

	<p style="text-align: center;">SIR Branch 4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Foghorn</p> <p style="text-align: center;">October 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>

October 2024 Lunch. SIR Branch 4 will hold its next luncheon meeting on Wednesday, October 2nd, 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 is open at 11:30AM. Menu choices:

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. White Fish | 3. Veal Stew |
| 2. Chicken Cordon Bleu | 4. Eggplant Parmigiana |

Cost will again be \$30.00. **Please respond if you will be attending no later than Tuesday September 24th, 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 from your Editor: In the interest of protecting member's privacy, we'll be minimizing email and possibly phone information in future Foghorns. It will be even more important for you to have a copy of our Roster Booklet. Please pick up at the Badge Table.

September's Speaker (Contact Alfred Herpe 650-992-3344) —**To Be Announced**

Announcements and Information, Bill Gipe

SIR Birthdays. Branch 4 remembers the October birthdays of John Blankenship, John Cooney, John Gehring, Dan Herran, Dave LaBelle, Bob Ocampo, and Stu Ruth.

Sunshine Greetings are sent to Jerry Blumenthal, Bob Fox, Dan Machado and Ken Reed.

Membership & Attendance. 85 active members and 33 lunch attendees in September.

Please note: Our 2025 membership drive begins in October and concludes next March. Details & dues envelopes will be available starting at our October lunch.

SIR Events. SIRInc is hosting the following events. If interested in attending, see Stu Ruth or Bill Gipe:

1. SIR Annual Meeting. 9/24/2023, Layfayette CA. Elect new President, etc.
2. 10/18 (ZOOM), "Growing Branch Membership with Effective Publicity".
3. 11/1 Area 13 Quarterly Leadership Meeting, Redwood City
4. 11/8 Branch Leaders Training (Officers and interested SIRs).

Our SIR Holiday Lunch is set for Wednesday, December 4 at the Oyster Point Yacht Club. Start December with SIR friends & guests.

Dominic's at Oyster Point offers Tri-Tip, Stuffed Sole, Chicken Ala Marino or Stuffed Portobello entrees. Cost is \$50. Doors will open at 11:00 am and lunch will be served at Noon. Holiday music will feature Marilyn Cooney, and we will have a chance to sing a few familiar carols. There will be gifts & holiday prizes, plus our holiday spirit! Details at the October lunch or call 650-878-5746 message line. A sign-up sheet is attached (last page).

ACTIVITIES



Local SIR Tours, Bill Gipe (650-878-5746). Our rescheduled visit to Alameda's Pacific Pinball Museum is set for Thursday September 26.
For October's SIR local tour look for a sign-up sheet to ride the new electric Caltrain on Thursday October 24. Details at the lunch or call 650-878-5746 message line.



Golf: Jack Major 415-412-6654 (cell) and Bill McGee 415-806-4608. Sept 2024. 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 September 10th Sharp Park match. The course was well watered, with several fairways carpet-like, and the wet areas on the back 9 reduced. Some poa has splotched some of the greens. We had 13 players with no guests.

Highlights: Birdies: nada Pars: Tad - hole 8, Bill - hole 15, Forrest - holes 7, 8, 17, Dave - hole 15, Bob Calhoun - hole 8, Bob Richter - holes 8, 17, Wil - holes 8, 12, 14, Jack - holes 8, 15, Rich Fraher - holes 15, 17. We are missing the closest marker bag. We thought it might turn up. It may be buried under a divot and we may have to recreate the results later.

Next Sharp Park Tournament: Tuesday, October 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 **\$35 - \$26** greens, and \$9 prize fund. Add a cart for \$20 for \$55. Breakfasts are available per Kevin.

The **2024 Poplar Creek Tournaments** are 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. The prize fund vouchers are for pro shop merchandise only. Check in 30 minutes prior to first tee time.

Results of the Poplar Creek Tournament: Tuesday August 27th. We had 20 players, and 1 phantom guest with Ray Steward. Guests are a primary source of new SIRs, so invite acquaintances and relatives - to the lunches too. This turned out to be very hot weather. A few swollen tongues were reported in the bar. Most of the 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 – Paul Walsh on par-3 #5, only one on the green, and Joe Penko on par-5 # 16, also with 79 and 10 pars – nice work!

