



Trampas Topics

April, 2016

SIR Branch 116

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

A Nonprofit Public Benefit Organization for Men Enjoying Active Retirement

Sayings of 2016 Big Sir Jim Barstow

April, what a wonderful month. Thanks to the generous amounts of rain, the Bay Area hills are now a beautiful emerald green. Thanks to the tremendous amount of snow, the Sierra snow pack looks to provide us with relief from the past four years of “drought”. April also provides us with the opportunity to formally appreciate our planet with Earth Day on April 22nd. The one April day of which you should be wary is Friday, April 1st. Be skeptical of any strange tale told to you on April 1st, April Fool’s Day. I would be interested in hearing of any “April Fool’s Prank” you played on one of our fellow SIRs.



April is the month to sign up for the May Spring Fling and Carmel Golf Outing. SIR Jerry Christopherson and his staff have organized a terrific event at Zio Fraedo with a special Guest, “Elvis”. This is a fun filled luncheon that your spouse or significant other is sure to enjoy. Please bring your camera, as I believe Jerry has a surprise or two for us. The second event to sign up for is the Carmel Golf Outing. This will be our third year in Carmel, and the capable and supportive staff at the Rancho Canada Golf Course and Carmel Mission Inn provide us with a wonderful venue. The first day will be Medal Play, and the second day a Scramble, with teams randomly drawn at Tuesday evening’s BBQ. Non-Golfers are encouraged to attend, and there are plenty of things to do in the Carmel area. Entry forms for both events are provided in this issue of the Trampas Topics.

A few of you have “forgotten” the 2016 voluntary contribution. There is still time, so please bring your \$40 contribution to the Luncheon and give it to SIR Jim Nickles after paying for lunch.

Speaking of Luncheons, I wish to request everyone try and bring at least one guest this year. Introducing Guests to the SIR activities and luncheons is the best way to continue to maintain our membership. In addition, you will be rewarded with a free luncheon when your Guest joins.

Our Nominating Committee is open to setup a slate of candidates for the 2017 Branch Officers and directors. If you wish to volunteer for a position, or wish to nominate anyone, please contact our Nominating Committee, chaired by SIR Bob Donohue.

Enjoy the beautiful month of April, and looking forward to seeing you all at our Luncheon on April 18th.

Jim Barstow, Big SIR



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PLEASE CALL 806-8874
or send an email to
snb49@outlook.com *by the*
Thursday prior to the
meeting to cancel your
standing reservation or to
bring a guest.

2016 SIR Branch 116 Officers & Directors



Big SIR
Jim Barstow
938-2744



Little SIR
Paul Ramacciotti
229-2564



Secretary
Fred Schafer
648-4199



Assist.Secretary
Allan Chasnoff
933-6665



Treasurer
Jim Nickels
210-1512



Asst.Treasurer 1
Bob Shader
939-8421



Asst.Treasurer 2
Al Satake
254-9589



Member.Sec.
Phil Goff
831-3692



Director
Norm Alberts
837-4074



Director
Wayne Cook
933-8337



Director
Bob Donohue
513-5141



Director
Al Hutchko
827-9130



Director
Harry Sherinian
846-7067



Director
John Story
932-8826

2016 Activity Chairmen

Book Club	Rich Black	283-8376
Book Exchange	John Fraser	837-7439
" "	Dick Kauffman	838-2334
Bridge	Jon Dickson	837-1178
Candy Sales	Art Vogl	288-0488
Computer & Tech.	Neil Schmidt	948-8702
Dine-O-Sir	Ben Smith	820-5403
Duplicate Bridge	Art Donaldson	934-9391
Fishing	Harry Sherinian	846-7067
Golf-18 Hole	Al Zavatero	933-0465
" " Asst.	Carlos Xavier	947-6756
Golf-9 Hole	Dick Chaffee	932-5087
" " Asst.	Darrell Mclaughry	933-1147
" " Asst.	Skip Berkson	437-1511
Golf - Carson City	Tim Hubbard	944-0742
Golf - Carmel	Jim Barstow	938-2744
Hiking & Walking	Joel White	964-0994
Mexican Train	Richard Madden	788-4223
" " Asst.	Alex Lutkus	827-2828
Parties	J. Christopherson	393-9373
Poker Group 1	Bill Harrington	935-1625
\$ums in Retirement	Ben Smith	820-5403
Walking Tours	Bernie Wroblewski	820-3274
Wine Appreciation	Jack Bevis	254-7256

