



ROOSTER TALES

Next meeting - Thursday March 5th – 2015 – Oakhurst Country Club



BIG SIR Message

Congratulations to Sir Jerry Burton on his selection as 2014 Sir of the Year!

If men are from Mars and women are from Venus, then March is our month to crow. March includes the start of Daylight Savings Time, the celebration of St. Patrick’s Day, and

the official beginning of spring. And, for those of you using the ancient Roman calendar, the month of Mars also includes a memorable Ides.

Our branch’s membership remains pretty stable at 128, but the Executive Board and the state SIR organization would like to see some growth. Remember, growth is how we remain healthy and virile – both as an individual and as a branch. I encourage you to bring a retired friend, former co-worker, brother-in-law, cousin, etc. to one of our luncheons. Little Sir Bruce Persons has developed some invite cards for us to use that might make our recruitment efforts easier. Let’s see if we can increase our membership to 135 by the end of 2015!

The Board is still looking for a volunteer to coordinate the Dining Out group and another one to take photographs at our functions. If you’d like to help out at the sign-in table, please see Sir Ron Cashion, and if you have an idea for a new branch activity, talk with Sir Jack Barnaba, our Activity Chair.

Members are always welcome to attend Branch Executive Board meetings. They begin at 10 on luncheon days and last no longer than one hour. Come on by and see how your branch works!

Elections for new officers and board members are rapidly approaching (in August). If you are interested in serving the branch as an elected officer, talk to one of our Nominating Committee members (Sir Ken Peterson, Sir John Fernando, and Sir Ron Cashion).

The Program for March



**Tamara Steiner, Editor
Clayton Pioneer and Concord Pioneer**

Tamara will speak to us about newspaper publishing. The past decade has seen one after another daily newspaper drown in a sea of red ink. As both readers and advertisers turn their attention more and more to their tablets and smart phones for news and information, where does this leave the print medium? Is the giant urban daily a dinosaur? Who will survive? Mrs. Steiner is a native Californian, has a BA in Political Science and an MBA from California State College, East Bay. She started the present-day Clayton Pioneer in 2003 and the Concord Pioneer in 2014 and is currently a partner in the Contra Costa Community News Group, a consortium of five local newspapers formed for the purpose of providing group buys to national and regional advertisers. Tamara and Robert have been married 39 years and have six grown children and a boatload of grands and greats. They have been residents of Clayton since 1965.

<i>March Menu</i>
Caesar Salad Corned Beef and Cabbage Blackened Catfish with Dijon Cream Sauce Chef's choice Vegetarian plate Lemon Cake

<i>March Birthdays</i>



<p><i>Jerry Burton, Arnold Cota, John Crawford</i> <i>Phillip Culcasi, John Dorsett, Donald Lambert</i> <i>Tom Lathrop, Dean Lucas, George Vogt</i> <i>Dennis Webb, Dwayne Williams, John Wolfe</i></p>
--

Financial Statement	
Branch 19 Statistics	
January Attendance	
Members and Guests – 107	
Treasurer Report	
January 31, 2015	
Account Balances	
Petty Cash	\$250.00
General Account	
Unencumbered	\$4,119.66
Holiday fund	119.80
Picnic Fund	<u>240.12</u>
Total General Account	<u>\$4,479.58</u>
Custodial Accounts	
Bowling	\$621.71
Golf	<u>547.49</u>
Total Custodial	<u>\$1,169.20</u>
 Total Funds	 <u>\$5,898.78</u>
Ken Kuhn	
Branch 19 Treasurer	

<p>Our Focus <i>Our most important concern is you.</i> We want to hear from you. Your impressions and feedback will help us improve your SIR experience. If you're disappointed, please tell us. If you are pleased, we would like to hear that too. branch19newsletter@yahoo.com</p>
--

Branch 19 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, start one and share the activity with other interested members. The various Branches of Area 2 have approximately 70 active groups participating in a wide variety of activities.

If you need info regarding an activity, how to find one, or how to start one, contact Jack Barnaba.
Jack Barnaba Activity Chairman 672-0947
j.barnaba@yahoo.com

Dining Out and Wine Tasting

Dining Out Group
 Meets on the third Thursday of every month. .

- **March, 19 – Tahoe Joe’s – Pleasant Hill**
- April, 16 – The Elephant Bar – Concord
- May, 21 – Lucille’s BBQ – Sun Valley, Concord

Ken Peterson (925) 439-5448
Kenneth637@comcast.net

Wine Tasting Group
 Friday, March 27th at 7:00 pm

Theme: Petit Sirah Red Wines

Petite Sirah wines are very deep red in color with intense flavor and pair well with heavy, intensely flavored foods. Petite Sirah grapes are not related to syrah grapes.

Bring:

- Bring a bottle of Petit Sirah wine (\$10 or more)
- An appetizer to share. This should complement our red wines.

