

	<p style="text-align: center;">SIR Branch 4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Foghorn</p> <p style="text-align: center;">August 2024</p>	
<p>Big SIR-Stuart Ruth Secretary-Bob Calhoun Asst. Secretary-Jack Major</p>	<p>God Bless our USA Foghorn Editor John McGlothlin</p>	<p>Little SIR-Bill Gipe Treasurer-Bob Golton Asst. Treasurer-George Fenech</p>

August 2024 Lunch. SIR Branch 4 will hold its next luncheon meeting on Wednesday, August 7th, at the Basque Cultural Center, 599 Railroad Avenue, South San Francisco. We hope to see you there.

Lunch will be served at 12 noon. The bar will be available at 11:30AM. Menu choices are:

1. White Fish
2. Breast of Chicken
3. Veal Stew
4. Eggplant Parmigiana
5. Mushroom Omelette (maximum of six orders – get your selection in ASAP)

Cost will again be \$30.00. **Please respond if you will be attending no later than Tuesday, July 30th, so we can make plans with the restaurant (late responses will still be accepted, but not preferred).** We need to know if you plan on attending AND your choice of entrée.

You can respond to Paul Nocero at SIRpaul@nocero.com, or by phone to 415-254-8175. Please include your name with your e-mail response so Paul can record your request correctly.

Note: New Roster Booklet is available. Pick your copy up at the Badge Table!

Paul Nocero

August's' Speaker (Contact Alfred Herpe 650-992-3344) — Phil Goia; Vietnam experiences as an infantry company commander. **Alfred is looking for speaker suggestions!**

Announcements and Information, Bill Gipe

SIR Birthdays. Branch 4 remembers the August birthdays of Mike Abeyta, Don Appleton, Ron Appel, Tad Bogdan, Terry Kirchhoff, and Jack Major.

Sunshine List. Jerry Blumenthal, Bob Fox, Dan Machado and all with health challenges are sent encouragement.

Membership & Attendance. 85 total members. 37 attended the July lunch.

SIR Holiday Lunch. Planning has begun for the Branch 4 Holiday Lunch. Please look for an announcement at the August lunch or in the September Foghorn. Thanks for your support.

As Dave Sees It..., by Dave Nigel. Our July 3rd SIR Branch 4 monthly luncheon gathered at the Basque Cultural Center. Little SIR Bill Gipe subbed for Big Sir Stu. David Nigel gave the invocation, led our "Pledge of Allegiance," and followed with "God Bless America." Bill called upon Activities Chairs for announcements led by Golf Chair, Jack Major. Dave Nigel described Bocce activities inviting SIRs to join in the fun. Bill Gipe, Tour Chairman, described an upcoming excursion to the Pinball Museum in Alameda with lunch.

Membership Chair, Bill Gipe, reported we have 84 members, plus one pending, and one prospect. SIRS Rolf and Tony Quarto, Raffle Co-Chairs, called out winning numbers for SIRs Elmer Eckart **and** Tony Quarto (Tony did not draw the numbers). July Birthday boys were introduced by Bill Gipe and stated their date-of-birth. SIR Bob Pardini received the "Free Lunch" ticket. The next drawing was for the "Geritol", the bottle of wine from Bonny Doon. Won by SIR John Cooney. Our final "Free Lunch" drawing was won by SIR Bob Richter.

Five entrees were enjoyed. Special thanks to SIR Alfred Herpe for picking-up our dessert of tasty Entenmann's donuts. SIR John Cooney described future programs featuring exciting guest speakers and introduced our speaker, Debbie Huey, of the Millbrae Branch San Mateo County Library. Debbie spoke about her background and described the incredible spectrum of activities and resources at the Millbrae and other San Mateo County Libraries. Her remarks were entitled Modern Libraries, "More Than Just Books." Debbie's slides depicting all of the activities including arts and crafts, "Fix-it", language conversation, digitizing media, equipment etc.. Debbie directed all interested to the website: "Discover and Go." <https://smcl.org/museum-passes/>. Debbie's presentation generated many questions and comments. As a gesture of our appreciation, Debbie was presented with our "Rooster" pin.

Little Sir Bill Gipe concluded our meeting wishing everyone a wonderful July; "Parks and Recreation Month". Our next meeting will be Wednesday, August 7th, 2024 at the BCC.

ACTIVITIES



Local SIR Tours, Bill Gipe (650-878-5746). Thursday August 22 will be our return visit to the Pacific Pinball Museum in Alameda at 11 am. Details at SIR lunch or call 650-878-5746 (message line).