Some Other SIR Area 2 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

2016 Support Chairmen

Activities Coord.	Jerry Kaplan	938-1037
Attendance	Sam Beret	388-6145
Audio/Visual	Neil Schmidt	948-8702
Audit	Ron Armijo	945-0637
"	Carl Langhorst	672-2541
Chaplain	(rotating)	(various)
Computer Support	Phil Goff	831-3692
	Neil Schmidt	948-8702
E-mail Contact	Phil Goff	831-3692
Greeters	Pat Bermingham	930-9477
Guitar	Paul King	938-3035
Historian	Matt Arena	946-0404
Host	Frank Crua	932-0975
Interviewer	Max Foust	827-9323
Member Relations	Bob Donohue	513-5142
Membership Roster	Dick Thomson	785-7600
Member. Secretary	Phil Goff	831-3692
Music Man	Robbie Robinson	798-4276
Newsletter Editor	Neil Schmidt	948-8702
" " Asst.	Phil Goff	831-3692
Nominating	Bob Donohue	513-5141
Photographers	Neil Schmidt	948-8702
"	Phil Goff	831-3692
"	Gary Boswell	673-3545
Public Relations	Wayne Cook	933-8337
Raffle	Don Schroeder	837-6005
Storytellers	(rotating)	(various)
Sunshine	Matt Arena	946-0404
Travel	Marty Katz	484-0122
Visitors	Bernie Wroblewski	820-3274
Volunteers	Bob Kinser	837-8886
Webmaster	Phil Goff	831-3692
Welcoming	Jerry Kaplan	938-1037

SIR Branch 116 Activity Calendar

April 2016

Sun.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
					1	2
3	4 18-Hole Golf (9:30@ Tilden GC)	5 Duplicate Bridge (9:00 Diablo Vly. Bridge Ctr)	6 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Buchanan Fields GC)	7	8 Hiking & Walking (8:15@ Stone Valley Trailhead, Iron Horse Trail, Alamo)	9
10	11 18-Hole Golf (9:30@ Sequoyah CC)	12 Luncheon Bridge (11:30@ Round Hill CC)	13 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Diablo Hills GC) Mexican Train Dominos (2:00@ TBD)	14	15 	16
17	18 <u>SIR Br. 116 Mtg.</u> (11:30 @ WC Elks Lodge)	19 Ladies/Couples Bridge (11:30@ Round Hill CC) 18-Hole Golf (9:00@ Lone Tree GC) Poker Group #2 (1:00@ Diablo Country Club)	20 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Buchanan Fields)	21 Computer & Tech (9:30@ Elks Club)	22 Earth Day Hiking & Walking (9:00@ Mitchel Canyon Visitor Ctr, Clayton)	23 Walking Tour
24	25 18-Hole Golf (9:00@ Poppy Ridge GC) Book Group (10:15@ Orinda Books)	26 Luncheon Bridge (11:30@ Round Hill CC)	27 9-Hole Golf (10:00@ Brentwood GC) \$ums Investment (8:00@ Diablo Creek GC)	28 Fishing Group (8:30@ Legends-Diablo Crk)	29 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">Walking Tour (10:00@ Budweiser Brewery, Fairfield)</div>	30



Membership

Phil Goff

(philgoff@yahoo.com)

SIR 116 Membership Status

Total Current Members:	236
This Month's Inductees:	2
Active Members Resigned:	3
Active to Inactive:	1
Inactive Resigned	1
On Inactive Status:	20



Br. 116 Treasurer's Report

Jim Nickels, Treasurer

(bjnickels@sbcglobal.net)

	Feb. 2016	2016 YTD
Contributions	\$ 7,958.00	\$ 15,738.01
Disbursements	\$ (6,759.60)	\$ (10,635.10)
Net (gain/(loss))	\$ 1,198.40	\$ 5,102.91
Feb. 25th Cash Balance		\$ 12,838.27

