



SIR Branch 116 Newsletter July 2025

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

Message from Paul

I've noticed that we had a Hazy's BBQ in June of last year, however this year we're having it in June (Tomorrow). Jerry has put it together once again and it should be very entertaining with lots of good food once again.



After this we'll have a some great activities for the balance of June and the 4th of July will be right around the corner. The only activity we will be missing this year will be Golf Lessons.

However, we'll have 18 hole and nine hole Golf weekly, Bocce, Pickleball, Book clubs 1 & 2, Wine-O-Sirs, Dine-O-Sirs, Community Service, Fishing, Bridge, Saturday Walking Tour's, Amiable Amblers and the Mexican Train Domino Group are still thriving. If you see any of the above activities and would like to take part in them or at least be part of the distribution list, just see the chairman of the activity and give him a call to request that he put you on the list so you'll be notified.

It's been almost ½ a year since I've taken on the role of Big Sir, in the last six months, we have lost some cherished members from our ranks. We remember them fondly for their for their friendship and contribution to SIR.

A tip of the hat must go out to our recruitment and publicity folks who have gathered three new members this past month. It's very great to see our numbers increase due to their efforts.

Our Nation will be celebrating its 248th Birthday on July the 4th. Put out your flag and have a wonderful holiday!

I'll see you on the 21st of July, so until then have a good time with your family or at one of our activities. And you may just want to get involved too!!

Paul Russell, Big SIR

Next Meeting

July 21, 2025 @
Boundary Oak,
11:30 AM

Topics Index

\$ums Investment	..... 4
Amiable Amblers	.... 6
BEC Minutes	..... 6
Big SIR Report	..... 1
Birthdays	..... 4
Bocce	..... 9
Book Exchange	..... 8
Book Group 1	.....11
Book Group 2	..... 7
Branch Officers	..... 2
Branch Survey	..... 14
Bridge	..... 12
Calendar	..... 3
Carmel Travel	..... 14
Community Service	8
Computer & Tech	...11
Dine-O-SIR	..... 13
Fishing	..... 12
Golf	..... 15-16
Luncheon Menu	..... 5
Luncheon Speaker	... 5
Membership	..... 4
Mexican Train	..... 7
New Members	..... 5
Pickleball	..... 12
SIR Happenings	..... 9
Topics Submissions	. 5
Treasury	..... 4
Walking Tours	..... 10
Web Addresses	..... 9
Wine-O-SIR	..... 13

Two exciting new upcoming travel events!

**USS Potomac Cruise in the Bay
Carmel 2025**

(Check them out on pages 10 & 14)

Call 925-322-1318
or email to
luncheon116@gmail.com

by the Monday
prior to the
meeting to cancel
your standing
reservation.

Trampas Topics

2025 SIR Branch



Big SIR
Paul
Russell



Little SIR
Brad
Stribling



Treasurer
Charlie
Guthrie



Asst. Treas.
Al
Satake



Secretary.
Dan
Lawrence



Asst.Sec.
Bill
Foulds



Membership
Phil
Goff



Asst. Mem.
Dave
Havlik

2025 SIR Branch Directors



Sam
Beret



Gary
Bonfiglio



Jeff
Johnson



Alan
Pope



Harry
Sherinian



Jim
Tamulski

2025 Support Chairmen

RAMP Department Heads

- Recruitment Don Schroeder
- Activities Mike Ward
- Member Relations Sam Beret
- Publicity Alan Farbman

Branch Support Chairmen

- Audit Committee Ron Armijo
- Nominating Committee Alan Pope
- Sunshine Committee Open
- Computer Support Neil Schmidt/Phil Goff
- Webmaster Neil Schmidt/Phil Goff
- Newsletter Editor Neil Schmidt
- New Member Orientation Dave Williams
- Membership Roster Prep Phil Goff

Diversity Support Team

- Team Leader Fred Wachowicz
- Team Member Sam Beret
- Team Member Terry Sherman
- Team Member Al Satake
- Team Member Jerry Hicks
- Team Member Michael Barrington
- Team Advisor Lee Moy

Luncheon Support Team

- Attendance Dennis Snarr
- Audio Visual Neil Schmidt
- Chaplain Committee Terry Sherman
- Greeters Committee Ramaciotti, Datzman
- Raffle Committee Ben Bryce
- Storytellers Committee Mac McLoughlin/F. Schafer

