

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



# ROOSTER TALES

**Next meeting - Thursday January 5th – 2017 – Oakhurst Country Club  
If you can't attend, call the hotline 925-338-1996**



### Big SIR Message

Happy New Year Branch 19, I hope you all had a great holiday. Welcome to SIR 2017! To start, let's all thank Bruce Persons for his great voluntary leadership as our Big Sir last year and the rest of our volunteer

BEC for making 2016 such a success. Our Branch membership increased by a net 11 members and we added some new activities. Special thanks to Ken Kuhn for his role as our Treasurer for the last few years and to Jack Duncan who served as a Director and helped organize a number of our activities.

We had a terrific Christmas luncheon with some great entertainment. Thanks to committee members Jack Duncan, Bill Stephenson, Darryl Diamond and Ken Kuhn for their efforts.

By way of introduction, I joined SIR in 2008 after retirement. I have been the activities chair and a Director on the BEC for a number of years. I very much enjoy the luncheons, activities and interactions with our membership. For these reasons, I volunteered to be the Big Sir for 2017.

The newly updated Mission of Sons In Retirement is "To improve the lives of our members through fun activities and events while creating friends for life." We are a completely volunteer organization. Thanks to everyone who has volunteered in any way - BEC, activity leaders, assistance at our luncheons, etc. This is how we continue to have a successful organization.

For 2017, let's drive to continue to grow our Branch by bringing in new members, growing our activities, and pitching in as volunteers when asked. In this way we will all share in our success.

*Jack Barnaba*

Big Sir

### The Program for January



### Kathryn Monroy Concord Parks and Recreation

Ms. Monroy will join us to explain the way in which the Concord Parks and Recreation department is supporting the increasingly popular game of Pickleball and the services offered by Concord Parks and Recreation.

IN MEMORIAM – SIR GEORGE GARCIA



It is with great sadness that we mourn the passing of our good friend and fellow SIR George Garcia. George served our branch in a number of roles over the years including volunteering as our BIG SIR in 2012. He was named an Honorary Life Member this last year for all of the contributions he made to Branch19. We were told there will be a memorial service in his honor on Saturday, January 7 at 11am at St. Matthew.

*January Menu*

*Caesar Salad  
Roast Beef  
Basa White Fish with Lemon Beurre Blanc Sauce  
Chef's choice Vegetarian plate  
Carrot cake*

Menus for all 2017 Luncheons can be found on the SIR19.org site on the "Home" page

*January Birthdays*



**January Birthdays**

*Myron Allen, Dennis Barbieri, Homer Colvin  
James Farr, Carleton, Gooderham, John Hayes  
Richard Leong, John Linster, Nelson Luke  
Robert Lyman, Walter Norris, Ken Peterson  
Mike Thompson, John Van DeVeere, Don Weimann*

**Financial Statement  
Branch 19 Statistics**

November Attendance  
Members and Guests - 103

**Treasurer Report**

November 30, 2016

**Account Balances**

Petty Cash	\$ 250.00
General Account	
Unencumbered	\$4,764.51
Excursion Fund	67.31
Holiday fund	3,244.45
Picnic Fund	<u>165.49</u>
Total General Account	<u>\$8,241.76</u>
Custodial Accounts	
Bowling	\$ 680.85
Golf	<u>1,373.71</u>
Total Custodial	<u>\$2,054.56</u>
 Total Funds	 <u>\$10,546.32</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.  
branch19newsletter@gmail.com



*Hiking Group*

For future exotic hiking adventures, contact

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*

*Branch 19 Leadership*

Big Sir: Jack Barnaba  
 Little Sir: John Carl Sr.  
 Secretary: Richard Peterson  
 Asst. Secretary: Dwayne Williams  
 Treasurer: Darryl Diamond  
 Asst. Treasurers: Barry Silberman, Ken Kuhn  
 Activities Chair: Bernie Theobald (Director)  
 Bocce Capo: John Fernando (Director)  
 Golf Chairman: Jerry Burton (Director)  
 Sunshine Chair: George Vogt  
 Attendance Chair: Ron Cashion (Director)  
 Speaker committee: John Wolfe (Director)  
 Bowling: John Dorsett, Mike Kropf  
 Chaplin: George Vogt  
 Hiking: Tom Lathrop, George Vogt  
 Day Trips: Ted Dobbs  
 Nomination Committee: Ken Peterson, John Fernando, Ron Cashion  
 Newsletter Editor: Ken Kuhn  
 Membership Chair: Ken Peterson  
 Public Relations: Bernie Theobald  
 Roster Chairman: Ken Peterson (Director)  
 Recruitment Chair: Art Owens  
 RAMP Chairman: John Carl Sr.  
 Wine Tasting: Don Weimann  
 Webmaster: Mike Mills

*SIR Branch 19 Bowling News*



As most if you know, Branch 19 had our annual bowling tournament in November, at Clayton Valley Bowl. It was a great success with more than 90 Bowlers from over 15 Branches. Many thanks go out to Homer Colvin, Jim Wyllie, Mike Hooper for helping Doug Schuster and myself. The Tournament lasted 2 days with Branch 19 Bowlers, Rick Small, Doug Schuster, Mike Kropf, Gary Kaufmann, Joe Lettiere, Mike Hooper, and Walt Norris all in the money. And before I forget, special thanks to Darlene Kropf for everything she does to make this Tournament a Success.

