

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



# ROOSTER TALES

**Next meeting - Thursday October 1st – 2015 – Oakhurst Country Club**



### Big SIR Message

‘Tis the beginning of the Hallothanksmas season, so Happy Holidays!

Since Halloween is the first to be celebrated, I’d like to present to you some scary figures. In 2012, Branch 19 had 134 members. In 2013, 128

members. In 2014, 129. Currently, we have 123. With a growing pool of retired men available to us, why are our numbers dwindling? The simplest answer is that men aren’t being invited to our activities or our luncheons and, consequently, aren’t becoming acquainted with SIR.

Branch 19 is the only branch in Area 2 to drop in membership this year. We have to turn that around. We are a youthful branch in terms of our median age (71), but we have grown older (more mature) over the past few years. We need to approach our retired friends and invite them into SIR, otherwise we risk the outcome that has befallen other branches in our region: death. I once heard a pastor tell his congregation of gray-haired women and men that it was only one generation away from extinction. Now, we are not there, yet, but if we don’t start bringing in our retired friends and neighbors and growing our membership in the foreseeable future, our branch could easily succumb. I don’t want to see that happen.

Now that I’ve bummed you all out, I’d like to end on an up note. The September picnic was a rousing success. Thanks go out to Jack Barnaba and his crack team of assistants who did a superb job of organizing this event!

The next major event on the horizon is our Holiday Extravaganza on Thursday, December 3. Remember that this is an opportunity to bring your spouse, significant other, and/or partner (but not all three at the same time) to Oakhurst for a fine lunch and great entertainment.

### *The Program for October*



### **Guy A. Swanger**

#### **Chief of Police, City of Concord, CA**

Chief Guy Swanger took the helm of the Concord Police Department on January 3, 2011. He had previously served over 26 years with the San Diego Police Department, obtaining the rank of captain. He has led investigative units, involving over 165 detectives and 25 civilian support staff, has commanded the Mid City Division, San Diego's largest, and was Executive Director of the San Diego Family Justice Center under the Office of the Mayor. Chief Swanger co-authored "Managing Innovation in Policing: The Untapped Potential of the Middle Manager," which has been used by university and command colleges. He currently serves on the California Strategic Highway Safety plan (SHSP) Steering Committee on behalf of the California Chiefs of Police Association.

Chief Swanger holds a B.A. in History from the University of San Diego and an M.P.A. from San Diego State University. He graduated from the FBI National Academy in 2008. He and his wife, Lora, live in Concord and have three children in college.

*October Menu*

Mixed Green Salad  
 Chicken Marsala – Light Red Wine Sauce and Sliced Mushrooms  
 Basa White Fish with Tarragon Beurre Blanc Sauce  
 Chef's choice Vegetarian plate  
 Carrot Cake

*October Birthdays*



*Ron Cashion, Milton DeGroodt, Dennis Ghiggeri  
 Jack Jagoda, Steve McMurdo, Charles Morones  
 Rich Peterson, Doug Schuster, Bill Stephenson  
 Jay Verlinden, Herb Weimar, James Wyllie*

**Financial Statement**

**Branch 19 Statistics**  
 September Attendance  
 Members and Guests --92

**Treasurer Report**

August 31, 2015

**Account Balances**

Petty Cash	\$ 250.00
General Account	
Unencumbered	\$4,563.11
Holiday fund	119.80
Picnic Fund	<u>484.12</u>

Total General Account \$5,167.03

**Custodial Accounts**

Bowling	\$621.85
Golf	<u>2,348.10</u>
Total Custodial	<u>\$2,969.95</u>

Total Funds \$8,386.98

Ken Kuhn

**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.  
 branch19newsletter@gmail.com

*Hiking Group*

Here we are hiking the Yuba River area. If anyone wants to hike or take a walk, contact either George or Tom. **Tom Lathrop 689-8981 [lathrop689@aol.com](mailto:lathrop689@aol.com) George Vogt 672-3703 [cvogtgo@att.net](mailto:cvogtgo@att.net)**



*Branch 19 Activities*

*Dining Out*

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

- Oct 15 – MiMi’s Restaurant – Concord corner of Gateway Blvd and Willow Pass Road

Nothing Scheduled for Nov. or Dec due to Holidays

**Hosted by Bruce and Patsy Persons**  
**Bruce Persons (925) 683-5141**  
[Brucep@astound.net](mailto:Brucep@astound.net)

*SIR Branch 19 Bowling News*

Clayton Valley SIRS bowls on Wednesday mornings at Clayton Valley Bowl. If you are interest in bowling with a great bunch of folks, contact Mike or John.

