



Rooster Tales

A non profit organization for Retired Men Devoted to the Promotion of Independence and Dignity of Retirement.

Next Meeting - February 7th

*SIR Branch 19 will meet noon in the Crowne Plaza Contra Costa Room,
Social Hour at 11am in the Vineyards Restaurant*



Go 49ers



Captain Daniel Siri
Concord Police Department

The Program - Captain Dan Siri, Concord Police Department

Subject: Critical Incident Stress

Captain Siri has a team of trained personnel that will help anyone involved in a Critical Incident, a shooting, death in an accident, etc. An example is the father and daughter who were killed on Treat and Oak Grove by a young driver and the September 11, 2001 terrorist incident on the Twin Towers in New York.

The team is trained to debrief the persons involved in the incident and to help them come to terms and get there life back in order. They also do this for the Veterans, etc.

The Critical Response team is there to help anyone involved in a stress full situation to get back to a normal life.

The Menu for February

Starter

Tomato & Basil Soup

Plated Entree

Beef Stroganoff

or

Pan Roasted Salmon Picatta

*Yukon Gold Potato Puree, Steamed
Broccolini Florets*

Dessert

Warm Apple Pie

with Caramel Sauce

**Starbucks Coffee, Decaf and Tea
on the Tables**



**The Pledge of
Allegiance will be led**

by

George Garcia

*Served in the Army
with duty in Vietnam
1966 - 1967*

Birthday Drawing

February Birthdays

Allan Anderson - Robert Clouser

Frank Cooper - Ed DiBetta

George Fulmore - Ron Gagliardi

Kal Horvath - Ron Ingersol

Roger Mills - Gordon Ralls

Jim Randall - Fredric Sorrenti

Bill Stiles - Marvin Terrell

Anthony Tonti - Jim Willey

December/January Winners

Jack Barnaba & John Hayes

Big Sir Message for February



*Bill Stephenson
Big Sir 2013*

*Ask not what the Branch
can do for you Ask what
you can do for the Branch.*

At a recent meeting of the local area SIR Branch officers, the main agenda theme and focus was to increase overall membership through various methods of recruitment. The following is a recap of what Branch 19 feels we should concentrate on in 2013.

- Even though we have done well the last few years, we have relied primarily on one approach, sponsors bringing in new members.
- Action Plan- Create 2-3 new sources for finding recruits for new membership. Get new members from at least two of those sources. Various recruiting plans are being considered to interest retired men to join SIR.
- Goal- 80/20 Get 80% at lunches, recruit 20% new members.
- 2-Branch Activities - In the last two years we have added a number of new activities but there is likely room for more. Card playing groups are distinct possibilities, such as

cribbage, bridge and poker. Many other activities are available in the area for SIR members to participate and enjoy.

- Goal -Add three new Branch 19 activities this year including at least one coed. (Last year, we added the October Member/Guest Picnic which proved very successful and will be continued for 2013)
- Action Plan- Survey members for ideas, communicate activities that other branches have, recruit activity chairs to head new activities that may be formed.
- An Activity Table will be set up at the March meeting to discuss activities that interested members can make suggestions or requests.

Those attending from Branch 19 included, **Jack Barnaba, Ron Cashion, Larry Kolano, Ken Kuhn, Ken Peterson and Bill Stephenson.**

Bill Stephenson, Big Sir

Branch 19 Begins 2013 with Emphasis on Growth

OK, So now You're Retired....

The following are things we can do to make Branch 19 an active and vibrant organization that appeals to the retired men of the area. We have consistently relied on bringing in new members by the existing members bringing guests, and sponsoring them as new members. We should continue this as the main source of new members, but we also can use other methods to create an interest in making SIR a part of their retired life. We welcome input from the members. Available SIR activities in which to participate are numerous in the area and represent many interests.

Get Involved...

We are continually looking for volunteers to serve on our various committees. In most cases, the time involved is minimal and certainly rewarding. The more people involved, the better.