Speakers Committee

- Team Member James Dawe
- Team Member Allan Farbman
- Team Member Paul Freitas
- Team Member Brad Stribling

2025 Activity Chairmen


<u>Activity</u>	<u>Chairman</u>	<u>Asst. Chairman</u>
Amiable Amblers	John Riordan	Joel White
Bocce	Bob Huck	
Book Group 1	Rich Black	Steve Bort
Book Group 2	Scott Clark	Alan Pope
Book Exchange	Dick Kauffman	Gary Bonfiglio
Bridge	Jon Dickson	Art Donaldson
Community Service	Jeff Johnson	TBA
Computer & Tech	Neil Schmidt	Phil Goff
Dine-O-SIR	Jerry Hicks	
Fishing	Harry Sherinian	Terry Miller
Golf—18 Hole	Bernie Wroblewski	Ed Lichtig
Golf—9 Hole	Dick Chaffee	D. McLaughry
Golf—Treasurer	Harry Oberle	
Golf—Carmel	TBA	
Mexican Train	Alan Polanger	Gary Bonfiglio
Parties	Paul Russell	TBA
Pickleball	Gary Bonfiglio	Don Marini
Poker	Open	
\$ums Investment	Tom Henry (Br.146)	
Sunshine	Open	
Theater	Terry Sherman	
Walking Tours	Jim Tamulski	Greg Hughes
Wine-O-SIR	Dave Havlik	

Some Other SIR Area 16 Activities

Astronomy	David Bushnell (Br. 8)	925-838-3914
Chess	Steve Schramm (Br.8)	925-222-0801
Cycling	Larry Kaye (Br.146)	925-698-4030
Digital Photography	Meng Horng (Br. 8)	309-287-5654
Men's Hearts Cards	Bob West (Br.146)	925-518-8472
Travel	Glenn Breslin (Br. 146)	925-788-6520

Monthly Activities Calendar

July 2025

Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
		1 Computer & Tech (No meeting)	2 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Dublin Ranch)	3	4  4th of July Pickleball (7:30@ WC Tennis)	5
6	7 18-Hole Golf (9:40@ Boundary Oak)	8 Luncheon Bridge (10:30@ The Brass Door)	9 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Diablo Hills) Mexican Train (10:00@ Aegis Living)	10 Bocce (10:00@ Clayton Bocce)	11 Pickleball (7:30@ WC Tennis, Heather Farm) Amiable Amblers (8:30@ Walnut Creek Civic Park)	12
13	14 18-Hole Golf (9:40@ Boundary Oak)	15	16 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Skylinks)	17 Book Group 2 (11:00@ Arbolado Park) Community Svc (1:00@ Food Bank)	18 Pickleball (7:30@ Heather Farm) Amiable Amblers (8:30@ San Miguel Park)	19
20	21 SIR Br. 116 Luncheon (11:30@ Boundary Oak)	22 18-Hole Golf (9:00@ Canyon Lakes) Luncheon Bridge (10:30@ The Brass Door)	23 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Diablo Hills) \$ums Investment (1:30 via Zoom)	24 Bocce (10:00@ Clayton Bocce) Fishing Group (8:30@ Diablo Creek) Wine-O-SIR 4:00@ Bosell's)	25 Pickleball (7:30@ WC Tennis, Heather Farm) Amiable Amblers (8:30@ Stone Valley Rd. West)	26
27	28 18-Hole Golf (9:45@ Eagle Vines) Book Group 1 (10:15@ Orinda Books)	29	30 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Pleasanton)	31		



Branch Administration



Branch Membership

Phil Goff, Membership Chairman

Total Membership is 173
2025 New Members: 13

<u>New Member</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>
Tom Byrom	Brad Stribling
Bob Hayes	Passed away

In Memoriam
William J. Hayes
 November 5, 1921 - (?) 2025



Treasury Report

Charlie Guthrie, Treasurer

	24-Jun	2025 YTD
Beg Bal 2025		\$ 10,842.15
Contributions	\$ 4,176.00	\$ 32,937.65
Disbursements	\$ (5,579.47)	\$ (33,288.54)
Net (gain/(loss))	\$ (1,403.47)	\$ (350.89)
June Cash Balance		\$ 10,491.26