SIR Mike Kropf  
 Mr Have A Nice Day☺

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

*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**

*The Bocce Report*

Wow! Another successful bocce season for all Branch 19 teams. Our coed team (Undaunted) led by Sir John Hayes accumulated several more wins than last year. They're acquiring the talents to be a more formidable team with each passing season. Well done! CapoTom Lathrop's team (Sir Bocce Too) had a season they too can be proud of. Their team qualified for the playoffs but were eliminated in the 1st round. Great job! Bocce Gators with 2 Br 19 members consisting of Ron Gagliardi and George Kapus along with team Sirfire led by Capo John Fernando, made it to the final 8 but were then eliminated in the 3rd round of the playoffs. Plenty of success stories but the most successful portion of the season was that fun was had by all. Looking forward to the 2016 bocce season and congratulations to all Br 19 teams and players.

John Fernando

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

## *Wine Tasting*



**Don Weimann 925-672-7711**  
[weimanns@astound.net](mailto:weimanns@astound.net)

**Hi Vino-ites,**

I would like to propose that we do a wine trip to Alameda and Oakland for winery tastings. Thus, we can have a great time tasting in a non-home place.

So I propose that we have an October meeting as follows:

### **Rock Wall Wine Company**

This winery is located in a hangar in the former Alameda Naval Airbase.

Cost: Choose 5 wines to taste! The tasting starts at 11:30 AM with a fee (\$15) is waived with bottle purchase of \$25 or more, per guest.

### **Rosenblum Cellars**

This winery processing is in Alameda, but tasting is at Jack London Square in Oakland,

Cost: The tasting starts at 11 AM with a fee (\$15). Not indicated about waiving with purchases.

Both wineries offer private tastings for substantially added fee.

We would carpool leaving about 10:30 then going to Rock Wall followed by Rosenblum. Afterwards we could have lunch at Jack London Square possibly at Forge which specializes in pizza but has other choices,

I'm thinking about doing this on Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup>. We could also do this on Saturday, the 10<sup>th</sup>.

Please respond ASAP with comments or date suggestions and whether you will attend



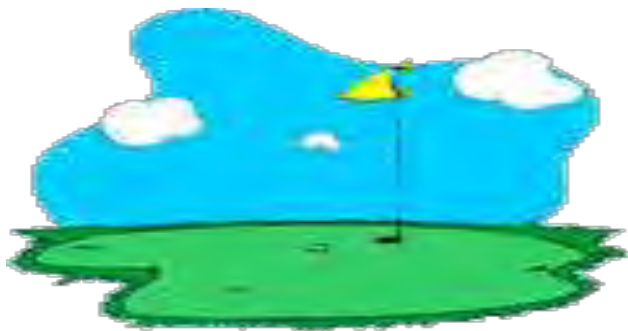
## Join us for a visit to the USS Hornet Museum on October 15

Sign up sheet on the table at the October Luncheon

Contact: George Vogt 672-3703 [cvogtgo@att.net](mailto: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 October Schedule**

Weather Permitting we will be playing:

#### **Club Championship**

- Oct 6 – Lone Tree 9:30
- Oct 13 – Lone Tree 9:30
- Oct 20 – Lone Tree 9:30
  
- Oct 27 – Deer Ridge 9:30

**Jerry Burton**, Golf Chairman  
[ajgolf81@yahoo.com](mailto:ajgolf81@yahoo.com)

#### **The Club Championship**

The Club Championship is coming up.

If you are going to play please let Tom Lathrop or myself know.

It's the best 2 out of 3 rounds all played at Lone Tree.

In Oct. we start collecting for your new NCGA card.  
Tom Lathrop will be taking care of this so you will need to see him.

### Let's go visit the Haight.

Wed, Nov 4. 11am two hours \$27/person  
Contact SIR Bernie Theobald [btheo47@comcast.net](mailto:btheo47@comcast.net)



Take a walk back in time. Visit the Haight. Think about what you were doing in the '60s. Maybe you lived there. Maybe you wished you lived there. Whatever.

- EXPERIENCE Janice Joplin's crash pad
- DIG the Grateful Dead house (where the band all lived together, man!)
- FREAK OUT to a Love-In in the Panhandle
- SAY "right on" to Buena Vista Park, which saw more sex, drugs, and rock-n-roll than the back seat of Paris Hilton's Porsche
- SEE the psychedelic music, HEAR the psychedelic artwork, and FEEL the psychedelic stories
- SMELL the Haight-Ashbury of the 1960s

Contact SIR Bernie Theobald [btheo47@comcast.net](mailto:btheo47@comcast.net)

### 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 somewhere in this issue. Look for JM followed by your badge number. Call the hotline before the luncheon if you find your number and your lunch will be free.**

**The Calendar**  
**Computers & Technology**  
Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup>

**Sums in Retirement**  
Wednesday, October, 21<sup>rd</sup>

**Area 2 Fishing Group**  
Thursday, October 22<sup>th</sup>

**Bowling**  
League starts in September  
Clayton Valley Bowl

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

**Dining Out**  
Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup>

*Area 2 Activities for September*



**The Area 2 Computer & Technology Group**

October 15<sup>th</sup> 9:30am – Walnut Creek Elks Club  
 1475 Creekside Dr. Walnut Creek  
**Windows 10**

Barry Brown will review 10's strengths and point out its known weaknesses. If you're cautious you're waiting a few months before jumping into the program to let Microsoft take care of the usual glitches that often appear its new software. Barry should have something to say about that, so come join us on Thursday, October 15, to learn more about the status of the latest edition of Microsoft's flagship product. 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 our October meeting is another one of those! All SIR members and their guests (spouses included!) are welcome to attend. See you there.