Golf: Jack Major 415-412-6654 (cell) and Bill McGee 415-806-4608. 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 **2024 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 9th Sharp Park match. –The course has mostly dried out nicely. Most holes were back to normal. We had 14 players with no guests.

Highlights: Birdies: 4 - Tad Bogdan (2) on par-5 #13, and a sandy on par-3 #15; Forrest Holleman on par-4 #17; Wil Uclusin on par-3 15 with a 32' putt. Par summary: Bam #8, #17; Bill #5, George Fenech #5, #13, #15; Rich #8, #13, #15,; Tad #9; Dave #1, #17; George Bacigalupi #16; Paul #8, Jack #6, Wil #8. The results will be emailed and put on the golf website.

Results of the July 2nd Poplar Creek match - We had 23 players, and 1 guest - Jim Gleason with Bob Arzave. Guests are a primary source of new SIRs, so invite acquaintances and relatives - to the lunches too! This was one of the first set of hot days that week through the weekend. Most fairways were pretty dried out (some were crispy). The greens were fast and in good shape.

Glad we had enough carts for all that wanted them.

The highlights were: Birdies – Joe Penko on par-4 #6, and Paulie on par-4 #10 (2nd hardest hole). See the website for details. You can mention any long drives, chips, or putts propaganda next time on the cards for the highlights too. We had some extra cash left over, so I boosted up some prizes.

Next Sharp Park Tournament: Tuesday, August 13^h - 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 **\$35 - \$26** greens, and \$9 prize fund. Add a cart for \$20. Breakfasts are available per Kevin.

The **2024 Poplar Creek Tournaments** are are Tuesdays 8/27, 10/22, and 12/17. These start at 1000 with a 24-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.

Next Poplar Creek Tournament- Tuesday August 27th.



Bocce Charley Leach 415-333-7277, Roger Kelly 650-346-9668: We meet at Doelger Center Wednesdays 1-3PM. Doelger Center is about 1/4 Mile North of Westlake Joe's. We don't meet first Wednesday of each month (SIRs Luncheon). Show up and get a game or two or maybe even 3. Beginners are (always) welcome!

Bocce Report, by David Nigel. July 10, 2024

Following a hiatus of several weeks as we observed Juneteenth followed by our July 3rd Luncheon Bocce Ball devotees enjoyed gathering and exciting competition Wednesday afternoons. Our players experience great fun and friendly competition as they meet at Doelger Center's court for exciting and skilled competition.

Co-Chairman Charley Leach organized players including SIRs Roger Kelly, Pat Long, Jere Driscoll, Bill Gipe, Richard Soward, Stu Etzler, Tim Hazen, and David Nigel. Wonderful friendships and camaraderie evolved from our gatherings.

We hope more SIRs members join our Bocce Ball games that every Wednesday from 1:00-3:00 p.m. except the first Wednesday of each month.

Branch 4's Community Service Volunteers. Tad Bogdan

**(tadbogdan@gmail.com, 650 863 8866) and Bill McGee (wcmcgee@pacbell.net, 415-806-4608). Community Service Event - SF/Marin FoodBank
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The July event at St. Dominic's was cancelled due to a schedule conflict at the church. Four SIR regulars, Paul Nocero, Jack Major, Paul Walsh, and Tad Bogdan were still able to make it to a new Cesar Chavez location, at Potrero del Sol Park. A smaller event with some really nice recipients. I learned a couple of SF tips from Paul N. that day. The REAL crookedest street in San Francisco is near the park - Vermont Street between 20th and 22nd street - more crooked than Lombard St. After the event, Paul introduced me to *The Old Clam House*, founded in 1861 on Old Bayshore Blvd; never tried it because the building looked so old — and it is claiming to be the oldest restaurant in San Francisco (at the same location). A real classic plus the chowder was delicious!

We are looking forward to all the smiling faces! Tad will be out of town for July's event and Bill McGee volunteered to be our leader. The Cesar Chavez location was so nice Tad will pick up the lead for that location in August. Please contact Tad Bogdan tadbogdan@gmail.com 650 863 8866 or Bill McGee wcmcgee@gmail.com 415-806-4608 if you can join us.

Upcoming events:


July Date and Time: Wednesday, July 31, 8:30 AM - 11 AM

Shift: Rosa Parks @ Glad Tidings - 1280 Webster St, San Francisco, CA 94115

August Date and Time: Wednesday, August 20, 10:30 AM - 1:15 PM

Shift: Cesar Chavez - 1450 San Bruno Ave, San Francisco, CA 94110 (lunch at the *Old Clam House* afterwards?)

