

**Big Sir** – Stuart Ruth  
(415) 387-7176

**Little Sir** – George Suter  
(415) 665-1185

**Secretary** – Robert Calhoun  
(415) 861-2814

**Treasurer** – Robert Golton  
(415) 661-8280

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### September 6 lunch menu

- House Salad with Italian Dressing
- BBQ Chicken
- White Cake

Alternate: Ceviche Salad

(Communicate alternate by email to [cacatering@gmail.com](mailto:cacatering@gmail.com) specify September 6 SIR lunch)

**Lunch now costs \$28 and will for the rest of the year's meetings.**

SIR **Dave Nigel** will be our keynote speaker for the September 1st luncheon meeting. David will be speaking about the history of the Golden Gate Bridge.

His talk is entitled "The Life and Times of America's Greatest Bridge" taken from the famous author and historian Kevin Starr. The presentation will last approximately fifteen minutes and will feature the many challenges and problems during and following the construction of this iconic



structure that is recognized throughout the world.

A short session will follow when our **SIR members will have an opportunity to tell short personal stories and experiences** related to the famous Golden Gate.

#### **Message from Bill Gipe – Membership:**

Branch 4 remembers the **September birthdays** of Jon Bologna, Pete Carrillo, Stu Etzler, George Fenech, Bill Gipe, Bob Golton, Spiro Jouganatos, Ken Schwer, and Chris Stoll.

Sunshine Report: Branch 4 sends greetings to Paul DeNatale, Tom Heafey, and Bob Pardini.

Branch 4 collected signed SIR State Covid Waiver forms at the August lunch. **If you didn't attend the August lunch, please bring the required vaccine verification card and sign the SIR Covid waiver form**

### God Bless America



**August 2021 Issue**

**Meeting: Sept 6, 2021**

**Next meeting: Oct 1, 2021**

**when attending your first 2021 SIR lunch.**

Remember every retired friend is a potential Sons In Retirement member.

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Branch 4 SIRs are invited to a life celebration in honor of **Bud Sandkulla** in the following message:

"Please come celebrate Bud's life at our home with an out-door BBQ

1230 Cortez Ave.,  
Burlingame

September 11, 2021 at 1PM

650/342-5004

Bring your BBQ appetites

and stories you have to share about Bud.

Please RSVP by 8/30/21

Many thanks, Lynn"

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**Hank Gomez, member of SIR Branch 4 since 2009, and one of our great Super Seniors, passed away July 27, 2021.**

**Below is the text of the life celebration that appeared in the August 13, 2021 Chronicle.**

## **HENRY GALVÁN GÓMEZ**

**JULY 1, 1924- JULY 27, 2021**

Henry Galván Gómez, 5th child of Demetrio Gómez Gómez and Catalina Galván Gómez, loving husband, father, grandfather, brother, and friend, passed away peacefully at his home in San Francisco, surrounded by the love of his sons, daughter, and caregivers.

Henry, or Hank as he was known by his friends, was born a first generation American in San Bernardino, CA. A lifelong visual artist, he graduated in 1949 from the University of California, Berkeley with a BA in architecture. He worked as an architectural draftsman for the Chevron Corporation for 35 years, retiring in 1988.

Henry served during WW II from 1943-45 in the Army Air Force and was stationed in Scotland as an airline mechanic. He was one lucky person. After going through basic training, he received his commission based partly on his tennis skills. A senior officer wanted him to represent his squadron after seeing him play. Henry continued playing tennis well into his 80s. Almost all his brothers and sisters served in the military, and his mother was a Gold Star mother, having lost one son in the Pacific campaign.

Henry's luckiest event was meeting Phyllis Williams. She was in the cadet nurses' program at UC Berkeley with

Henry's sister Sarah who introduced them. Phyllis and Henry (or Enrique, Riqui, or Rick as she called him) married in 1950. After residing briefly in Tracy, CA, they moved to San Francisco in 1953 where they raised their family with love and care.

While working at Chevron, Hank organized countless sports tournaments. He connected with the community through volunteering and fundraising in these groups: board member of YMCA Camp Jones Gulch for 45 years, PTA, Ocean View-Merced Heights-Ingleside Neighborhood Association, the AIDS Memorial Grove, Kiwanis International, and Sons In Retirement. Henry also compiled newsletters and programs for many of these organizations. He was proud to participate in the Life After 90 study through UC Davis/Kaiser.

Henry's love of singing and playing guitar extended to every corner of his life. He sang at senior homes with his family and joined the Chevron Blenders. He joined the SF Cable Car Chorus in 1978 and remained an active member for the rest of his life. As a member of the SFCCC and The Four Sons Quartet, he sang the Anthem for Giants' games from 2002-2016.

Henry was once asked what he most enjoyed doing. "Whatever I am doing at the moment," he replied. Everyone who knew him felt his joy in living, and he would want us to remain in that spirit when we remember him. Henry is preceded in death by his brothers Manuel, Rodolfo, Salvador, Roberto, his sisters Sarah and Amalia, his wife Phyllis, and his son Michael. He is survived by his brother Albert and his sister Anita, his sons Gregory, Robert, John, his

daughter Claudia, and four grandchildren.

