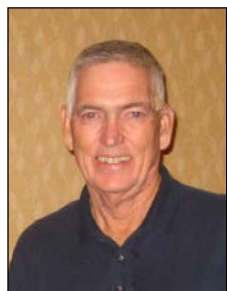


A Non Profit Organization for Retired Men Devoted to the Promotion of Independence and Dignity of Retirement.



ROOSTER TALES

Next Meeting - Thursday May 1st, 2014 - Oakhurst Country Club



Tom Lathrop

May Message from the Big Sir

A healthy SIR Branch is a growing one in which new members are recruited and inducted to replace attrition. Without new members the branch will eventually dissolve and the members will find other interests.

Since the first of the year, Branch 19 has added 10 new members, but we have also had 10 members leave, and 3 go to inactive status. We currently have 126 active members, and about 75% of those attend our monthly luncheons. Your Board has discussed the size of our branch and believes a membership of up to 150 would be ideal.

Presently, our primary method of adding new members to the branch is bringing your friends to the luncheon or one of the other activities and having them join. This year we have only had 6 guests. In order to maintain an active branch, we need to bring friends to SIR and involve them in our activities. Our goal should be to have several guests at each luncheon and have most of them decide to join.

Each of you has friends or neighbors who you could recruit to our branch. Help keep the branch healthy.

We also have a new Travel Chairman. **Al Brunner** has volunteered for the job. He will have brochures on trips that other branches and the State are sponsoring. You should also talk to Al if you are interested in any day trips. We have talked about trips to the "Jelly Belly" factory, Anchor Steam brewery, and other local places of interest. Let Al know if you have any ideas and want to participate and he will help get it organized.

Tom Lathrop

Pledge of Allegiance



Will be led by the first Veteran that volunteers at the Check-In table

The May Menu

Starter

Green Salad with Champagne Vinaigrette Dressing

Plated Entree

Braised Beef with Au Jus
or

Basa White Fish with Lemon Beurre Blanc Sauce

Dessert

Ice Cream with Cookie

Coffee and Water on Tables

The April Program Featured



Jim Carley delivers a power point presentation on reverse mortgages.



SIR Governor Gary Plisco presents the Senior Sir Award (90) to John Hresko



John Roebuck receives Super Senior Award (95+)

The Program for May



Thirteen time Award winning mystery writer,

Rhys Bowen

Rhys Bowen's books have been nominated for every major mystery award and she has won thirteen of them to date. She currently writes two historical mystery series, each very different in tone. The Molly Murphy mysteries

feature an Irish immigrant woman in turn-of-the-century New York City. These books are multi-layered, complex stories with a strong sense of time and place and have won many awards including Agatha and Anthony. There are 13 books so far in this series plus two Kindle stories, The Amersham Rubies and The Face in the Mirror--a great way to introduce new readers to Molly's spunky personality Rhys was born in Bath, England but spent time during her childhood with relatives in Wales. Those childhood experiences colored her first mystery series, about Constable Evans in the mountains of Snowdonia. 10 books including the Edgar nominee Evan's Gate. She has lived in Austria, Germany and Australia, but has called California her home for many years. She now escapes to a condo in Arizona during those cold California winters. When she's not writing she loves to travel, sing, hike, paint and play the Celtic harp.

Larry Kolano, Little Sir

Celebration of May Birthdays

*Louie Audas Donald Colvin
George Crouse Darryl Diamond
Jim Garcia Gary Kaufmann
Mike Kropf Ben Miller
William Pope John Tryon*

*April Winner
Gordon Monroe*



Committee Assignments

Activities - Jack Barnaba, **Membership** - Ken Peterson,
Arrangements/Hotline - Ron Cashion, **Golf (18)** - Jerry Burton,
Golf (9) Steve McMurdo, **Bowling** - John Carl & Mike Kropf,
Dining Out - Ken Peterson, **Wine Tasting** - Don Weimann,
Travel - Al Brunner, **AV Equipment** - TBD

Financial Statement

Branch 19 Statistics

April Attendance
Members and Guests - 104

March 2014

Account Balances

Petty Cash \$250.00

General Account

Unencumbered \$3,570.87

Holiday Fund 625.40

Picnic Fund

Total General Account \$4,457.27

Custodial Accounts

Bowling 608.07

Golf \$1,213.81

Total Custodial \$1,821.88

Total Funds \$6,529.15

Treasurer Report

Ken Kuhn, Branch 19 Treasurer

SIR PRICING AT THE OAKHURST BAR

The following are the Happy Hour Bar prices for the SIR meetings.

Beer

Domestic Beer Bottles \$ 3

Imported Beer Bottles 4

Wine

William Hill Chardonnay 5

William Hill Cabernet 5

Murphy Goode Sav. Blanc 5

Carmel Road Pinot Noir 5

BV Merlot 5

Liquor

Bloody Mary (well special) 6

Well Drink 5

Premium Call 8

Super Premium 9

Our Goal

Our most important concern is you.