August's Speaker, by John Cooney. Between 1968 and 1970, Phil Gioia served two combat tours in Vietnam as a junior infantry officer, commanding a company of over 100 soldiers. He was awarded two Silver Stars and a Bronze Star for valor as well as two Purple Hearts for combat wounds. A graduate of VMI, he also earned a master's in foreign service from Georgetown and an MBA from Stanford. Phil has lectured at West Point and Annapolis, published articles in the *Journal of Military History*, *World War II* and *Armchair General*, and appeared in History Channel programs and Ken Burns' Vietnam documentary. In 2022 he published, "Danger Close, A Vietnam Memoir." Mr. Gioia lives in Marin County, where he served two terms as Mayor of Mill Valley.

 **Walk for Health, George Suter 415-314-6768.** Stay tuned for information and George's usual thorough instructions.

SIRInc Happenings (Please note the new name for State SIR). Stu Ruth and your Editor attended the Area 13 meeting on the 19th and received an update on work to enhance SIR while supporting branch culture(s). Andy Danver provided a PowerPoint handout which is yours for the asking jmcglothlin@sanbrunocable.com. Some key points:

- Divided area of emphasis into 4 categories; Need More Time/Research, Must Do, Harder to Do, and Must Do. I'm going to focus on Easy to Do and Must Do items.
- Easy to Do includes changing Name and Logo (modify may be a better description), change local organizations to Branches, Change Little/Big SIRs to VP and President, promote new slogans "Enhance your Lifestyle" and "Friends for Life".
- Must Do includes using current logo and slogan (updating stuff), use SIR not "Sons in... (we changed 4 yrs. ago), de-emphasize "Age" and "Retirement" and stress Activities and Interests, change Big/Little SIR titles, (you can) help select our New Name and Logo.

Other things like becoming a 501©(3) (at least at the SIRInc level), seeking grants, hiring help, updating Bylaws, etc. need a lot more study. We had a vigorous discussion with strong, varied, sincere opinions and about possible changes. Stu and I reiterated our branch members expressed concerns about membership along with your openness about other branches determining their changes. As one of your representatives, I've been working on ways to accomplish things like seeking funding without impacting branches and making changes work for all!

Why do we need to change? Many branches are losing members (Branch 4 is staying almost even with great membership team and recruiting at activities), fewer SIRs are stepping up to lead branches, work at SIRInc (HQ) requires more time and expertise than volunteers possess.

Geritol for August, "Merry Pranksters" Cabernet. Our bottle comes from La Honda Winery, one of several small and good Santa Cruz Mountain wineries. Make to drink

with little oak aging. A homage to the "Merry Pranksters", a 60's group with their Magic Bus, led by Ken Kessey and others including the Grateful Dead. For more read "The Electric Kool-Aid Test", by Tom Wolfe.

“Exceptional SIR Members” by Dave Nigel

SIR Ron Appel joined Branch 4 in February 2013. Ron is a third generation San Franciscan and graduated George Washington High School class of 1964. While in high school, Ron played trumpet in the band and with the Jimmy Blass Orchestra, their youngest First Trumpet player.

Ron graduated from City College with his AA and attended Cal State East Bay earning his BA in Business. Ron served in the Army attaining the rank of Sergeant and graduated from the NCO academy at Ft. Lewis. Ron auditioned and was accepted by the elite 6th Army Band.

Ron and his beloved wife Faith of fifty+ enjoy two children, four grandchildren, and four great grandchildren. Ron served on the board of Congregation Beth Israel-Judea including two terms as Vice President. He served as a commissioner for Pacific Nations Little League; his daughter was the first girl playing in the league. Ron worked 30 years as an usher for 49ers including opening season at Levi stadium.

Ron worked for the City and County of SF 20+ years, retiring in December 2012. He served in Traffic Administration, Human Services and, finally as the Mail Facility Supervisor where over 1 million pieces of mail were processed annually with a million-dollar budget. As co-chair for the Postal Consumer Council Ron, was a National Postal Forum speaker leading several workshops.

Ron was elected to Jefferson Elementary’s Board of Trustees in 1982 served 8 years including president four times. He developed a “Board Presidents Handbook” for CSBA and also served as a personnel commission member for the district for 15 years and was elected president of the Personnel Commissioners’ Association.

Currently on Kaiser’s Patient Advisory Council Ron volunteers with his dog for pet therapy. We fondly remember Ron’s recent talk during our Sir luncheon regarding his experience.

Many SIRs remember Ron’s father, Lee, who during our meetings told stories and jokes. Ron is a valuable and wonderful member of Branch 4.

Want to Recognize a SIR, talk to Dave Nigel

See you at our next Luncheon **September 4th** at the Basque Cultural Center