THE BIG SIR COLUMN

We outlined a new SIR Branch 8 protocol at the February luncheon. This concept was created recently by our Member Relations Committee, chaired by Tony de Losada and authored by Tom Mohrman. The new protocol is an extension of the recommended procedure during a medical emergency during a meeting....“SIR Down!”

The added features address medical emergency and exit procedures due to fire and earthquake. We remind everybody our area is located in a Seismic Risk Zone 4, which is the worst earthquake area in the United States.

First, we will make an announcement before every lunch of the locations of the exits to be used in the event of a fire or other emergencies. Follow the exit signs to a safe location in the direction of the outside parking lot.

Should there be a medical emergency at your table, designate one person to find the courtesy phones on the wall (there are 4) and dial “0”. The Hilton Operator will place the emergency call to the EMS station located a short distance away. Placards are placed on each phone with this information.

Hopefully, we will not experience an emergency situation. However, with our new protocol in place, we are better prepared.

Mike Long, BIG SIR

THE LITTLE SIR SEZ

Do you want a compelling reason to invite a guest to our March luncheon? Take a look at our speaker and his topic.

Our speaker is Professor Joseph S. Tuman, professor and former chair of the Department of Communications at San Francisco State University. His topic is “Terrorism and the Media”. Dr. Tuman is the recipient of the Jacobus tenBroek Society Award - a state-wide award for Excellence in Teaching and has published widely in the field of communications with books on terrorism and rhetoric, political communications and free speech.

He has appeared regularly on local and national network television as a political analyst since 1984. You probably know him as Joe Tuman, political analyst and commentator for KTVU Channel 2 in Oakland. You might recall he was a recent candidate for Mayor of Oakland in the last election.

What you probably don’t know is he participated in NATO DAT COE conferences in 2015 and 2016 as an expert analyst regarding terrorism and the media. The NATO Defense Against Terrorism (DAT) Center of Excellence (COE) provides subject matter expertise on how best to defend against terrorism. Dr. Tuman will working with NATO again in 2017.

We clearly have a national and internationally known subject matter expert on Terrorism and the Media. Don’t miss it....and bring a guest.

Phil Trapp, Little Sir

February HOTLINE Editor: Chuck Joyce
Next SIR Luncheon: March 13th
Concord Hilton
1970 Diamond Blvd., Concord

Greeters: Lowell Robison & Bill Collins
Executive Meeting: 9:00am
Social Hour begins: 10:15am
Luncheon starts: 11:30m

Absences & Bringing Guests
925-901-4826 or
SIRBR8ATTENDANCE@OUTLOOK.COM

New email address.
By Noon, Thursday before the Luncheon.

Clickable Indexes
Just click on an Index entry and the Hotline will skip to that article. Then click on the “INDEX” link on the bottom-right of each page to return to the index on page 1.
RAMP
Recruitment, Activities, Member relations, Publicity.
RAMP is a collection of programs and services that together support the building of a successful branch.

RECRUITMENT
What the H*^@^!

Well we fell on our face in February. After a good start in January with 12 guests, we had only ONE in February. What's going on here? Guests turn into members, and new members keep our great branch alive and vibrant.

The news gets worse. Although we brought in three new members in February, we lost seven. That puts us 13 net members away our yearly goal. And remember, to gain 13 net members we have to bring in about 50 to offset our projected member losses.

So come on guys, get out there and bring in guests to share the great Sir experience our branch provides. You'll get a bottle of wine and a picture of your ugly mug in the Hotline when your guest becomes a member, and you'll join the I've Done My Part Club too..

Speaking of that, we have three new 2017 members. They are Bert Baker, Alan Curtis and yours truly. Come on; get out and recruit.

Ed Benson, Recruiting Chairman

ACTIVITY REPORT

As retirees, we have our routines. In all probability, we have substituted a "retiree" routine for the work schedule that we followed for many years. After a few months of retirement, this routine becomes reliable and comfortable to us.

However, retirement is also an opportunity to try something new. It is an opportunity to challenge ourselves, and to try or learn something we never had time for while we were working.

SIR Branch 8 has 49 activities and 3 special events. In addition, ideas for new activities are springing up regularly. As a member, here is your opportunity to try, learn, and experience something new to you.

I encourage you to check out the Activity webpages on our Branch 8 website. Ask our Activity Chairmen about their activities. They will eagerly share what is going on with their activity. Talk to other members about their participation in activities. You will hear what activities have been fun and engaging for them.

During March and April, I challenge you to try 1 or 2 new activities. Take advantage of the great opportunity to try something fun and learn something new. Be open to new experiences, and the possibility of socializing with new SIR friends.

You may discover a rewarding activity that will have you changing your "retiree" routine and establishing a new one that enhances your retirement experience. Give it a try!

Activity Coordinator Committee Chair: Steve Schramm

SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES
GET HELP WITH TAX PREPARATION

Do you need help preparing your taxes? This sponsored program offers free tax preparation by IRS-certified tax counselors. While Tax-Aide doesn't specify an income limit, the service targets low- and moderate-income taxpayers, with special attention for those 60 and older. Starting January 9, call one of these numbers to make an appointment. Appointments begin the first week of February.*

- Walnut Creek Senior Club: 925-943-5851
- Grace Presbyterian Church: 925-405-6278
- St. Paul's Episcopal Church: 925-979-5013
- General info and other locations: 925-726-3199

Bring all your forms!

* provided by the Walnut Creek Seniors Club Newsletter,

Tony de Losada, Publicity and Image-Senior Activities
MEMBERS RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Your MRC met February 2nd; recommendations came out of this thoughtful, dedicated group of members. Big Sir’s article this month explains it. However, because of its criticality, it’s important to explain the Emergency procedures which are mandated by the State of Calif., and local Fire Codes. In fact, it’s mandatory!

**2007 State of California Fire Code**: Section 408.2.2 - Announcements for public assembly over 50 persons. Mandatory State of California 2007 State of California Fire Code Section 408.2.2:

"An announcement must be made no more than 10 minutes prior to the start of a program, that notifies the occupants of the location of the exits to be used in the event of fire or other emergencies."

Explanation by SIR Tom Mohrman: California enacted this code after a severe nightclub fire in Rhode Island and others, around the country. Hundreds of people were killed in the Rhode Island stampede, some emergency exits were blocked, a total disaster.

This announcement will be repeated at the start of each meeting from now on. This is not only for fire Emergency only, it is for Earthquake, and Necessary Physical Danger Risk! We hope it will not have to be used. Remember, do not use your Cell Phones, the mandatory legal protocol is to use the wall phones posted for emergency use.

The committee made more recommendations which will be explained as they are approved: Examples: Seating for late arrivals, one column or two columns Hotline, additional information text when new inductees are first written about or pictured; a new membership classification for in-active members.

Your MRC is listening to and acting on your comments to make your association with SIR Branch 8 better. Keep it up we will respond. While you are at it, think about volunteering, we could use the help in many activities and Branch Administration!

When you see them next time, shake the hand of Tom Mohrman and Bill Paterson, for thinking of your safety by developing the "Man Down Protocol"!

You make the branch what it is!

Tony de Losada, Member Relations Committee Chairman

PUBLICITY

IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE (and look cool too!)

Good news! Very soon (at most 6 weeks) we will for the first time be offering for sale at Ron Maciak's Logoed Clothing Sales Table: CHROME PLATED PLASTIC, SIR LICENSE PLATE FRAMES. Initially, Ron will show two (2) samples, one for front and one for back plates.

ORDERS WILL BE TAKEN NEXT MEETING MONDAY MARCH 13 2017.

Show, family, friends and neighbors you are a proud SIR Member, help advertise SIR, inform people how to get in touch!

This program came out of your Branch 8 Publicity and Image Committee, it proved to be so attractive an idea, that through the efforts of Ed Benson's Growth and Membership committee, State SIR Incorporated, decided to fund it!

Ron will take cash or check only orders, for front-back or both plates. The price is probably the best part of the story, after the actual Chrome plated frame covers themselves: How's about $1.75 ea., or $3.50 for two? I repeat, $1.75 ea., or $3.50 for two!!!

This is a test program and Branch 8 is the first to test. Get behind this program, and upon its success, I believe there will be more to come.

Tony de Losada Publicity and Image Chair

ACTIVITIES AT OTHER BRANCHES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Call</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td></td>
<td>Philip Magen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridge Lunch</td>
<td>2nd/4thTu</td>
<td>Mitt Greenstein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historical ©</td>
<td>Call</td>
<td>Rich Sjoberg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stamps</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rich Sjoberg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ATTENDANCE
Attendance for the February luncheon

Active Members:
Membership Prior to Luncheon 339
Members Inducted 3
Excused Absences 78
Unexcused Absences 4
Members Attending 260

Others:
Inactive
Applicants Waiting 2
Visitors - Guests - Speakers 6
Others Attending 8

TOTAL ATTENDANCE 268

COMMENT CARD CORNER
Summary and Analysis of comment cards from February 13, 2017 Luncheon

There were only three cards turned in by three members. (It would be helpful to remind everyone once again at the March Luncheon to complete the comment card.) One member was "Impressed"; the other two members gave no indication of attitude.

There were 3 main topics with one commentary. The 3 main topics were: the outstanding guest speaker, the food, and the addition of two extra projector screens to enhance the visual presentation of our meetings. Two of the 3 members both stated our guest speaker was wonderful and superb.

One also stated he was resigned to the fact that he and his spouse will need to live in an assisted living facility, when they couldn't take care of themselves, until he heard about the additional viable options offered by our guest speaker. The talk gave him hope to live in dignity with choices, when the time comes, in making the difficult decisions of aging.