We also welcome suggestions from the membership concerning topics for future Branch 19 programs. If you have seen or heard of a speaker that would be appropriate for a SIR meeting, let us know. Call the Hotline number and leave a message or contact Little Sir **Tom Lathrop** with the details. You may also e-mail: branch19newsletter@yahoo.com with your suggestions.

Know Your Fellow Sir - Ed DiBetta



My name is Ed DiBetta. I was born in February of 1938 in Martinez. I have lived in Martinez ever since. I graduated from Alhambra Union High School in 1956. I joined the United States Air Force in September 1956. I did my basic and vocational training in Texas. I was trained as a helicopter mechanic. I was stationed

in Washington State, Japan and temporary duty in Rangoon Burma. I was honorably discharged in 1960. I worked at Shell Chemical for about one year. I also worked part time as a bartender at my dad's bar known as the College Lane. I married my wife Donaleen in June 1961. We have been married for

almost 52 years. I went to Diablo Valley College where I received an AA degree. I worked for Contra Costa County in the Building Inspection and Public Works Departments from 1962 to 1969. Upon leaving the county I worked for 30 years in private civil engineering firms. I ended my career in Benicia as a partner in the firm known as Cullen Engineering Associates. Most of the projects I worked on were industrial and commercial sites. I ended my career on the "Downtown Pleasant Hill" project where I was responsible for approximately 90% of the site design. I retired at the end of 1999. I joined SIR in 2000 and have never regretted it.

Ed DiBetta

Editors Note: Ed is past Big Sir 2009 and 2010

Branch 19 Activities for February

Dining Out

Thursday, February 21st

5pm Social Hour - 6pm Order

Plate and Vine Restaurant

Located in the Hilton Hotel/Concord
1970 Diamond Blvd, Concord

The Hilton has completely revamped its dining room and turned it into an organic, sustainable "farm to fork" venture with reclaimed barn wood decor and winery riddling rack, and dishes such as butternut squash risotto, braised short ribs and numerous other choices for fine dining.

The prices are reasonable.

Sign-ups for the February event will be taken at the February 7th luncheon.

Al Brunner - 687-0594 and **Ken Peterson** - 439-5448 are Co Dining Out Chairmen

Wine Tasting

February Date TBD

The host for February will be

Dave and Susan Kepper.

The date for the February Wine Tasting event has not been determined, but should be resolved by the meeting on February 7th.



March Wine Tasting

Plans for a March week day trip to Lodi for wine tasting are being finalized.. The details of this trip will be

announced by

Don Weimann, Wine Tasting Chairman

Area 2 and Branch 19 Activities for January

Computer & Technology

**Next Meeting - Thursday, February 21st - 9am
Walnut Creek Elks Lodge
1475 Creekside Drive, Walnut Creek**

At our next meeting on February 21 we will be presented with a review of the new operating system, Windows 8 being introduced by Microsoft. There has been a lot of criticism leveled at this new OS prior to its official launching – especially relative to its use with PCs. Our guest speaker, **Mr. Ron Ogg** who is the chief technical guru for DVPC (Diablo Valley Personal Computer Users Group), believes there are many interesting features incorporated into Windows 8 that will be popular with PC users. You will not want to miss Ron's presentation on Windows 8.

Time permitting, **Dick Curry** will then lead a Q&A discussion to address current computer issues that you identify. So please bring your questions and join us for a fun and informative session. As always there will be coffee and cookies available before and during the meeting.

Phil Goff 820-3573 & Derek Southern 253-1646 - Co Chairs

“Lets Go Fishing”

**Next Meeting - Thursday, February 28th
Thursday Legends Sports Bar - Diablo Creek G.C. Meeting starts at
8:30am**

We will be very busy this winter with: delta fishing for bass, catfish, and sturgeon, trout in local lakes, kokanee, crab and rock fish, and attending the various sportsmen shows.

