

 <p>April Luncheon</p> <p>April 5, 2023</p> <p>Basque Cultural Center</p>	<p>SIR Branch 4</p> <p>Foghorn</p> <p>April 2023</p> <p>April Showers Issue</p>	 <p>God Bless Our USA!</p>
<p>Big SIR-Stuart Ruth, Acting Little SIR-Bill Gipe, Acting</p>	<p>Secretary-Bob Calhoun Asst. Secretary-Jack Major</p>	<p>Treasurer-Bob Golton Asst. Treasurer-George Fenech</p>

April Lunch. SIR Branch 4 will hold its next luncheon meeting on April 5th at the Basque Cultural Center, 599 Railroad Avenue, South San Francisco. Lunch will be served at 12 noon and the bar will be available at 11:30AM. Cost will again be \$30.00. The menu choices are:

1. **Breast of Chicken**
2. **White Fish**
3. **Grilled Pork Chops**
4. **Eggplant Parmesan**

Please respond if you plan on attending no later than Wednesday, March 29th, so we can make plans with the restaurant. We need to know if you plan on attending AND your choice of entrée, above. You can respond to this email, respond directly to me at SIRpaul@nocero.com, or by phone to 415-254-8175. We hope to see you there

Note: There is a new-and-improved SIR website at wearesir.com. Lots of information, look!

Announcements and Information



Speakers Bureau, Al Herpe. April's Speaker will be Charlie Drexler. Car Club President and Retired Paramedic. Speaking about the Car Club and/or Paramedics. By the way, car aficionados may appreciate the Foster City Car Show-May 21st, Sunday after Mother's Day!

SIR Birthdays. Branch 4 remembers the **April** birthdays of Stan Falk, Bob Fox, Roger Kelly, Ken Reed, Mike Robinson and Rolf Rosander.

We were not able to honor the **March** “Birthday Boys”, so we’ll have a chance in April to recognize Bob Calhoun, Pat Long, Bill McGee, Bob Richter, and Woody Woodall.

Membership. Active members 85. Lunch attendance-45, including 3 guests! Branch 4 welcomes new members David Barnett and Dr. John Griffin, who will receive their SIR rooster pins at the next meeting.

Sunshine List: Branch 4 sends greetings to Jerry Blumenthal, John McGlothlin and all who face challenges. Jerry, you are missed!

As Dave Sees It...

45 SIRs gathered at the Basque Cultural Center (BCC), March 1st to enjoy camaraderie, delicious food, and a truly outstanding speaker. Our move to the BCC has been a positive change after many wonderful years at the SSF Elks’ Lodge.

Big Sir Stu Ruth called our meeting to order, followed by David Nigel giving his non-sectarian prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a rousing rendition of “God Bless America.”

Everyone seemed pleased with entrée choices of Chicken Cordon Bleu, tasty Salmon, 2 large Pork Chops, and Risotto, an Italian rice dish. Meals included green salad, French bread and coffee. Thanks to SIR Al Herpe who catered dessert of mini powder-coated donuts which quickly disappeared from our tables.

Al Herpe has been arranging our “Speakers” for the past few months. Excellent presentations on many interesting topics. Our speaker was Ed Archer appearing in his three-piece 1920’s suit to

talk about his Victorian home in Hayward with furniture and appliances dating prior to 1927. Next Ed described his antique autos and race cars dating back to 1907 and 1915 which he and his wife drove across our country. Ed talked about his induction into the “Antique Car Hall of Fame” and auto races in antique cars including one contest at the Indianapolis Speedway. Ed gave in-depth responses to many thoughtful questions. A very well received lecture!

Ed’s program was lengthy. No activity reports were given and no celebration of our March “Birthday Boys”. They will be honored during April’s meeting.

Renewed 2022 members and newly joined SIRs now tally 85. Plus, we are about to greet two new members.

Very positive comments were made regarding the afternoon. We will be returning to the Basque Cultural Center for our April 5th meeting. Order your entrée!