The same two members also complimented on the quality of food. One stated the food was delicious. The other one simply stated "Good Chicken". One of these two members also made the commentary: he thought the announcement about the emergency exits is a good idea. Lastly, the same two members commented on the extra projector screens as follow: "New screens for video very helpful" and "Love the extra screens". The only comment made by the third member is as follow: "The 2 extra screens not worth what I understand is the cost. Maybe for a different meeting, etc."

Chris Tang on behalf of SinSirly Jim Sowell

E-MAIL FOR ABSENCES & TO CONFIRM GUESTS

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

There is a new email address for luncheon absences and bringing guests.

sirbr8attendance@outlook.com

It can be used immediately so update your email address book now. The same policy applies: you will get an E-mail 'reply' confirming your message was received.

The old email address will continue to work until June 2017, in case you forget to change right away, but messages sent to it after that will no longer be accepted.

The absence/guest telephone number, 925-901-4826 has not changed and remains an alternative to sending an email.

E-mails sent to the above address for excused absences will be confirmed with a ‘Reply’ it was received. Messages sent to personal email accounts will not be answered.

If a ‘Reply’ confirming receipt of the E-mail is not received, it is the member’s responsibility to follow up and ensure it was sent to the correct address. Either resend the E-mail or call the attendance number at 925-901-4826 by Thursday noon prior to the meeting.

Please note: calls to the telephone number will not be automatically returned since the greeting message confirms the correct number was reached.

Please bring a guest, but if you want to be sure your guest has a place to sit and gets a meal, you need to do the following:
Call the Attendance Secretary, Bill Peterson, on the attendance hotline: 925-901-4826 or by e-mail sirbr8attendance@outlook.com on Thursday before the meeting, then Bill can adjust his count for the caterer.

Bill Peterson, Attendance Secretary

**FREE LUNCH DRAWING FOR BRINGING GUESTS**
As an incentive to bring in new candidates for membership, a drawing for a free lunch will be held in **January** and in **July** for members who bring guests to meetings during the previous six months. You can use the SIR cards available at the check-in table to invite guests.

For each new guest sponsored during the six month period, a member will have an entry in the drawing. Bring one new guest, have one chance. Bring 3 new guests, have 3 chances! And for your efforts, you do not have to be present to win.

**Al Reichard** was the January winner of a free.

**LEGAL NOTICE**
This notice is available in the *Roster* and on the web site.

**NEW ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER OR E-MAIL**
If you change any of the above, please notify Bob Barnes. If you need a new member's email address (or phone number), you can also contact Bob Barnes at (925) 348-6443 or send him an email.

**MARCH LUNCHEON MENU**
- Sonoma Salad
- Corned Beef & Cabbage
- Mashed Potatoes
- Red Velvet Cake
- Coffee/Ice Tea

**NEED A RIDE?**
Those Sirs who do not have transportation and would like a ride to the monthly luncheon are invited to call: Scott Graff 925-552-6097, scottkgraf@gmail.com

**RED DOT BADGES**
They belong to our new members; don’t forget to say “Hi” and introduce yourself. So let’s make them feel at home and let them feel they can talk about your SIR activities and ask them to join you.

**STATE SIR HAPPENINGS**
A complete archive is now on the State website at [http://sirinc.org/sirhappenings/pastissues.html](http://sirinc.org/sirhappenings/pastissues.html).

Don McGregor, Editor, Sir Happening

**SUNSHINE REPORT**
Since the February Hotline Report, the Committee has extended wishes for a rapid recovery to Norman Cox, Jack Sagen, Wally Freeman, Joe Alexander, John Sewell, and Stan Johnson. The Committee has extended no condolences since the last Hotline Report.

Sunshine Committee: br8sunshine@yahoo.com
Terry Norton 925-798-6023
Larry Mersmann 925-935-9124
HOTLINE INPUT AND WEB EDITORS

IMPORTANT – SINGLE HOTLINE EMAIL ADDRESS: Hotline@sirinc3.org.

Send your articles and photos BEFORE the 20th of the month. Include meeting information and dates for the following month to keep your group properly informed about meetings, deadlines and upcoming events. Late reports may not be included in the Hotline.

Hotline Editors (Hotline Coordinator *)

* Dan Weller  dweller@astound.net
Barry Brown barry@bkbrown.net
Chuck Joyce joycc003@gmail.com
Jim Ripley jimrip99@aol.com

Website Editor, Webmaster, and Activities Page

Derek Southern derek.southern@gmail.com
Asst. Website Editor wkhbill@pacbell.net

Please be brief, we will attempt to keep the articles worded as you wish them to be presented. Please place the Chairman and other contact information at the bottom. While formatting and type style is left to the discretion of the Hotline Editors, we will try to preserve your format “bolds” and underline. Please avoid complex boxes and having the whole article in “bold” or ALL UPPER-CASE LETTERS. For sending text, a word document or just typing into the Email message works just fine. Please avoid copying and pasting text from websites as this can require retyping before it can be used.

To be sure your article is not missed, please put “hotline” “activity” and “month” into the Subject of your submittal Email Example: Hotline Activity - Poker for October.

We, your Editors and Webmasters, are here to serve you, and we need your very important input. For the Website, send input anytime, but expect some possible delay before input is added.

TREASURERS REPORT

Treasurer Report January 2017
Receipts
Monthly luncheon $8020.00
Contributions 7400.00
Hotline 546.00
Interest .17

Total receipts 15966.17
Disbursements
Printing & supplies 1190.61
Other 110.00
Monthly luncheon 8903.14

Total disbursements 10203.75
Net gain 5762.42
Cash ,beginning 10174.25
Cash, ending 15936.67

Ron, Cassano, Treasurer

ARTS, CRAFTS & HOBBIES

We hoped to be back in March but we didn't get any help !!

LOOK FOR US IN APRIL!

I know there are at least 100 of you out there who have a special talent or an interesting hobby or you collect things. Don't be bashful! Share it with us. We all would really like to see your special artwork, carving, sculpture, wood turning, fishing lures, match book covers, travel memorabilia, photographs, silver spoons (even the one you were born with in your mouth), baseballs, golf balls, or moth balls. Or maybe you do taxidermy, collect coins, make beer, build toothpick castles, make train cars, fly drones, have a model plane collection or something really unusual that we don't know about.
All of us old guys like to see stuff and we appreciate people who collect or have a hidden talent or special skill. SHARE it with us. I'll even buy you a glass of wine and it makes the meeting more interesting.

If you have a hobby, special interest collection, art of any form or a special skill, please consider sharing it with your fellow SIR. All it takes is an hour before our monthly meeting and we'll help you get things set up and taken down. In the process you may find a new friend who has your same interest and of course your fellow SIR will appreciate your time and effort. Give me a call or send an e-mail. Thanks in advance.

Ron Smith, Chairman resmith62@aol.com 925-314-3066 Al Steunenberg, Co-Chairman als2nnbrg@comcast.net 820-2758

ASTRONOMY

In January and February we reviewed the various telescopes currently in use and those planned for the future and then examined the challenges of space travel. In March, our subject will be an important part of space: Dark Energy and Dark Matter. Our meeting will be held immediately after lunch at the Hilton. All are welcome.

Larry Lange, Chairman 254-6281 rlange@pacbell.net Leary Wong, Asst. Chair 930-7024 kinglear3@aol.com

ANNUAL BRANCH BBQ ☄️

June 20, 3:00 ‘Till Dusk

As in the past nine years, Sirs in the Kitchen will be putting on the annual Branch 8 BBQ. We will be at the same location as last year: the Concord Community Park on Cowell Road, just south of Monument Boulevard. The price remains the same at $25 per person. We will be taking reservations for a maximum of 150 attendees, starting with the March 13th meeting. We always sell out, so get your reservations in early. Sign-up with Terry Norton or Phil Trapp at the March pre-lunch activity table. After that, you can sign-up at the April and May meetings, by email (prtrapp@sbcglobal.net), or by calling Phil at 925-648-4056. We will be collecting checks in May.

Our space at the Concord Community Park is large enough to accommodate a maximum of 150. The walk to the festivities is short and on level ground. Parking is plentiful. We will arrange a spot close to the picnic grounds to drop off guests and chairs, if you want to do that prior to parking your car.

We are sticking with our winning combination of Tri Tip Steak, baked beans, potato salad, green salad, garlic bread and chocolate cookies for dessert. Pre-dinner appetizers will include last year's big hit – barbecued sausage. Other appetizers will include buffalo wings and the usual assortment of dips and chips.

For those working up a thirst, wine, beer, soft drinks and water will be provided by the Sirs in the Kitchen crew. All beverages are included in the $25 price. The festivities will start at 3:00, appetizers at 3:45 and dinner will be served around 5:00. We'll wrap up at dusk or whenever the drinks run out.

Remember, we are not collecting money now. We will be asking for your check made out to Phil Trapp at the May meeting or by mail at 4134 Quail Run Drive, Danville, CA 94506.

Phil Trapp, BBQ Event Chairman
BARGAIN BITES ©

As you already know, on February 28th we returned for a two year anniversary celebration to Savanh Thai restaurant in Pleasant Hill. Our first visit was in early 2015 and it was the same great family style menu that included appetizer, soup, three of their most popular Thai dishes, brown and white rice plus ice cream for dessert. All for $17.50PP tax/tip incl. When we first made the announcement, within 20 hours it was fully booked with 40 people and 12 on the standby list. That was great but not good. So we quickly called the owner and asked "What if repeat the same thing the following Tuesday, March 7?" Naturally she thought that would be wonderful. So we sent out another e-mail and within a few days the second date was full with 40 people. (Actually as of this writing there is room for one more couple. Call me if interested)

You guys are wonderful, what a fantastic response. People even switched from the Feb, 28th to Mar. 7th to make room for those who couldn't go on the 7th but they could make the 28th. A big thank you to everyone.

