

 <p>Big SIR-Stuart Ruth</p>	<p>SIR Branch 4</p> <p>Foghorn</p> <p>August 2023</p> <p>Little SIR-Bill Gipe</p>	 <p>God Bless our USA!</p>
<p>Secretary-Bob Calhoun Asst. Secretary-Jack Major</p>	<p>Foghorn Editor John McGlothlin</p>	<p>Treasurer-Bob Golton Asst. Treasurer-George Fenech</p>

August Lunch. SIR Branch 4 will hold its next luncheon meeting August 2nd 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. Menu choices are:

1. **Salmon**
2. **Chicken Cordon Bleu**
3. **Steak Haché**
4. **Eggplant Parmigiana**

Please respond, if you plan on attending, no later than Tuesday, July 25th, 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 Paul at SIRpaul@nocero.com, or by phone to 415-254-8175. We hope to see you there!

Your Help Is Needed! Our **Badgemen** have a "Very Special" request. Please arrive at our luncheons by 11:55 am. At 11:55, cash received for your meals is counted and must be exact and accurate prior to submission to Assistant Treasurer George Fenech.

Be considerate of our volunteers so they can enjoy their lunch like you do. Money must be counted and submitted before they can take their seats and be present for the beginning of your meeting. When SIRs arrive late and exact change is not paid, our total count and receipts must be reconciled and corrected. Thanks for your support!

Announcements and Information

SIR Birthdays. Branch 4 recognizes the August SIR birthdays of Mike Abeyta, Don Appleton, Ron Appel, Tad Bogdan, Terry Kirchoff, Jack Major, and Matteo Rizzo.

Branch 4 Membership Report. Membership and Attendance. Active members - 89. July attendance 41 (2 guests).

Branch 4 welcomes #62 Tim Hazen who is a retired KPIX TV producer. Tim is sponsored by Paul Nocero.

Sunshine Report. Branch 4 sends greetings to Jerry Blumenthal, Jeff Chinn, Foster Kinney, John McGlothlin, George Rodriguez and all who face challenges at this time. Branch 4 remembers Joe Sangiacomo, an active SIR for many years who came from San Jose for our Luncheons.

“As Dave Sees It”

41 Branch 4 members met at the Basque Cultural Center for July’s luncheon. Big Sir Stu Ruth convened us followed by Dave Nigel giving the invocation, leading the “Pledge of Allegiance,” and our group’s inspired singing of “God Bless America.”

Dave delivered important news regarding December’s “Holiday” party, being planned by Little SIR Bill Gipe and Committee. This popular event is five months away and it is imperative we fulfill the guarantee of a minimum of 50 meal reservations contained in our contract with Dominic’s at Oyster Point. Bill wants to be sure SIRs interested in attending are ready to make their commitment for this event.

Coordinators Tony Quarto and Rolf Rosander drew tickets held by very happy winners Paul Nocero and John Blankenship. Next was our drawing for “Geritol” (aka Wine) for lucky SIR Peter Klein. George Suter introduced our “Birthday Boys” who stated their date of birth followed by our (in)famous vocalization of “Happy Birthday” and the response by the honorees. The winner of the drawing for the “Free Birthday Lunch” ticket was Tony Ramirez.

Following a tasty salad and delicious entrees of Chicken Cordon Bleu, White Fish, Pork Chops, or Pasta, lunch was topped-off with coffee and our popular dessert of Entenmann’s glazed Buttermilk Donuts, consumed with great zest. As usual, SIR Al Herpe delivered dessert treats.

Al also does a fabulous job securing speakers. He introduced John Nyquist to speak about his upbringing, Air Force experience, and career as an educator. All topics were well received and generated thoughtful questions. Truly a wonderful afternoon. We’ll return to the Basque Cultural Center for our next meeting Wednesday, August 2nd.

ACTIVITIES



Golf: Jack Major 415-412-6654 (cell) and Bill McGee 415-806-4608. July 2023. A summary of **local SIR golf rules** is available. Check the web site: <http://branch4.sirinc2.org/golf.html>.

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 July 11th Sharp Park match. We had only 15 players and the match started with high fog and cold wind, then started to break up some. We had a virtual wager when the sun would show up in group 4 for hole 11 or 12, but lost out to the later holes. Course in good shape with some damp areas on holes 9 and 14. Since we only had 15 players, and only one handicap group, it looks like Don Appleton and Mike Robinson, with a birdy on par-3 hole #15, took most of the winnings. Dennis Meixner had a birdy on par-4 #10, the first handicap hole.

Next Sharp Park Tournament: Tuesday, August 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** - \$26 greens, and \$4 prize fund. Add a cart for \$20 for \$50. Breakfasts for \$13 are available per Kevin.

2023 Poplar Creek Tournaments, are Tuesdays; 6/27 (results next issue), 8/22, 10/17, and 12/19 . These start at 1000 with a 40-player max. This year's contract is pay the green fee \$38, pro shop merchandise voucher fees \$7, and optional cart fees (\$17.50 each and split a cart, \$25 singles), to the SIRs coordinator. Prize Fund vouchers are for pro shop merchandise only. Check in 30 minutes prior to first tee time!

Results of the June 27th Poplar Creek match - We had 26 players, and 3 guests - Guests are a good source of new SIRs, so invite acquaintances and relatives. The weather was overcast to start and then warmed up. They cleared up several residual, blown over eucalyptus trees on the course, but left some shallow gravel pits. Those areas are "abnormal course conditions" so you can take relief with Rule 16. The fairways that were very sparse on several holes, had some patches of grass growth. If bare ground, take relief and place the ball in the nearest grass patch. The greens were fine, deceptive as usual. Many players stayed over for brews/drinks. The highlights were: Birdies - Bam Foster with a 2 on par-3 #17 (3rd on the closest), and a 4 on par-5 #1, Jack Major with a 3 on par-4 #8.

