

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



ROOSTER TALES

Next meeting - Thursday February 4th – 2015 – Oakhurst Country Club



Big SIR Message

Welcome to February, the month of two Presidents birthdays and the day of love, Valentine’s Day. I am happy to report that our median age in our branch is the lowest in the state. Last year we

ended the year with a net loss of 5 members. We started this year with 0 new members in January, because while we added 4 new members, we also lost 4. We’re even for our goal of +1 by year end. We expect 3 new SIR’s at the February meeting. We aren’t out of the woods yet because we will have a natural attrition. We need your help in bringing in new guests each month so we can convert them to new members by showing them how much they can enjoy our many activities and our luncheon.

I want to talk to you about volunteerism. I am sure every one of our members enjoys their activity of choice and wants to see it prosper and grow. Find a volunteer job you can do and help that chosen activity excel. One area we need a volunteer is the Dine Out Chairman. SIR Al Brunner has agreed to it on a temporary basis. If you are interested, call SIR Al at 925-687-0594.

Another position up for grabs is the position of Newsletter Chairman. SIR Ken Kuhn, treasurer, has given notice that he will no longer do the newsletter in 2017. Activities Chairman, SIR Jack Barnaba has given notice that he will only be the Activities Chairman one more year, 2016. Those two positions are an integral part of our Branch operations. If you are interested please let me know. Thank you for your support.

Bruce Persons

The Program for February



Rosemary Robles
Senior Driver Ombudsman
California Department of Motor Vehicles

Myths about older drivers
License renewal options
Compensating for age related changes
“Tune-up” you’re driving skills
Safe driving tips
Transportation alternatives
Individual appropriate options

Rosemary has been employed with Department of Motor Vehicles for 31 years. Has extensive experience with Administrative Law, Physical and Mental conditions that affect the safe operation of a motor vehicle, DMV's reexamination and hearing procedures. As the Bay Area's current Community Outreach Senior Ombudsman, she assists senior drivers in resolving unfamiliar or complex licensing procedures. She networks with the Medical Community, Law Enforcement and Legal Community. Her bilingual skills are also put to good use among the Bay Area Hispanic community.

February Menu

Roasted Pork Loin with Mushroom Sauce
 Sol Fish with Tarragon Beurre Blanc Sauce
 Chef's choice Vegetarian plate
 Chef's choice Salad and Dessert

February Birthdays



George Darrow, Tim Delony, Art Fabsits
George Fulmore, Ron Gagliardi, Stephen Gee
Kal Horvath, Ron Ingersol, Roger Mills
Kevin Mullaney, Tom Ruppert, Fred Sorenti
Anthony Tonti, Jim Willey

Financial Statement

Branch 19 Statistics

January Attendance
 Members and Guests –109

Treasurer Report

December 31, 2016

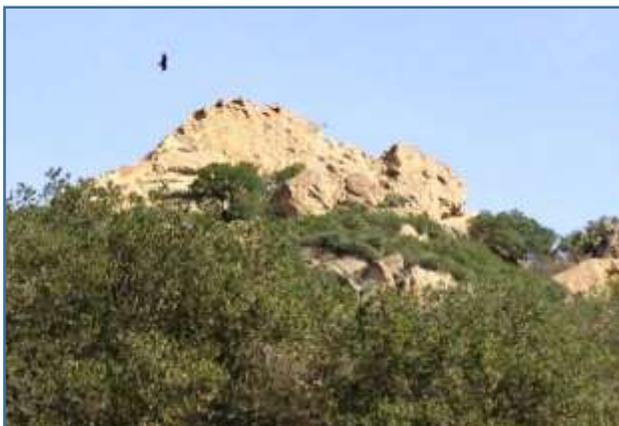
Account Balances

Petty Cash	\$ 250.00
General Account	
Unencumbered	\$4,953.78
Holiday fund	194.09
Picnic Fund	<u>155.59</u>
Total General Account	\$5,303.46
Custodial Accounts	
Bowling	\$692.02
Golf	<u>2,958.99</u>
Total Custodial	<u>\$3,651.01</u>
 Total Funds	 <u>\$9,204.47</u>

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

We hope to restart the hiking group, weather permitting, in February. A good day for JM3many of us is Thursday. Please let us know if you are interested, and the type of hike you would like.