As of now, it looks like we will not have anything lined up for later in March but we will be back in April. However, things change so watch for our e-mail.

If you would like to be placed on the Bargain Bites e-mail list, just send a note to resmith62@aol.com and say “Place me on the Bargain Bites List”. Oh yes, include your name. You will receive personal e-mails in advance of the Hotline. Again, thanks for your interest and wonderful support. It makes the effort worthwhile.

Chairman: Ron Smith 314-3066 resmith62@aol.com
Asst. Chairman: Ron Maciak 357-8005 rammedical@sbcglobal.net

BIRDERS ©

Due to storms, our February outing was cancelled. We will try again on March 20th. On Monday, March 20th, the birders will be going to the Grizzly Island Refuge (Fairfield area) in search of the short-eared owl. The 84,000 acre Suisun Marsh has been known to host 200 bird species & Tule Elk. Car poolers will meet at 8:30 in the Sun Valley parking lot. Bring lunch and a drink.

Chairman: Leary Wong, 925-457-0807, kinglear3@aol.com

BOCCE BALL OPEN PLAY ©

Chairman Bob Barnes and Assistant Danny Rinaldi organized the competition at Newhall Park BB Courts in Concord. There were 24 different participants during the season (May to mid-October). This is a weekly activity on Fridays 8:30 – 10:30 a.m. It usually attracts 10-15 players.

Open play ended around October 11th this year. The Concord Bocce Federation locked the courts even though in the past years the courts have been open until the end of October. I surmise the gates were locked early, as it appears each court had maintenance performed on each end of the court (color of the play surface of the court). The City of Concord had made rules for when the courts would be available for play and those rules indicated the end of September.

Chairman: Bob Barnes 686-0106 sb8msec@hotmail.com
Assistant Chairman: Danny Rinaldi: 825-0519

BOCCE BALL - LEAGUE PLAY ©

Chairman Bob Barnes and Assistant Danny Rinaldi organized the team to compete in the Concord Bocce Federation league. Our team (SIR Bocce) played on the Baldwin Park BB Courts in Concord. There were 10 players (6 SIR members and 4 partners) who played on our team. Our team played on Tuesdays 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. during the May – September months.

I hope everyone enjoyed the Open and League play. I wish everyone a very good holiday season. I would like to see everyone return next year when play resumes.

Chairman: Bob Barnes 686-0106 sb8msec@hotmail.com
Assistant Chairman: Danny Rinaldi: 825-0519 dmrinaldi@astound.net
BOCCE INDOOR WINTER LEAGUE

It's Winter now and the weather is wet and cold! SIR Branch 8 members are now enjoying participating in the Winter League Seniors INDOOR Bocce!

The Branch 8 Team, the "SIR 8 Rollers" began play on Wednesday morning, October 26th at NorCal Courts Bocce, 360 Ferry St., Martinez. The League games will continue through March.

The Team Capo is SIR Stan U'Ren.

Please NOTE: The SIR Winter League Bocce team for Branch 8 has the maximum number of players for 2016-17.

Activity Chair: Jim Whitsett 925-689-5493 AFRES056789@gmail.com

BOOK EXCHANGE

If you read it and liked it, bring it!
We encourage and want you to bring books to share. Our mantra is..."IF YOU READ A BOOK THAT YOU REALLY LIKED AND WANT TO SHARE IT, BRING IT TO THE NEXT SIR LUNCHEON AND DONATE TO OUR COLLECTION'.

We have marked some of the boxes with red tape indicating “NEW BOOKS” which we place at the end of the table of our Book Exchange boxes. Just drop any new books or books from the collection you are returning in these marked boxes. That way everyone knows what is NEW.

Lastly, I wanted to thank my Assistant Chairmen for their hard work bringing in the boxes of books to the monthly meeting....and their spouses for allowing us to store 10 boxes or so in their garage!!

As always, if you have any questions or suggestions contact any member of the book exchange team:

Chairman: Tom Kerns, jtomk01@aol.com (925-376-8840).
Assistant Chair: Alan Curtis, alancurtis@sbcglobal.net
Assistant Chair: Rob Laaback, laabak@yahoo.com
Assistant Chairman: Ray Dewit, ray.dewit@yahoo.com

BOOK GROUP

Fifteen stalwarts braved the elements on Tuesday, February 7 at the Round Table Restaurant on Oak Park Boulevard in Pleasant Hill to discuss Alan Furst's novel "Night Soldiers". The book commences in 1934 Bulgaria with the murder of a young man by local fascists. His brother, Khristo, is recruited into the NKVD, the Soviet secret intelligence service, and sent to Spain to serve in its civil war. Warned that he is about to become a victim of Stalin's purges, Khristo flees to Paris. "Night Soldiers" masterfully re-creates the European world of 1934-1945: the struggle between Nazi Germany and Soviet Russia for Eastern Europe, the last desperate gaiety of the beau monde in 1937 Paris, and guerrilla operations with the French underground in 1944.

Although some readers had reservations with the dreary nature of the subject, the consensus of the group was that "Night Soldiers" is a scrupulously researched panoramic novel, and a work on a grand scale. Several members of the group were fans of Alan Furst and suggested his later works, although focused on the same period in European history, were shorter yet just as rewarding.

Our next meeting is set for Tuesday, March 7 again at the Round Table, and will review Joby Warrick's book: "Black Flag: The Rise of ISIS” The researcher is Tom Doll.

Chairman: Nick Maufe
**BOWLING ©**

**BOWLING Report for March 2017**

Winter Leagues

Branch 19 SIR League - Branch 19 (Concord) sponsors a SIR league at Clayton Valley Bowl. There are ten four-person teams. Ladies are welcome. We bowl every Wednesday morning starting at 10 AM.

**SIR State-Wide Tournament Schedules, Applications, and Results Are On Line:**

To access the SIR State bowling information, open the state bowling web site at [http://sirinc.org/bowling](http://sirinc.org/bowling). You can find tournament schedules, applications, and results on the site.

**Upcoming Tournaments:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>COMMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 20, 22</td>
<td>Concord</td>
<td>Local Tournament at Diablo Valley Lanes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 10 – 13</td>
<td>Carson City</td>
<td>Expecting over 200 SIR bowlers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 25, 26</td>
<td>Grass Valley</td>
<td>New Tournament</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ACTIVITY CHAIRMAN:** Dan Weller 925-935-5510
dweller@astound.net

**ASSISTANT CHAIR:** Jim Erickson 925-939-7925 jim@jterickson.com

**BASIC BRIDGE ©**

The Basic Bridge format is open to players of many levels. Each table will have a coach. For beginning players there will be a review discussion after the hand has been played. The more advanced players have non-competitive, free play. All players are invited to ask questions and offer friendly advice on mistakes at any time.

The sessions are co-ed. Basic Bridge is held on the first Thursday of the month from 1:30 – 3:30 PM at Round Table Pizza located on 1938 Oak Park Blvd. near Putnam and Oak Park Blvd. in Pleasant Hill. Come early for lunch - that is our payment for use of the room. Call Rod Spicer, 935-5306, to be added to our reminder list.

**Chairman:** Rod Spicer, 935-5306, marod61@att.net

**BRIDGE ♠ ♦ ♥ ♣ DUPLICATE – ONE**

The Duplicate Bridge I Group met on February 10th at Round Hill Pizza in Pleasant Hill.

Top three finishers for the February session were:

1st Grisanti-Regan 25 pts
2nd T Myrtle-Spicer 22
2nd T Bingham-Steichen 22

No slams were bid and made and the top offensive hand was achieved by the Myrtle-Spicer team when they made an overtrick on a 4 spade doubled vulnerable contract for a score of 890 points. There were no noteworthy defensive scores as the players winning the bidding, for the most part, were not over-bidding.

Thanks to Gene Bingham for set-up this month. David Bushnell will have those duties next month. Finally, thanks to Al Welch for subbing.

Our next session will be March 10 at 9:00AM at Round Table Pizza in Pleasant Hill. Mark the second Friday on your 2017 calendars, **NOW**

Substitutes are often needed and any SIR wishing to play should contact:

**Bob Kahl, Chairman** 284-8572
**Dick Long, Asst Chairman** 274-1786
**Ton Hensley, Asst Chairman** 937-0605
No article was received by press time.

Chairman: Max Creamer  262-740
Assistant: Jerry Milano

BRIDGE ♦️♥️♠️️ Rubber

We had plenty of room for the bridge players that wanted to get out of the rain. The dry and successful players this month were: Dan Smith (4580); and George Schulze (2500). The scores went from 1480 to 4580 with the median score being about 2300.

All bridge players (regardless of skills) are invited to our game. We meet on the first Thursday of the month at Round Table Pizza at 1938 Oak Park Blvd. in Pleasant Hill. The game starts at 9:00AM. Bring your own thermos of coffee, if you care to. Please answer Al Welch's E-mail early so we can fill up the tables.

Chairman: Rod Spicer, 935-5306, marod61@att.net
Al Welch, Co-Chair, 925-938-4131, blackpool68@gmail.com
David Bushnell, Co-Chair, 925-838-3914, dbushn@swbell.net

BRIDGE - COUPLES 📂

On February 20, 2017, the Couples Bridge session had six tables or twelve couples. Steve and Honora Greytak took first place with 4,200 points; Ben and Helen Yeraka were second with 3,740 points; and Rod and Mary Ann Spicer were third with 3,230 points. Our next session will be on at 1:00 pm on Monday, March 20, (our normal 3rd Monday of each month) at the Round Table Pizza on Oak Park, Pleasant Hill. We always welcome new players, so if you are interested in joining us, please contact Ray de Wit (ray.dewit@yahoo.com) or Ken Main (mainkenneth46@gmail.com).

Best regards,

Ray de Wit (ray.dewit@yahoo.com) or Ken Main (mainkenneth46@gmail.com).