Next Poplar Creek Tournament: Tuesday August 22nd - First tee-off is 1000.



Speakers Bureau, Al Herpe. Speaker for August is Andrew Trapini, representing the American Legion Riders. Think of “The Wild Bunch” with a heart; there when you need them! Have speaker ideas, or something to share from your own experiences, call Al (650-992-3344).



Local tours, Bill Gipe (650-878-5746). Do you have any ideas for future events? Look forward to hearing from you at the lunch meeting. The SIR Branch 4 return visit to Pacific Pinball Museum in Alameda should be a good activity for September. That's after school is back in session. Details and signup sheet will be at the Badge Table or call: 650-878-5746. www.pacificpinball.org.



Walk for Health, George Suter 415-314-6768. George just led the “Lone Tree Walk through Pacifica. Stay tuned for his next outing.



Bocce Charley Leach 415-333-7277, Roger Kelly 650-346-9668:

We meet at Doelger Senior Center Wednesdays between 1-3PM. Doelger Center is about 1/2 Mile North of

Westlake Joe's. We don't meet the first Wednesday of the month (SIRs Luncheon). Show up and get a game or two or maybe even 3. Beginners welcome!

Bocce Ball Report by David Nigel, July 12, 2023

On an overcast but warm day at Doelger Senior Center, enthusiastic Bocce Ball players gathered for friendly competition. Two teams competed: Richard Soward, Jere Driscoll, Jerry Frayne, and David Nigel comprised the “Greens”, while Roger Kelly, Bill Gipe, and Pat Long, represented the “Reds”. Evenly matched games resulted in three close contests. To win, teams must earn twelve points; and games saw lots of excellent shots and defensive moves.

We hope more SIR members will join our Bocce games that meet every Wednesday from 1:00-3:00 p.m (except the first Wednesday). We look forward to many rematches in the future.

“Exceptional SIR Members” By David M. Nigel

Elmer Eckart was born and raised in the SF's Sunset District near Golden Gate Park attending Jefferson Elementary, Roosevelt Junior High and Poly High. He was active in Cubs, Boy Scouts and Explorers and earned the rank of Eagle Scout. Elmer spent summers working at Scout Camp Royaneh near Cazadero starting as dishwasher and working up to Director when the Camp had over 500 scouts each week. Elmer attended City College and was fraternity president of Alpha Phi Omega where he met David Nigel in 1957. Elmer transferred to San Francisco State where he earned a teaching credential, BA, School Administrative credential and a MA. He started teaching in San Francisco at Lawton School and was drafted into the Army serving at Camp Drake near Tokyo. After Army service he joined the staff at SF's Grattan Elementary School, remaining there until he retired. Elmer was an upper-grade teacher and administrator, well known for the Outdoor Education Program (Camp Paradise) he started and conducted for 15 years taking 4th, 5th & 6th grade students for a

week of environmental camp. The Haight/Ashbury students and parents raised the funds and helped plan the program for a week of camping at Camp Royaneh. Many friends also volunteered with the program.

Elmer and his wife Jolita love to travel and spent most vacations traveling. They visited all continents, over 160 countries and camped in 48 states: crossing the country twice in their VW camper. One trip was around the world, much by bus (Nepal to England). Elmer took his daughter out of school for six months to learn about the U.S. when she was in the fourth grade. In retirement Elmer substituted as teacher and principal at Grattan School, teaching 2nd grade students about plants and gardening - he did this for 20 years! He also enjoyed the beach at Whidbey Island, Washington and continued to travel across and around the world. In his spare time, he spends time in his garden and camps occasionally.

Elmer joined Branch 4 SIR in 2002 and has been an active badge man since joining.

Want to recognize a SIR? Please let our editor know!



Branch 4's Community Service Volunteer Program: Tad Bogdan (tadbogdan@gmail.com, 650 863 8866). **Community Service Volunteer Program:** Tad Bogdan (tadbogdan@gmail.com, m 650 863 8866)

Paul Walsh, Jack Major, Paul Nocero and I all enjoyed a beautiful day volunteering at the June 29th Foodbank distribution event. We followed with a spirited discussion over coffee afterward. You meet other interesting volunteers in addition to the appreciation from the food recipients — people who really need the food to feed their families.

One young woman I worked next to said it well on LinkedIn the next day: "Volunteering is such a humbling experience that reminds me of the power of compassion and unity. The atmosphere is always filled with warmth, laughter, and a shared purpose of making a positive impact. I already signed up for the next shift!"

Here are the details for the next FoodBank event:

Wednesday, August 23 @ 11:30 AM - 2 PM

Stonestown @ 501 Buckingham Way, San Francisco (Takes place in the parking lot to the north side of the old UA Cinema)

Join the fun — and fill your Karma Pool! Invite friends and family.

You can sign up for the SIR - Branch 4 team via the [following link](#) by August 9th. Or email tadbogdan@gmail.com. The link for info;

https://volunteering.sfmfoodbank.org/need/joinTeam/?hash_t=UGRKRgKw2WxjWu9TzKPMCbvA4rqaCsCFqtsNsByLU%2B%2B%2BMygzjHnUb%2FcYBnK1RhUe0S2HVYS6%2FGPPqQafGGoyWQ%3D%3D&hash_s=MGNO2YCRq4BgP6CzdGKWQDgHT3INXUEQOuHj3ZkckjYqE9n6eauu9xMhyh33vZu91x6802TG9MbwGJINyDot3w%3D%3D

(Emailing or calling Tad might be better).

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR MEN