July Birthdays

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

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Michael Barrington | 8. Jack Minicucci |
| 2. Don Benioff | 9. Tom O'Brien |
| 3. Gary Boswell | 10. Jerry Ricker |
| 4. Dick Frankel | 11. Tim Tinnes |
| 5. Garrett Girvan | 12. Bob Vetro |
| 6. Al Hutchko | 13. Bernie Wroblewski |
| 7. Paul King | |

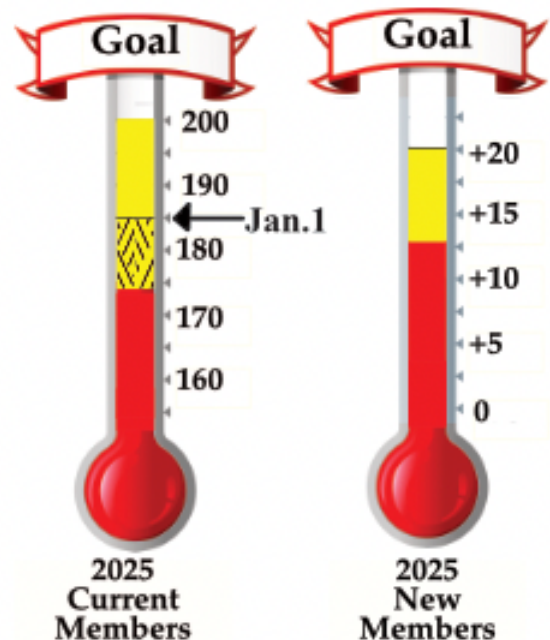
\$UMS Investment

Tom Henry (Br. 174)

As usual we will Zoom with SIR Branch 128 (San Ramon) on the 4th Wednesday at 1:30 PM.

Email Dave Sutton to be included or to learn the topic.

Chair: Tom Henry, Branch 174,
 tomhenry925@gmail.com
 Co-chair: Dave Sutton, Branch 8,
 davesutn@comcast.net



2025 Membership Challenge

Recruiting Monthly Report – July 2025

You guys are doing a great job of recruiting new members:

- As of June 1st we have 13 new member for the year
- Our goal for 2025 is 20 new members
- A very favorable trend

Remember, we are all responsible for recruiting new members. Recruiting cards are on the tables at every lunch – grab a few and hand them out.

Guests are treated to lunch, and if your guest joins us, you get a free lunch.

Luncheon Speaker

Allan Shields - "Public Safety & Connectivity"



Little SIR
Brad Stribling

Our June SIR Luncheon was complemented by an informative talk by David Bushnell. David provided a detailed and in-depth (pun intended) overview of energy generation from the oceans. Phenomena including waves, tides, ocean currents, winds, thermal differential, etc., have all been exploited. Some working systems are in place in various countries, though complexities of installation and maintenance have greatly impeded large scale rollout.

For our SIR Luncheon on July 21, Mr. Allan Shields will lead a discussion on public safety and connectivity, especially in the Danville area. With

decades of career experience in the US Air Force, Chief of Police for the Town of Danville, and Transportation Manager for Danville, Allan brings important lessons and perspectives on issues directly affecting our lives. He's an engaging and provocative speaker.

Sadly, recent SIR Luncheons have seen a degradation of Boundary Oak's audio/video functionality. We've had multiple meetings with the key personnel and have agreed on plans for amplifier/controller replacement, new lavalier and stand microphones, etc. We're working to have all this in place soon.



New Member Tom Byrom (right)
with Sponsor Brad Stribling

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)

The Clubhouse at Boundary Oak

Luncheon Menu

Monday, July 21st

Salad

Southwest Salad. Romaine w/ Black beans, corn, Pico, tortilla chips and a Chipotle Ranch Dressing

ENTREES

Achiote Chicken

Achiote Chicken W/ Rice and beans, Sauteed Peppers and onions, and a Lemon Cilantro Crema
or

Achiote Cod

Achiote Chicken W/ Rice and beans, Sauteed Peppers and onions, and a Lemon Cilantro Crema
or