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

April Birthdays

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

1. Bryant, Frank	11. Howard, Gary
2. Canane, John	12. Jacob, Jake
3. Chaffee, Dick	13. Jordan, Jordan
4. Clizbe, Jim	14. Madden, Richard
5. Colton, Roger	15. Mcloughlin, Mac
6. Dulac, Lee	16. Ostler, Joe
7. Giambastiani, D.	17. Shader, Bob
8. Hayes, Billy	18. Smith, Ben
9. Hemmelsbach, Bill	19. Spencer, Duane
10. Henrickson, Ron	20. Stashyn, Marsh



Lunch Attendance

Sam Beret

(snb49@outlook.com)

Attendance at the February 15th Meeting

Total:	171
Members:	171
Guests & Visitors:	8
Speakers:	1
Excused:	53
Un-Excused:	15

The un-excused members will be asked to pay for their missed lunch.

April Luncheon Menu

Spaghetti & Meatballs
Zucchini
Caesar Salad & Garlic Bread
Dessert, Coffee, Iced Tea & Lemonade

Trampas Topics Submissions



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

Neil Schmidt, Trampas Topics Editor
trampastopics@gmail.com

SIR Website Addresses

SIR 116 Web Site
branch116.org

Branch 116 Golf
branch116golf.org

Trampas Topics
branch116.org/trampas/

Computer and Technology
a2cat.sirinc2.org/

SIR Happenings State Newsletter
sirinc.org/sirhappenings

State SIR Web Site
sirinc.org/



Sunshine Report

Matt Arena

(marena@astound.net)

SIR **Chuck O'Connor** passed away on February 26, 2016. Chuck has not been able to attend meeting because of his health but he enjoyed his years in the Branch and will be missed by his friends. Chuck was a generous contributor to many local and worthwhile charities.

SIR **Bob Watanabe** passed away on February 19, 2016. Bob was well know for his golf game. He was a part of the larger educational community of Branch #116. He will be missed.

SIR **Jerry Jacobs** is back with us following a stroke. Jerry attended the last lunch and looks wonderful.

SIR **Joe Collins** is undergoing Chemo and Radiation. He will miss the next several meeting while in treatment. His friends in the 9 hole golf group miss him .

SIR **Don Welsh** is not doing very well as report by his wife Kay. Here is hoping that Don will be feeling better and will return to our luncheons.

SIR **Don DeGraf** is dealing with back pain . He is receiving epidural shots to relieve the pain.

SIR **Roger Colton** is not showing much improvement as reported by his wife Laurie. He is fighting the good fight and we hope he will see some improvement.

SIR **Oscar Kirkorian** has been dealing with a fractured vertebrae for the last several months and we hope he is making some improvement. Oscar was a faithful attendee at our luncheons and he is missed.

SIR **Tim Dorr** is making a recovery from his stroke but as can be the case it has been slow.

SIR **Larry Johnson** continues to make progress following his injury at the gym.

" IF YOU TELL THE TRUTH, YOU DON'T HAVE

TO REMEMBER ANYTHING'

-Mark Twain

In Memoriam

Charles S. O'Connor

March 31, 1926 - February 26, 2016

In Memoriam

Hobuo (Bob) Watanabe

May 2, 1931 - February 19, 2016



Activity Chairman

Jerry Christopherson

(jchris161k@aol.com)

Lots of you signed up at our March SIR Meeting for this year's Spring Fling--

at **Zio Fraedo's** on **Thursday, May 12th**

There's still plenty of room. Use the reservation form in the "Flyer" in this month's Trampas Topics, or sign up at our April SIR Meeting. Reservation deadline is May 2nd. Remember, this year's entertainment is a terrific Elvis impersonator. Here's a chance to relive your romantic teen-age years! Also included...good company, great food, door prizes, and as usual, maybe a surprise or two! **DON'T MISS THIS EVENT!**

\$ums Investment Group

Tom Henry (Branch 174)

(tomh925@icloud.com)

The \$ums presenter for **April 27** will be Scott Horton of JP King advisors. Our topic will be: A 2016 Market Update and Outlook.

J.P. King Advisors is a boutique investment advisory firm serving Bay Area clients for 35 years. They employ an institutional approach to money management emphasizing diversification and low costs.



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, April 28th, at the Legend Sports Bar and Grill** at the Diablo Creek Golf Course at 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Meeting starts at 8:30am.