*Area 2 Fishing Group*

**The Legends**  
 Diablo Creek G.C.  
 Meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thurs  
**Thursday September 24**  
**8:30 am**  
 4050 Port Chicago Highway in  
 Concord.



Barry Rauchle, Brad Hatcher, Gordon Linebaugh, Steve Paulick, and Carl Moyer caught salmon on a fishing group charter from Half Moon Bay. Gordon landed a 28 pound brute, his largest ever. Clem Teeters caught an 18 lb salmon, and Bob Decker got a 14lb salmon fishing out the gate. Karl Droese caught a 17 lb salmon upriver fishing with Paul Dubow, Barry Rauchle, Ken Konzak, Jack Waddell, and Chuck Vanoncini. Karl Droese, Joe Miscione, and Dick Thomson brought home 75 salmon from an Alaskan trip. Closer to home, new member Ray Pixton, Carl Moyer, Alex Go, Harry Sherinian, Terry Miller, Gene Schulting, Barry Rauchle, and Gordon Linebaugh caught big catfish from San Pablo Reservoir. Harry and Mike Corker caught many black bass in the delta. We will be very busy this fall with: delta fishing for bass, catfish, striped bass, crappie, bluegill, and sturgeon; trout and catfish, in mountain and local lakes, salmon and rockfish on the ocean. We live in a fishermen's paradise.

**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)

*Area 2 Investments / Wealth Management*

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

**Wednesday, October 21, 2015.**

Legends – Diablo Creek G.C.  
 4050 Port Chicago Highway  
 Breakfast available at 7am.



Our guest speaker in October will be **Kevin Gahagan** of **Mosaic Financial Partners , Inc.** in San Francisco. Kevin’s presentation will address: “ **Fixed Income Investing in a Rising Interest Rate Environment**”. Kevin says "With interest rates at forty-year lows, it is not a question of if, but when rates will rise. When rates do rise, investors who have pursued higher yields in the current environment and those who bought bonds for safety will experience risks they had not anticipated." His presentation will cover how different bond classes performed in past periods of rising rates. He will also discuss assessing fixed income portfolio risks and strategies for reducing risk in fixed income portfolios.

Kevin Gahagan is a Principal, Senior Advisor and the Chief Investment Officer for Mosaic Financial Partners, Inc., a leading Bay Area wealth advisory firm. Kevin has been recognized as a leading advisory professional by the San Francisco Business Times, Reuters AdvicePoint and others. He is a Certified Financial Planner® certificant (CFP®) and Certified Investment Management Analyst (CIMA®). From 2000 through 2005, Kevin taught for the financial planning program at UC Berkeley.

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)



**SIR Area 2 Travel Opportunities 2015 /2016**

**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

**Oct 23, 2015: SIR Day at the Races.** Join fellow Sir's for a fun day at Golden Gate Fields watching and may be betting on the ponies. The cost of \$33.00 includes valet parking, daily racing program, great buffet lunch and tax/tips. Doors open at 11:00 am. 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.

**Feb 3, 2016: Jersey Boys.** This is a true story of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons who became one of the biggest American pop music sensations of all time. The musical features such Four Season hits as "Big Girls Don't Cry," "Sherry", "Walk Like A Man", and "Can't Take My Eyes Off You. Cost is \$116.00 which includes RT motorcoach, reserved center Orchestra seats at the Orpheum Theatre and driver gratuity. Contact **Ken Richter**, Br 146, 689-6217.

**Mar 25-Apr 10, 2016: big Band Voyage Across The Atlantic Ocean.** 16 day all-inclusive cruise on the Crystal Symphony. Relish the blissful luxury of days at sea, highlighted by visits to Bermuda, the Azores, Barcelona, Bandol and Monte Carlo. Cruise cost from \$3665. Join SIR 146 on May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 1:30 pm for a special cruise presentation and extra savings opportunities. Contact **Ken Richter**, Br 146, 925-689-6217.

**May 3-5, 2016: Vatican Splendors exhibit at the Reagan Presidential Library.** The Vatican exhibit only travels every other year so don't miss the opportunity to experience 2,000 years of Vatican art and history. You will also visit the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library. Cost \$591.00 including RT motorcoach, 2 night stay at the Pepper Tree in Santa Barbara, baggage handling, 6 meals, guided tours of the Library, and Santa Barbara Mission, with a visit to Solvang, and drivers gratuity. Contact **Ken Richter**, Br. 146, 925-689-6217