Vegetarian

Stuffed Bell Pepper with Spanish Rice and Lemon Cilantro Crema

DESSERT

Tres Leches cake

Branch Activities



Branch Executive Committee

Secretary Dan Lawrence

Summary of June 16, 2025 Meeting

- Financial: Branch cash balance as 06/01/2025 is \$11,894.73, and reserve balance is \$11,759.96.
- Luncheon: 105 attendees were submitted for the June 2025 Luncheon.
- Membership: One new member and two guests attended today.
- Branch #116 held our annual Spring Fling on May 21, 2025, at the Kensington Walnut Creek Retirement Community. Forty-seven members attended and enjoyed a buffet lunch while upbeat music entertained members. Plenty of parking was available.
- Fred Wachowicz and Mike Ward developed Branch 116 annual survey with the primary

question: "Do you think we are serving the interest of our members?" 109 responses were received with 97% answering in the affirmative. The survey was designed to illicit comments and/or feelings about several issues such as seating arrangements during the luncheon, sound system, food quality and prices. The survey also asked members to respond to questions asking if they would be willing to serve as a leader. Fred plans to write a report and post it in the monthly newsletter.

- June 16, 2025, Guest Speaker: David Bushnell (a member of branch 8) spoke on his research on "Energy from the Oceans" such as waves, tides and ocean currents. David shared the many issues in bringing his findings to a commercial scale.



Amiable Amblers

John Riordan

June walkers included Richard Black & Donna Arganbright, Frank & Carol Colligan, Art & May Alice Donaldson, Al & Nancy Farbman, Dick Frankel, Paul & Anna Freitas, David & Colleen Geary, Dan & Andrea Green, Peter & Sandy Loew, Eric McNamara, Essie Naddaf, Bob & Nan Price, John & Gail Riordan, Dennis Snarr, Brad & Winnie Stribling, Bill & Maureen Trilsch, and Joel & Susan White.

On June 6 we walked east on the Contra Costa Canal Trail from the Countrywood Shopping Center with a post-walk gathering at the Black Bear Diner. On June 13 we walked the Lafayette Reservoir Loop with a post-walk gathering at the Orinda Village Inn Cafe. Dick Frankel led the June 20 walk south on the Iron Horse Trail from the Alamo Plaza Center with a post-walk gathering at Peet's Coffee. On June 27 we walked south on the Lafayette-Moraga Trail from the Moraga Safeway with a post-walk gathering at the Ranch House Café.

All July walks are scheduled to begin at 8:30AM. No walk is planned for July 4. On **July 11** we will meet at the Walnut Creek Civic Park and walk north on the Iron Horse Trail; the post-walk gathering will be at Caffé La Scala. On **July 18** we will meet at San Miguel Park and walk east on the Ygnacio Canal Trail; the post-walk gathering will be at the Countrywood Black Bear Diner. On **July 25** we will meet at the Stone Vally Rd west trailhead and walk north on the Iron Horse Trail; the post-walk gathering will be at Peets Coffee.

These walks are for individuals or couples; spouses and significant others are encouraged to participate, even when the member is unable to. SIR members, including those from other branches, wishing to join this congenial group or to be added to the email list should contact me at jriordan730@gmail.com or 925-284-3394. Also contact me if you wish to be removed from the list for future emails.

Branch Activities



Book Group 2

Scott Clark

Book Club 2 met June 19 to discuss Mission: Jimmy Stewart and the Fight For Europe by Robert Matzen. The book was recommended by Mac McLoughlin and the 11 members present voted the book a 4.7/5

Mission

Mission: Jimmy Stewart and The Fight for Europe provides the first in-depth look at the military career of Hollywood actor James Stewart, beginning with his family "mission" passed on from his grandfather (a civil war hero) and father (who served in World War 1). Military service, in time of war, was considered mandatory for the Stewarts. Jim tailored his life to this eventual outcome, learning to be a pilot so he could serve as an Aviator in World War 2.

The book describes Stewart's childhood, college years at Princeton, Broadway career, and meteoric rise to Academy Award actor in Hollywood. People today can't imagine that Stewart was a ladies man, but he had a reputation as one of the most active bachelors in Hollywood, with a list of lovers that

includes the A-list of female movie stars.

