

The SIR Branch 4 Foghorn



Your Officers

Big Sir – Stuart Ruth
(415) 387-7176

Little Sir – John
McGlothlin
(650) 952-3673

Secretary – Robert
Calhoun
(415) 861-2814

Treasurer – Robert
Golton
(415) 661-8280

God Bless America



March 2022 Issue

Basque Cultural Center
599 Railroad Ave.
South San Francisco

March Lunch is ON!
March 2, 2022

First, the Lunch Basics. The entrée for the March lunch is Chicken. The Basque Center will also have a Vegetarian Pasta for those who prefer not to have Chicken. Please let us know if you want the alternative lunch ASAP jmcglothlin@sanbrunocable.com, 650-952-3673. We'll collect at the door. exact change will be appreciated, and checks will be accepted.

Why We Changed Our Location. Picking up from February's Foghorn. After canceling our February lunch, March lunch plans were in flux. Our first alternative was to try to work something out with California Catering (CC). They had required that a minimum of 50 lunches be paid for, no matter how many SIRs attended. In January, SIR had only 27 at the lunch and so SIR had to pay for the unserved 23 lunches. Obviously, this could not continue.

Caterers are feeling the effects of COVID and inflation, paying higher wages and more for food. California Catering would not change the 50-attendee requirement. We could not afford to continue paying for the unserved lunches. We therefore needed to find another location.

The Board (BEC) asked Bob Golton to look at alternate locations and discuss prices while considering whether the locations would provide lunches of the quality our members expect. Based on Bob's research, the Board decided to locate the March 2nd lunch at the **Basque Cultural Center (BCC) in South San Francisco**. BCC provides excellent lunches. Bob and Rich Soward met with the Center's management and arranged for our March Luncheon. After considering menus and prices, your Board decided on two courses for \$30.00; Salad and Entrée (*Note: The EMAIL on February 17 erred by mentioning a Soup Course-Little SIR's Sr. Moment*). (Continued on Page 2)

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In addition to great food, one of the advantages of the BCC is the location on Railroad Avenue in South San Francisco with lots of free parking. We look forward to greeting you on March 2nd. Lunch will be served starting at 12Noon, you may arrive between 11:30 and 12Noon. SIR will have greeters in the lobby to assist you. The BCC has a bar. While you wait there may be a *Pelota* match on TV, and you will enjoy watching this fast-paced sport.

We'll be interested in your feedback and ways we can improve your luncheon experience. Please talk to any of our officers at the lunch. *Little SIR John*

Information, Announcements and Activities

Membership

Birthdays. Branch 4 remembers February birthdays of George Baciagalupi, John McGlothlin, Flor Mendoza, David Nigel, Paul Nocero, and Samuel Roake.

We note March birthdays of Bob Calhoun, Pat Long, Carlo Noce, Bob Richter, Joe Sangiacomo, and Woody Woodall.

Membership – Bill Gipe. Branch 4 membership: 85 active members (dues paid 2/17/22) and 2 Super Seniors (over age 95). Thanks to all members who have paid their SIR Branch 4 annual dues and will be included in the 2022 SIR branch roster.

Branch 4 welcomes Ming Chin who recently retired from the USPS. He's a golfer and interests include SIR local trips and our walk for health. Please tell your retired friends about Sons In Retirement as we reopen in 2022.

Membership (Continued)

We thank our SIRs for their support and punctuality. Email messages and telephone calls have been made to all members still waiting to pay their 2022 Dues.

Paid members will be listed in our 2022 Membership roster when published in April or May.

If you have not yet paid your annual dues, and send your \$25 check made out to SIR Branch 4 (write 2022 dues on the memo line) to:

Bill Gipe
2323 Galway Drive
South San Francisco, CA 94080

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Activities

Golf - Jack Major 415-412-6654 (cell) and Paul Nocero 415-254-8175. March 2022

A summary of the local SIR golf rules is now available. Check the web site:

<http://branch4.sirinc2.org/golf.html>.

The 2022 Sharp Park Tournaments are still scheduled for the second Tuesday of the month, starting at 0930. Check the website for current schedules and past results. Signups and results will be emailed.

Results of the January 11th Sharp Park match: We had 20 players in 6 groups starting at 0900. The weather turned out just fine, and the leased carts were still \$20 per rider, but reliable. Fairways have dried out nicely, though hole 9 had some residual mud on the left. Plenty of gopher mounds, and their close friends, the berm squirrels, were out too. The greens were fine. The bar and restaurant was open, and breakfasts were available for early players. Highlights: birdies, Jack Major started off with 3 on par-4 #1, Bob Calhoun with a 4 on par-5 #9. You can mention any long drives, chips, or putts propaganda next time on the cards for the highlights.