Our Wednesday SIR's League as of January 4th, 2017, is now 10 Teams Strong.

We'll have the results of the first half in the February Rooster News Letter!

A Happy, Healthy, and Safe 2017 to Everyone :)

Mr. Have a Nice Day

SIR Mike Kropf

John Dorsett 925.827.2852 [jddorsett@astound.net](mailto:jddorsett@astound.net)  
 Mike Kropf 925.689.1453 [mdkropf@astound.net](mailto:mdkropf@astound.net)

*Interested in a Particular Activity?*

SIR 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 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 Bernie Theobald.

**Bernie Theobald Activity Chairman**  
**351-3672 bjt47@comcast.net**

## The Pickleball Report



### PICKLEBALL OPEN PLAY:

Seven folks showed up for our Thursday, 12/22, SIR Pickleball Open Play this morning! It was lots of fun and the weather was great!

Even though most of us are still beginners, the more experienced players on the courts were welcoming, inclusive, friendly, and gladly offered some patient coaching pointers for us.

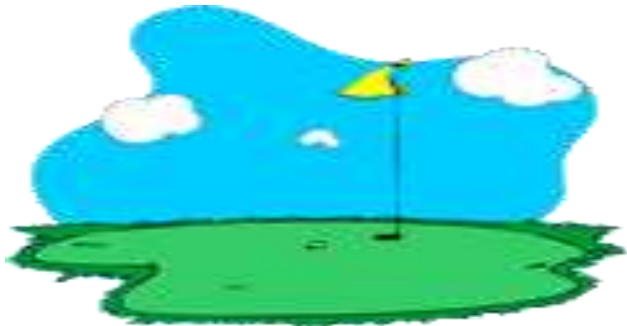
Our SIR buddies who came out this morning were: Tom Lathrop, Rich Peterson, Duane Deonigi, and Bernie Theobald. Three ladies also came out to play with us---Bonnie Lathrop, daughter Carly, and Gail Barbieri. They were able, challenging, and fun competitors with the promise of some serious pickleball game as they become seasoned players. Watch out guys!

We are next scheduled with our SIR pickleball open play next Thursday, 12/29. Come on out to join us if you can! Register on the Meet Up smart phone app and let everyone know you're coming!

Happy 2017 Everyone!

SIR BernieT

## 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**

#### **January Schedule**

Weather permitting we will be playing:

- January 3 – Deer Ridge 9:30
- January 10 – Lone Tree 9:30
- January 17 – Brentwood 9:30
- January 24 – Lone Tree 9:30
- January 31 – Diablo Creek 10:00

NCGA dues are due. \$35. Send the check to Tom Lathrop 4504 Shellflower Ct., Concord, CA 94518

Lone Tree Senior Advantage cards should be purchased prior to the end of January. You get them at the course. \$70.00 which includes two free rounds of golf.

**Jerry Burton**, Golf Chairman

[ajgolf24@gmail.com](mailto:ajgolf24@gmail.com)

### ***Wine Tasting***

Meets on the third Thursday of every month.

*Happy New Year*

**When:** Next Wine Tasting and Dine Around will be in February 2017.

## **SIRS Branch 19 January Dine Around** **Taheri's Mediterranean Restaurant**

Featuring Italian, Greek, Spanish and Middle Eastern cuisine from an exhibition kitchen which includes an imported wood-burning oven. Menu is varied: Salads, kebabs, pasta, pizza, and more.

Website: <http://www.taheris.com> Menu: <http://www.taheris.com/dinner.html>

Date: **Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup>** Social Hour: **5:00 pm** Dinner: **6:00 pm**

Location: 2999 Oak Road, Walnut Creek, CA 94596 (925) 933-1000

Just north of Embassy Suites and near Pleasant Hill BART Station. For free parking, turn north from Treat Blvd. onto Oak Road. Go past restaurant on left and turn left into parking garage. Loop around in garage and head back toward Oak Road and park. Taheri's is then a short walk.