Contact Pete Gates, Big Fish (925-937-2035)

**Carl Moyer, Branch 8 Coordinator, (925-685-5243) or Tom Boltz,
Treasurer/Secretary (925-825-5695.)**

Attention Golfers - Chardonnay Golf Club, Napa

The Chardonnay Golf Club is happy to invite members of Sons In Retirement to play for a special rate of \$32 per player, including a small bucket of range balls, green fees and half a cart. This offer is good for up to four players at this rate and is good anytime Monday through Thursday. Please bring this offer to the pro shop when checking in. This offer is valid through March 5, 2013
2555 Jameson Canyon Road, Napa, CA 94503
Phone: (707) 257-1900

Area 2 Sums Investment Group

**Next Meeting - Wednesday - February 27th
The Legends at Diablo Creek G.C., Concord**

The restaurant opens at 7:00am for those who would like to enjoy breakfast with your colleagues. Bring along a prospective member or two to hear this very timely talk. Also plan to support the restaurant and it's excellent staff.

Our speakers **Brent Cunningham and Cory Silva portfolio managers with Merrill Lynch in San Francisco** will present a history of **Real Estate Investment Trusts (REIT)**. As an investment option, the types of REIT's, how they fit into your portfolio (s) and how you can use them to increase portfolio value and growth. So you can be prepared for the meeting I am sending you a pdf file in a separate e-mail called “BofAML REIT Primer, 3rd Edition. “**A Peek into the Industry.**” This 48 page JM79 booklet will give you a complete picture of this income producing equity.

**Co-Chairmen: Allen Espenmiller
(925-376-3977 George Schulze 925-429-1756
Leary Wong (925)-457-080 Ken Nakashima
Coordinator (925)-376-0421**

Branch 19 Golf Schedule for February and March

For the months of **February and March**, due to the winter weather, the only official scheduled golf dates are at Lone Tree G.C., Antioch. **9:30am** will be the first starting time, however, a Shotgun start could occur on certain dates and will be announced in advance. **Alternate** Tuesdays are open for individual groups to arrange tee times at various courses of their choice. Following are the Lone Tree dates.

**February 12th - February 26th
March 12th - March 26th**

Travel Opportunities for Members of SIR



Harry Reiter,

Branch 19
Travel Chairman
925 709-2820

<hr5000@comcast.net>

Turmoils at Professor Ming's Mansion.

March 2, 2013

Join fellow SIR at Buddha's Universal Church in San Francisco, doors open at 1:30pm. Prior to the performance there will be a tour of the Terracotta Warriors exhibit at the Asian Art Museum. Price of \$85.00 pp also includes hosted lunch in Chinatown and bus transportation.

Contact **Dick Schally** Br.8,
260-5534 for more information

Memphis Blues to the New Orleans Jazz on the American Queen.

June 1-9, 2013

A 7 night cruise on board the American Queen down the Mississippi with a pre-cruise stay in Memphis and a optional 2 day post stay in New Orleans. Cruise features RT motor coach to airport, RT airfare, all meals on board, including wine or beer with dinner, daily lectures, nightly entertainment, shore tours, and port charges, transfers, and baggage handling. Prices start a \$3658 to \$6486 JM47 depending on accommodations.

Contact

Bob Spellman, 934-8428

Tulip Time Cruise

April 14-22, 2013

Discover the beauty & History of the Dutch and Belgian waterways in springtime. Cruise ports include, Amsterdam, Arnhem, Antwerp, Bruges, Middeburg, and Rotterdam. Prices range from \$3225 to \$5080 and include airfare, complimentary beverages, many guided tours, tips and gratuities. Contact **Jim Lunn** Branch 8 for more information.
925 551-3329

Alaska

Golden Age Cruise

August 28-September 7, 2013

SIR 55th Anniversary

SIR will be celebrating our 55th anniversary with a 10 day round trip cruise from San Francisco to Alaska on Princess Cruise Line. Cost, \$1579 to \$3300 depending on accommodations. This should be a great opportunity to spend time with fellow members while enjoying the wonderful scenery that Alaska offers. The cost includes: Gratuities on the ship, Ship Board Credit, Cocktail Party, Hospitality Suite, Transportation to and from the Pier, wine and Gifts, and a Alaska Salmon Bake Excursion. If you need flyers or more information contact Sonoma Travel @ 707-763-1545.
Save the Date
Bob Spellman - 934-8428.