We will be very busy this spring with: delta fishing for catfish, striped bass, sturgeon, and trout in local lakes. Salmon and Rock fishing on the ocean start soon, and the crab fishing finally opened with excellent results when the ocean calmed. We live in a fishermen's paradise.

Trout are our main winter prey. Reggie Fromm, Ernie Wong, Carl Moyer, Jeff Strum, Gordon Linebaugh, Terry Miller, Rich Fiscina, Harry Sherinian and Lee Clark all enjoyed the wonderful flavor of these tasty critters from San Pablo Reservoir, Romano Gnusti continued his great year with a 6 pound trout, and Carl actually broke the Shadow Cliffs jinx with a pretty 3 pounder, fishing with Ray Pixton. Joe Karg caught a keeper sturgeon. He was on a party boat with 15 fishermen, and got the only fish. In fact that same day Rich Fiscina fished with a crew without a bite. When he got back to the dock he heard that only one sturgeon was caught that day by all the boats, and that turned out to be Joe's. Ralieg Davis went after crab on a party boat from Emeryville and brought home ten big ones. Mike Corker and Tom Kostik fished for black and striped bass catching a few. Ernie Wong just got back from a few days fishing up at Pyramid Lake in Nevada. This is a somewhat unique type of fishing as the fisherman stands on a ladder in the water and casts out to the fish. Be sure and check out the picture. Stripper fishing will improve very soon. Well, all this rain killed the trout bite for a bit due to muddy water, and made the delta kind of dangerous with big trees floating down. We used the respite to prepare our gear for the great fishing ahead. Come join us!



Ernie Wong fishing off a ladder at Pyramid Lake



"Mexican Train" Dominos

Richard Madden

(maddenram@sbcglobal.net)

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

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

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



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

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

Derek Southern will open by discussing the basics of photo organizing & editing. He will review specific photo-editors and discuss the “work-flow” involved in organizing photo files. Derek will also “eulogize” Picasa; unless, of course, it’s been resurrected by Google! Barry Brown will follow with some answers to the most common questions he is getting about Windows 10! He has at least 10 FAQs to discuss, so this could be called “10 on 10!” Bring your questions along too.

Check the CAT Web page about a week before the next meeting to download a copy of the presentations: <http://a2cat.sirinc2.org> .

The meeting starts at 9:30 AM, April 21, 2016, at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Drive – so arrive earlier to chat with friends and enjoy the coffee and cookies. We ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and cookies – but some months are free, so come and see if this meeting is another one of those! All SIR members and their guests (spouses included!) are welcome to attend. See you there.

REMINDER

To cancel your standing Luncheon reservation, please call the Luncheon Hotline (925-806-8874) or send an email to the Attendance Chairman at snb49@outlook.com no later than Thursday AM in the previous week.



Luncheon Speaker
By Little Sir Paul Ramacciotti
 (dagobuildr@comcast.net)

The luncheon guest speaker for April will be **Jim Cole**.

As a native Nova Scotian and now a twenty year resident of San Francisco, Jim Cole has always had a fascination with the sea. Over the years that love of the sea has turned into a passion for sailing, a sport in which he has actively participated for over forty years. Along the way, other activities got in the way of pursuing that passion, one of which was a diverse business career, which included: accountant for Scotiabank; CFO (Mount Allison University - Canada’s #1 rated liberal arts university); Vice President of Operations - Saga Corporation - Canada; Vice President Development - Marriott Corporation; Vice President, Business Development - LSG Sky Chefs (world’s largest in-flight caterer). When Jim retired from business a few years ago, it provided an ideal opportunity to continue pursuing his passion for sailing. His life long dream of sailing the Atlantic Ocean became a reality when, in 2012 at age 72, he participated in a around-the-world sailing race involving ten identical, stripped down 68 foot racing sailboats. Jim’s presentation will follow the 4,000 mile leg of his race from New York to his birthplace of Halifax, Nova Scotia, from there across the Atlantic (including a hurricane) to Derry, Ireland, from Derry up through the North Sea and over the northern tip of Scotland to the port of Den Helder in the Netherlands, then on to Southampton UK finish line.