In 1941, before America entered World War 2, Jim was drafted into the Army and gleefully left Hollywood behind to fulfill the family mission. What happened to him in the service has never been covered because he refused to talk about his experiences afterward. Mission begins and ends with production of the first film Stewart made after returning from the war: It's a Wonderful Life.

Mission also includes the stories of three other supporting characters, a radio man who flew with Stewart, a German civilian girl, and the German general in charge of fighter aircraft. They provide perspective of what Stewart was attempting to do and why.

Book Club 2-July meeting

Our next meeting is Thursday, July 17, 11 AM, at Arbolado Park Walnut Creek. We will discuss Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver. Contact Scott Clark for more information, 925-998-4553 or scottmclark72@gmail.com.



Mexican Train

Alan Polanger

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 of 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 meet at 10 AM on the second Wednesday of each month at the Church of Christ located at 500 Minert

Rd in Concord.

We met in June and had six members in attendance plus one guest, Earl Gore. Members present were John Riordan, Harry Sherinian, Alex Lutkus, Paul Freitas, Kirk McVean, and Gary Bonfiglio. The winning score belonged to our guest, Earl Gore.

Please email me if you would like to talk and I can give you a call. A notice will be sent out for the June meeting. Which is scheduled for Wed, 7/9 at 10 AM. Let me know if you would like to be put on our list.

Please contact Alan Polanger, Apolanger@sbcglobal.net or 925.922.2151.

Branch Activities



Community Service Jeff Johnson

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

Winston Churchill

On Thursday June 19th, we worked at White Pony Express receiving bulk quantities of fruit, vegetables, baked goods, etc from large grocery outlets, which we broke down into smaller packages to send out to kitchens, food banks and other outlets serving the needy. I believe they said we sorted about one ton of food during our shift.

So far, we have the following activities scheduled:

- July 17th – Food Bank
- August 17th - White Pony Express
- September 12th – Food Bank.

Please let me know if you know of any other organizations that can use our collective help. And please contact me if you are interested in joining the Community Service Volunteer activity.

Jeffjohnson9000@att.net or 415-652-4840,

REMINDER!

Bring your food donations for the Food Bank barrel which will be located at the entrance to our lunch next Monday at Boundary Oaks.



Food Drive Most Needed Items

Peanut Butter
Whole Grain Cereals
Hearty Soups
Dried or Canned Beans
Canned Poultry, Meat & Tuna
Canned Fruit in Juice
Nonperishable Ready to Eat Meals
Canned Vegetables
Brown Rice
Whole Wheat Pasta
Canned Tomato Products
**PLEASE NO EXPIRED ITEMS
AND NO GLASS
CONTAINERS**



Book Exchange Dick Kauffman

The Book Exchange has been operating for more than 10 years. Although we think that we are providing a worthwhile service, it is wise to ask the clients of our service what we can do to improve our service, as well as if there are any complaints.

Please contact Dick Kauffman or Gary Bonfiglio with your comments.

{It should be noted that we do not know of any legal ways to share ebooks or audiobooks.}

Looking forward to your comments.



Denny
Giambastiani,
Jed Daniel and
John Riordan
selecting books

Branch Activities



Bocce
Bob Huck

Our Bocce season started on Thursday, April 17 and will continue every other Thursday (**July 10 & July 24**) at 9:00 AM through October 16. We had a good turnout for our first games and finished by noon. We

have 35 players and 4 teams this year. If you're interested in joining next year please let me know.

Bob Huck
bhuck10@sbcglobal.net



The SIR Branch 116 Bocce group enjoys a mild summer day at the Bocce courts in Clayton.

From the left: Pam and Paul Russell, Dan Marini, Bob and Aleta Huck, Tom Eller, Mike and Sharon Schneider, Paul and Donna Ramacciotti, Dan Lawence, Jack and Dena Gavasky, Alex Lutkus, Diane Craig, David Harris, Alan and Nancy Farbman, Steve Croshal, Mo Abshire, Roger Craig, JJ Johnson, Gary Bonfiglio, Zbig Mrozek and Jim Avila.

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>

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

SIR Happenings State Newsletter

sirinc.org/newsletters/

Branch Activities



Walking Tours Jim Tamulski



USS Potomac

"The next Walking Tour will cover a lot of distance - with minimal walking! On **Saturday, October 18th**, we will board the USS POTOMAC, i.e. Franklin D. Roosevelt's Historic Floating White House, docked at Jack London Square in Oakland. The ship provided a respite for President Roosevelt from 1936 to 1945 and had aboard a number of interesting/historical individuals.

