

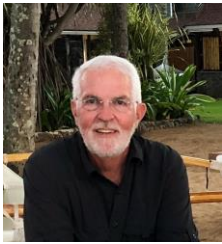
*A Non-Profit Organization for Retired Men Devoted to the Promotion of Independence and Dignity of Retirement
Our mission is to improve the lives of our members through fun activities and events while making friends for life*



ROOSTER TALES

**Next meeting Thursday March 3rd
The Greenery Sports Bar and Grill**

Big Sir Message



SIR Branch#19 has made several changes that you may be interested to learn. Following several unsuccessful luncheons at the Oakhurst CC where the foodservice was the topic of complaints, we commenced an area-wide search of nine alternate locations to host our our member luncheons. After vetting all of these sites our BEC voted to relocate away from our home at Oakhurst CC where they served plated

lunches for us for years. Our new location is **The Greenery**, a full-service bar and grill in Walnut Creek. This family-owned restaurant will serve a banquet-style buffet luncheon for SIRs in a modern meeting room with an open atmosphere and in-house audio-visual system. Adequate parking, easy access to this private room with a separate entrance, the room can accommodate 135 persons. Many of you will be thrilled with the full-service bar also.

Our **first luncheon is on March 3rd**, doors open at 11:00AM for social hour, followed by the buffet lunch then a brief business meeting. We will feature this month an interesting presentation from a unique speaker that I am confident you will fully enjoy. Proof of vaccination is still required, but we are off with the masks. Reservations required, RSVP by calling the HotLine at #925-338-1996.

Our BEC has been busy updating our **new member orientation** materials also. Since our shutdown in March 2020 we have inducted 15 new members, however we have failed to provide them with a full orientation to Branch#19. So we will recognize these new members and promise to provide them with a full one-on-one orientation throughout March.

We also have surveyed your interest in having **new SIR activities** and we are prepared to launch two of the most popular ones, with several more to follow during this Spring and Summer. SIRs have stepped up and volunteered to lead the way. (REMINDER: We are a fully volunteer organization and we still need SIRs to step up and help us to serve each other at Branch#19. When we ask you to volunteer, PLEASE say YES!!)



Jay Gordon (Big Sir) - jbird7271@gmail.com

March Speaker



Richard Smith

We are very fortunate to have Mr. Richard Smith as our guest speaker this month. Rich Smith has a very interesting topic to discuss – the lightering and eventual salvage of the Exxon Valdez from Bligh Reef in Prince William Sound, which coincidentally occurred on March 24, 1989.

Rich was the attending Naval Architect for Exxon Shipping Company during this endeavor. He was intimately involved with the plans to lighter the stricken vessel, and then supervise the refloating plan enabling to the ship to be removed from Bligh Reef for eventual repair at NAASCO Shipyard in San Diego. Please plan to attend so he can detail his personal involvement in this momentous operation.

Herb Forthuber (Little Sir) herbforthuber@vahoo.com

SIR Branch 19 - Ad Campaign



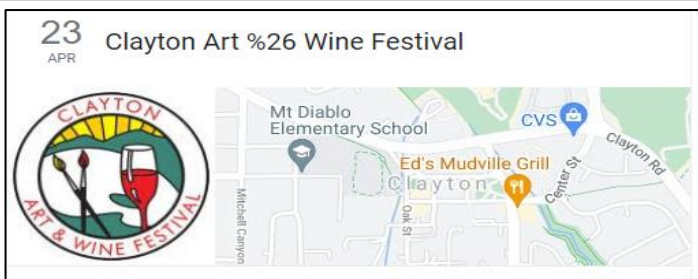
With two years of COVID, SIR branches all over the state have been hit by declining enrollments and some branches have even been forced to close. The State SIR organization has encouraged its branches to advertise more vigorously and recruit new members.