CAR ENTHUSIASTS

Twenty-one Car Enthusiasts traveled via Amtrak's California Zephyr to Reno on February 7th for a two night overnighter to tour the National Auto Museum. The Tuesday thru Thursday outing included the train ride to and from Reno, a guided tour of the Museum and a group dinner at Ichiban restaurant in Harrah's Casino Hotel. We also had a great Mexican lunch just prior to our museum tour.

We viewed more than 200 vehicles spanning late 1800's thru the late 1990's, encompassing just about every wheeled transportation option. Many folks also enjoyed walking the River Walk during their free time. The trip was a great success, however the trip home was truly an unusual adventure.

The train home Thursday was delayed approximately 8 hours resulting in a very late departure from Reno. We boarded at 4 PM rather than the 8:36 AM scheduled. We traveled for about an hour only to be further delayed by both rock and mud slides covering the tracks, another 3 plus hour delay. We rolled into the Martinez station at 4 AM, Friday, a 12 hour ride home. Wow!

The Car Enthusiasts are looking forward to another road trip in the future, but via a different transportation method! The next few outings will be closer to home.

If interested in joining the Car Enthusiasts Activity, please contact any of the folks listed below. We meet on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 1 PM in the Round Table Pizza meeting room, Oak Park Blvd. Pleasant hill. Come a few minutes early to get your food and drink ordered prior to meeting. meetings usually last about 1 hour. Next meeting March 7th.

Activity Chair: Chick Lowry - lowry2845@aol.com

Assistant Chairs
Tom Mohrman mustangtpm@gmail.com
Bill Koski billkos36@comcast.net
Bob McMains stude35@mac.com

Page 11
Our own Dean Steichen was the featured presenter at the February meeting. His topic was "Computer Fundamentals." Dean defined a computer as an "information processor" whose components are Hardware, BIOS & Firmware, and Software. He went on to explain in detail the meaning of those terms, how they interact and gave a brief history of their development. Dean’s presentation can be found on the CAT Web page at: http://a2cat.sirinc2.org/

Following the break, we had our famous (infamous?) CAT raffle, courtesy of Barry Brown. One lucky winner even walked away with an LED flashlight!

In March, new member Howard Walter will be speaking about “How to Setup a Home Router and WiFi.” If you’re planning, or even thinking about modifying a home WiFi system, you won’t want to miss Howard’s presentation. A copy can be downloaded about a week before the meeting by going to: http://a2cat.sirinc2.org/

We look forward to seeing you 9:15 AM, Thursday March 16, at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Drive. 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 March meeting is another one of those! All SIR members and their guests (spouses included!) are welcome to attend. See you there.

Bill Phelon, rphelon@juno.com: 254-8338

CRIBBAGE

The Cribbage Group meets on the first Wednesday and the third Tuesday of each month. There’s been a location change from Treat Blvd. in Concord due to remodeling. For the rest of year we’ll be playing at the Round Table Pizza located at 1938 Oak Park Blvd. in Pleasant Hill. Hours of play are 1pm to 3pm. Please join us if you have played Cribbage or would like to learn the game.

STATUS UPDATE REGARDING THE TREAT BLVD REMODELING PROJECT: THEY SAY ANOTHER 2 MONTHS TO FINISH THE PROJECT. I HAVE RESERVED THE PLEASANT HILL LOCATION TO THE END OF MARCH. AT THAT TIME WE WELL VOTE TO STAY IN PLEASANT HILL OR GO BACK TO CONCORD.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2017 February Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>February 1st</strong> – 14 players</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Jerry Ward 363 pts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd George Schulze 320 pts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Don Atwater 273 pts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th Larry Mersmann 172 pts.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chairman, Ron Draper Email: r-draper@pacbell.net
Asst. Chairman, Dan Smith Email: dns.Ins02@astound.net

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

The assignment for February was Black & White Photography. As usual, our Assignment Chair, Dave Davis, provided guidance for our “film noire” efforts. The photo results presented by the 12 members attending were a great cross section of B&W photo techniques. When presenting his group of photos, Dave included both “before” (color) and “after” (B&W) photos to help illustrate the visual effects of color versus B&W.

The subject for our March meeting is City Scape Photography. Dave has already provided us with links to several resources that illustrate some of the ways one can photograph the “city.”

Everyone is encouraged to bring up to 12 jpg photos to share on a “clean” flash drive. If you want a specific order of presentation, rename your photos 01,02, 03, etc. Use only the numbers, nothing else in the file name.

Our host for the March 17, meeting, Nick Maufe, will be sending out reminders & directions and looking for attendance confirmations a couple of weeks before the gathering. Just remember, "no coffee in the den"

Digital Photography Group meetings begin at 10:00 AM on the third Friday of the month. Coffee, tea and snacks are provided, for which we ask a $2 donation. All levels of photographer are welcome, from the point and shooters to sophisticated mirrorless & DSLR users.

Bill Phelon, Chair: rphon@juno.com 254-8338

Dave Davis: Vice Chair: dav.davis@comcast.net 838-1753
DINE IN # 1 ©
Our last dinner was hosted by the Cassanos on Jan 20nd. The main dish was a wonderful Italian Chicken with artichoke heart, mushroom and green olives in a white wine sauce. All others contributed dishes to round out the dinner. Anyone wanting to get Dine In #4 started, let me know.

Chairman: Ron Cassano: roncassano@gmail.com

DINE IN # 2 ©
No article was received by press time.
Co-Chair: Ed Cohn; gitano2@att.net 954-7600
Co-Chair: Bob Price 937-6814 spruce8126@yahoo.com

DINE IN # 3 ©
No article was received by press time.
Chairman, Rich Cheney richard.s.cheney@gmail.com
Asst. Jeff Foster, 219-9141, jeff-foster@twin-bridge.com

DINE OUT # 1
DINE OUT 1 for April will be at Wences Restaurant in Pleasant Hill. Rod and Mary Ann Spicer are hosting on:
Thursday, April 20, 2017

MENU: House salad with house dressing and bread. You have a choice of: 1) Salmon OR 2) Chicken Piccato OR 3) New York Steak OR 4) Fish & Chips. The meat & fish dishes include potatoes & vegetables. Dessert. Coffee or soda is included

TIME: Social Hour @ 4PM (no host bar) Dinner @ mi. Note early time: This is for the parking convenience.

WHERE: Wence’s Restaurant is located at 1922 Oak Park Blvd Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

PRICE: $35.00 per person, which includes tax and tip

CONTACT: Sir Rod Spicer (925) 935-5306 or Email: marod61@att.net. Please include your food choices with your check & mail to Rod Spicer at 227 Donegal Way, Martinez, CA 94553

DEADLINE: RSVP no later than April 13, 2017 (sign up early to reserve your place!)

Activity Chair, Ken Main
Assist Chairs - Don Allen and Jim Ripley

DINE OUT #2 ©
WANTED Sir and Lady to host a Dine Out 2 activity,
Dine Out 2 is small, intimate dining group (4 couples & separate checks) to allow restaurant to present itself & cuisine in its best light and for guests to enjoy interesting and friendly conversation with one another. If you are interested, contact:

Chairman Jerry Milano 934-3496 jerrymilano@astound.net
Ass. Chair Don Atwater 673-1669 datwater@pacbell.net
DINE OUT - SINGLE SIRS ©

Last month we had a table for 8 at the Lazy Dog. We were happy to welcome Alex Go who happened to be free at dinner time. We hope others in similar situations will join us for dinner and lively conversions at Mr. Lucky’s Tuesday, March 7th. Dinner 5:30 pm, Social 5:00 pm.

Mr Lucky’s Restaurant 2618 Pleasant Hill Rd · Just ½ block north of Taylor Blvd. Contact host Clark Morehouse 825-6768 clarkmorehouse@aol.com.

We dine the first Tuesday of the month at a wide variety of restaurants selected by the participants.

Glenn Gilman Chairman (798-5155) gilloggafam@sbcglobal.net
Don Atwater, Asst. Chairman 673-1660 datwater@pacbell.net

DOMINOES

Wanted: New Players for Dominos

Have you wanted to learn how to play dominoes? Here's your opportunity. We are looking for members who would like to play the game. You will play along side one of the experienced members during regular play until you feel comfortable to venture out on your own.

We meet at ROUND TABLE PIZZA located at 1938 Oak Park Blvd, Pleasant Hill, Ca. Hours of play are 11:00am to 2:00pm. We usually purchase lunch around 12:30pm, socialize and continue play after lunch. We donate $5.00 each and keep score by points. High score wins. We invite you to join, have fun, and meet new friends. Please join us on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month.

Chairman: Dan Rinaldi 925-381-5486 danrinaldi944@gmail.com
Co-Chairman: Alan Schulze 925-876-7537 a_schulze@sbcglobal.net

EXPLORE AND EAT ©

Only a few SIRS and their spouses took advantage of the docent-led tour of a wonderful exhibit of artwork on February 6 at the "Cutup, Cutout" exhibit at the Bedford Gallery in Walnut Creek, based on the fine art of cutting paper which dates back thousands of years, with the earliest known examples emanating out of 6th Century China. This exhibit took that ancient method of decorative piercing and cutting and extended their media to include paper, plastic, metal, wood, rubber and much more. The transformative nature of cutting into and through a surface provided endless possibilities for converting the material from opaque to the transparent, from flat to sculptural, from rigid to delicate, from ordinary to exquisite. For those of you who missed it, the exhibit continues its run at the Bedford Gallery until March 5.

The scheduled March 16 docent-led tour of the "MONET: The Early Years" (at the Palace of the Legion of Honor) could not be arranged because of a lack of non-museum members committing to the tour. Instead, we will attempt to join a public tour starting at either 11:30 or 1:30. Details on options regarding costs, scheduling and entry times have been sent to those SIRS who have expressed an interest in this tour. Other interested parties may direct any questions to Larry McEwen at elmwoodeux@comcast.net.