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

SIR BRANCH #116
PRESENTS THE FABULOUS

2016 edition of the

SPRING FLING

A Special luncheon for our ladies (replacing our regular May meeting)

Zio Fraedo's

611 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill, CA Phone 925-933-9091

THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2016

11:30 No Host Social Hour

12:30 Luncheon Served

Fun! Entertainment! Special Drink Prices! DoorPrizes! Surprises!

\$43.00 Per Person

Menu Choices

**New York Steak, Salmon, Chicken Toscana,
Pasta primavera**

Menu includes appetizers, salad and dessert

SPRING FLING AT Zio Fraedo's
MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN MAY 2nd

Name _____ Steak ___ Salmon ___ Chicken ___ Pasta ___

Name _____ Steak ___ Salmon ___ Chicken ___ Pasta ___

Make Check Payable to : SIR Branch 116

Number x \$43 = \$ _____

Mail Check to: Lou Sandor, 581 Cesar Court, Walnut Creek, CA, 94598-2228

Note: I would like to reserve a table with the following people (tables of eight).

New Branch 116 Members



New member Don Rushton, sponsor Bob Donohue and new member Gary Felix

SIR Day at AT&T Park

31 July, 2016-Sunday, 1pm

SF Giants vs Washington Nationals
section 308-324, view reserve infield



“Dynamic Pricing”: subject to availability/demand
urgency is recommended-book by February
Group rate for 25+ branch members: \$46 pp

1. **Have one branch/group representative call:**
Peter Sercia, (415) 972-2243
SF Giants Group Sales
2. **Confirm numbers**
3. **Send one branch/group check**

Lee Moy, State SIR Sports
LeeHealthStudio@gmail.com
(559) 709-9851



Wine Appreciation Group

Jack Bevis

(jackb435@comcast.net)

The March wine event will take place after the cut-off date for input to Trampas Topics. See the next issue for coverage of the event.

Wine Tasting events are held every other month on

the last Thursday of the month from 4:00 to 6:30 pm. The next one will be on MARCH 31st. These informal gatherings are held at member's homes on a rotating basis, with the host selecting the wines and finger foods. Usually, four or five different wines are tasted and discussed. There is a nominal cost.

Both SIR members and their wives are invited to attend. Contact Jack Bevis at jackb435@comcast.net or 925-254 7256, for more information.



Book Exchange

John Fraser & Dick Kauffman

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



If you enjoy reading,
we have free books for you!
Check out the Book Exchange,
when you are in line to pay for lunch.
Bring a book, take a book or
take a book and bring one at the next luncheon.
Happy Reading



Br. 116 Book Club

Rich Black

(blackrw41@comcast.net)

“On Saudi Arabia” by Karen House

According to Ms. House the goal of most in Saudi Arabia is to live a life of honor which mirror's the life of the prophet Mohamed. The state rules in collaboration with the Wahhabi interpretation of Islam with the goal of keeping the House of Saud in power. And from there it gets even more complicated. Al Reynolds recommended the book and Richard Black led the discussion with John Riordan, Al Reynolds, Lytton DeSilva, Tim Tinnes, Joel White, Jack Butler, Richard White, Jim Flessner, Steve Bort and Mac McLoughlin. The group concluded this was a very different culture from our own and awarded the book 4.02 stars.

The group will next meet at Orinda Books at 10:15 am on **Monday April 25** to discuss “East of Eden” by John Steinbeck.

Golf at Rancho Canada in Carmel, CA May 17 and 18, 2016

**Branch 116 is going back to Carmel.
Spouses and Significant others are invited.
Non-golfers are welcome.**



Here are the Details

We will stay at the Carmel Mission Inn (Tel 1-800-348-9090.) You must make your own reservations and pay separately. Mention you are with the SIR 116 event and the room rate will be \$139/night.

We will play golf at Rancho Canada on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 17 & 18. First tee time on Tuesday is 10:00 so you may drive down that morning if you wish. Those driving down that morning will be assigned the later tee times. Golf fees for the two days are \$147 (\$113 for walkers.) This price includes \$20 for prize money and a Buffet dinner on Tuesday night.

Non-golfers will pay \$33 for the Buffet on Tuesday night.