Activities



Golf: Jack Major 415-412-6654 (cell) and vacant. April 2023. A 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 **2023 Sharp Park Tournaments** are 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 March 14th Sharp Park match – match cancelled – heavy rain all day. Holes 13, 14, and 15 were flooded anyway...April may be somewhat dried out with probable carts on paths only.

Next Sharp Park Tournament: Tuesday, April 11th - 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** - \$26 greens, and \$4 prize fund. Add a cart for \$20 for \$50. Breakfasts for \$13 are available per Kevin. At press time, playing at Sharp Park in March is questionable.

The **2023 Poplar Creek Tournaments** starting in February are Tuesdays 2/21, 4/18, 6/27, 8/22, 10/17, and 12/19. These start at 1000 with a 40-player max. This year's contract is pay the green (\$36), Pro Shop merchandise voucher fees (\$7), and cart fees (\$17.50 each and split a cart, \$25 singles), checks to SIRs coordinator. Prize fund vouchers are for pro shop merchandise only. Check in 30 minutes prior to first tee time

Results of the February 21th Poplar Creek match - Poplar Creek usually gets **some** wind in the afternoon, but not full gale force. It started marginally and got worse. Most optimists thought it might taper off. Didn't happen! Lots of us quit by hole 9. I saw Abeyta, Falk, Appleton, Foglestrom, Ocampo and LaBelle (whose truck was damaged by a snapped-off tree) at the bar. Brave Soul awards.

We had 25 signups, 7 finishers, 13 incompletes, 5 9-holers. Group 1 winners – 1st Stan Falk, 2nd Mike Abeyta, 3rd Don Appleton, Group 2 winners – 1st – Jim Fogelstrom, 2nd Jack Major, 3rd – Dave Ocampo. Closest to hole 5 – 1st Woody Woodall, 2nd Don Appleton, Closest to hole 17 – Mike Abeyta.,

Next Poplar Creek Tournament: Tuesday April 18th - First tee-off is 1000. Signups will be sent out online and on the clipboard too.

Local tours, Bill Gipe (650-878-5746)



Thanks to all who signed up for a preseason tour of Giants Oracle Park. Signup sheet will be again at the Badge Table for a visit in April.

Future tours include a return to the Blackhawk Museum in Danville and the Pacific Pinball Museum in Alameda. Our visit to Alameda was one of the last before the pandemic. The Alameda Museum has reopened.



Walk for Health, George Suter

Meet at Kezar Triangle, corner of Lincoln Way and 2nd Avenue, San Francisco at 1:44PM April 28, 2023. Many things in the City change at their own glacial pace. This walk is a combination of the old and new. We'll visit the tennis/pickleball clubhouse, peek into the AIDS Memorial Grove, past the Fuchsia Dell onto the USF

campus and back past the revitalized Alvord Lake and the Waller Street Skatepark. About 2 ½ hours with a chance to socialize in a traditional neighborhood coffee shop along the way. Parking is as usual impossible, and my cell phone will be on 415-314-6768.



Bocce Charley Leach 415-333-7277, Roger Kelly 650-346-9668: We meet at Doelger Senior Center every Wednesday between 1 and 3PM. Doelger Senior is about a 1/2 Mile North of Westlake Joe's. We do not meet the first Wednesday of the month (SIRs Luncheon). Just show up and you will get a game or two or maybe even 3. Beginners welcome!

Bocce Report, Bill and Dave

Four Bocce Ball players met at the Doelger Senior Center in Daly City for friendly competition on a beautiful, enjoyable, and sunny day sandwiched between a strong winter storm the previous day, followed by a fierce tropical deluge or "Atmospheric River" storm the following day. Co-Chairman Roger Kelly divided the players into two teams with SIRS Jere Driscoll and Pat

Long representing "San Francisco" while Roger Kelly teamed up with Bill Gipe playing for the "Peninsula."

The "City" boys easily defeated their rivals in the initial game ... but the next two matches were close and exciting competitions. Buy the players a drink and see who won....



Wine Tasting, The difference between a \$10.00 and a \$100.00 bottle of wine?