Next Poplar Creek Tournament: October 22nd, 2024.



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 2, or maybe even 3. Beginners are (always) welcome!

Bocce Report, by David Nigel.

On a September day, those driving from the Peninsula to Daly City encountered strong wind gusts and were pleasantly surprised to enjoy pleasant weather at the Doelger Center. Prior to competing, players talked and shared stories.

Games began at 1:00 pm with Co-Chairman Charley Leach selecting teams from Pat Long, Richard, Soward, Tim Hazen, and Dave Nigel.

Games are played until a team reaches twelve points. During the three games, players rotated partners.

Branch 4 SIR Bocce enthusiasts enjoy continuing gatherings Wednesdays each month (see above) and continue to enjoy wonderful friendships and camaraderie that have evolved. We hope more SIRs will join our Bocce Teams.

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

The September event is scheduled for Tuesday, September 24; a week from the writing of this update. There are no new updates from the past events. Everyone has enjoyed the Cesar Chavez location, at Potrero del Sol Park — so I've scheduled the next two events there. I pre-registered the usual suspects, but I know that a few are going to be traveling in October, so we would love to have some "new blood" help in October. It's fun, rewarding, and helps build your Karma Pool!

Upcoming events:

September Date and Time: Tuesday, Sept. 24, 10:30 AM - 1:15 PM

Shift: Cesar Chavez - 1450 San Bruno Ave, San Francisco, CA 94110

October Date and Time: Tuesday, Oct. 29, 10:30 AM - 1:15 PM

Shift: Cesar Chavez - 1450 San Bruno Ave, San Francisco, CA 94110

Please contact Tad Bogdan tadbogdan@gmail.com 650 863 8866 or Bill McGee wcmcgee@gmail.com 415-806-4608 if you can join us.

As Dave Sees It..., by Dave Nigel. On a beautiful September afternoon, 33 Branch 4 members were in attendance.

Big Sir Stu Ruth called our meeting to order and David Nigel gave the invocation, led the “Pledge of Allegiance,” and singing of “God Bless America.” Jack Major introduced his good friend Herman Ng who we welcomed. Stu called upon activities Chairs for announcements led off by Golf Chair, Jack Major and Bocce Co-Chair, Charley Leach. Big SIR Stu complimented Tad Bogdan for leading our participation monthly San Francisco-Marin Food Bank distributions. Stu also reminded SIRs of our Annual Holiday Party slated for December 4th at Oyster Point.

Jack Major and Jim McCoy won the ticket drawing. The only Birthday Boy present, George Fenech, won the “Free Lunch” ticket. Next drawing was for the “Geritol”. John McGlothlin described this bottle from Paso Robles. The “Geritol” drawing was won by Tony Quarto. John McGlothlin described a book about the 8th Air Force’s heroic air crews originally contributed by George Rodriguez. The winner of the book was encouraged to pass it along when finished. Our final drawing for a “Free Lunch” was won by Big Sir Stu.

After lunch and dessert, Speaker Chair, Al Herpe introduced our own Forrest Holleman who explained though he is semi-retired he is still involved as a leader of two companies. Utilizing a PowerPoint presentation, Forrest discussed “Technology at Home” and how it enhances home conveniences and protection systems and can grow with your needs. Forrest’s talk was well received, generating interesting questions. Members gave examples of uses of technology in their own homes. SIR Stu thanked Forrest for his valuable talk.

Our next regular meeting will be Wednesday, October 2nd at the Basque Cultural Center.

SIR Email and Internet Security (Part 2). Passwords. If the bad folks get your password, there is all sorts of damage they can do. Some things to watch and consider:

1. When you purchase a phone or computer, they usually come with a “default” password, seasy to remember. **Immediately replace it with one that only you know.**
2. Stay away from passwords that are easily guessed. Your address, “password”, your name, street address, your pet’s name, school, etc. There are many ways scammers find them.
3. Some of us have tried substituting numbers and symbols in words; a cipher. There are programs (same idea as solving crossword puzzles) that crack these.
4. Long passwords (12 or more characters) work better than short ones BUT aren’t thief-proof. Some sites have password length limits and exclude some symbols.
5. Passphrases (a chain of unrelated words, or nonsense words, possibly spiced with a symbol) are a greater challenge. The goal - long, strong and easy to type.
6. Don’t use the same password for multiple sites. Don’t reuse the same password on a site.
7. Some generate “strong” random passwords. An improvement but hard to remember.
8. “Password managers” are available, some are built into your system software. IF your device is secure, they may help. **Stay tuned for Part 3.**