Detach Here -----Detach Here
Rancho Canada Golf Event, May 17 and 18, 2016

Name _____ Name _____

No. of Golfers x \$147 (\$113 for walking) _____

Non-Golfers x \$33 _____

Total Amount _____

Send Your Checks to SIR Branch 116 Golf - P. O. Box 683 - Lafayette, CA 94549-0683

Questions? Email Jim Barstow, jbarstow@aol.com



SIR Travel

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

Greetings to all! The S F Giants SIRS day is rapidly approaching. If any of the Branch 116 SIRS



would like to attend, please let me know and we can put a group together. Another wonderful adventure coming **May 3 to May 5** is joining Branch 149 to

view the **Vatican Splendors at the Ronald Regan Presidential Library**. All the information is enclosed. Sounds like a rewarding and historical opportunity.

To brighten your day... *I told the doctor I broke my leg in two places. He told me to quit going to those places. :)*

Enjoy your travels and I will see in the Sky
Above, the Sea Below and Down the Roads of Life.

Your Travel Chairman

Additional SIR Travel Opportunities on State Web

The quarterly State SIR Happenings Web Site at sirinc.org/sirhappenings/ offers additional SIR travel options.



Eric Stout from the Lawrence Livermore National Ignition (fusion) Facility talking to the Computer & Technology group on March 17, 2016

join SIR Branch #149 for the opportunity of a Lifetime view the **Vatican Splendors** exhibit at the

Ronald Reagan Presidential Library

Depart: May 3, 2016 Return: May 5, 2016

The Vatican Splendors Exhibit only travels every other year and has not been on the West Coast since 2004. Do not miss out on this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to experience 2000 years of Vatican art and history. From the sights and sounds of the grand Basilica to a touchable cast of John Paul II's hand, the exhibition is a multi-sensory experience. The 10,000 square foot comprises one of the largest Vatican collections ever to tour North America and includes many items which have never before been on public view. From culture to history to art, explore how the Papacy has impacted and been impacted by — the world throughout the centuries.

Your three day/ to night tour to Southern California includes:

Round trip motor coach transportation * 2-nigh stay at the Pepper Tree (Santa Barbara) * Baggage Handling * 6 Hosted Meals * Guided Tour at Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Entry into Vatican Splendors Exhibit * Guided Tour at Santa Barbara Mission * Visit to Solvang * Driver Gratuity

Cost per person: \$591 double occ. / \$751 single occ.

Insurance premium due at time of trip payment. Cancellation Policy: No refunds after April 1, 2016. All cancellations are subject to a minimum \$50 cancellation fee plus any fees incurred. Cancellation/Travel Protection is available and strongly recommended.

Per person insurance premium: \$35 double occ. / \$45 single occ.

For more information call:

Bob Spellman at 925-934-8428 or bob-njo@astound.net. Make checks payable to: Travel-Center Trust Account



Hiking & Walking

Joel White

(zpz2mrz@yahoo.com)

Glorious sunshine has returned (for the most part) and I look forward to resuming walks with the group.

The **Friday, April 8** walk will be led by Steve Bort. We will meet at the usual **8:15am** at the Stone Valley Trailhead of the Iron Horse Trail in Alamo. **Directions:** Exit hwy 680 onto Stone valley Rd **West**. Continue straight past the light and enter the shopping center parking lot on the right just before the trailhead. Please RSVP to Steve: steve-bort1@yahoo.com.

A special wildflower walk will be led by John Riordan on **April 22**. **Please note a later starting time at 9am**. The walk will meet at the Mitchell Canyon visitor center in Clayton. Those of you who have state park passes do not forget to bring them. **Directions:** <http://www.mdia.org/site/park-information/park-info/park-location-map> is a link to the site map where you may get specific driving directions. Please RSVP to John: gcriordan@comcast.net.

Anyone wishing to join the post walk conversation please contact the walk leader for location and to let him know.