We are to check in at the Visitor's Center at 540 Water Street, Oakland by 9:45 a.m. and watch a 15 minute video and view other historical information. The ship will depart promptly at 10:30 a.m. for a two-hour cruise of San Francisco Bay. Docents aboard - including Sirs 116 own Richard Black - will answer questions and show us around the ship.

The ship accommodates 110 passengers and some cruises sell out. In order to reserve room for those of us who wish to participate, and to obtain a lower price of \$55 per person, I have advanced \$1,100 to the USS POTOMAC Association.

I anticipate that at least 10 of our members will participate and bring 10 spouses and/or guests. If more than 20 people commit to the cruise, I can

increase the size of our group by informing the Association and paying an additional \$55 per person. However, as other individuals not associated with Sirs 116 are making reservations on that date, it is important that you let me know ASAP that you wish to attend and pay for the cruise.

I would appreciate receiving payment directly from those who confirm your attendance. Please send your checks to me at 3833 Palo Alto Drive, Lafayette CA 94549. (The Association - and I - will refund the cost if cancellations are made at least 48 hours before the departure time.)

For those of you who wish to have lunch after the cruise, I could make a reservation at number of restaurant's at Jack London Square. (Two popular ones are Scott's Seafood on the estuary and The Fat Lady. The restaurants are within a block or two of the ship,)

FYI - Sirs Branch 128 (San Ramon) took the cruise on May 29th and reportedly all had a very enjoyable experience. Their group consisted of 75 people!

Please confirm your participation ASAP by contacting me at tamulski.james@gmail.com or Greg Hughes at greghughes505@gmail.com"

Branch Activities



Book Group 1 Rich Black

Book Group #1 will discuss the following books at Orinda Books at 10:15 am on the following dates.

- July 28, "Wide, Wide Sea" by Hampton Sides
- August 25, "The Demon of Unrest" by Eric Larson

Maybe you read "The Three Musketeers" or "The Count of Monte Cristo" by Alexandre Dumas. Did you know the author's father was born a slave in what is now Haiti, was liberated when he came to France, and rose through the ranks to become a General in the French Army? The man was a force in the saddle, taking 12 Austrian prisoners by himself. He captured a bridge and repelled a charge by the opposing army almost single-handedly. Oh, and he married his sweetheart and fathered a family,

one of whom was the celebrated novelist mentioned above. Tom Reiss, in his book "The Black Count," interlaces this astonishing individual's rise to glory with a narrative of the ongoing French Revolution, the ensuing Reign of Terror, and the rise of Napoleon. Alas, General Dumas fell out of favor with the French dictator, fell into the hands of counterrevolutionaries, and nearly died in a prison in what is now Southern Italy. Todd Berman recommended the book, but unfortunately, could not attend the session. Rich Black led the discussion with Steve Bort, Tom Byrom, Paul Freitas, Dick Kauffman, Mac McLoughlin, Eric McNamara, John Riordan, Mike Schneider, Brad Stribling, Tim Tinnes, Bill Trilsch, And Joel White. The group awarded the book 4.1 stars.



SIR Computer & Technology

What are LLM's

Are you familiar with Large Language Models (LLMs)? LLMs are the foundation of contemporary Artificial Intelligence (AI).



The next Computer & Tech meeting, which will be held via Zoom, will take place on Tuesday, August 5 at 10:00 a.m. Charlie Guthrie will provide an overview of LLMs and illustrate their practical applications.

Please note that there will be no Computer & Tech meeting in June.

Branch Activities



Fishing Harry Sherinian

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, Phil Scimonelli, 661-917-8060 and Branch 116 Fishing Coordinator, Harry Sherinian, 510-207-7067. Next meeting will be at the Legends restaurant at the Diablo Creek golf course at Port Chicago Highway and Highway 4 on Thursday, July 24th at 8:30am. Come early.