In the next few issues of *Rooster Tales*, day-trips around the Bay Area will be featured where members of SIR can easily participate.

Financial Statement

Branch 19 Statistics

January Attendance
Members and Guests - 117

Financial Report

December 2012

Beginning Cash Balance	\$8,370.15
Contributions	2.66
Interest	.51
Subtotal General Receipts	3.17
Disbursements	
Printing,	30.83
Postage	.00
Telephone Hotline	21.38
Guest Expense	25.00
State Pro Rata Assessment	.00
Subtotal General Disbursements	52.21
Net General Accounts	- 49.04
Custodial Accounts	
Monthly Luncheon Receipts	17.34
Receipts Special Activities	232.00
Bowling	4,119.30
Subtotal Custodial Receipts	249.34
Disbursements	
Monthly Luncheon	.00
Special Activities	2,976.09
Bowling	1,682.00
Subtotal Cust. Disbursements	\$4,658.09
Net Custodial	-4,408.75
Ending Cash Balance	\$3,912.36

Ken Kuhn, Branch Treasurer

All SIR Day at the SF Giants

I have just today received confirmation from the SF Giants of a date for our annual "All SIR Day at the SFGiants". It will be August 8, 2013. The game will start at 12:45 PM. The opponent will be the Milwaukee Brewers. As I'm sure you are all aware, the Giants sell out every game. It is important to jump in and get tickets early!

Each branch should designate a member to coordinate sales and communicate with **Marisa Coppersmith at (415) 972-2259** mcoppersmith@sfgiants.com to complete the ticket purchases. Travel to the game is also the responsibility of the branch or the individual member. **Roger Danielson**
SIR Chairman, SFGiants Events
Candyroger@sbcglobal.net

About Monthly Attendance ...

Please make sure to cooperate, and call the Hotline Number 969-7753 on or before five (5) days in advance of the lunch if you can not attend the regular luncheon. Not calling was a critical problem in the past months. However, the Hotline has been effective in reducing the unexcused No Calls. Remember, your unexcused absence is costly to the club because the precise number of meals must be ordered in advance. If not eaten, the club pays, and you will be charged for the meal! Thanks for your cooperation

Membership Attendance is Required by the By Laws:

Rule 100: A member who misses three (3) consecutive meetings without notifying the committee chair person (or calling the Hotline) giving valid reason or who attends less than six (6) meetings within the last twelve (12) months, shall be notified by the prescribed form, of termination of his membership. December Ladies Day is exempted.



Look for the Lucky Badge Number in this Newsletter

If you find your Badge Number (preceded by JM) somewhere in this newsletter, you could be a winner of a free lunch. However, you must call the Hotline 969-7753 in advance of the meeting in order to qualify for the free lunch.

February Calendar

Computers & Technology

Thursday February 21st
Walnut Creek Elks Club

Sums in Retirement

Wednesday February 27th
The Legends at Diablo Creek G.C.

Area 2 Fishing Group

Thursday February 28th
The Legends at Diablo Creek G.C.

Bowling

10am Every Wednesday at the
Clayton Valley Bowl & Diablo Lanes

Golf

See February/March Schedule - Page 4
Dining Out - February 21st (see pg. 3)
Wine Tasting - February 8th (see pg. 3)



1645 Beckner Court
Concord, CA 94521

Return Service Requested



Next Meeting - February 7th, 2013- Noon - Crowne Plaza Hotel/Concord