Chairman: Ron Woods · 930-9194 shepwoods@comcast.net
Asst. Chair: Larry McEwen: 939-3216: elmwoodeux@comcast.net

FISHING - AREA 2

All SIR members and guests are welcome, and indeed encouraged, to participate in fishing trips as well as attend the monthly meetings. Next meeting will be Thursday, March 23rd, at the Legend Sports Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course at 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Meeting starts at 8:30am, come early.

Tom Kostik wins the best award this month. He got only a few small stripers while fishing for them on several occasions: BUT, he caught two keeper sturgeon, one was 48 inches, about 45 lbs, on light striper gear. Paul Dubow, our big fish, went to Hawaii to fish on a party boat and caught some tasty blue snappers. We had a good turnout for our annual visit to the Sportsman’s Expo in Sacramento. The rest of us, for the most part, sat with our noses pressed against the window watching the rain. The few who got out for sturgeon or trout got nothing. It will be several weeks after, if ever, the rain stops before our local lakes clear up.
So, the trout and sturgeon fishing that make our winters has been a bust. Very sad!

Contacts are Paul Dubow (415-495-6504) and Carl Moyer (925-685-5243.)

GOLF 18 HOLES

January proved to be a “washout” for golf as 3 out of the 5 dates were cancelled. February was much the same with one cancellation and one play (Tilden Park) February 14. There even was the option of teeing the ball in the fairway!! But fear not - better days are coming.

Our second Branch 8 Tournament will be held on March 24. This is a two man alternate shot, with a few wrinkles.

Looks like our Tournament guys, Jim Erickson and Don Sanderson have some very interesting formats this year.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for our annual away golf, Saddle Creek October 11 and 12. Weather will be great this time of the year.

Golf can best be defined as: “an endless series of tragedies obscured by the occasional miracle, followed by a good bottle of beer.”

If you do not mind playing golf in the rain, the snow, even during a hurricane, here's a valuable tip….your life is in trouble.

A ‘gimmie’ can best be defined as an agreement between two golfers…neither of whom can putt very well.

Bill Koski, Communications: 672 7650 billkos36@comcast.net

GOLF 9 HOLES

The obvious was stated in last month's Hotline, 2017 has not been kind to golfers. The bad weather has spilled over into February and of this writing only a few very hardy players ventured out to get covered in mud on a couple of very brief gap in the rainclouds. Unfortunately, this weather looks will all have to either brave the storms or, as an alternative take up

However, as you all know, God is an Englishman so I am going to can be done. On a brighter note the plans for the DAI on June 1st are rapidly being finalized please make sure you and your partner, if applicable, are signed up which can be accomplished by checking the DAI page on the website. Additionally, the travelling 9 group is planning a trip to Las Positas in the near future, watch your inbox for further details.

Barry Brown, Chair: barry@bkbrown.net (925) 930 8026

Phil Philpot Asst. Chair: jr5753@outlook.com (925) 937 2260

Dick Brooks, Stats, Board Member sb8golf9holes@gmail.com

GOLF – COUPLES ©

Even though the weather does not cooperate, the Sir Couples Golf group still finds a way to connect. On Thursday, February 9, seven couples were represented as they met for lunch at Rocco's Pizza in Walnut Creek. Present were: Mario and Aly Moratorio, Millie and Paul Hersch, Paul and Sue Derby, Ron Maciak and Linda Gawura, Dean and Marilyn Steichen, Sandy Price (straight from the dental office) and Gordon and Margaret Batesole. We missed those who could not join us.

Plans were discussed for the Don Atwater Invitational (Don was the leader of our Sir Couples Golf Group six years ago with only 3 couples participating at that time. Now we have more than 22 couples on our roster), a Boulder Creek outing and several other opportunities. We are seeking suggestions for other activities; so please share your ideas. Information will be forthcoming about all upcoming events.

Marshal Ron Maciak and Linda Gawura are the marshals for March 9, and they will be sending E-mail reminders to all. There were no prizes awarded at our luncheon, but each person left with a ‘sweet treat’ in memory (or as a reminder) of Valentine’s Day.

We are anticipating a bright and sunny golf day in March, and we look forward to seeing everyone there!

Sir Couples Golf is open to everyone. For more information contact Paul Derby, Chairperson at derby.paul@comcast.net or co-chair Paul Hersch at hershibar@astound.net.
To sign up to play on March 9, 2017, please go to the website:sirbr8.com and go to Couples Golf. Please indicate if you will also stay for lunch so that the correct number of reservations may be secured. We look forward to seeing familiar and new faces on March 9.

Chairman: Paul Derby  derby.paul@comcast.net
Asst. Chair: Paul Hersch  poppy3642@gmail.com

GOLF - TRAVELING NINE HOLE

SIR Branch 8 2017 30th Annual DAI Golf Tournament

Players and guests, welcome to the 30th annual DAI golf tournament and the awards banquet. This year we would like to make this an unforgettable event. We are planning on a great day of golf, a fantastic banquet with acknowledgement of winners and award presentations, drawings for various prizes and so much fun. Your early sign up would be appreciated as dealing with Walnut Creek we must make minimum guarantee for our banquet.

OUR DAY:

Upon arrival to the newly remodeled Diablo Hills Golf Club (Pro shop phone (925) 939-7372. www.diablohillsgolfcourse.com), check in with the committee where you will receive a player's envelope with ground rules meal ticket(s) and anything else we can think of.

Prior to play there will be a pre-golf contest chaired by Frank Kilarr.

Golf immediately following.

(Group make-up attached in additional email).

After your round, your scorer turns in a signed score card to our score keepers Dick Brooks, Dave Perkins and Wally Freeman located on the deck at the restaurant.

Around 5:45 PM at the latest, all should have left for Boundary Oaks for the awards banquet where we will have winner acknowledgements, award certificates and prizes.

Chair: Phil Philpot:  jr5753@outlook.com (925) 937 2260
Co Chair: Dick Brooks:  balte1@comcast.net
(925) 228-6959

HEADS UP WALKERS®

One-hour walks start at 9:30 AM and usually are on flat surfaces. Most walks are “out and back” which means you walk for 30 minutes at your own pace, then turn around and walk 30 minutes back to the starting point. At 10:30 AM, we leave the trail for coffee, refreshments and spirited conversation. Spouses and dogs welcome.


3/9/2017: Walnut Creek : Civic Park. Meet at the Civic Park parking lot off of Civic Drive. Parking stalls in the main lot are tiny. Try the parting at the far south end of the lot. These spaces are good for full-sized vehicles. Or, use metered parking on Civic. Cafe: Cafe La Scala. Leader: Phil Trapp

3/16/2017: Lafayette: Lafayette Reservoir. Entrance on Mt. Diablo Blvd., about 1 mile west of Happy Valley Rd. Meet at the EAST (far left) end of metered parking lot. Bring 8 quarters or use a VISA or Master Card. Cafe: Noah's New York Bagels. Leader: Ray Tenzer

3/23/2017: Concord: C.C.C. Regional Trail. Take Treat Blvd east. Go 3/4 mile past Oak Grove and turn left on San Miguel. Turn right on Via Montanas. Meet in Parking Lot across the street from the trail at the Lime Ridge Open Space. There is street parking also under shade trees about 90 feet from the trail head. Cafe: Peet's Coffee. Leader: Rich Rosin

3/30/2017: Walnut Creek: YV canal Walnut Ave. Take Ygnacio Valley Rd. Turn South on Walnut Ave (do not turn on Walnut Boulevard). Go a short distance and turn left on Naranja Drive. Park there and walk back to Walnut Ave. The trail starts a few feet from Naranja. Cafe: Sweet Affair Bakery. Leader: Stan Johnson
4/6/2017: Martinez: Martinez Regional Shoreline. Exit i-680 N. At last offramp to Martinez. Turn left on Marina Vista. Turn right on Ferry St. And cross the RR tracks. Meet at the first parking lot on the left. Cafe: Starbucks Martinez. Leader: Steve Pierce


Chairman: Dan Weller 925-935-5510 dweller@astound.net
Asst. Chair: Erland Persson 925-932-5328 erland.p@comcast.net
Asst. Chair: Jim Kawal 925-228-8821 jjtravelnet@gmail.com

March 14 2017 SIR Hikers Easy Hike Contra Costa Canal Briones Mt Diablo Regional Trails

This easy hike will be from Walden Park in Walnut Creek to the Larkey Park ridge (past the Lindsey Wildlife Museum). The distance is about 4.5 miles. The trail is fairly level except for the last part past Larkey Park. A total of about 400 feet in Accumulated Elevation Gain (AEG).

We will meet at Walden Park, 2698 Oak Road, Walnut Creek. There are parking spaces for 13 cars. The hike will start at 10:00 a.m. There are rest rooms at Walden Park and Larkey Park.

For more details, including directions, car-pooling, what to bring, map, pictures, and optional lunch see the SIR Hiker web page at http://www.sirbr8.com/hikers/

Hike Leader: Pete Kiernan 925-685-9020 cell phone on the day of hike 925-808-8033 peter.kiernan@att.net
Hike Coordinator: Dave Davis 925-838-1753 (dav.davis@comcast.net)

March 28, 2017 SIR Hikers Hard Hike MT DIABLO Emmons Canyon Trailhead

Hike Description: This Mt. Diablo hike is a somewhat demanding 8.6 mile loop with about 1,696 foot Accumulated Elevation Gain (AEG). The steeper segments are generally moderate in length (Sunset Trail 0.4 mile/265’ elevation gain and Secret Trail 0.6 mile/290’ elevation gain). Most of the hike is on relatively smooth dirt fire roads with three segments of single track trails with rough surfaces.

