Big Sir Message

I just got back from a whirlwind trip to Washington, where I got to listen to the Ducks get their wings clipped and saw the Beavers get skinned. November is our traditional month to honor our SIR veterans, so when you see them at the meeting, give them a pat on the back. Some will be wearing their uniforms, others will be wearing their dog tags, and some will just be present and accounted for. Thank them for their service to the United States.

November is also the month to give thanks for all the good things that have happened to us (as individuals, families, and SIR members) this year. To all of you, thanks for allowing me the opportunity to serve as your Big Sir for 2015.

Annual Veterans Day Celebration

To All Branch 19 Veterans: Please remember to wear and display your Service Memorabilia. Veterans...This is Your Day!

The November Program

Born and raised in China, Mr. Nan Su came to the U.S. in 1989. He has been interested in Chinese history and literature since he was very young. Mr. Su started writing in Chinese in 2000, and has been publishing poems, short stories, and prose ever since.

Mr. Su has made many speeches at public events in the past decade on China-related topics. He has been serving as a news commentator for SOH International Chinese Radio Network and NTD International TV network since 2003, commenting on a wide range of national and international news and events.

In addition to his media work, Mr. Su has also been an activist for China’s human rights. He was one of the coordinators of Human Rights Torch Relay in 2008 prior to Beijing Olympics Game. Starting from Athens, Human Rights Torch Relay spanned from July 2007 to July 2008, with stops at more than 100 cities around the world in order to raise international awareness of China’s human rights situation. Mr. Su was instrumental in making San Jose as the first stop of the torch relay in North America.

Besides his involvement in the public, Mr. Su holds a Master degree in Engineering, and has been a professional engineer for over 20 years. Mr. Su has been married for 22 years, and currently lives with his wife and two daughters in San Jose, California.
The strength of our Branch is we have a bunch of “young” guys, the youngest median age in the state. Graphically speaking, younger guys have more in their circle of friends than the older generation. You have the resources to bring new guests from your circle of friends to participate in our activities, guest them at our luncheons, and convert them to new members. It has been proven that the strength of a Branch is their ability to grow and improve to offset the attrition it would experience. I know we can do this. We need to have a plus one in membership numbers by the end of the year. We will not make those numbers this year, but with all of your help we can surpass our goals for next year. Thank you for all you do for the good of the Branch.

Bruce Persons

November & December Birthdays

November
John Fernando, Ken Kuhn, Bruce Persons,
Alex Poulos, Richard Small,

December
Jack Barnaba, Casey Campbell,
Andrew Cataline, Mike Hooper,
Kenneth Konzak, Joe Lettieri, Jacky Luke,
Gregg Moore, John Ramsey,
Charles Rogers, Pat Rotell,

October Winner - Jack Jagoda

Note: Separate drawings for each month

Honorary Life Membership Award

The Honorary Life Membership (HLM) award is the SIR organization highest and most prestigious award for outstanding and exceptional service to the Branch.

Each Branch is allowed to have 2 HLMs or 2% of active membership which ever is greatest.

The November Traditional Menu

Entree
It will be:
Turkey with all the fixings
or
Blackened Catfish with Dijon Cream Sauce
Plus Chef’s Dessert

The November Pledge of Allegiance
Will be led by All the Veterans

October New Member Induction

(L to R) Ken Peterson sponsored Thomas Ruppert,
Ralph Sackman, sponsored by Don Weimann
The Area 2 $ums Investment Group  
Wednesday November 18th 8:00 AM  
The Legends - Diablo Creek G.C.  
4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord.

The Area 2 $ums Investment Group will hold its annual planning meeting on Wednesday, November 18, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. at the Legends restaurant at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway, Concord. We will not have an outside speaker this month, but will discuss speakers and activities that the members would like to see in the coming year. There will no meeting in December.

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

The Area 2 Computer and Technology Group  
Next Regular Meeting - Thursday, November 19th  
at 9:30am. Walnut Creek Elks Club

Sir Alan Baker will present "Protecting Your Home Computer" with three main topics: why and how we are attacked, automatic system defenses, and human defenses. He will include phishing fraud, how to detect poisoned emails, backups, passwords, and how to handle specific attacks. As usual, the talk will be posted on the A2CAT website in pdf and/or ppt formats at [http://www.a2cat.sirinc2.org](http://www.a2cat.sirinc2.org). Some members like to arrive early to enjoy coffee and chat before the presentation which starts at 9:30. We meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 9:30 am at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge except for July and December; so there will not be a meeting next month. 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 this meeting is another one of those! All SIR members and their guests (spouses included!) are welcome to attend. See you there.

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

SIR Area 2 Travel Opportunities 2015/16

Upcoming Day Trips Available  
December 7th, 2015

The Holidays are Blooming in the Valley. Your first stop will be at Hilmar Cheese Factory, (outside of Turlock) where your guide will step onto your motor coach for a tour through their facility, followed by a delicious hosted buffet lunch. 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.

