

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

November 2024 Lunch. SIR Branch 4 will hold its next luncheon meeting Wednesday, November 6th, at the Basque Cultural Center, 599 Railroad Avenue, South San Francisco. We hope to see you there. **Cost will again be \$30.00.**

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

- | | |
|---------------|----------------------|
| 1. Salmon | 2. Chicken Breast |
| 3. Pork Chops | 4. Mushroom Omelette |

Please respond if you will be attending no later than Tuesday, October 29th, 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.

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

Time to pay your \$30 dues for 2025. Pick up a dues envelope at the sign-in table if you need one.

Also, a great time to sign up for our Holiday Party on December 4th at Oyster Point!

November's Speaker (Contact Alfred Herpe 650-992-3344) –**TBA**

Announcements and Information, Bill Gipe

SIR Birthdays. Branch 4 remembers November birthdays for Daniel Quigg and George Suter.

Sunshine List. Branch 4 sends greetings to Jerry Blumenthal, Dan Machado and Ken Reed.

Branch 4 Membership & Lunch Attendance. Active Members 84, October Lunch 35.

Branch 4 remembers. SIR Bob Eshoo who passed away in September. Bob taught 34 years in the SFUSD including 29 years at alma mater George Washington High School.

Holiday Party. On December 4 the SIR Holiday Party will be at held Oyster Point Yacht Club. Please plan to attend with SIR friends & guests. Start the holidays with music, great food, a gift exchange, contests and more. Look for the Holiday Party flyer with lunch details in this Foghorn or at our November lunch.

Dominic's at Oyster Point offers Tri-Tip, Stuffed Sole, Chicken Ala Marino or Stuffed Portobello entrees. Cost is \$50. Doors 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 November lunch or call 650-878-5746.

SIR Events. SIRInc is hosting the following events.

1. 11/1 Area 13 Quarterly Leadership Meeting, Redwood City
2. 11/8 Branch Leaders Training (Officers and interested SIRs).

If interested in attending, see Big SIR Stu Ruth or Little SIR Bill Gipe

Geritol for November, Circumference brand Russian River Pinot Noir, 2023.

Want this wine, you have two choices. \$9.99 at Costco (after \$10 off), or \$24.99 direct from the Precision Wine Company. A fruity, fairly full-bodied Pinot. Why so cheap? There is a grape glut, and producers need to move inventory. Nothing worse than a warehouse full of wine growing old!

As Dave Sees It..., by Dave Nigel. Wednesday, October 2nd was our monthly luncheon at the Basque Cultural Center and 34 Branch 4 members gathered for camaraderie, delicious food, activity announcements, and our speaker. Big Sir Stu Ruth called us to order and called on David Nigel to greet everyone and ask for a moment of silence in memory of SIR Bob Eshoo who recently passed away. Dave also welcomed back SIR Bob Fox from his hiatus. Dave gave the invocation and led the “Pledge of Allegiance,” followed by our singing of “God Bless America.”

Stu called upon Activities Chairs for announcements led off by Golf Chair, Jack Major. Bocce Ball Co-Chairs, Charley Leach and Roger Kelly, were not in attendance, so David Nigel invited interested members to join in on the weekly fun and competition at the Doelger Senior Center. Tad Bogdan described our monthly San Francisco-Marin Food Bank distribution activity. Bill Gipe reminded members of our Annual Holiday Party slated for December 4th at Oyster Point one of our favorite activities, featuring great food, music, fun-filled games. Bill also talked about the pending field trip on the new electric Cal-Train.

Our club’s 2025 Membership campaign is off to a great start with 14 members paying dues on the first day of our campaign. Dues envelopes are available courtesy of SIR Paul Nocero. Our BEC (Branch Executive Committee) raised annual dues to \$30.00 (\$2.50 per month). A real deal indeed! The campaign runs from October thru March 5, 2025.

