



# ROOSTER TALES

**Next meeting - Thursday April 2<sup>nd</sup> – 2015 – Oakhurst Country Club**



### BIG SIR Message

April showers bring May flowers. At least that’s how it worked in Washington.

Let’s see . . . What makes April so special? Both William Shakespeare and Leonardo Da Vinci were born. Skirmishes at Lexington and Concord convinced the British that Americans really didn’t like how they were being

treated. Well, this particular April of 2015 marks the Sesquicentennial of the end of the War for Southern Independence (a.k.a. The American Civil War) and the assassination of President Lincoln. The San Francisco Earthquake of 1906 shook up lots of Bay Area residents. The unsinkable Titanic stuck an iceberg and sunk. And the United States entered World War I (the “war to end all wars”).

Last month, Regional Director Dick De Voe was our BEC and luncheon guest. This month, the new Area 2 Governor, Ed Benson, will be joining us. Dick De Voe spoke to the BEC about the need to be vigilant in our recruitment of new members. No doubt Ed Benson will be encouraging us likewise. REMEMBER: we are only a strong and vibrant branch as long as we keep it growing. As I mentioned last month (and will probably do for the remaining 8 months of my tenure), I encourage you to talk about the Sons in Retirement to your friends and acquaintances; and invite them to join you at a luncheon or at an activity. Use the cards that Little Sir Bruce Persons distributed last month. A healthy branch is a growing branch!

Remember, I have been writing to you about volunteerism these past few months; we are an organization based on active participation. We need future BEC members; we need future elected officers. Don’t be shy. Don’t keep your strengths to yourself. We need a few good men to step forward to serve in these positions. Think about it! Our nominating committee of Sirs Ron Cashion, John Fernando, and Ken Peterson would love to hear from you.

### The Program for April



**Rhonda James, MA, LMFT  
Director, Contra Costa Crisis Center**

The mission of the Contra Costa Crisis Center is to keep people alive and safe, help them through crises, and connect them with culturally relevant resources in the community.

The Contra Costa Crisis Center is governed by a 15-member board of trustees. A staff of 20 is assisted by nearly 200 active volunteers. Our budget is \$1.8 million (80 percent for direct services, 7 percent for administration, and 13 percent for fundraising). Fifty-Six percent of our funding comes from individuals, businesses, foundations, civic groups, and proceeds from Leftovers Thrift Shop, an agency auxiliary; 44 percent comes from government. Every day our professional staff and award-winning volunteers talk with people who are abused, depressed, grieving, suicidal, homeless, and mentally ill.

**April Menu**

Mixed Green Salad  
Chicken Piccata  
Basa White Fish with Dill Cream Sauce  
Chef's choice Vegetarian plate  
Cheese Cake

**April Birthdays**



*Bill Bowyer, Ronald Cook, Eldon Harwood  
John Hresko, George Kapus, Jeffrey Lezer  
Bill Maguire, Gordon Monroe, Roy Priest  
John Rubiales, David Sims*

**Financial Statement**

**Branch 19 Statistics**  
February Attendance  
Members and Guests – 98

**Treasurer Report**

February 28, 2015

**Account Balances**

|                       |                   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Petty Cash            |                   |
| General Account       |                   |
| Unencumbered          | \$4,299.48        |
| Holiday fund          | 119.80            |
| Picnic Fund           | <u>240.12</u>     |
| Total General Account | <u>\$4,659.40</u> |
| Custodial Accounts    |                   |
| Bowling               | \$621.73          |
| Golf                  | <u>1,015.52</u>   |
| Total Custodial       | <u>\$1,637.25</u> |
| <br>                  |                   |
| Total Funds           | <u>\$6,296.65</u> |

Ken Kuhn  
Branch 19 Treasurer

**Our Focus**

*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're disappointed, please tell us. If you are pleased, we would like to hear that too.  
branch19newsletter@gmail.com

**New Members to Branch 19 March 2015**



Left to Right

**Vivek Patwardhan  
Ben Olson**

Welcome SIR Vivek and SIR Ben

*Branch 19 Activities*

*Dining Out and Wine Tasting*

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

- April, 16 – The Elephant Bar – Concord
- May, 21 – Lucille’s BBQ – Sun Valley, Concord

**Ken Peterson (925) 439-5448**  
[Kenneth637@comcast.net](mailto:Kenneth637@comcast.net)



**Wine Tasting Group**  
 Friday, April 10th at 7:00 pm

**Theme:** Pinot Grigio (Italian) / Pinot Gris (French)  
 Pinot Grigio/Pinot Gris wines are a good alternative to chardonnay. Grapes are grown in a number of wine areas of the world. The Alsace region of France and Oregon produce especially notable Pinot Gris. Italy produces lots of cheap Pinot Gris, but also versions more fulfilling. California and Washington are good producers as well.

**Bring:**

- Bring a bottle of Pinot Grigio/Gris wine (\$10 or more) and experiment with a different region or winery
- An appetizer to share. This should complement our white wines.

**Where:**

John & Carol Wolfe  
 5650 Lewis Way, Concord  
 (925) 672-1303

**Please let the Wolfes or the Weimanns know if you are attending. 925-672-7711**  
[weimanns@astound.net](mailto:weimanns@astound.net)

*SIR Branch 19 Bowling News*

Clayton Valley SIRS are having a very close race this second half, at Clayton Valley Bowl. Everyone is enjoying good bowling and trying to maintain their averages and improve their high game and high series stats. It’s a great group and we’re always looking for new bowlers. Come see us at Clayton Valley Bowl on Wednesdays at 10am.