We want to hear from you
Your impressions and feedback will help us improve
your SIR Experience.

If you are disappointed,
please tell us about it.

If you are pleased,
we would like to hear that too.

At the check-in table, we have comment forms you
may fill out with your thoughts. or Email us:

branch19newsletter@yahoo.com

Hotline - 969-7753 (leave message)

Area 2 and Branch 19 Activities for May



The Area 2 \$ums Investment Group

Wednesday May 28th, 8:00am
The Legends - Diablo Creek G.C.
4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord.

Our guest speakers will be Stacey L. Velez and Eswar C. Menon of Geneva Investment

Management of Chicago, LLC. Their topic will be "Investment Opportunities in Emerging Markets." They will discuss growth, quality, valuation and the favorable demographics and emerging consumer in emerging markets around the world and Geneva's approach to investing in those markets.

Stacey is a financial advisor, with 14 years experience in providing investment management services and advice to high net worth individuals. Eswar is a Portfolio Manager on the Geneva Emerging Markets Equity and Geneva International Small Cap Strategies. Prior to joining Geneva, Eswar was a portfolio manager and equity analyst at WHV Investment Management. Previous to that, he founded Denahi Global Investments, LLC an investment advisor that managed a long-short hedge fund, the Denahi Asia Focus Fund LP. He also held portfolio management positions at Loomis Sayles & Co., L.P. and Nicholas-Applegate Capital Management.

The Legends restaurant opens at 7:00 a.m., so come early and have a leisurely breakfast with your colleagues prior to the meeting.

Plan to attend this meeting and bring a prospective SIR.

Co-Chairmen: **Gary Moore** (Br. 174) 925 254-8742

David Sutton (Br-8) 925- 686-0158 **Leary Wong** (Br-8) 925 457-0807

Leary Wong (Br-8) 925-457-0807

Area 2 Fishing Group

Meets Thursday, May 22nd, 8:30am

The Legends Diablo Creek G.C.-

4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord.

Salmon season looks normal based on the opener on April 5th. Though not large, the fish were plentiful both north and south of the gate.



Tom Boltz caught a 60 lb sturgeon fishing with **Rich Ficina, Pete Gates, and Joe Karg.**

They released another keeper on a very memorable tax day, April 15th.



"We live in a fishermen's paradise" -Carl Moyer

Dick Thomson, Big Fish (925)-944-1760 **Carl Moyer** (Br. 8 Coordinator) (925)-685-5243 or **Romano Gnusti**, Treasurer/Secretary, (925)-376-3313

Check It Out ...

Our new Webmaster, Sir **Mike Mills**, has up dated and upgraded the Branch 19 Website with a new look. Go to <www.sirinc.org> and click on the "Branch Website" link and select Branch 19 Concord/Clayton.

The Area 2 Computer & Technology Group

Next Regular Meeting - Thursday,
May 15th, at 9:30am.
Walnut Creek Elks Club,
1475 Creekside Dr. Walnut Creek



Our May presentation will be "Migrating from XP". As many of you already know, on April 8, 2014, Microsoft stopped their support for their Windows XP software and there are several ramifications of this move to individuals who still have an XP computer. The basic question is: "How does this impact me and what should I do?" There are three basic options: 1) Continue to use your XP with perhaps some software modifications, 2) Convert your existing computer to Windows 7 or 8.1, or 3) Buy a new

Windows 7 or 8.1 computer and transfer your stuff over to the new machine. The three presenters, **Neil Schmidt, Phil Goff** and **Dean Steichen** will delve into these issues and explain how you can smoothly transition via each of these options. These presentations will also be a valuable learning experience for individuals who have already transitioned out of Windows XP.

Following the presentation, time permitting, there will be an informal "Sharing Tips & Tricks" segment where individual will be asked to share some of their computer, smartphone, tablet, etc. tips with the group. Bring your own Tips & Tricks to share with the group. Some months we ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and cookies, other months are free.

Phil Goff and Derek Southern
Co-chairs

Branch 19 and SIR Area 2 Travel Activities

Interested in a Particular Activity?

The SIR organization offers numerous activities that are easily available to the members. If you are interested in joining a group that is not offered in your Branch activity list maybe you might consider starting and sharing the activity with other interested members. The various Branches of Area 2 have approximately 70 active groups participating in the wide variety of activities. If you need information regarding *any* activity of interest, contact **Jack Barnaba** at 672-0947 for a followup or information concerning the activity.

Day Trips



Tour of Jelly Belly Factory in Fairfield

A mid week date To Be Determined in a Co-ed - Optional lunch after the tour. Step into our factory and smell the aroma of chocolate, peach, cinnamon, pineapple, or whatever is being cooked up that day. A visit to our candy making factory in Fairfield, California, located about 45 minutes from Concord/Walnut Creek. During the 40-minute walking tour, Jelly Belly tour guides will show you a real working factory where we cook up over 150 different sweet treats. Learn the secrets to how we create the legendary Jelly Belly jelly bean, and discover why it takes more than a week to make a single bean.