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



Poker Group #2

Jim Shurr

(shurrjim@astound.net)

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



Bridge

Jon Dickson

(still26@sbcglobal.net)

Bridge games are every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at Round Hill CC starting at 11:30 AM with lunch and then an afternoon of bridge. Do join us for an enjoyable game. Mark your calendars for Tuesday, **April 19th** for our spring **LADIES DAY** or **COUPLES BRIDGE GAME** with lunch and bridge at Round Hill Country Club. Lunch of chicken or salmon starts at 11:30 with bridge after. Bring your partner for a fun day of bridge, playing Chicago style, keeping your partner for the day. You get to take your partner home with you after! Bring your wife, friend or bridge buddy for an afternoon of bridge. "Couples" can be two females or two males so find a partner and join us for bridge. Cost is \$55 per couple for a full afternoon of fun. Call Jon Dickson, 837-1178 after April 1st to make a reservation.

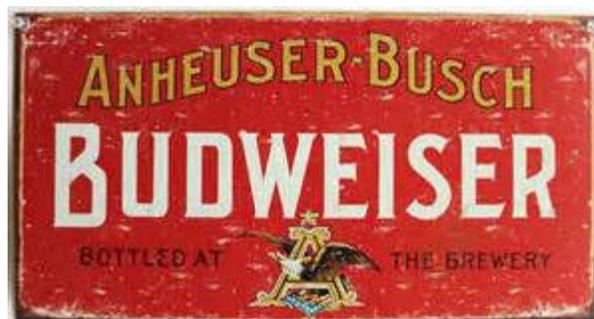


Walking Tours

Bernie Wroblewski

(bbwroblewski@comcast.net)

The next scheduled SIR Branch 116 walking tour is for **Saturday, April 23** at the **Budweiser Brewery** in Fairfield. The tour will commence at 10:00 am with an optional lunch to follow. The address of the brewery is 3101 Busch Drive, Fairfield, CA 94534. There is a \$5 fee for the tour. Those interested in participating can either telephone (925) 820-3274 or e-mail bbwroblewski@comcast.net. Guests are welcome.





SIR Branch 116 Golf
 By Al Zavattero, Golf Chairman
 (jandazav@juno.com)

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

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

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

All our events are listed in the Trampas Topics and on our web site at branch116.org/116-golf. 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 address is:

branch116golf.org

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

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

starting times & handicaps for next event.

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

April 9-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Wed. 06	10:00	Buchanan Fields	Dick Chaffee
Wed. 13	10:00	Diablo Hills	D. McClaughry
Wed. 20	10:00	Buchanan Fields	Dick Chaffee
Wed. 27	10:00	Brentwood	Skip Berkson

April 18-Hole Schedule

Date	Time	Location	Organizer
Mon. 04	9:30	Tilden Park	Marty Katz
Mon. 11	9:30	Sequoyah CC	Marty Katz
Tue. 19	9:00	Lone Tree	Frank Portillo
Mon. 25	9:00	Poppy Ridge	Frank Portillo

18-Hole Results

Rancho Solano, Mon, Mar 28, 2016

Max Foust, Official Scorer

<u>Flight 1</u>				<u>Flight 2</u>				<u>Flight 3</u>				<u>Flight 4</u>			
1st	Bill McCord	69	3	Tie 1st	Mel Williams	67	3	1st	David Carlson	66	3	1st	Matt Arena	69	3
2nd	Neil Schmidt	71	2	Tie 1st	Don Schroeder	67	3	2nd	Bernie Wroblewski	68	2	2nd	Fred Schafer	70	2
3rd	David Harris	72	1	3rd	Harry Oberle	68	1	3rd	Terry Grummitt	69	1	3rd	Bill Hemmelsbach	71	1
<u>Low Gross</u>				<u>Low Gross</u>				<u>Low Gross</u>				<u>Low Gross</u>			
Michael Barrington 85				Jim Johnson 85 Mel Williams 85				Terry Grummitt 93				Fred Schafer 103			
<u>Closest-to #15</u>				<u>Closest-to #15</u>				<u>Closest-to #15</u>				<u>Closest-to #15</u>			
Jerry Hicks				Mel Williams				Mark Jordan				Carl Langhorst			
Match Play Results:															
Wroblewski over McCord 3&2															
Schafer over Barstow 4&2															
Johnson over Hicks, based on 2nd tie-breaker (last 6 holes)															