Wind, wind, wind and endless complex regulations have been the bane of our existence!!! Nonetheless, we fish on. Ron Lew, Kem Bellendir, Tom Kostik, Mike Corker, Harry Sherinian, and Matt Richards

caught striped and black bass in the delta. Ross Abbott, Ken Bellinder, Brion Beetz, and Gordon Linebaugh netted a few trout after 2 days at Lake Almanor. Tom Kostik did better at Pinecrest Lake. Pete Gates worked the Feather River and Los Vaqueros for more trout. Ken Bellinder caught bass, crappie, and catfish at Clear Lake. Cleo Bolen, Eric Finson, Sam Oommen, Jim Rowland, and Paul Dubow got limits of halibut and stripers in the bay. George Vogt, Gordon Linebaugh and Carl Moyer limited on rock fish and ling cod upon the ocean blue. Gordon at age 90 out fished everybody! Carl got to fish the 2 day salmon season, boating 3 of them.



Bridge Jon Dickson

If you have played bridge back in college days, and had fun playing, why not start again, joining us on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month for lunch & bridge at Brass Door Restaurant. You will find you catch up quickly and will have a fun day competing.

Any who have an interest and would join a class to help regain your bridge knowledge, please let me know and we will organize such a training session. Contact Jon Dickson at still26@sbcglobal.net.

On June 10th Ken Binning finished first with 5,060

points, Jon Dickson was second with 4,660 points, and Joel White was third at 4,390 points. (Gordon Gonsalves was 10 less with 4,380 points, just one trick off) Overall, it was good day for scoring, with nobody extra high, with an average of 3,560 points

On June 24th Mike Schneider finished first with 4,780 points, Dan Green was second with 4,320 points, and Don Benioff was third at 3,990 points. Overall, it was good day for scoring, with nobody extra high, 10 grouped in the 3,000 range, with an average of 3,663 points.



Pickleball Gary Bonfiglio

Pickleball, is the fastest growing team sport in the U.S. for all ages. With the summer months coming soon, we start **7:30 to 9 am every Friday**, at The Tennis Center in Heather Farm, Walnut Creek. Here's a brief Introduction to Pickleball...

<https://www.youtube.com/atcv=xEYsymCtIDY>

Required equipment- Paddle, balls, and tennis

sneakers. (We have extra paddles and balls) Beginners all welcome....it's the best way to see what all the excitement is about. Come on down!!!

Gary Bonfiglio Co-Chair 925-330-9612
Don Marini Co-Chair 925-935-5036

COME ON BY TO PLAY, OR JUST WATCH!!!!
We're not bad for a bunch of **SIR Dudes!!**

Branch Activities



Dine-O-SIR Jerry Hicks

Summer days are here and we're celebrating the summer solstice of the longest day, again joining Dine-O-Sir's on Hazy's patio with their feature buffet of delicious Barbeque plates. We'll gather at popular Danville restaurant on Wednesday, June 25, beginning with social adjustment at 5:30 PM. Hazy's Happy Hour's have economical prices for wines, beers, and special frozen cocktails. Appetizers will be included. Buffet begins at 6:30 PM for great

entrees and salads, finishing with their Delicious Decadent Desserts.

For our special evening at Hazy Barbeque see the attached flyer and send us your reservation and with your check.

Your Dine-O-SIR Committee:

Jerry Hicks, Bob Donohue, Tom Eller, Larry Heaton, Mike Yale



Dine-O-SIR at Hazy BBQ on June 25



Wine-O-SIR David Havlik

The WINE-O-SIRS met on May 22nd to taste and chat at Jon Dickson's home in Alamo. All of the wines came from Ruby Hill, a local Livermore Valley winery. Ruby Hill was originally founded in 1886, when it was the largest winery in the Livermore Valley. It was reborn when the Callahan family started it again in 2010. They grow 11 grape varietals for their wines.

The tasting started with their sparkling wine, followed by a Sauvignon Blanc. Then came a Zinfandel, which some thought didn't taste like a Zin, but was good. This was followed by a pretty

good Cabernet Sauvignon and a cuvée made from Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot & Petite Verdot, which was very smooth and tasty. A very dark, strong Petite Verdot ended the evening. We partied / tasted out on the back patio with Mother Nature giving us a warm, pleasant evening to sip and chat.

Our next WINE-O-SIRS event will be a tasting on July 24th, co-hosted by Gary and Bonnie Boswell and Richard Slaton and Donna Dell. It will be at the Boswell's home. More information will follow in late June.

