 26** because of its proximity to the Thanksgiving holiday.

These walks are for individuals or couples, as spouses and significant others are encouraged to participate. The significant other/spouse is also invited to participate even when the member is unable to. SIR members, including those from other branches, wishing to join this mellow group or to be added to the email contact list should contact me at jriordan730@gmail.com or 925-284-3394.



Golf Clinic Chris Doan

The Golf Clinic has offered six sessions in its short history. To date, 27 SIR members and spouses have taken advantage of the opportunity for a professional tuneup on a number of golf skills. Feedback regarding the format and the instruction by golf pro Pete Asselin has been consistently positive. In fact, there are only 4 or 5 golfers in a session time slot which affords Pete the time to address individual needs. Sessions are held at Diablo Creek Golf Course in Concord on their well designed and maintained training facility.

We are also looking for beginner golfers who will be accommodated separately once we have 6 or 8 interested in accelerating their golf skill development.

Jeff Johnson has done an excellent job of getting the Clinic organized and started. Jeff has transitioned to a vice-chairman role now, turning the main coordination effort over to Chris Doan. Thanks Jeff for a job well done.

Members interested in getting involved, contact Chris at cdoan99@gmail.com to be added to the Clinic mailing list or to explore additional questions that you might have before you decide. The next Clinic is planned for **November 6** with a focus on Pitching & Chipping.

With Thanksgiving, the next Golf Clinic session after November 6 will be in December



Checkout which of our members (and wife Mo Johnson) who are improving their golf game via our Golf Clinics. Don't let them get an advantage over you—Signup for one of the Golf Clinic sessions



Pickelball Ed Solomon

Join us every Friday at the Walnut Creek Tennis Center in Heather Farm from 8 to 9:30 am. Beginners welcome. We reserve two courts every week. All you need are tennis sneakers, shorts preferred, sun screen, & we have extra paddles.

Pickleball is a fun sport for all ages that combine many elements of tennis, badminton, & ping-pong, played on badminton sized court. The rules are simple and the game is easy for beginners to learn.



Wine-O-SIR Lou Meylan

The November Wine O Sirs will be held **November 18th** at the home of Gail and Dick Breitwieser. This is a week earlier because of the Thanksgiving holi-

day. If you wish to attend please RSVP to the Breitwieser's directly.



Is this one of the many turkeys that you ... see on Boundary Oak Golf Course?

Turkey Shoot - Special Golf? Event

November 8, at Boundary Oak

Win with your foursome for TURKEYS! If you play golf or wish to, member or special guest, enter to join us for another fun day with Branch 116. Make your signup on easy computer website prior to **November 1st** – a requirement for a handicap and vaccine proof. Cost for the prizes is just \$7.50 and signup for Turkey Shoot prize on our Shopping Cart.

Plan to use your drink ticket to replay with your foursome and others at your 19th hole at Boundary's famous "Taphouse". You will have mulligans that may improve scores. You can improve your tee drives using your foursome best in our Shamble. Meet our members as we secretly draw for your foursome. Get with it and get with us! You will not want to miss our November 8th.



SIR Golf Bernie Wroblewski, Golf Chairman

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. Players 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 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

SIR Br. 116 Golf is Now

on Twitter at: @branch116golf

Checkout the latest "Tweets" on the Golf's Home page: branch116golf.org

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.

<u>18-Hole Pairings:</u> Shows captains, teams, starting times & handicaps for next event.

• <u>18-Hole Leaders and Results:</u> Shows results from recent events and leaders in each group.

November: 9-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Wed. 03	10:00	Pleasanton GC	Marty Katz
Wed. 10	10:00	Diablo Hills	D.McClaughry
Wed. 17	10:00	Buchanan Fields	Dick Chaffee
Wed. 24	10:00	Diablo Hills	D.McClaughry

November: 18-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Mon. 01	9:35	Boundary Oak	Jim Johnson
Mon. 08	9:35	Boundary Oak	R. Madden
Tue 16	9:30	Napa Kennedy	R. Madden
Mon. 22	10:12	Paradise Valley	R. Madden

18-Hole Pay In Advance Deadlines

Event Date	Location	<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Nov. 16	Napa Kennedy	Nov. 1	\$51
Nov. 22	Paradise Valley	Nov. 16	\$45

Sign-up via Branch 116 Shopping Cart System at: sons-in-retirement-las-trampas-br-116.square.site



Something Special

by Jim Barstow

Unsung Hero

I recently had the pleasure of sharing a golf cart at Boundary Oak with one of our newest members, **SIR Bruce Kessler**. As usual, with new members, we shared personal information about our lives, family, and of course, Golf. It turns out Bruce is an accomplished golfer, but has never had a "hole in one".

That is, until the 6th hole, an uphill 148 yard par 3. Bruce hit what appeared to be an excellent shot, but because of the uphill layout, none of us could see where the ball ended up. After searching all around the green, Don Schroeder looked in the cup and found Bruce's golf ball, a "hole in one".

Bruce choose not to buy drinks, but further inquired regarding my daughter's occupation, a licensed therapist working with veterans. Later, my daughter called to inform me that SIR Bruce Kessler had contributed a significant amount to this worthy Veteran's charity in the name of SIRs, my daughter, and himself. With a upcoming Golf Tournament, the charity has extended an invitation for Bruce to participate.

Bruce, you make all of us proud of your thoughts and generosity. We are proud to claim you as a member of Branch 116. Again, congratulations on your first "hole in One", the first of many, I am sure.



Golf Chairman Bernie Wroblewski presenting a dozen golf balls to our newest golf member Bruce Kessler who got a hole-in-one last month on #6 at Boundary Oak.



FIRST CLASS MAIL

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.