Where:
 Art & Pat Fabsits
 5454 Anselmo Ct., Concord
 (925) 476-8378

Please let Don Weimann know if you are attending. 925-672-7711
weimanns@astound.net

SIR Branch 19 Bowling News

Clayton Valley SIRS are having a very close race this second half, at Clayton Valley Bowl. After 22 weeks, there is a tie between **Gray Matter** and **The Guzzlers** both with 10 wins and 5 loses. The league has a very close race with only a spread of 4 wins from 1st to 7th place. Everyone is enjoying good bowling and trying to keep their averages, games and series all in for the win and fun.

March 16th or March 18th many of us will be bowling the Annual SIR Branch 146 Tournament at Diablo Lanes, Concord.

Have a Nice Day☺
Mike Kropf

Mike Kropf 689-1453 mdkropf@astound.net
John Carl 827-2444 johncarl45@msn.com

The Bocce Report

We had a positive show of interest for possible future bocce ball team participation. Most interest was shown with the coed team, led by capo John Hayes. I have submitted a request with the Concord Bocce Federation's commissioner to possibly establish a new coed team on Wednesday or Thursday night, should an opening become available. Even if we cannot establish a new team, we could still do some juggling amongst our existing teams to accommodate a few of the interested individuals and or their spouses. We can move forward once the commissioner has informed me of the status of my request to establish a possible 4th Sir's Branch 19 bocce team.

John Fernando, Bocce Capo Branch 19
798-9978 jaferna2003@yahoo.com

Hiking Group

Here is a picture of some of our tired hikers on Mt Diablo. Next month we hope to do the summit hike and a shorter hike near Borges Ranch in Walnut Creek.

. We try to do at least two hikes each month. Let me know if you are interested.

Tom Lathrop 689-8981 lathrop689@aol.com
George Vogt 672-3703 cvogtgo@att.net



Branch 19 Golf Information



Nine Hole Golf Group

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

Contact: **Steve McMurdo**
smcmurdo@att.net
 Phone 687-6271

The 18 Hole Golf Group February Schedule

Weather Permitting we will be playing:

- Mar 3 – Delta View 9:30
- Mar 10 – Lone Tree 9:30
- Mar 17 – Boundary Oaks 9:30
- Mar 24 – Lone Tree 9:30
- Mar 31 – Shadow Lakes 9:30

I have to give Boundary Oaks a count by March 7th so please let me know if you are playing.

Match play will start in April so we will be collecting as of now. You can pay Bruce Persons or Jerry Burton. The fee is \$25.00.

Jerry Burton, Golf Chairman
ajgolf81@yahoo.com

Upcoming SIR State Golf Events

April – Spring time in Napa, two day tournament at Eagle Vines GC & Chardonnay GC. April 20th and 21st 9:00 AM Shotgun start each day. (Ladies Welcome)

May – Area 2 Team Scramble Qualifier, Deer Ridge Golf & Country Club. May 28th 8:30 AM Shotgun Start

June - Reno Tournaments at the Atlantis Resort & Spa, Week 1: June 15; Week 2: June 22. Three great courses: Summerset, Lakeridge, & Redhawk. Scramble format.

July - All area Individual Qualifiers to be held between July 1 and July 31. Area 2 does not currently have a qualifier scheduled.

Pay Attention to This

About Monthly Attendance

Please call the Hotline Number if you cannot attend.

(925) 338-1996

Call on or before five (5) days in advance of the monthly luncheon if you cannot attend.

That means call by Saturday at the latest.

Lunches are ordered for all members who have not called. If you don't show up the club is obligated to pay for the meal and you will be charged.

If you can't attend, call the Hotline.

(925) 338-1996.

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 is on the web site. Look for JM followed by your badge number. Call the hotline if you find your number and your lunch will be free.

The Calendar

Computers & Technology
Thursday, March 19th

Sums in Retirement
Wednesday, March 25

Area 2 Fishing Group
Thursday, March 26nd

Bowling
Wednesdays – 10am

Golf
Mondays (Nine Hole) and
Tuesdays (18 Hole) (See above)

Dining Out
Thursday, March 19

Wine Tasting –
Friday March 27 – 7: 00 pm

Area 2 Activities for March



The Area 2 Computer & Technology Group

*March 19th 9:30am – Walnut Creek Elks Club
1475 Creekside Dr. Walnut Creek*

The Evolution of Windows Barry Brown

Barry will show how Windows has changed and demonstrate what is coming in Windows 10.

Please join us for fun and informative meetings to discuss applications for Computers and Technology. We meet on the third Thursday of each month (no meetings in June and December) at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge and have free coffee and cookies at the meetings ([Location Map](#)). We normally ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the hall rental and miscellaneous costs but periodically wave the request.

We are a volunteer organization with no connection to any commercial products or services. At each meeting we have a presentation on a topic regarding computer or consumer technology usage. We cover everything from antivirus programs, ways to back up your data, digital photography, genealogy research, smart phones and many other topics. It's a great way to meet new friends and learn something to enrich your life.

No reservation is necessary so just show up. You'll be glad you came.