The hike will start at 10:00 a.m.

We will stop for a snack break along the trail. We should finish the hike before 1:30 p.m.

For more details, including directions, car-pooling, what to bring, map, pictures, and optional lunch see the SIR Hiker web page at http://www.sirbr8.com/hikers/

Hike Leader: Dave Davis 925-838-1753 (dav.davis@comcast.net)
Hike Coordinator: Dave Davis 925-838-1753 (dav.davis@comcast.net)
Hiker Activity Chairman: Dave Davis 925-838-1753 (dav.davis@comcast.net)

MEXICAN TRAIN DOMINOES

It is with sadness to announce that our founder and chairman John Sewell has resigned because of illness. We welcome Dan Rinaldi who has stepped up as our new chairman and Terry Norton as our new Assistant Chairman.

Mexican Train, a popular Domino game, is played on the second Tuesday and third Wednesday of the month starting at 11 a.m. at Round Table Pizza 1938 Oak Park Blvd., Pleasant Hill. Newbies and experienced players are all welcome. We were happy to have Stu Harris join us in our last game and he played well beating two of our regular players. Like in golf, the low score wins.

Results of the February 15th game:
11 Rounds - Clark Morehouse 332; Bill Peterson 365; Terry Norton 372; Stu Harris 419; Larry Mersmann 446; Dan Rinaldi 489

Results of the February 14th game:
11 Rounds - Jerry Ward 258; Terry Norton 359; Bill Peterson 370; Clark Morehouse 450; Don Atwater 459; Larry Mermann 564; Dan Rinaldi 588

Website link - http://www.sirbr8.com/mexican-train/
Chairman Dan Rinaldi 825-0519 danrinaldi944@gmail.com
Asst, Chairman Terry Norton 798-6023 nortont@sbcglobal.net
MODEL RAILROADING

Winter’s here! We’ll continue to take a break from our model train layout design and construction project for us to assist with in 2017! Watch the Hotline for details.

Instead, members of the Model Railroading Activity are encouraged to visit one or several of the many existing Train Club layouts in the Bay Area. Over the next few months, please consider visiting: The Golden State Model Railroad Museum in Point Richmond (www.gsmrm.org); the Carquinez Model Railroad Society in Crockett (www.cmrrstrainclub.org); and the San Leandro Historical Railway Society in San Leandro (www.slhrs.org). Please check websites for open house events.

If you would like to be added to the Model Railroading e-mail list, please advise the Activity Chair.

Chairman: Jim Whitsett 689-5493 AFRES056789@gmail.com
Asst. Chair: Dick Grube 687-0779 dickgrube@comcast.net

MIXER

No article was received for the March Hotline. Check our website for current information.

PICKLE BALL

We will meet at Willow Pass park on the 3rd Tuesday in March. Look for an E-mail a few days before. If you have any questions, etc., you can call the chairman:

Chairman: Tom Trice 510-853-9744 tstrice@yahoo.co

POKER

Players wanted. Come join us for poker!
We now have 10 groups: playing days are shown in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Monday</th>
<th>First Tuesday</th>
<th>First Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Second Tuesday</td>
<td>First Wednesday</td>
<td>Third Wednesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Thursday</td>
<td>Fourth Monday</td>
<td>Fourth Tuesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth Thursday</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Our groups meet either from noon to 3:00 PM or 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Group members rotate as hosting. We play 5¢ – 10¢ – 25¢ with no wild cards and a three raise max. It’s an inexpensive way to spend an afternoon with a great group of guys!

Chair: Dan Franklin 310-4900 montgall26@gmail.com
Asst: Ekk Keller 685-1505 ekkeller@astound.net
Ass’t: Ron Draper 939-5740 r-draper@pacbel.net

SIRS AT THE GAMES

In February, basketball was the highlighted sport. We attended a Golden State Warriors’ game and a California Golden Bears Men's Basketball game. Our members saw some great action and we are fortunate to have some excellent teams in the Bay Area.

Looking forward, our thoughts turn to warm weather and baseball. We will be arranging SIR groups to attend San Francisco Giants and Oakland A's games. There may be a few other surprises as well during the summer.

Stay tuned for announcements of SIRs at the Games, and take the opportunities to join us at the ballparks.

Chairman: Steve Schramm 222-0801 sschramm01@gmail.com
SIRS AT THE OPERA

Opera lovers:

Our March opera will be *La Traviata* by Giuseppe Verde. The live matinee transmission to the local Century theaters will be on Saturday, March 11, at 9:55am, followed by the "encore" transmission of the same performance on Wednesday, March 15, at 6:30pm. Tickets $21 for seniors.

First performed in Venice in 1853, *La Traviata* has become the world’s most popular opera. *La Traviata* is a tragic but believable love story told with achingly beautiful arias. It is based on a play adapted from the novel *La Dame aux Camelias* by Alexandre Dumas. It will be sung in Italian with English subtitles. We can get together after the Saturday matinee at Urban Plates in Pleasant hill.

Watch your e-mail for reviews of the Met’s opening performance, scheduled for February 24.

Chairman: David Bushnell – E-mail: dbushn@swbell.net 838-3914
Asst Chair: Bruce Benzler – E-mail: bruce.benzler@mac.com 708-4490

SIRS IN THE KITCHEN

Casa Benson is Ill

On January 20th, we had an interior flood that ruined the flooring in the living area of Casa Benson. Not to be deterred, we moved the SitK event to breakfast at the Gangnam Cafe on Detroit Avenue in Concord, then on to Rachael Dunn Chocolates where 40 Sirs and spouse/partners will spend the morning making chocolate confections. Since this article is being written before the event, all I can say about it is that we’re sure to have fun.

We’ll also have to come up with an excursion for our March 21 meeting. Optimistically Casa Benson will be restored to its former glory by then, but as all of you know, “stuff happens,” so I’m not comfortable making plans to hold our usual lunch. I’ll poll the group for ideas and get an announcement out by March 1, so hold the date!

Sirs in the Kitchen is now at 55 members. If you want to join, drop Executive Chef Ed an email (ebensonbwa@aol.com), call him (925-943-7011) or catch him at the monthly meeting. So far, we’ve always had room for anyone who was able to attend, and our typical luncheon turns out 25, or so. You don’t have to be an experienced cook (our members have all levels of cooking ability), and all meetings are held at Casa Benson. The usual shared cost for the luncheon and wine is $20, and that’s still the best deal in town.

Should any Sirs want our recipes, E-mail Executive Chef Ed, and they’ll be sent to you.

SUMS IN RETIREMENT

I tentatively have Jack Rasmus, Phd. - professor of Economics and Politics @ St. Mary's College. I have long thought politics is war between consumption and investment. I have asked Jack to explain the differences between John Maynard Keynes and Milton Friedman, who are the two giants of 20th Century thinking on these issues. The public frets about Melania Trump's wardrobe and Bill Clinton's lust, while ignorant of the real battle. At least we SIRs will have more reasons to choose a candidate. At this time, I do not have a firm commitment for Wednesday, March 22, 2017. I trust I will have that commitment by Thursday afternoon.

Health issues around this house continue to be challenging. Unfortunately, I cannot make a reliable prediction.

All my best, Tom

Chairman Tom Henry - tomhenry925@gmail.com
Co-chair Dave Sutton - davesutn@comcast.net

TRAVELING SIRS

Our meeting on the Panama cruise was good and drew some interest from several people. We are also offering a Mississippi River cruise. Pick up some flyers at our next luncheon. We are also working with the Walnut Creek Senior Center, to promote some of their trips and they will support our trips. Walnut Creek has a trip to the Smokey Mountains which includes the Smokey Mountains, Churchill Downs, 3 nights at the Opryland Hotel and more, call Jody Johnson 925-680-1501.

Chairman Traveling SIRS: L.yarberry42@comcast.net  L.yarberry42@comcast.net
Bargain Wines first event of the New Year was held on March 1st at Total Wine & More, Pleasant Hill. No further information on the event, as it occurred after the HOTLINE went to press.

For additional information on our group please contact either person shown below:

**Chairman: Jim Warner**, 925-935-8032

**Assistant: Ed Benson**, 925-943-7011

February was a down month for the Cellar Fillers Wine Activity. The next meeting of CFWA will likely be in March or April of 2017. We will be looking for volunteers to host the meeting, so if you can handle 10 to 14 hungry and thirsty Sirs at home, let me know.

CFWA is an excellent opportunity to introduce a guest to SIR. It is open to SIR members, applicants and prospective member guests. Spouses and SO's are welcome at the other four Branch 8 wine activities, Bargain Wines and Wine Finders I, II, and III. On the occasional field trip we also may have room for spouses and SO's.

We meet at 11:30 AM for a simple lunch of sandwiches and fixin's, then taste the wines. Occasionally we throw in a few blush wines.

If you have questions or if you would like your name to be added to the mailing list, please contact:

**Chairman: Jim Sowell**, owell4jim@aol.com, (925) 939-4670 or (925) 457-7746 cell

**Ass. Chair Jim Warner**, jdubew@hotmail.com, (925) 935-8032

SIR Ron and Judy Smith welcomed our wine finders -I group February 9th, and hosted our Cabernet Sauvignon, world-wide, tasting event. “Appeteasers” were overwhelming, included the Mohrman’s deep fried shrimp, Bob and Sandy Prices baked pastry puffs, Jack & Rose Sagen's White Castle beef sliders (& Jack's B'day), delicious offerings by Tony & Peggy de Losada and Jim & Christine Ripley, and spectacular tostitos and yummy Chocolate brownies provided by our hosts Ron and Judy Smith.