Have a wonderful day.☺

**Mike Kropf**

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

*The Bocce Report*

Concord bocce team registration has been implemented for the 2015 season. Team rosters have been submitted by Capos Tom Lathrop, John Hayes, and myself. After all team registrations have been sorted out for the new season, it will then be determined if we can add another bocce team to represent Sir Branch 19 on Wednesday night. The determination will be made by the Concord Bocce Federation commissioner and he will advise us of availability sometime in April before the season begins in May. Also, down the road, there may be an opportunity to compete against Sir Branches in our area and also in Sir state tournaments. More info to follow.

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



*Hiking Group*

The Hiking Group is trying to accommodate days of the week and length of hikes to encourage participation. We have a problem with people either not being available, or wanting a less strenuous or more strenuous hike/walk. If anyone wants to participate, please let me know the day you are available and the type of hike you would like. It could be a 2 to 3 mile one hour walk, a more strenuous 4 to 5 mile 2 hour hike, or something more strenuous. We

would like to hike to the summit of Mt Diablo this spring and do some strenuous hikes in preparation if anyone is interested.

There are lots of beautiful venues. Above is a picture from Castle Rock Park in Walnut Creek where we can take less strenuous 1 to 3 hour walks. Please let either Tom Lathrop or George Vogt know if you are interested.

**Tom Lathrop 689-8981 lathrop689@aol.com**

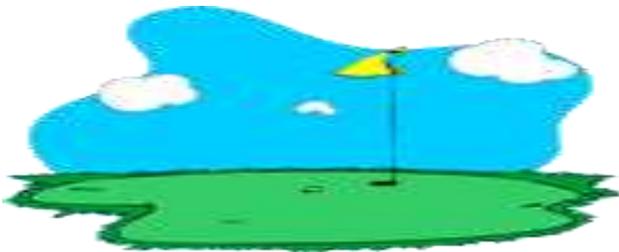
**George Vogt 672-3703 cvogtgo@att.net**

*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](mailto:smcmurdo@att.net)  
 Phone 687-6271



**The 18 Hole Golf Group  
April Schedule**

Weather Permitting we will be playing:

- Apr 7 – Lone Tree 9:30
- Apr 14 – Chardonnay 9:30
- Mar 21 – Lone Tree 9:30
- Mar 28 – Paradise Valley 9:30

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](mailto:ajgolf81@yahoo.com)

*Upcoming SIR State Golf Events*

**April** – Spring time in Napa, two day tournament at Eagle Vines GC & Chardonnay GC. April 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> 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, April 16th

**Sums in Retirement**  
Wednesday, April 22

**Area 2 Fishing Group**  
Thursday, April 23rd

**Bowling**  
Wednesdays – 10am  
Clayton Valley Bowl

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

**Dining Out**  
Thursday, April 16

**Wine Tasting –**  
Friday April 10 – 7: 00 pm

*Area 2 Activities for April*



**The Area 2 Computer & Technology Group**

*April 16<sup>th</sup> 9:30am – Walnut Creek Elks Club  
1475 Creekside Dr. Walnut Creek*

**3D Printing** Nick Klowski

Our speaker will be Nick Klowski and he will discuss 3D Printing! It's amazing the range of products which a 3D printer can produce; from biological items such as bones to replicas of archeological treasures or fossils. Some uses are more trivial, exact models of bride and groom to adorn a wedding cake for example! When did this technique start? What other uses lie in store for the printer? Come and find out.

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.

No reservation is necessary so just show up. You'll be glad you came.  
[WWW.a2cat.sirinc2.org](http://WWW.a2cat.sirinc2.org)

*Investments / Wealth Management*



**The Area 2 \$ums Investment Group**

Wednesday, April 22, 2015.  
 Legends – Diablo Creek G.C.  
 4050 Port Chicago Highway  
 Breakfast available at 7am.

Want to learn more about investing? Want to meet experts in the field? Want answers to your financial questions? Come join the **\$ums in Retirement**.

We meet on the 4th Wednesday of each month at the Legends Grill at Diablo Creek Golf Course. Meetings begin at 8:00am and last about 1½ hours. Come earlier to buy breakfast.

Meetings are open to all Area 2 SIR members and their guests. We have an interesting speaker from the investment community for each meeting. Meetings are free and enjoyable. Come join us and learn to be a better investor.

|                                  |              |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| 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](http://www.a2sums.sirinc.org)

*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](mailto:j.barnaba@yahoo.com)**

*Area 2 Fishing Group*



***The Legends***

Diablo Creek G.C.  
 Meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thurs  
**Thursday April 23<sup>th</sup>**  
**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 4<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.branch116.org/fishing)

**SIR Area 2 Travel Opportunities 2015 / 3**

**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

**Oct 10, 2015: Fleet Week on the San Francisco Belle.** The Belle is a San Francisco Landmark That evokes the City's charm. There will be no better vantage point to see the Fleet Week Air Show than directly under the planes. Cost \$128.00 includes RT deluxe motor coach transportation, cruise on board the SF Belle, reserved seats on board ship, hosted buffet luncheon, music entertainment, special viewing of the Blue Angels and gratuity. Contact Ken Richter, Br 146, 689-6217

**Dec 7, 2015: The Holidays are Blooming in the Valley.** Your first stop will be at Hilmar Cheese Factory, where your guide will step onto your motor coach for a tour through their facility, followed by a delicious hosted buffet lunch. After lunch you will have time to shop in their large country store. Next stop will be Duarte Nursery to view their amazing Holiday Poinsettias. Their greenhouses hold one of the largest selections of Poinsettias available. You will tour the facility with time to shop before departing for home. Cost \$54.00 pp including RT motor coach, hosted lunch, tours and driver gratuity. Contact Ken Richter, Br. 146, 689-6217.