Dublin Ranch, Tue, Mar 22, 2016

Conrad Robertson, Official Scorer

<u>Flight 1</u>				<u>Flight 2</u>				<u>Flight 3</u>				<u>Flight 4</u>			
Tie 1st	Jim Barstow	66	3	Tie 1st	Phil Goff	61	3	1st	Alex Lutkus	60	3	Tie 1st	Kevin Donahue	71	3
Tie 1st	Jerry Hicks	66	3	Tie 1st	Jim Johnson	61	3	2nd	Bob Testa	63	2	Tie 1st	Phil Jenkins	71	3
Tie 1st	Bill McCord	66	3	3rd	Frank Crua	62	1	3rd	John Story	64	1	Tie 1st	Marty Katz	71	3
<u>Low Gross</u>				<u>Low Gross</u>				<u>Low Gross</u>				<u>Low Gross</u>			
Jerry Hicks 77				Jim Johnson 75 Phil Goff 75				Alex Lutkus 83				Marty Katz 98			
<u>Closest-to #7</u>				<u>Closest-to #7</u>				<u>Closest-to #7</u>				<u>Closest-to #7</u>			
David Harris				Tom Eller				Pete Coggiola				Phil Jenkins			

Callippe Reserve, Mon, Feb 29, 2016

Bernie Wroblewski, Official Scorer

<u>Flight 1</u>				<u>Flight 2</u>				<u>Flight 3</u>				<u>Flight 4</u>			
1st	Hugh Duggan	66	3	1st	Jim Johnson	69	3	Tie 1st	Dave Carlson	72	3	1st	Greg Hughes	75	3
2nd	Craig Elliott	75	2	2nd	Harry Oberle	71	2	Tie 1st	Bob Testa	72	3	Tie 2nd	Phil Jenkins	78	2
3rd	Jim Barstow	77	1	3rd	Mel Williams	74	1	3rd	Randy Welker	75	1	Tie 2nd	Art Vogl	78	2
<u>Low Gross</u>				<u>Low Gross</u>				<u>Low Gross</u>				<u>Low Gross</u>			
Michael Barrington 91 Hugh Duggan 91				Jim Johnson 85				Bob Testa 96				Greg Hughes 109			
<u>Closest-to #6</u>				<u>Closest-to #6</u>				<u>Closest-to #6</u>				<u>Closest-to #6</u>			
Jim Barstow				Al Zattero				Alex Lutkus				Phil Jenkins			



2016 18-Hole Leader Board

First Half Leaders, January - June, 2016
As of Rancho Solano, Mon, Mar 28, 2016

<u>FLIGHT 1</u>		<u>FLIGHT 2</u>		<u>FLIGHT 3</u>		<u>FLIGHT 4</u>	
Name	Pts	Name	Pts	Name	Pts	Name	Pts
Hugh Duggan	16	Jim Johnson	14	Bernie Wroblewski	13	Marty Katz	16
Jim Barstow	13	Al Zavatiero	7	David Carlson	13	Art Vogl	15
Bill McCord	12	Frank Crua	7	Randy Welker	9	Fred Schafer	11
David Harris	8	Don Schroeder	7	Bob Testa	8	Ron Armijo	7
Jerry Hicks	7	Bill Clark	5	Al Serafino	6	Phil Jenkins	7
Alan Fitzgerald	3	Phil Goff	5	Jim Videle	5	Matt Arena	4
Craig Elliott	3	Harry Oberle	5	Terry Sherman	3	Greg Hughes	3
Neil Schmidt	2	Mel Williams	5	Dick Chaffee	3	Kevin Donahue	3
Michael Barrington	1	Carlos Xavier	4	Alex Lutkus	3	Robbie Robinson	2
		Wayne Smith	3	Jed Daniel	2	Jim Nickels	1
		Dirk Meyer	2	Pete Coggiola	1	Wayne Cook	1
				John Story	1	Conrad Robertson	1
				Terry Grummitt	1	Bill Hemmelsbach	1

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>
Tuesday, April 19, 2016	Lone Tree	Apr-08	\$38
Monday, April 25, 2016	Poppy Ridge	Apr-15	\$45
Monday, May 16, 2016	Paradise Valley	May 6	\$42
Monday, May 23, 2016	Hiddenbrooke	May 13	\$45
Monday, May 31, 2016	Roddy Ranch	???	\$34

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



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

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

Rules of Attendance and Membership for SIR Branch 116

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

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

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

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

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.