Tasting results ended in a 3-way tie for FIRST PLACE (12 points each), namely Sagen’s 2014 Columbia Valley, $12.97; Host Smiths 2014 Woodwork,Central Coast Batch #5, $8.59, Costco; and Bob & Sandy Price’s 2014, Louis Martini, Sonoma County, $12.99, Trader Joe’s. Based on BEST VALUE, Smith’s selection was the hands-up clear winner.

Administratively, a short meeting was convened, and agreement reached to raise our upper limit price point from $15. to $20. ($15 was originally established 10 years ago!) Also approved raising our membership limit from 7 to 8 couples, and up to 9 couples when space allows. Hosting for our April 13th gathering will be the Prices.

Thanks, Winos Bob and Tony

**Chair WF-1: Bob Price**  sprice8126@yahoo.com  (925) 937-6814

**Chair WF-2:**


**Ron Cassano**  roncassano@gmail.com  (925) 944-1238

**Chair WF-3: Larry McEwen**  elmoosweaux@comcast.net  (925) 939-3216

**Chairman: Dick Brewer** 925-933-0876  revrpb@aol.com

**Writing Your Life Stories**

Writing Your Life Stories will meet on March 28 and we welcome new members. We write short stories about events in our lives of interest to us and perhaps will be to our progeny. Meeting as a group and sharing stories (always voluntary) triggers our memories and keeps us inspired.

We meet on the fourth Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. at Vintage Kensington Place (in the second floor Game Room), located on Geary Road near North Main in Walnut Creek, just off I-680.

You will receive a syllabus to guide you in writing your own life stories.

**Chairman: Dick Brewer** 925-933-0876  revrpb@aol.com
Biography of Bill Phelon, Chairman Digital Photography & Branch Photographer

My knowledge of SIR goes back to the 1950's when a family friend was part of a Palo Alto SIR based founding group. My Dad did not join since he did not play golf and that SIR group was primarily focused on golf in those days.

Fast forward to the 1990's and I was reintroduced to SIR by Gene Roberts, a yachting friend, who spoke highly of some Travel activities being led by Bob Hagler of Branch 8. When I finally retired in 2004, Gene took me to a Branch 8 luncheon and introduced me to Bob. Bob was gracious enough to sponsor my membership in the branch and I've been here ever since.

Some demographic statistics: I was born in Burbank, CA, but we moved to Northern California in 1942 when Dad went to work for United Air Lines. At the end of the War, we moved to our San Mateo County "estate" near Redwood City, and after attending six elementary schools, I managed to spend four years at Sequoia High School (and graduate!).

Moving on to higher education, it was two years at the University of Oregon, three years in the Army, two years at (then) San Mateo JC, two years at San Francisco State and four years at UC Berkeley. I attempted to continue my vagabond education path, but Mary (spouse) put her foot down and said, "get a job, I'm pregnant!"

With a recommendation from my thesis advisor, I found myself employed in the Bureau of Economics at the Federal Trade Commission in Washington DC. Six months of living "back east," and I was looking for ways to get back to California! It took seven more years to find my way back, including several interviews with the California AG’s office. Then, in the early 1970's, the FTC began moving economists into regional offices and I just happened to be willing and able to move to San Francisco! I remained in the San Francisco Regional Office from 1973 until I retired in January, 2004.

Counter to my past somewhat vagabondish history, I’ve lived at the same address in Orinda since we moved back from DC. This means that our daughter and son both graduated from Miramonte High School after being in the Orinda school system for nearly their whole of their primary and secondary educations.

Since joining SIR in 2004, I’ve enjoyed traveling with former member Bob Hagler, participating as attendance chair in the Area 2 Computers & Technology activity and being chair person (and Xmas party director) for the Digital Photo Group. I would have also been active in the Hiker’s group, but I managed to have a heart attack following my first hike with them! (The attack had more to do with COSTCO hot dogs and chocolate chip cookies, than any hiking activities.)

SIR may not be for everyone, but it has been a great source of activities and comradery for me!

Biography: Max Creamer, Chairman of Bridge, Duplicate 2

I, Max Andrew Creamer, am the Co-Chair for the SIRs Branch 8 Duplicate Bridge II/III group. I have been married to Karen for nearly 50 years and we have two daughters. I have lived in California, New Mexico, Colorado, and Maryland and attended the Air Force Academy (undergraduate, math and engineering), Arizona University (post graduate, nuclear engineering), and, after a decade as an Air Force officer, Loyola Law School. After time in private practice, I worked for the Regents of the University of California for nearly 30 years on legal matters arising from the University's management of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. I study history and play golf and bridge several times a week.
**Membership Data for February 2017**

- **BEC Approval:** 2/13/2017
- **Applicants Inducted:** 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Badge</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>David Bilyeu</td>
<td>MD-349</td>
<td>Ed Benson MD-101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tom Pinckard</td>
<td>MD-350</td>
<td>Burt Baker MD-268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Klaus Willeke</td>
<td>MD-351</td>
<td>Alan Curtis MD-327</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Members Requested Active Status:** 0
- **Members Requested Inactive Status:** 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Badge</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>David Bilyeu</td>
<td>MD-349</td>
<td>Ed Benson MD-101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tom Pinckard</td>
<td>MD-350</td>
<td>Burt Baker MD-268</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **New Applicants:** 5
- **Applicants Attended Orientation:** 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Badge</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>David Bilyeu</td>
<td>MD-349</td>
<td>Ed Benson MD-101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tom Pinckard</td>
<td>MD-350</td>
<td>Burt Baker MD-268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Klaus Willeke</td>
<td>MD-351</td>
<td>Alan Curtis MD-327</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Applicants Induction Date:**
  - 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Badge</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>David Bilyeu</td>
<td>MD-349</td>
<td>Ed Benson MD-101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tom Pinckard</td>
<td>MD-350</td>
<td>Burt Baker MD-268</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Applications Withdrawn Date:** 0
- **Members Requested Inactive Status:** 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Badge</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ed Austria</td>
<td>MD-501</td>
<td>Frequent travel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joe Anthony</td>
<td>MD-503</td>
<td>Member - Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Sewell</td>
<td>MD-505</td>
<td>Member - Health</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Active Members Resignation:** 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Badge</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vic Esposito</td>
<td>MD-90</td>
<td>Moved to Fairfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Randy Trahan</td>
<td>MD-75</td>
<td>Personal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ray Tenzer</td>
<td>MD-13</td>
<td>Moved to San Diego</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lloyd Young</td>
<td>MD-40</td>
<td>Moved to Roseville</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Inactive Members Resignation:** 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Badge</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Al Hudgens</td>
<td>MD-525</td>
<td>deceased</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Membership Totals**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Members - Active</td>
<td></td>
<td>340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applicants – To Be Inducted</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members - Inactive</td>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SIR Birthday - March 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Ed Kirschner</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Dean Steichen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Ernie Sherne</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Larry Jasmann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Mike Boltz</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Lynn Oakleaf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>John Kearney</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Ed Cohn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Orren Rupert</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Danny Rinaldi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Dave Robins</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Klaus Willeke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>John Hayes</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Tony Watkin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>George Benkly</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Tom Kay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Bob Barnes</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Bob McIvor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Cal Lutz</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>John Meade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Marechal Duncan</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Mike Frey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Bill Collins</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Stan Johnson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Brian Woolf</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Jim Ripley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Bill Cooke</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SIR Anniversary**

March 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bill Barnard</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Cooke</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Koski</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roger McMasters</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darryl Sweetland</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Obituary Report**

NONE

**New Members (No Photos available)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Email:</th>
<th>Residence:</th>
<th>Occupation:</th>
<th>Company:</th>
<th>Interests:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>David Bilyeu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:daviddechs65@gmail.com">daviddechs65@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Walnut Creek</td>
<td>Merchandising</td>
<td>Capwell’s</td>
<td>Golf – 18 Hole, Bocce Ball, Dine Out, Golf – 9 Hole, Hikers, Single SIRs Dine Out, SIRs at the Games,</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Partner:</th>
<th>Email:</th>
<th>Residence:</th>
<th>Occupation:</th>
<th>Company:</th>
<th>Interests:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tom Pinckard</td>
<td>Susie Pinckard</td>
<td><a href="mailto:flyingpinck@gmail.com">flyingpinck@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Walnut Creek</td>
<td>Physician</td>
<td>Self</td>
<td>Book Review, Flying, Biking</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Partner:</th>
<th>Email:</th>
<th>Residence:</th>
<th>Occupation:</th>
<th>Company:</th>
<th>Interests:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Klaus Willeke</td>
<td>Audra Willeke</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kwilleke21@comcast.net">kwilleke21@comcast.net</a></td>
<td>Orinda</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>University of Cincinnati – College of Medicine Hikers, Book Group, Dine Out, Astronomy, Explore &amp; Eat, SIRs at the Opera, Walkers, SIRs in the Kitchen,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Mt. Diablo Branch No. 8

### Branch Officers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Big Sir</td>
<td>Mike Long</td>
<td>925-930-8401</td>
<td><a href="mailto:patmikelong@yahoo.com">patmikelong@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Sir</td>
<td>Phil Trapp</td>
<td>925-648-4056</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pptrapp@sbcglobal.net">pptrapp@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Erland Persson</td>
<td>925-932-5328</td>
<td><a href="mailto:erlandp@comcast.net">erlandp@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Secretary</td>
<td>Bob Barnes</td>
<td>925-348-6443</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sb8msec@hotmail.com">sb8msec@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance Secretary</td>
<td>Bill Peterson</td>
<td>925-676-5295</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wpete333@comcast.net">wpete333@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Ron Cassano</td>
<td>925-944-1238</td>
<td><a href="mailto:roncassano@gmail.com">roncassano@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer Asst.</td>
<td>Dennis Fitzpatrick</td>
<td>925-209-3547</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dfitzpatrick@comcast.net">dfitzpatrick@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directors</td>
<td>Darryl Sweetland</td>
<td>925-672-4967</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dsweetland@att.net">dsweetland@att.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directors</td>
<td>Tony de Losada</td>
<td>510-566-2661</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tonydolosada@gmail.com">tonydolosada@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directors</td>
<td>Steve Schramm</td>
<td>925-222-0801</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sschramm01@gmail.com">sschramm01@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directors</td>
<td>Barry Brown</td>
<td>925-930-8206</td>
<td><a href="mailto:barryb@bkbrown.net">barryb@bkbrown.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directors</td>
<td>Dan Weller</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Hilton Coordinator