At Branch #19 we have engaged both the print media and social media to make the community aware of SIR and what we have to offer senior men. In many cases SIR is a well-kept secret in the community and when prospective members hear what we have to offer they will say “this is exactly what I have been looking for”. In the past couple of months we have had press releases about our new Big SIR and our luncheons. These releases always include a short paragraph on the activities in our branch. The releases have been sent to these print media: East Bay Times, the Diablo Gazette, The Pioneer and Diablo Magazine. We have also posted notices on social media sites: Nextdoor Neighbor, the Walnut Creek Patch, the East County News and Claycord. We have had several inquiries and many “likes” to our ads, which have resulted in a few new members. Our campaign will continue in the coming months and we will augment it with the placement of brochures in Senior Centers, golf courses, fitness centers, community bulletin boards, restaurants, coffee shops, etc.. We will have a presence at future community events, like the Clayton Art and Wine Festival, the Fourth of July, Oktoberfest, etc..

Please talk up SIR every chance that you have with your acquaintances. You are the best advertisement that we can have.

Sir Dennis Wasco dennis.wasco@sbcglobal.net

SIR at the Clayton Art & Wine Festival



SIR Branch #19 will have a booth at this year’s Clayton Art & Wine Festival April 23 – 24. This is one of the three annual community events in downtown Clayton. It features arts and crafts, premium wines and beer, a food court, and live music. It is always well attended and kicks off the spring and summer season. We will man a booth with brochures and information. Our presence is to make SIR better known and to attract new members. Several current members first heard about SIR at this event. We plan to have two members in the booth for three 3 hour shifts each day. A schedule will be posted closer to the event. Put it on your calendar and be ready to volunteer.

Sir Dennis Wasco dennis.wasco@sbcglobal.net

March (Buffet) Menu

BBQ Pork Ribs
 BBQ Chicken leg
 quarters
 Garlic mashed potatoes
 Baked Beans
 Fresh Sauteed
 Vegetables



New Sir Members

No New Members in February

If you know someone (friend, relative, etc.), that would enjoy meeting new people and participating in SIR activities, please ask them to introduce themselves by calling the SIR Hotline:

Hotline: 925-338-1996

Please ask them to leave their name and phone number, and a Branch 19 SIR will contact them regarding membership.

March Birthdays



Kenneth	Bellendir	Mike	McKay
Jerry	Burton	Bill	Ogden
Randy	Cazes	Dave	Rege
Paul	Ferry	Terry	Scudero
William	Hockenson	George	Vogt
Tom	Lathrop	Dwayne	Williams
Dean A.	Lucas		

March Anniversaries

First Name	Last Name	Joined Sir	YR SIR
Gordon	Monroe	03/02/00	22
Jack	Jagoda	03/05/09	13
Tom	Lathrop	03/05/09	13
Dwayne	Williams	03/03/11	11
Ben	Olison	03/05/15	7
Ronald	Carriveau	03/11/16	6
Steve	Nance	03/05/20	2
Terry	Scudero	03/06/20	2
Kendal	Castleman	03/04/21	1
Marlow (Andy)	Earle	03/04/21	1

**Financial Statement
 (Branch 19 Statistics)**

Treasurer Report
 January 31st, 2022

Account Balances

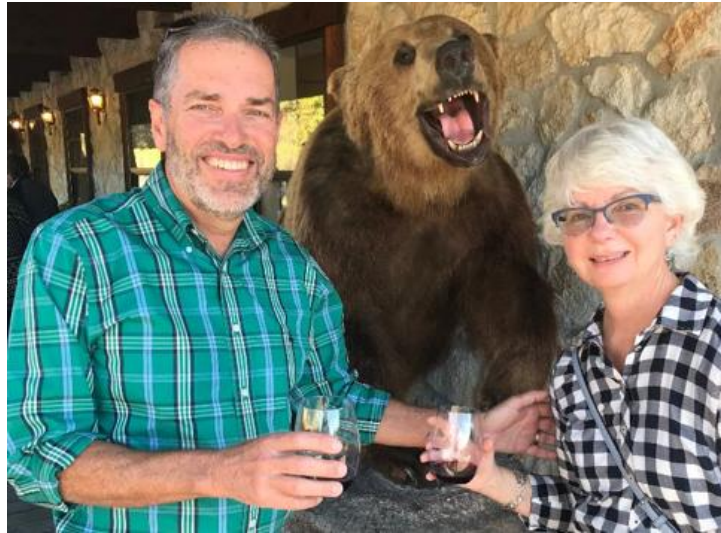
Petty Cash	\$0.00
General Account	
Unencumbered	\$817.14
Excursion Fund	00.00
Holiday fund	00.00
Picnic Fund	<u>00.00</u>
Total General Account	\$817.14
Custodial Account	\$0.00
Bowling	\$0.00
Golf	<u>\$392.01</u>
Total Custodial	\$392.01
Total Funds	\$1209.15