Branch Activities

Carmel Travel / Golf 2025

Date: September 23-25, 2025

Hotel: Carmel Mission Inn
Cost: Similar to last year (~\$200/night + tax)

Golf: Monterey Pines (Sept. 24)
Pacific Grove (Sept 25)
Golf both days: \$190/person (incl. prize money)

Group Dinner: Wed. Sept. 24 location TBD.

Note that this is not just a Branch golf event but also a Branch travel event for non golfers.

Iconic Carmel Area Attractions

- Cannery Row
- Old fisherman's wharf
- 17 Miles Scenic Drive

Outdoor and Nature Activities in the Area

- Carmel Mission
- Whale Watching
- Monterey Zoo
- Pacific Grove, Museum of Natural History
- Arts, Cultural History
- Monterey, Museum of Art

- Carlton Hall Museum and Historic Adobes
- Pebble Beach Golf ongoing Events
- Old Monterey for Farmers Market Tuesday year around
- Carmel-by-the-Sea farmers market
- Thursday you're around weekly and community events.
- Old Monterey farmers market September 23.
- Carmel farmers market Tuesday, September 23.
- Pacific Grove certified Mark market September 22 art and culture
- Monterey Museum of Art



These are some of the activities that be going on during the week of September 22.

Some golfers may wish to play just one day, or to walk Monterey Pines. If so, the prices will be adjusted.

When arrangements are completed, we will be sending a flier for sign-ups.

2025 Annual Branch Survey (110 responses)

Are you wondering if our recently completed annual survey will yield various changes or improvements in SIR Branch 119 operations?

Keep your eyes on BEC actions, decisions, and discussions over the next several months where the matters addressed in this survey are considered for action.

Survey results follow:

1. The leading new activities of interest in priority order include: CPR Training, Group Theater Attendance, West Coast Weekend Trips, one-to-three-week travel trips, full day hiking trips, and formation of an investment Group
2. Most members attend lunches for fellowship, and guest speakers while several members are not happy with food quality for the price.
3. Luncheon speaker system, table seating availability, table conversation support, and meeting efficiency are also frequently cited for improvement
4. Support for member recruiting efforts especially for younger members and recognition that we seem to be doing well in this area.
5. Member biography sketches, rookie townhall BEC sessions, and recognition that we are sometimes out of step with today's views regarding "Farmers daughter's jokes"
6. Discussions, forums, or sessions related to economic, financial, legal, and emotional life stages in our senior years.
7. Encouragement for members to become more active in branch leadership roles.

Branch Activities

18-Hole Golf in Action



Some 18 hole group foursomes at Boundary Oak on June 16th



Branch Activities



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.

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.



9-Hole Golf

Dick Chaffee

The 9 Hole Golf Club is open to SIR golfers of all levels. We play every Wednesday morning except holidays at 4 courses in the area. This year, each month, we are playing Pleasanton Golf Club, Diablo Hills, Buchanan Fields and Dublin Ranch. Our first tee time is 10:00am. Some months have a fifth Wednesday. On the fifth Wednesdays, we schedule

special 9 hole events at courses in the area.

If you would like to play 9 hole golf, please contact Dick Chaffee, the 9 hole golf chairman, (925)-932-5087.

If you would like more information on 9 hole golf, please visit our Branch 116 golf web site.

Golf Website

The Golf Website is: branch116golf.org
Please bookmark it in your "Favorites" list of websites to access information on the following:

- Annual 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.

July 9-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Wed. 02	10:00 AM	Dublin Ranch	Roger Craig
Wed. 09	10:00 AM	Diablo Hills	D.McClaughry
Wed. 16	10:00 AM	Skylinks	Dick Chaffee
Wed. 23	10:00 AM	Diablo Hills	D.McClaughry
Wed. 30	10:00 AM	Pleasanton	Marty Katx

July 18-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Mon. 07	9:40 AM	Boundary Oak	Harry Oberle
Mon. 14	9:40 AM	Boundary Oak	Harry Oberle
Tues. 22	9:00 AM	Canyon Lakes	B. Wroblewski
Mon. 28	9:45 AM	Eagle Vines	B. Wroblewski