A "unique and sweet experience."

If interested in making the tour, Sign Ups and Details at May 1st Meeting



Bill Stephenson, Editor
Home Phone: 680-0234
(leave message) or
E-mail:
branch19newsletter@yahoo.com

Wine Tasting Group



When: Friday, May 9th (tentative)
Host and Theme To Be Determined.
Information available at the May 1st meeting. If interested or want additional information, contact.

Don Weimann
<weimanns@astound.net>

Travel Around

Al Brunner, the new Branch 19 Travel Chairman will be concentrating on forming local trips to various attractions around the Bay Area and Northern California. Interested members with questions or suggestions should check in with Al at the Check-In area at our meeting May 1st.

The Dining Out Group

Thursday May 16th

Tahoe Joe's
Famous Steakhouse



5pm Social Hour - 6pm Dinner

Dining Out Signups
will be available at the
May 1st. Meeting
Contact

Ken Peterson (925) 439-5448
<kenneth637@comcast.net>

Branch 19 Golf Information

The 18 Hole Golf Group

May Schedule

May 6th - Lone Tree- 9:30am

May 13th - Delta View - 9:00am

May 20th - Lone Tree - 9:30am

May 27th - Franklin Canyon- 9:00

(possible change from Franklin Canyon TBA)

April Match Play Madness Results

Boyer over **Fernando** 1up (Oakhurst Brk)

Nicholas over **Martin** 3/2 (Lone Tree Brk)

Oakhurst Bracket

Weimann vs **Kolano**, winner to play **Boyer**

Lone Tree Bracket

Kuhn vs **Willey**, winner to play **Nicholas**

Tilden Bracket

Cashion vs **R. Peterson** to play

Franklin Canyon Bracket

Hockenson vs **Vogt**, winner to play **Deonigi**

Contact - **Jerry Burton**, Chairman

AJgolf@astound.net

Jerry Sez: Our *pace of play* has improved (probably due to the change of tees) however, keeping up with the foursome in front of you, along with good cart management also play important roles. Keep it up!

Nine Hole Golf Group



Every Monday at approximately 9am, alternating at the following courses, **Buchanan Fields** and **Diablo Hills**.

The nine hole group is enlarging, so letting Steve know in advance of playing is important. To Contact:

Steve McMurdo:

[<smcmurdo@att.net>](mailto:smcmurdo@att.net)

Area 2 Activities

2014 Bocce Report



The Bocce season gets underway for our Br 19 teams Wed. May 7th for Capo **Tom Lathrop** and the boys, and on Thursday May 8th for Capo **John Fernando** and his gang, and Capo **John Hayes** with his coed

team "UNDAUNTED." I've seen many of these finely tuned athletes in training months well in advance of bocce season bending their elbows at the 19th hole of golf events and monthly Sirs meetings. They are truly committed! I will be taking team pictures on opening nights that can then be posted on our new, well developed website by webmaster Sir **Mike Mills** for Br 19. If bocce j.m67 is an activity you may wish to pursue in the future, or just want to come down to support our teams, feel free to come on down to Baldwin Park bocce courts (across from the Concord Senior Center) on a Wed. or Thurs. night. League play starts at 6:30 pm and is usually finished by 9:00 pm. Good luck to all teams, and I know a good time will be had by all.

John Fernando, Capo

798-9978 -<jaferna2003@yahoo.com>

SIR Branch 19 Bowling News



The Silver Foxes are in first place right now which is **Gary Kaufmann, Rick Small, Bob Lunghi, and Jack Jagoda**, and the Guzzlers are one game behind with **Homer Colvin, Don Lambert, Doug Schuster, and Mike Kropf**.

With 3 weeks remaining in the League. High series is **Gary Kaufmann-765**, high game is **Ken Hoff-297**, high game handicap is **Doug Schuster** 311, high series handicap is **Jacky Luke** 792. So far this are the high scores with 3 more weeks of bowling. **Ron Gagliardi** has most improved so far with plus 16. It has been a great year of bowling fun for everyone.

Thank you

Sir Mike Kropf - 689-1453

Have a Nice Day

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!

Thank you 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.

Lucky Badge Number in this Month's Newsletter

If you find your Badge Number (preceded by j.m) 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.

May 2014 Calendar

Computers & Technology

Next Regular Meeting
Thursday, May 15th
Walnut Creek Elks Club

\$ums in Retirement

Wednesday, May 28th
The Legends at Diablo Creek G.C.

Area 2 Fishing Group

Thursday, May 22nd
The Legends at Diablo Creek G.C.

Bowling

Wednesdays

Clayton Valley Bowl & Diablo Lanes

Golf

Every Monday (Nine Hole) and
Tuesday (18 Hole)- (See pg. 5)

Dining Out - May 16th (Page 4)

Wine Tasting - 2nd Friday or as
scheduled in advance.



1645 Beckner Court
Concord, CA 94521

Return Service Requested



Next Meeting - Thursday - May 1st, 2014 - Noon -Oakhurst Country Club, Clayton, CA