Sir Ken Kuhn

The Calendar

- Computers & Technology** - TBD
- Sums in Retirement** - Wed, February 23rd
- Area 2 Fishing Group** - Thursday, March 24th
- Golf**- (See below)
- Wine Tasting** - TBD
- Dine Around** - Thursday, February 17th

Sir in the Spotlight



Sir Herb Forthuber and wife Lynne

Herb Forthuber was raised near St. Paul, Minnesota. As a boy he worked on a truck farm earning \$0.50 an hour. He was fascinated as he watched the large lake freighters like the *SS Edmund Fitzgerald* and other ocean going ships traveling across Lake Superior carrying iron ore and grain to several Great Lakes destinations. Lake Superior is the largest freshwater lake in the world, and he just seemed to know that there was a future for him on the water. He was born and spent several years of his young life in Salzburg, Austria where he had citizenship. Herb became a US citizen in 1972. But his life was shaped when he was appointed to the Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, New York. Following graduation he abides by the motto "*acta non verba*", deeds not words. His obligation to serve included six years in the Merchant Marines sailing in open waters like the Pacific, Atlantic and Mediterranean oceans, where 95% of the world's products are transported over water. He then was assigned to shore duty working with the tugboat and large fleets.

Graduates from the Merchant Marine Academy are in huge demand in the private sector due to their excellent training, leadership skills, and service above self. His background and training lead him to Exxon Shipping Company, where he worked for 23 years as a qualified engineer and was licensed by the US Coast Guard. They carried crude and refined oil around the world in tanker ships. Following this service he went to work in 2000 for Alfred Conhagen Inc., in Benicia CA, a company that specializes in pumps and turbines repairs for the maritime industry. He retired in 2019.

Herb and his wife Lynne reside in Benicia. They are the proud parents of two sons and a daughter. He was introduced to SIR by John Linster and became a weekly golfer in Branch#19. He also enjoys biking, fishing and world traveling. And, of course, he and Lynne are often cruising to Alaska, trans-Atlantic and in the Baltic Sea.

Why does he enjoy the SIRs? The camaraderie with his fellow SIRs. He is currently the Little SIR, and Branch#19 is lucky to have his experience and leadership during his retirement years.

Jay Gordon (Big Sir)

Order From this link:
<https://sir.ourproshop.com/>



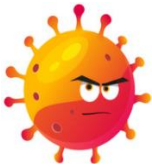
CC County Covid Updates



Covid 19 updates for Contra Costa County are available at the following link:

<https://coronavirus.cchealth.org/>

SIR Covid 19 Update



What a difference the last 24 months have made in our world-wide recovery from the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic. Or is there a difference? On March 4th, 2020 the US had two confirmed deaths from the “coronavirus” and we were closing down our society and shuttering in place. There were 144 confirmed deaths world-wide. The pandemic raged on I all parts of the world, and most of the horrifying news for sixteen months was

focused on the US. By July 2021 we were told that the newly developed vaccinations had been effective, and we were nearing the end of the pandemic. Hallelujah!! But not so fast.....

Then along came a second wave (and maybe even a third wave). By mid-February 2022 there have been 78,000,000 US confirmed cases reported with 98.8% of the infected persons having survived. “Fully vaccinated” was defined as having had two rounds of protective vaccines and many more persons have been “boosted” with a third jab. Masks are coming off, businesses are re-opening, schools are back in session, and public transportation is running again on a mostly full daily schedule.

However, we still have new cases with hospitalizations at 69,000/week in the US. We are told that the pandemic is now an epidemic, with mostly the unvaccinated persons at risk of future infection, or worse.