“An Exceptional SIR”, Anthony “Tony” Ramirez by Dave Nigel

Born and raised in San Francisco. Tony Ramirez grew up with ties to many neighborhoods, Holy Name (Sunset), St. Ignatius (Richmond) and USF atop Fulton Street. Tony enjoys a great extended family in S.F., Mexico, and Italy. Tony’s father and his family came to S.F. from Mexico to escape the chaotic revolution of the 1900s. His mother was sent to live here with her married sister after her father died.

Education started at home where his father taught him poems and discourses in Spanish to recite as dad filmed Tony with his Kodak 8mm camera. It is to his parents and his excellent grammar school education that Tony owes his bilingual and biliterate Spanish/English skills.

Tony believes he was destined to be a teacher and always had family support. Completing his degree at USF, Tony served as teacher, principal and assistant superintendent throughout 35 years with SFUSD. Tony also had assignments at the District Office, including implementing a federal court integration order.

Tony met future wife Jean at UCLA where they both had grants. Both share a love of travel and have been on all continents except Antarctica. Jean’s passion is volunteering. Through her example, Tony served on SF’s Elections Commission, the Archdiocese Board of Education, evaluator for the State, to name a few contributions.

Tony proudly served on our Board and as Historian. Proud to be one of several SIRs who celebrate their experiences with SFUSD as students, teachers and administrators. Tony gives thanks to “Brother SIR Members” for so many wonderful experiences and memories.

Tony counts many significant milestones including, crossing the Golden Gate Bridge on opening day (1937), Climbing Pyramids in Mexico and Egypt, Riding Elephants in Laos, Rafting through the Grand Canyon and, restoring his 1936 Model 41 Buick. Still to come, Mongolia and China (October) and the Filippini Family reunion (November).

Want to Recognize a SIR, talk to Dave Nigel

Geritol for October. **Union Sacre** is a rose made from Pinot Gris which is one of two white wine grapes, the other being Gewurztraminer, that have enough skin color to make a Rose. Dry and fruity. Enjoy!

See you at *November’s Luncheon on the 6th* at the BCC

SIR Branch 4 Holiday Party

Season's Greetings and Happy Holidays from Big SIR Stu Ruth and Little SIR Bill Gipe. We will celebrate the holidays with our traditional Luncheon at the Oyster Point Yacht Club.

Date / Time: First Wednesday December 4, 2024, starting at 11:00 AM.

Location/Directions: The Oyster Point Yacht Club is at 911 Marina Blvd in South San Francisco. The area is very nice with some construction still to complete. Watch for the sign for Marina Boulevard.

From the 101-freeway heading South take exit 425B for Oyster Point Blvd East, continue on Oyster Point Blvd. Then turn right onto Marina Blvd.

From the 101-freeway heading North, take exit 425B for Oyster Point Blvd, turn left onto Dubuque Ave, turn right onto Oyster Point Blvd. Then turn right onto Marina Blvd.

From the South San Francisco Elks, head East down Hillside Blvd, continue on Sister Cities Blvd, then straight ahead onto Oyster Point Blvd. Then turn right onto Marina Blvd.

\$50 per person Holiday Luncheon – December 4, 2024

Send your reservation no later than **Nov. 15, 2024**,

along with your check for **\$50 each attending**, payable to SIR Branch 4. **Mail to:**

Bill Gipe

2323 Galway Dr.

South San Francisco, CA 94080

Reservations For (Names): _____ Telephone: _____

Luncheon Menu Choices (write names in front of choice):

_____ Tri-Tip with Mushroom Sauce, Roasted Potatoes and Vegetables

_____ Stuffed Sole with Rice and Vegetables*

_____ Chicken Ala Marino with Rice and Vegetables*

_____ Stuffed Portobello Mushroom

- Dairy-free available. Ask about gluten-free if needed.

Check here if you will bring a gift for our Gift Exchange: _____

Doors open at 11AM, Lunch served at 12 Noon. Volunteers needed (contact SIR Bill 650-878-5746)