WWW.a2cat.sirinc2.org

Investments / Wealth Management



The Area 2 Sums Investment Group

Wednesday, March 25, 2015.
 Legends – Diablo Creek G.C.
 4050 Port Chicago Highway
 Breakfast available at 7am.

Our guest speaker will be **Roland Chow**, Director of Business Development for **Bloodhound Research**. The title of his presentation is: **“Commonly Held Beliefs and Realities of Stock Market Investing.”** Roland will discuss software tools designed to “simulate” an investment idea prior to implementation to gain a better understanding of how it’s likely to work and under what conditions. He will discuss lessons learned while using The Bloodhound System to evaluate investment strategies. Topics will include:

- How to validate any investment thesis prior to putting real money into the strategy.
- How to set up and run a simulation covering any investment approach.
- How to create and manage your own portfolio utilizing advanced analytics and cloud computing.

Roland has been in the high-tech industry for over 16 years and in the financial industry for over 10 years. He was formerly a founding board member and investor of a regional business bank in the East Bay. He has experience with a number of different asset classes including real estate, alternatives, derivatives, and equities. Roland started his career at Ernst and Young LLP after graduating from the University of California at Berkeley. He is currently on the Board of Directors for Life Eldercare and the Silicon Valley Chapter of the American Association of Individual Investors.

Co-Chairmen: Gary Moore (BR 174) 925 254-8742
 David Sutton (BR 8) 925 686-0158
 Leary Wong (BR 8) 925 457-0807

www.a2sums.sirinc.org

Area 2 Fishing Group



The Legends
 Diablo Creek G.C.
 Meets on the 4th Thurs
Thursday Mar 26th
8:30 am
 4050 Port Chicago
 Highway in Concord.

The Area 2 Sir Fishing Club is made up of a hardy and energetic group of men who meet once a month, on the 4th Thursday, to plan fishing trips and tell fish stories. We also have guest speakers from all aspects of sport fishing to inform and teach us the various methods of fishing and sportsmen like behavior. The club has all types of fishermen from hard core fly fishermen to bait dunkers. About half have boats. We fish the ocean, bay, delta, local lakes, and the high sierra. It’s a group of great guys with a common interest that enjoy each other’s company. All SIR members and guests are encouraged to attend.

Dick Thomson, Big Fish 925-944-1760
Carl Moyer 925-685-5243
Romano Gnusti, 925-376-3313

www.branch116.org/fishing

SIR Area 2 Travel Opportunities 2015 / 3

Mar 27, 2015: Day at the Races. The horses are running at Golden Gate Field and the race track has dedicated March 27th to the Sons in Retirement. The cost of \$33.00 includes admission, reserve parking, daily program, great buffet lunch, tax and tips. Put your group together and join your fellow Sirs for a fun day at the Races. Contact **Ken Richter** BR. 146 689-6217.

Mar 10-14, 2015: Spring Training Phoenix. Your trip begins with your arrival at the Phoenix airport. The trip includes all transportation while in Phoenix, three Spring Training Games in the best seats available 4 nights at the Embassy Suites, 3 hosted meals per day during stay, morning activities, escort and guide service. Cost \$1795.00 .Contact **Ken Richter**, Br 146, 689-6217.

July 22-28, 2015: Baseball Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. Trip will include baseball games in New York and Boston. The Highlight will be the Baseball Hall of Fame and induction ceremonies at Cooperstown. Travelers will enjoy home pick-up, airport transfers, professional tour host, RT airfare, 6 night accommodations, all taxes and gratuities. Cost \$2,975.00. Contact **Ken Richter**, Br. 146, 698-6217.

Aug 21-Sep 12, 2015: Treasures of France a River Journey from Normandy to Provence. A 22 day river cruise aboard a deluxe river boat. The highlights include visits to D-Day Beaches of Normandy, Beaujolais, Burgundy Regions, Lyon, and other river towns. Prices range from \$6499 to \$8299 which include airfare, 22 nights accommodations, 59 meals, 17 sightseeing tours with audio headsets, all transfers, luggage handling, and beer or wine at dinner. Pre and Post trips are available. Contact **Ken Richter** Br. 149, 698-6217.

Aug 21- Sep 1, 2015: Paris & Highlights of Normandy a Seine River Cruise. 12 day cruise aboard deluxe river boat with visits to Paris, D-Day Beaches of Normandy, Vernon, Honfleur, and Rouen. Prices range from \$3699 to \$6199 including 10 night accommodations, 29 meals , 9 sightseeing tours with audio headsets and beer or wine at dinner. Two for one airfare is available plus Pre or Post trips. Contact **Ken Richter** Br.146, 689-6217.

Aug 31-Sep 12, 2015: French Waterways: Highlights of Burgundy, Beaujolais & Provence. 12 day river cruise on deluxe river boat with visits to Lyon, Avignon, Vivier, and Beaujolais-Burgundy regions. The prices range from \$3999 to \$6649. Trip includes 10 nights accommodations, 29 meals, 8 sightseeing tours with audio headsets, and beer or wine with dinner. Two for one airfare is available plus Pre & Post trips. Contact **Ken Richter** Br 146, 689-6217