At SIRs branches all over northern California we have a universal policy of health/safety for our members: get vaccinated and you are welcome to return to our monthly luncheon gatherings. Still some of our members are cautiously staying away from our monthly meetings. It is a matter of personal choice, or medical safety we presume. We welcome you back when you are ready to join us once again.

Jay Gordon (Big Sir)

Free Covid 19 Tests !!

The White House unfurled covidtests.gov, a website where Americans can order up to four free rapid antigen COVID-19 tests per household.

The tests will be delivered by the U.S. Postal Service to “valid residential addresses,” and are expected to arrive at most locations by late January.

Message from the Activities Chairman



Roger Moseley



Thanks to everyone for your prompt replies to the Activities Survey. Based on your responses, we have identified two activities which will be implemented right away.

The first is the re-introduction of the Day Trips program, headed up by George Vogt. Although this activity is not new to Branch 19, as with so many other things it was negatively impacted by Covid. Our first activity will be a tour of the USS Hornet in Alameda. As soon as a date is confirmed, we’ll be sending out the details. Check it out at: https://uss-hornet.org/?gclid=CjwKCAiAx8KQBhAGEiwAD3EiP22HV7bKBpgKasUvT-gifpiYkupL9XMAru8KBCd-4rv18cGgfNKvMhoCuksQAvD_BwE

The second new activity is the formation of a Card Group. Dale Foster will be organizing this activity and will have news for everyone soon. Dale is new to SIR Branch 19, having joined during the Pandemic in 2021.

Thanks to George and Dale for taking on these new activities.

Other activities under consideration are Hiking and Walking Groups, for which we are looking for leaders. For anyone who is interested, please contact me at 925-381-5843 or r_moseley@sbcglobal.net.

Thanks,

Roger r_moseley@sbcglobal.net

Branch 19 Activities

Branch 19 Golf Information



**Nine Hole Golf Group
(Buchanan Golf Course)**
 Contact: SIR George Vogt:
 (906) 316-2134

18 Hole Golf Schedule

March 1	Cypress Lakes	9:39
March 8	Lone Tree	10:00
March 15	Paradise Valley	9:30
March 22	Lone Tree	10:00
March 29	Brentwood	9:30

18 Hole Golf WINNERS !!

Lone Tree (Feb 8th)

Flight A: Duane Deonigi
 Flight B: Terry Betts
 Flight C: Mike Scott

Franklin Canyon (Feb 15th)

Flight A: Roy Priest
 Flight B: John Fernando
 Flight C: Rich Peterson

SIR Jerry Burton (Golf Chairman) (925) 682-9797

The Bocce Report



We will start up again in May and we have openings if anyone is interested in Playing, or learning to play Bocce ball.

See you all next season and look for pics on our Sirs Branch 19 website.

SIR Tom Lathrop (Bocce Chairman)
lathrop689@aol.com

SIR Branch 19 Bowling News



We just finished bowling week 24 of 32, and we have Team 7 "Let's Roll" in the lead, with Team 4 "Anything over 9" one win behind them.

High average in the league is still Lou Gilson at 218. Gary Kaufmann has a perfect 300 game and high series 760.

Everyone is looking forward to hosting Branch#19's Bowling Tournament on March 22 & 23rd. We are also hosting SIR State Bowling Tournament in May.

SIR Mike Kropf mdkropf@astound.net
 Gary Kaufmann gkaufmann813@gmail.com

SIR State Golf

2022 SIR GOLF "Spring Fling"

Members, Lady's, Guests Invited, PLAY ONE OR BOTH DAYS

Tuesday April 19th AND Wednesday April 20th



* Eagle Vines Golf Course, Napa *

* Chardonnay Golf Course, Napa *

DAY 1 EAGLE VINES, 9:00 am Shotgun start, \$ 85

"Men and Women" Four Person Team – 2 Best Ball Net, Select Your Playing Partners

DAY 2 CHARDONNAY, 9:00 am Shotgun start, \$ 65

"Men and Women" Four Person Scramble - A, B, C & D, Team is Selected by Computer

PLAY BOTH DAYS for \$ 150

PRICE per Day Includes Green Fee with cart, range balls, prize fund, closest to the pin contest on both 9's.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THIS TOURNAMENT AND APPLICATION CAN BE FOUND ON THE SIR STATE GOLF WEBSITE AT "WWW.SIRGOLF.ORG"



<https://www.sirgolf.org/>

Activities at Other SIR Branches

Area 2 - Fishing Group



The Legends
 Diablo Creek G.C.
 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord.