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

Branch 19 Activities

Dine Around

Dine Around Group
 Meets on the third Thursday of every month.

When: Thursday , Feb 18. Social Time at 5:00 pm,
 Dinner at 6:00 pm

Where: Contact Al Brunner for location
 information

Payment: By Individual Checks

Sign-up: Sheet at February 4th SIR Luncheon
 Contact Al Brunner 925.687.0594
albloryb@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

Bocce in March at Campo di Bocce in
 Livermore. All the info is in the announcement
 below. Let's roll.

John Fernando

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

Let's Play Bocce
Indoors. At a great facility. And have a great lunch.
Thursday, 3/10. Details below.



Our next day trip will be a really fun event: bocce ball and lunch at John Madden's Campo di Bocce in Livermore. This is a quality bocce facility that includes an excellent Italian Restaurant.

In partnership with our bocce program director, John Fernando----and with added helpful support from Jim Garcia, Bill Stephenson, and Ken Kuhn---this event has already been creating some buzz with our bocce guys and wannabes.

Participation will be limited to twenty-four Branch 19 SIRs (24). Guys only. Reservations must be pre-paid and are on a first come; first served basis only.

Here are the details:

Location: Campo di Bocce in Livermore, CA. (www.campodibocce.com)

Trip Date: Thursday, March 10, 2016

Maximum Attendees: 24 SIR men (sorry, no spouses at this event this time)

Time: 10:30am to 1:30pm

Program: Bocce tournament starting at 10:30am created by our own "Ricky", John Fernando; plus a three course family style pasta lunch served at 12:30pm

Courts: Two Indoor bocce courts (inside the facility integrated with the restaurant)

Cost: \$48.00 per player (must be pre-paid) – includes two hours of bocce and lunch afterwards

Alcoholic beverages: are EXTRA (e.g.: no host bar); non-alcoholic soft drinks (soda, coffee, tea, water etc.) will be served during lunch and included in the cost

Dress Code: Due to special materials used on the bocce courts, low heeled or flat shoes are required. No tank tops or sleeveless shirts.

Travel: About 45 minutes to one hour from the Concord/Clayton area. Please arrange you own commuting arrangements with other attendees.

Call or write to me in order to reserve and pay for your spot---- or if you have any other questions. Feel free to contact Ricky directly if you have questions about the bocce game format.

Thanks.

SIR Bernie Theobald 925-3513672

Wine Tasting

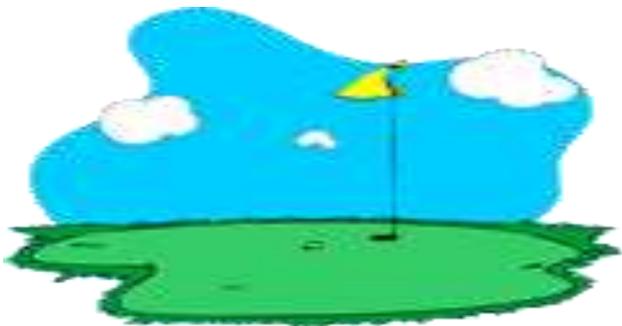


SIRS Branch 19 Wine Tasting Group

The Wine Tasting group meets at restaurants, wineries, and member’s homes. The format changes based on the venue but the focus is on finding nice wines, learning about them, and sharing them with friends. Please let Don Weimann know if you are interested in participating.

(925) 672-7711
weimanns@astound.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:

- Feb 2 – **Deer Ridge** 9:30
- Feb 9 – **Lone Tree** 9:30
- Feb 16 – **Brentwood** 8:30
- Feb 23 – **Lone Tree** 9:30

Jerry Burton, Golf Chairman
ajgolf81@yahoo.com

NCGA Fees

Please pay your NCGA dues
The fee is \$36.00
Make the check out to Branch 19 Golf.
Mail the check to

Tom Lathrop
4504 Shellflower Ct.
Concord, CA 94518

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, February 21st

Sums in Retirement
Wednesday, February, 27th

Area 2 Fishing Group
Thursday, February 28th

Bowling
Wednesday mornings
Clayton Valley Bowl

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

Dining Out
Thursday, February 21

Area 2 Activities for February



The Area 2 Computer & Technology Group

*February 18, 9:30am – Walnut Creek Elks Club
1475 Creekside Dr. Walnut Creek*

“show and tell” on Chromebook computers

In February, we will have a “show and tell” presentation on Chromebook computers, presented by Dean Steichen and Phil Goff. In addition, audience members will be asked if they would like to demo their new technology devices acquired over the holidays. Maybe someone will show off an Apple Watch!