The difference you can be sure of is \$90.00. There is a chance both started in the same winery in barrels next to each other. How does a \$100.00 wine end up with a \$10.00 price tag? Cash flow: wineries only make money if they sell wine, inventories don't raise money. Maintaining an exalted reputation; scarcity sells wine, abundance devalues it. One barrel has less "charm" than the other; too much/too little; fruit, acid, tannin, oak, color, etc. In other words, it doesn't have the "house" style. A grower gets paid off in wine for grapes they sell to the winery (easier to pay in wine than in cash). For all these reasons, some \$10.00 wines are real bargains and others are worth every bit of their \$10.00 price. If interested in tasting call **Bob Fox 415-753-2630** (by your editor).



CyberSIRs. Jerry Blumenthal is still recuperating. Its "tax time" and you're working away to round up your income and expenses (hopefully because you have a big refund coming). Out of the ether, an email appears from "Carolyn" announcing "here are my tax forms, click the attachment to open it". At the bottom of the message there is information about an app that is used for file sharing. You're thinking, "I got everything, but... maybe I should click and see what Carolyn is sending me."

STOP, first check your preparer's information to see if they have a "Carolyn". If you think you've got all your tax docs, most likely you do! It won't hurt if you ditch the message. However, if you want to look carefully, you may find what I did; a sending email address with a ".SI" at the end instead of ".COM", "ORG" or other common ones. "IS" happens to show it came from SLOVAKIA, a nice country not noted for tax expertise. At least that's what the sender wants to show (it could have

been China, India, or anywhere). If you were to click on the file to read it, you might be asked for your SSN to "unlock" the file, or clicking the attachments might run a little script accessing your computer. Nasty folks who rely on your being very busy and just wanting to get things done.

There is still a place for good, old-fashioned, low-tech stealing. Have you ever had a check "washed"? AARP's Bulletin describes the experience. A miscreant gets their hands on your check (maybe by snatching an envelope with a bill payment from a mailbox), applies a solvent and erases the payee and the amount. Then they add a new payee and a new amount (think big!) and deposit or cash the check. Be careful and avoid depositing mail in an outside box after working hours. Use a liquid gel pen so the information will be absorbed. AND, always review your checking statements for anything that looks unusual. As the song "Pretty Boy Floyd" goes "some rob you with a pistol and some with a fountain pen."

“Exceptional SIR Members”(from Dave Nigel)

Last month, we began what hopefully will be a series of articles honoring SIR Branch 4 members who perform “Extra-ordinary service” for our Club. Previously, we honored our Treasurer Bob Golton and George Fenech, Assistant Treasurer for their long dedication and efficiency regarding financial matters.

This month our focus is directed to **Rolf Rosander** and **Tony Quarto** our two Raffle Coordinators (Pit Bosses?). These great gentlemen offer raffle tickets, prepare for the drawing, and select the lucky participants, resulting in many happy winners. This sport is thoroughly enjoyed by our members and generates funds for our treasury.

Rolf was born in 1930, at which time his father Sardey was 34 and his mother Ingeloy was 39. By 1940 Rolf was ten years old and lived in San Francisco with his parents and two brothers. Rolf attended Balboa High School. His professional life featured a career as an Engineer with Chevron Corporation. Rolf currently resides adjacent to Lake Merced in San Francisco. Rolf joined Branch 4 in February 2018.

Anthony “Tony” Quarto is a transplanted easterner from New York City having grown up in Brooklyn (Go Dodgers, when the Dodgers were the good guys!). Tony migrated to San Francisco in 1956 (Giants to follow) and continues to reside in San Francisco near his good friend Rolf. Tony joined Branch 4 in February 2018 and has attended our meetings regularly for the past five years, working to make our meetings more enjoyable (especially for our raffle winners!). Tony worked in Sales and Management for CED (Consolidated Electrical Distributors) retiring in 1993.

Our Club is grateful to SIRs Rolf and Tony who contribute their energy, time and good humor for our enjoyment. Do you know a SIR, or SIRs, you believe should be recognized? Please contact Dave, Big SIR Stu, or even your editor so we can set the wheels in motion.