Contact Ken Richter, Br. 146, 689-6217.

February 3, 2016:

Jersey Boys. This is a true story of Frankie Valli and the The Four Seasons who became one of the biggest American pop music sensations of all time. Cost is $116.00 which includes RT motor coach, reserved center Orchestra seats at the Orpheum Theatre and driver gratuity. Contact Ken Richter, Br 146, 689-6217.

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@gmail.com>

Hotline - 969-7753 (leave message)
Branch 19 Golf Information

The 18 Hole Golf Group
November 3rd - Chardonay (Napa) 9:30am
November 10th - Lone Tree - 9:30am
November 17th - Paradise Valley, Fairfield 9:30
November 19th (Thursday) Golf Awards
Luncheon - Guadalajara Grill - 11:30*
November 24th - Lone Tree - 9:30am
Contact - Jerry Burton, Chairman
<AJgolf24@gmail.com>

Golf Club Championship
Flight winners have been determined by 2 best rounds out of 3 played in the October championship at Lone Tree.

*All 2015 Golf Awards will be presented at the November 19th luncheon. Recommendations and tentative schedules of 2016 golf courses will be discussed. Advance reservation of attendance is necessary. The Guadalajara Restaurant requires a minimum of 20 in attendance. Pay Tom Lathrop $20 in advance.

Monday Nine Hole Golf Group

Every Monday at approximately 9am alternating at the following courses, Buchanan Fields, Concord, Diablo Hills, Walnut Creek
Contact: Steve McMurdoo: smcmurdo@comcast.net

2016 Bocce Report

The season is over for all of our bocce teams, fun was had by all. See you all again in the spring of 2016. John Fernando, Capo

Let’s Go Fishing Group

Next Meeting at Diablo Creek G.C.-
Thursday - November 19th
Legends Restaurant - 8:30am

All SIR members and guests are welcome and, indeed, encouraged to participate in fishing trips as well as attend the monthly meetings. 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. Crab season starts November 1st. We live in a fishermen’s paradise.

For further information, please contact
Big Fish Dick Thompson (925) 944-1760
Carl Moyer (925-685-5243)

SIR Branch 19 Bowling News from Clayton Valley Bowl

Congratulations to Sir Rick Small for being inducted into the CCC USBC Hall of Fame
Paul Thompson, General Manager

Wine Tasting events with themes will be announced in January.

The Dining Group will continue to schedule visits to restaurant venues of interest in 2016.
A group of “One Day Sailors” from SIR Branch 19 toured the USS Hornet ship museum in Alameda. As shown, they also enjoyed a gourmet lunch from “Chow Down Special” mobile canteen. The docent guided tour also included visits to the bridge, flight deck, hanger deck and finally the engine room.

Note: If you haven’t been … this is a highly recommended day trip.
The fourth annual SIR Branch 19 picnic at the Concord Community Park was again well attended and enjoyed by all. A special thanks to the picnic committee of Jack Barnaba, Jack Duncan, Ken Kuhn, Ken Peterson and Bill Stephenson. The BBQ choices along with the salad selections were catered by “Yum on the Run”.

The Fourth Annual September Picnic in the Park
Reservation Form

SIR Branch 19 Ladies’ Day Holiday Luncheon
Noon - Thursday - **December 3rd, 2015**
Oakhurst Country Club, Clayton, CA
Program Features Holiday Music plus Raffle Prizes

Remember to purchase your reservation tickets in advance - **$33 per person.** Make advance reservation at the November 5th meeting or by mail (*form below*)

Make Check Payable to SIR Branch 19

Send To: **Darryl Diamond - 457 La Corso Circle, Walnut Creek, CA 94598 Phone**
Home Phone: (925) 357-8129

*Please Return this Reservation Form with your payment*

Name _____________________________ Badge # ___________

Guest Name(s) __________________________________________

**Entree Selection**

____ Roasted Beef   ____ Honey Glazed Ham   ____ Hazelnut Crusted Basa Fish   ____ Pasta Primavera

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**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 cannot 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

**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.

**No Lucky Badge Number in this Month’s Newsletter**

If you find your Badge Number (preceded by JM) somewhere in future newsletters, 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.

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**November 2015 Calendar**

**Computers & Technology**
Next Regular Meeting
Thursday November 19th
Walnut Creek Elks Club

**Sums in Retirement**
Wednesday November 18th
The Legends at Diablo Creek G.C.

**Area 2 Fishing Group**
Thursday November 19th
The Legends Diablo Creek G.C.

**Bowling**
Clayton Valley Bowl & Diablo Lanes

**Golf**
Every Monday (9 Hole) and Tuesday (18 Hole)- (See page 4)

**Dining Out** - TBD

**Wine Tasting** - TBD

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[Rooster Tales Online](http://www.sir19.org)