Some members arrive at 9:00 AM to enjoy coffee and chat before the presentation. 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 February 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 4th Thurs
Thursday February 25
8:30 am
 4050 Port Chicago Highway in
 Concord.



Not much fishing to report in the cold and wet past weeks. Gordon Linebaugh and Carl Moyer got some nice trout at Shadow Cliffs Reservoir. Carl got skunked on a solo shore trip there, and Carl and Terry Miller had the same result sturgeon fishing from Pittsburg. There have been no reports to date for 2016. Hopefully all this rain forebodes a great rest of the year. Meanwhile, our short and bleak days will be full of the adventures listed below.

We will be very busy this winter with: delta fishing for catfish, striped bass, sturgeon, and trout in local lakes. We live in a fishermen’s paradise. We also begin our fishing related programs including, the Sacramento EXPO, and our annual trek to Bass Pro and Fishermen’s warehouse in Manteca, as well as the comradery of our monthly breakfast meetings. Come early for the fun and fables.

Paul Dubow, Big Fish, (415-925-6054),
Carl Moyer Branch 8 Coordinator (925-685-5243)
Barry Rauchle, Treasurer/Secretary, (925-400-3729)

Area 2 Investments / Wealth Management

The Area 2 \$ums Investment Group

Wednesday, February 24, 2016.
 Legends – Diablo Creek G.C.
 4050 Port Chicago Highway
 Breakfast available at 7am.



The presenter for February will be Joan M. Grimes JD. Ms. Grimes is an estate planning attorney and will talk about **the newest addition to the estate planning process: Portability**. The estate tax credits of each spouse are preserved without a complicated AB trust or the publicity of Probate. Come and learn about this development in estate law.

Tom Henry (Br-174) 925-284-5724
 David Sutton (Br-8) 925-686-0158
www.a2sums.sirinc.org

SIR Area 2 Travel Opportunities 2016

Mar 7-10, 2016: Arizona Spring Training. Accommodations for 3 nights at the Hampton Inn, Tempe. Round trip Air from Bay Area to Phoenix. All breakfasts & 1 dinner plus home pickup, luggage handling, taxes and drivers gratuities. Cost \$995 for land and approximately \$1295 including air. Contact Larry Yarberry, Br 8 925-890-9245.

Mar 13-17, 2016: Spring Training with #SIR 146. 5 day trip with something for everyone. Upon arrival in Phoenix you will be transferred to your accommodations at the Embassy Suites for your 4 night stay. Amenities include hosted breakfast and happy hour. All meals during your stay are included. You will enjoy morning activities that include a variety of local attractions and guest speakers. Your game tickets are the best seats available. Every effort will be made to include A's and Giants games. Cost of \$1795.00 includes RT to and from airport, three games, 4 night accommodations, tours, and guide services. 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 14th, 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 motor coach, 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

Sep 13-26, 2016: Essence of the Elbe: Berlin to Prague. 13 day river cruise tour aboard the M/S River Allegro, a privately owned 90 passenger ship exclusively for American Travelers. Ports of call include Prague, Dresden, Meissen, Torgau, Wittenberg, Magdeburg and Berlin. Trip includes 2 night hotel stay in Prague and 3 nights in Berlin, 29 meals, 10 exclusive tours with headsets, transfers, port charges, gratuities for local guides, motor coach drivers and a dedicated Program Director. Cost \$3595 to \$4195 depending on Cabin. Contact **Ken Richter**, Br. 146, 925-689-6217.

Sep 28-Oct 3, 2016: Custer State Park. Feel the thunder of pre-historic beasts as they rumble by during this fall tradition in the beautiful Black Hills. This one of a kind program also includes the Buffalo Roundup Art Festival, a buffalo steak dinner, a ride on the famous 1880 train, Rushmore, Crazy Horse and much More. Cost \$1565 or \$2065 with air. Contact Larry Yarberry, Br. 8, 925-890-9245.