**A memorial service is being planned for September 4th, 2021, at St. Marks Lutheran Church in San Francisco.** If you are interested in attending, please leave a message at [solresolgomez@mindspring.com](mailto:solresolgomez@mindspring.com) and we will send you an invitation through Eventbrite.

The service will be live streamed on the StMarks-SF YouTube site.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Henry's favorite charity, YMCA Camp Jones Gulch or the SF AIDS Foundation

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

Remembrances including pictures and videos can be shared at [SFColumbarium.com](http://SFColumbarium.com) under Henry's name.

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**Golf: Jack Major 415-412-6654 (cell) and Paul Nocero 415-254-8175**

A 2021 summary of the **local SIR golf rules** has been published and is now available. Check the web site: <http://branch4.sirinc2.org/golf.html>.

The **2021 Sharp Park Tournaments** are still scheduled for the **second Tuesday** of the month, starting at 0930. Check the website for the current schedules and past results. Signups and results will be emailed.

**Results of the July 13th Sharp Park.** We had 11 players in 4 groups. Conditions were broken clouds, then mostly sunny. Good news was the 12 or so carts shipped in from St. Andrews are getting good

reviews. Fairways had myriad gopher mounds, the greens were fine...More good news is the bar and restaurant are open, and breakfasts were available. Highlights: birdies, George Fenech - 2 on par-3 #8, and Bob Richter - 3 on par-4 #14, There were no closest holes - not enough players. All players with completed net scores were winners!

**Results of the August 10th Sharp Park** match are to be computed, so we'll have a report later.

**Next Sharp Park Tournament: Tuesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> - first tee-off is 0930.** SIR members and their guests are invited. No breakfasts yet. **Check in a half-hour before your tee time** inside the clubhouse. I'll send out a signup email a week before and the lineup will be sent out by email a few days before. Sharp Park fees are **\$30** - \$24 greens, and \$5 prize fund. Add a cart for \$20 for \$50 .Put the cards in the envelope being held by the starter.

The **2021 Poplar Creek Tournaments** are all scheduled for **Tuesdays** this year – 2/16, 4/26, 6/22, 8/31 (8/24 aeration caused a schedule change), 10/26, 12/21 – starting at 1000.

**Next Poplar Creek Tournament: Tuesday August 31<sup>st</sup>** - first tee-off is 1000. Signups will be sent out online. Green (\$34), optional cart fees are \$25 single, due to Covid-19.rules. Prize merchandise vouchers can't be used for cart rentals during tournaments. Individual payment for green/cart fees will be made to

the Pro Shop. Coordinator will collect the \$5 prize fees.

**SIR Area 4 Away Golf Tournaments: Metropolitan, Crystal Springs, Tilden, and Chuck Corrica** are hopeful to play in 2021.

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**How did the August meeting go? Below is how SIRs Dave Nigel and Bill Gipe described it from their perspective:**

After sixteen months of isolation, our SIR Branch 4 membership held its first in-person luncheon meeting August 4<sup>th</sup> at the South San Francisco Elks Lodge.

Forty-eight men gathered and were warmly greeted by Big Sir Stu Ruth. Next came a very moving invocation prayer beautifully delivered by SIR George Rodriguez who also led the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of "God Bless America."

The meal featured Calamari steak concluding with a dish of vanilla ice cream.

Three new members were recruited and introduced by SIR Dennis Meixner: Bob Arzave, Jon Bologna, and Bam Foster.

Next came announcements by all Activities Chairmen including Bocci Ball, Computers (Cyber Sirs), Golf, and Walk for Health; as descriptions were given of the current and coming events and happenings.

Prior to the meeting, each attendee approached the Badge Table to provide "Proof" of vaccination and then everyone was required to sign the "Waiver and release of Liability for exposure to COVID – 19" document. Each name tag was

affixed with a green dot verifying that the requirements for attendance had been achieved; this only must be done one (1) time.

The meeting concluded with a great deal of camaraderie and renewed friendships. We look forward to our next luncheon meeting, Wednesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>.

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## WALK FOR HEALTH

Our next Walk for Health is a replay of the walk that failed last month due to fog.

**We meet at the parking lot at Thornton State Beach in Daly City at 9:44 on Friday August 22, 2021.** This is located at the very west end of John Daly Blvd, and there is a parking lot at that location. If this lot is full, you can also park at the horse stables right next to it – you'll need to go north on Skyline to get to the entrance.

This walk goes along the ridge over the ocean, and then down a mild slope towards the ocean. We probably won't get as far as the beach unless there are some brave souls who would like to try this. It is very scenic walk and should be very enjoyable. But this being Daly City in the summer, dress in layers as it can be cool.

Please be at the start of the walk by 9:44. Contact Paul Nocero at paul@nocero.com or 415-254-8175 if you have any questions. See y'all then!

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Bill Gipe  
2323 Galway Drive  
So. San Francisco, CA 94080

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*San Francisco Branch 4*

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