Contact Don Weimann to sign up by **January 15<sup>th</sup>**



Our **FIRST** meeting of **DATE** – **Discussing Ancient Technology & Engineering** – for **2017** will be held on Wednesday, **January 11, 2017** at Clayton Valley Bowl Conference Room, at 1:30 pm, following the SIRS Bowling League. The **TOPIC**: We’ve switched gears to make this first meeting of the year a little more interesting. So, let’s see – Structures on the moon? How did they get there? Who built them, when and why? If we didn’t, they must be old, even ancient. But are we sure? Whoever did build them must have used Technology and Engineering. See where I’m going with this? The Moon is so close. We can practically see it every night; unless it’s overcast, of course. Yet, we only get to see about 60% of its surface. The other 40% are a total mystery. Let’s see what we all think after seeing “**Space Station Moon**” an episode from our Ancient Aliens Library, Season 9. Afterwards, we’ll all have a chance to contribute to the discussion. See you all on January 11, 2017. And, don’t forget your thinking cap!

**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 we still have to pay for your meal and you will be charged.

So, if you can’t attend, call.  
**(925) 338-1996.**

**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 January 19<sup>th</sup>

**\$ums in Retirement**  
Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup>

**Area 2 Fishing Group**  
Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup>

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

**Dining Out**  
Thursday, Jan 19<sup>th</sup>

**Wine Tasting**  
Jan 2017



*Area 2 Activities for January*



***The Area 2 Computer & Technology Group***

*January 19, 9:30am – Walnut Creek Elks Club  
1475 Creekside Dr. Walnut Creek*  
**Smart Phones & Artificial Intelligence (AI)**  
**<http://a2cat.sirinc2.org/>**

The topic for our January CAT meeting will be “Smartphones & Artificial Intelligence” presented by Neil Schmidt. He will delve into some of the popular Artificial Intelligence (AI) apps as well as demonstrating some very interesting new ones. He will also talk about some future possibilities currently being developed where your smartphone or smartwatch is used as a source of information, the data evaluated via AI techniques, and action is automatically taken on your behalf. Check the CAT Web page about a week before the next meeting to download a copy of the presentations: <http://a2cat.sirinc2.org> .

Arrive early to chat with friends and enjoy the coffee and cookies. 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.

*Area 2 Fishing Group*

***The Legends***  
Diablo Creek G.C.  
Meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thurs  
**Thursday January 26**  
**8:30 am**  
4050 Port Chicago Highway in  
Concord.



Winter trout and sturgeon are biting. Shadow Cliffs Reservoir was very productive early on; Terry Hatcher, Gordon Linebaugh, Mario Moritorio, Romano Gnusti, Dick Thomson, Thom Watkins, Rich Fiscina, and Paul Dubow, all got early limits fishing with Carl Moyer, followed by brunch at Jim’s restaurant, and safely back home for an early afternoon nap, this is gentlemen’s fishin. Rich Fiscina, Paul Dubow, and Ray Pixton caught the tail end of the hot bite but did go home with trout. Meanwhile, Rich Fiscina took Pedro Contreras, Pete Gates, Paul Dubow, Tom Boltz, Joe Karg, and **Bruce Person**. Pedro caught his first ever keeper sturgeon after years of trying, Paul Dubow put his tag on one, Tom Boltz watched a monster leap into the air and throw the hook. Steve Paulson and Ben Sala got on a combo boat from Bodega bay and returned with limits of crab, rock fish and ling cod. Stan Wong did the same from Emeryville, and he and his grandson got limits of nice trout from the shore at Contra Loma Reservoir. Don Mittlestaedt made his annual pilgrimage to Louisiana where he caught big redfish on his fly rod. **Tom Kostik**, Mike Corker, Terry Miller, and Ben Sala plugged for stripers in the delta and did well till the water cooled.

**Contacts: Paul Dubow (415-495-6504) Carl Moyer (925-685-5243)**

*Area 2 Investments / Wealth Management*

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

**Next meeting December 3**

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**.

Our next meeting is Wed Jan 25 at 8 AM at the Legends Restaurant in the Diablo Creek Country Club - Port Chicago Highway, 1/4 mile north of Highway 4 in Concord.

Our speaker will be Michael Young JD - an Elder Law specialist. He will be speaking about Living Wills, Health Care Directives, Portability and other end of life issues.

The Legends opens at 7 AM. Come early and have a leisurely breakfast with your colleagues prior to the meeting.

**Chair:** Tom Henry (Br-174) 925-284-5724 [tomhenry925@gmail.com](mailto:tomhenry925@gmail.com)

**Co-Chair:** David Sutton (Br-8) 925-686-0158. [davesutn@yahoo.com](mailto:davesutn@yahoo.com)

*SIR Area 2 Travel Opportunities 2017*