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hilton Coordinator</td>
<td>Bill Peterson</td>
<td>925-676-5295</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wpete333@comcast.net">wpete333@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Member Badge

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Member Badge</td>
<td>Greg Ryan</td>
<td>925-676-0133</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ryan1077@sbcglobal.net">ryan1077@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member Badge</td>
<td>Jack Sagen</td>
<td>925-376-2749</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jack.sagan@sbcglobal.net">jack.sagan@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Branch Positions

#### Activity Coordinator Committee Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Activity Coordinator</td>
<td>Steve Schramm</td>
<td>925-222-0801</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sschramm01@gmail.com">sschramm01@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity Coordinator</td>
<td>Dave Davis</td>
<td>925-838-1753</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dav.davis@comcast.net">dav.davis@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity Coordinator</td>
<td>Tom Kerns</td>
<td>925-202-5922</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jtomk01@aol.com">jtomk01@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity Coordinator</td>
<td>Dan Weller</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity Coordinator</td>
<td>Nick Maufe</td>
<td>925-719-2504</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nickmaufe@gmail.com">nickmaufe@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audit Asst.</td>
<td>Dave Sutton</td>
<td>925-686-0158</td>
<td><a href="mailto:davesutton@yahoo.com">davesutton@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audit Asst.</td>
<td>Vito Magliano</td>
<td>925-228-9251</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vwdonvito@sbcglobal.net">vwdonvito@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate Creator</td>
<td>Barry Brown</td>
<td>925-930-8206</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bkbrown@astound.net">bkbrown@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chaplain Asst.</td>
<td>Fred Nelson</td>
<td>925-689-6714</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nelson.fred39@gmail.com">nelson.fred39@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chaplain Asst.</td>
<td>Dick Brewer</td>
<td>925-933-0876</td>
<td><a href="mailto:revrbp@aol.com">revrbp@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historian</td>
<td>Steve Schramm</td>
<td>925-222-0801</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sschramm01@gmail.com">sschramm01@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LDL Organization</td>
<td>Nat Bitton</td>
<td>925-798-2064</td>
<td><a href="mailto:windmillnb@comcast.net">windmillnb@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LDL Organization</td>
<td>Ed Dijkman</td>
<td>925-680-7756</td>
<td><a href="mailto:edij501279@aol.com">edij501279@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LDL Organization</td>
<td>Ron Maciak</td>
<td>925-357-8005</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rammedical@sbcglobal.net">rammedical@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LDL Organization</td>
<td>Dave Morse</td>
<td>925-938-3078</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dsmorse88@yahoo.com">dsmorse88@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominating Committee</td>
<td>Darryl Sweetland</td>
<td>925-672-4967</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dsweetland@att.net">dsweetland@att.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominating Committee</td>
<td>Don Atwater</td>
<td>925-673-1669</td>
<td><a href="mailto:datwater@pacbell.net">datwater@pacbell.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominating Committee</td>
<td>Bill Hunter</td>
<td>925-285-5670</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bhbill@pacbell.net">bhbill@pacbell.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominating Committee</td>
<td>Ron Smith</td>
<td>925-314-3066</td>
<td><a href="mailto:remsmith62@aol.com">remsmith62@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Procurement Asst.</td>
<td>Derek Southern</td>
<td>925-253-1646</td>
<td><a href="mailto:derek.southern@gmail.com">derek.southern@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Procurement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Procurement</td>
<td>Dick Brooks</td>
<td>925-228-6959</td>
<td><a href="mailto:baltel@comcast.net">baltel@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Drawings – Lunch Ticket Positions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drawings – Lunch Ticket – Birthday</td>
<td>Big Sir</td>
<td>925-938-5228</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Sh8becdr2@hotmail.com">Sh8becdr2@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drawings – Lunch Ticket – Tickets</td>
<td>Membership Secretary</td>
<td>925-938-5228</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Sh8becdr2@hotmail.com">Sh8becdr2@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drawings – Lunch Ticket – Tickets</td>
<td>Rob Laaback</td>
<td>925-938-5228</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Sh8becdr2@hotmail.com">Sh8becdr2@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Greeter Organizers Asst.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Greeter Organizers Asst.</td>
<td>Darryl Skiles</td>
<td>925-827-3818</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dbskiles@astound.net">dbskiles@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greeter Organizers Asst.</td>
<td>Joe Miscione</td>
<td>925-284-2163</td>
<td><a href="mailto:posterdemp@aol.com">posterdemp@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Guest Check-In Asst.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Guest Check-In Asst.</td>
<td>Dennis Mierzwa</td>
<td>925-938-5343</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dennis.mierzwa@att.net">dennis.mierzwa@att.net</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Lunch Meal Tickets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lunch Meal Tickets</td>
<td>Terry Vinson</td>
<td>925-934-2194</td>
<td><a href="mailto:twvinson@astound.net">twvinson@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lunch Meal Tickets</td>
<td>Bob Olson</td>
<td>925-376-6388</td>
<td><a href="mailto:robertolson2432@comcast.net">robertolson2432@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Lunch Organization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lunch Organization</td>
<td>Bill Peterson</td>
<td>925-676-5295</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wpete333@comcast.net">wpete333@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Need-A-Ride

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Need-A-Ride</td>
<td>Scott Graff</td>
<td>925-552-6097</td>
<td><a href="mailto:scottgraff@comcast.net">scottgraff@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Pianist

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pianist</td>
<td>Dave Platter</td>
<td>925-283-9146</td>
<td><a href="mailto:golflater@hotmail.com">golflater@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Song Meister

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Song Meister</td>
<td>Brian Woolf</td>
<td>925-932-0590</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Brian.woolf01@gmail.com">Brian.woolf01@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Song Meister</td>
<td>Carl Moyer</td>
<td>925-685-5243</td>
<td><a href="mailto:carlmarc@astound.net">carlmarc@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Speaker Committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Speaker Committee</td>
<td>Phil Trapp</td>
<td>925-648-4056</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pptrapp@sbcglobal.net">pptrapp@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker Committee</td>
<td>Tony de Losada</td>
<td>510-566-2661</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tonydolosada@gmail.com">tonydolosada@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker Committee</td>
<td>Dan Franklin</td>
<td>925-310-4900</td>
<td><a href="mailto:montgall26@gmail.com">montgall26@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker Committee</td>
<td>Ron Brown</td>
<td>925-283-8172</td>
<td><a href="mailto:brownmkmt@comcast.net">brownmkmt@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaker Committee</td>
<td>Bill Espey</td>
<td>925-945-0626</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wtespey@gmail.com">wtespey@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Positions</td>
<td>Applicant Orientation Chairman</td>
<td>925-256-9569</td>
<td><a href="mailto:snikrepi@aol.com">snikrepi@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Asst.</td>
<td>925-229-0680</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ma94553@yahoo.com">ma94553@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dave Perkins</td>
<td>925-256-9569</td>
<td><a href="mailto:snikrepi@aol.com">snikrepi@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mike Anderson</td>
<td>925-229-0680</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ma94553@yahoo.com">ma94553@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Email Distribution</td>
<td>925-256-9569</td>
<td><a href="mailto:snikrepi@aol.com">snikrepi@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Branch Support</td>
<td>510-566-2661</td>
<td>tonyde <a href="mailto:losada@gmail.com">losada@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Member Picture Gallery</td>
<td>925-229-0162</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dandluwe@comcast.net">dandluwe@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Member Relations Chairman</td>
<td>510-566-2661</td>
<td>tonyde <a href="mailto:losada@gmail.com">losada@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New Member Follow-up</td>
<td>925-314-3066</td>
<td><a href="mailto:resmith62@aol.com">resmith62@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Publicity &amp; Image Chairman</td>
<td>510-566-2661</td>
<td>tonyde <a href="mailto:losada@gmail.com">losada@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>RAMP - Chairman Members</td>
<td>510-566-2661</td>
<td>tonyde <a href="mailto:losada@gmail.com">losada@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Recruitment</td>
<td>925-943-7011</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ebensonbwa@aol.com">ebensonbwa@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Activities</td>
<td>925-954-7600</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gtnao2@att.net">gtnao2@att.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Member Relations</td>
<td>925-954-7600</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gtnao2@att.net">gtnao2@att.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Publicity</td>
<td>925-954-7600</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gtnao2@att.net">gtnao2@att.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Recruitment Chairman</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Roster</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sunshine Chairman</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Technology Coordinator</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AMS Members</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Computer Help (MAC)</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Computer Help (PC)</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Infosys Team</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Laptop Manager</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photographer</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photo Gallery Editor</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Projector and Screen</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Web Master</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hotline Position</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Coordinator</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Editors rotate as defined by</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Publisher</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Coordinator</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>RAMP – Chairman Members</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Recruitment</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Activities</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Member Relations</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Publicity</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Recruitment Chairman</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Roster</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sunshine Chairman</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Technology Coordinator</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AMS Members</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Computer Help (MAC)</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Computer Help (PC)</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Infosys Team</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Laptop Manager</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photographer</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photo Gallery Editor</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Projector and Screen</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Web Master</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hotline Position</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Coordinator</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Editors rotate as defined by</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Publisher</td>
<td>925-935-5510</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dweller@astound.net">dweller@astound.net</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

INDEX