Regularly meets on the 4th Thursday of the month
Next Meeting on March 24th, 8:30 am
 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord.



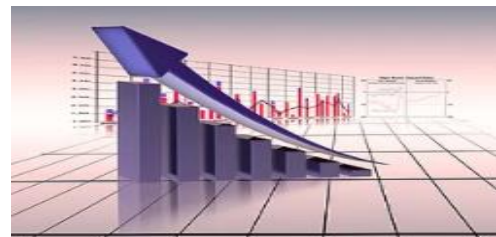
SIR members and guests are welcome, and indeed encouraged, to participate in fishing trips as well as attend the monthly meetings. Contacts are Bob Lively 925-383-5193 and Carl Moyer 925-685-5243. Next meeting will be at the Legends restaurant at the Diablo Creek golf course on Port Chicago Highway and Highway 4 on Thursday, March 24th at 8:30am.

Crab fishing has come to a halt. It was short and sweet this year, but many of our fisher folk had hearty meals of the tasty crustaceans. Our trout season started with a few fish from Lafayette Reservoir in January, spearheaded by Phil Scimonelli, Brion Beetz, Mike Browne, and Stan Wong. When San Pablo Reservoir opened on February 4th, the weather turned balmy, the trout cooperated, and we had a ball. Phil Scimonelli caught 2, 5 pounders on the same day, Stan Wong wore his arm out catching the big trout, and Carl Moyer, Brion Beetz, Bob Lively in his Kayak, Bob Stein, Harry Sherinian, Terry Miller, and Mike Browne joined in the catch. Chuck Vanoncini went fly fishing up the Sacramento River twice with a guide on productive adventures. Ben LaSala of our Sacramento SIRs caught salmon from Folsom Reservoir. Bob Lively tried for stripers in his kayak in the delta for a strike out, but Harry Sherinian, Stan Wong, Tom Kostik, and Ron Lew did a little better on the winter striped bass. Ron Lew fished the super bowl sturgeon derby, but the Los Angeles Rams did much better than Ron. We are looking forward to more trout, improved striper catches, and light winds in March.

Contacts: *Bob Lively (925) 383-5193 / Carl Moyer (925)-685-5243*

SIR Branch 128 - Investments / Wealth Management

\$ums Investment Group
 Next Meeting (TBD)



The March \$ums Investment Group meeting will be announced sometime in March. A Zoom invitation will be sent out later for those on the email list. Email Dave Sutton to be included.

Chair - Tom Henry - Branch 174 tomhenry925@gmail.com
 Co-chair Dave Sutton - Branch 8 - davesutn@comcast.net

Branch 19 Leadership

Big Sir: Jay Gordon

Little Sir: Herb Forthhuber

Secretary: Larry Kolano (Temp)

Asst. Secretary: TBD

Treasurer: TBD

Asst. Treasurer: Barry Silberman

RAMP Chair: Herb Forthhuber

Recruiting Chair: TBD

Activities Chair: Roger Moseley

Member Relations Chair: TBD

Publicity & Image Chair: Dennis Wasco

Golf Chair: Jerry Burton (Director)

Bowling: Gary Kaufmann, Mike Kropf

Bocce Capo: Tom Lathrop

Wine Tasting / Dining Out: Don Weimann

Sunshine Chair: TBD

Attendance Chair: Martin Fennell

Speaker Committee: Herb Forthhuber , Rich Peterson, Bill Ogden

Chaplin: John Carl

Bulletin Editor: Rich Balovich (Director)

Membership Chair: Ken Kuhn

Asst. Membership Chair: Bill Hockenson

DATE Chair: TBD

Webmaster: TBD

Exec. Nomination Committee: (Chair) Jack Barnaba, Larry Kolano, Ken Kuhn

Branch Audit Committee Chair: TBD