Next Sharp Park Tournament: Tuesday, March 8th - first tee-off is 0930. SIR members and their guests are invited. Check in a half-hour before your tee time inside the club house. Sharp Park fees are \$30 - \$24 greens, and \$5 prize fund. Add a cart for \$20 for \$50. Breakfasts for \$13 are available per Kevin.

Poplar Creek Tournaments are starting in February are scheduled for:
Wednesday 2/23, Tuesday 4/19, Tuesday 6/21,
Wednesday 8/24 (end of aeration),
Wednesday 10/26, and Tuesday 12/20. These start at 1000 with a 40-player max.

Golf (Contd.)

Next Poplar Creek Tournament: Wednesday February 23rd - first tee-off is 1000. Signups will be sent out online and the clipboard too. Green (\$34), prize fund (\$7) is back for \$41. Optional cart fees are \$25 single, \$16.50 each shared. Prize merchandise vouchers can't be used for cart rentals during tournaments. Individual payment for cart fees will be made to the Pro Shop. Coordinator will collect the green and prize fees.

SIR Area 4 Away Golf Tournaments: Metropolitan, Crystal Springs, Tilden, and Chuck Corrica are hopeful to play in 2022.

Bocce – Charley Leach. I stopped by the Doelger Senior Center in early February to look at the Court. currently the Court is unplayable. The Park and Rec of Daly City will get the courts ready for use sometime in February or March 2022.

Edgardo Balance, Administrator at Doelger Senior Center will be contacting me when Bocce is a go.

Before the pandemic we had a super contingent of Bocce Ball players. The question now is where do we stand? If you are still interested in play let me (Crleach@abcglobal.net or Roger Kelly rlkgolfer@hotmail.com) know. If we get a decent response, we can move forward to start playing again at Doelger. Doelger has available times all weekdays from 10-12 or 1-3 Hopefully by our next luncheon the court will be available for use.

Walk for Health- George Suter. February's walk "Visitation Valley Greenway", Friday February 25, 2022 (last Friday) at 1:44PM (note the time!) meet in front of the Visitation Valley Library at 201 Leland Avenue, San Francisco, cross street Rutland. (*Continued Page 4*)

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Walk for Health (Continued)

Parking is hard, but not impossible. Walk through a series of gardens connected across several blocks. It should last about 2 hours, moderately steep on pavement most of the way (also a smooth dirt path). George's Cell is 415-314-6768. We took this trip some time ago. Worth taking again as springtime approaches (already here?) in S.F.

March's Walk. Last Friday, March 25, 2022 at 1:44 PM. Meet at the USS San Francisco memorial at Land's End for a walk past the Legion of Honor to Sutro Heights Park and the Land's End Lookout Visitor Center. The walk should last about two hours, and is on reasonably level ground, with some steeper areas to negotiate. Call me at 415-314-6768 on the day of the walk if necessary.

CyberSIRs – Jerry Blumenthal. No meetings scheduled. Waiting for Doelger Center to welcome us back.

From the Editor: My experiences with a new Mac. I'm writing this using one of the new 24" iMacs. The combination of a new "processor" (CPU), a larger screen (24") and more memory makes Office 365 run much faster (3X) with great graphics. If there is a downside, you can no longer set up your Mac to run Microsoft

Windows, Apple is discontinuing the Intel processors that made this possible. Of course, I can make mistakes about 3 times faster too....!

Springtime is Scam Time. As I was preparing to finalize the FOGHORN, I checked my email. There was a message from George Suter asking for my help. To buy gift cards for Veterans in Hospice (for Branch 4 to donate) and asking if I want more information. Those of you who know George Suter know he is a generous guy with his own time and money but certainly not with SIR funds. I checked the header of the message and saw the REAL sender of the message was NOT George, but somebody named "johnson" @lockefinancial (this probably wasn't the real sender either).

This scam has been around for a while with many variations. Gift Cards are a favorite since they are difficult to recover. IF I had asked for more information, I probably would have been told to purchase the cards and send the code on the cards.

Beware. This scam can also be carried out by phone with the caller pretending to be an associate, or a family member (often in some sort of distress).

The Final Word (or a few of them). My first experience with Basque culture and cuisine was when my best friend at USF, John Vignau, invited me to a Basque picnic. Great food, lots of music, games and I must mention the fire-roasted lamb. Over the years we enjoyed many more. I assumed John and his family were Basque. Later I learned John's father was French and his mother Irish (she spoke French like a Parisian). John's father befriended several Basque families when they arrived after WWII and from then on, they were treated as adopted Basques. John's mother knew how to make a great dinner even greater; invite Marcel and Henri with the confidence they would bring something fabulous from their market! Later, I discovered the Basque restaurants and enjoyed many great meals in Reno, Fresno, and San Francisco (I held John's bachelor party at Elu's, a place so lively that no one paid any attention to our party in progress). Great food, great times, and great people. *Little SIR John*