Tony Quarto and Rolf Rosander, Raffle Co-Chairs, called numbers held by Mike Chapman and Paul Nocero. Bill Gipe introduced the three Birthday Boys in attendance. Big SIR Stu Ruth was the recipient of the “Free Lunch” ticket. Next drawing was for the “Geritol”. Stu Ruth conducted the drawing resulting in SIR Willie Uclusin receiving this special treat. Our final drawing for a “Free Lunch” resulted in SIR Mike Chapman being the lucky recipient; Mike’s second winning experience during the meeting!

Four entrees were enjoyed including Fish, Chicken, Veal Stew, or Eggplant Parmigiana followed by tasty pastries.

David Nigel was called upon to talk about on the history of the iconic Golden Gate Bridge. He cited Kevin Starr, an instructor at USF, UC Berkeley, and USC, one of the many distinguished Golden Gate authors. Following David’s presentation stories, questions, and comments followed and SIR Peter Klein, the longest bridge employee, related a very humorous and entertaining story about his bridge experiences. Peter’s compelling story drew great laughter. Our next regular meeting will be Wednesday, November 6th at the Basque Cultural Center.

ACTIVITIES



Local SIR Tours, Bill Gipe (650-878-5746). SIR Local Tours resumed Oct. 24th with a ride on the new Caltrain electric trains from San Bruno to San Francisco. Next month, maybe we can ride South. Ideas for tours, see the clipboard at our meeting and call Bill!

ACTIVITIES, Continued



Golf: Jack Major 415-412-6654 (cell) and Bill McGee 415-806-4608. November 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 October 8th Sharp Park match: The course was well watered, with several fairways carpet-like, and the wet areas on the back 9 reduced. Poa has splotted some greens. We had 14 players and no guests. Highlights: Birdies: Jim Foglestrom - par-3 hole 8. Pars: Tad - hole 1, 9; Dennis - hole 2,4,8,9,10,14; Bam - hole 2,3,11; Paul N. - 8; Wil - hole 5,11,12; Rich - hole 8; Jack - hole 10. The "closest bag" was found in the dining room – it disappeared last month.

Next Sharp Park Tournament: Tuesday, November 12th - 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 Tuesday 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.

Results of the Poplar Creek Tournament: Tuesday October 22nd match – we had 18 players, and 1 guest - Tony Maffei with George Bacigalupi. *Guests are a primary source of new SIRs, so invite acquaintances and relatives - to the lunches too.* We got an unpleasant surprise - the restaurant/bar was red-tagged due to a sewer pipe break underneath putting a kibosh on the post-game revelries, but we got the scorecards and closest bag OK. This looks like a big problem taking months to fix. Next tournament is scheduled for December 17th.

Most fairways were pretty well-watered with some dried-out patches. Greens were fast and in good shape. Glad we had enough carts for all that wanted them.

Highlights were: Birdies – Bob Calhoun on par-3 #7 - I didn't see any more unhighlighted scores. Dennis, Bam, and Joe Penko all par'd hole 17. See the website for details. Mention any long drives, chips, or putts propaganda next time on your cards for the highlights too. We had extra cash left over, so I boosted up some prizes.

Next Poplar Creek Tournament: December 17th, 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 an overcast but warm day, six Bocce Ball enthusiasts met at the Doelger Center Bocce court.

Prior to our competition, players sit at a picnic table engaged in discussion, socializing, and sharing interesting stories.

Our games began at 1:00PM with teams including SIRs Pat Long, Bill Gipe, Jim McCoy, Jere Driscoll, Tim Hazen, and Dave Nigel. Players rotated teams and engaged in close, exciting matches that were competitive and fun.

Players continue to enjoy the camaraderie that has evolved from these turnouts and we hope more SIRs will join our Bocce teams. Co-Chairmen Charley Leach and Roger Kelly extend an on-going invitation for all interested to join our wonderful activity.

Branch 4's Community Service Volunteers. Tad Bogdan (tadbogdan@gmail.com, 650 863 8866) and Bill McGee (wcmcgee@pacbell.net, 415-806-4608).

The October event is scheduled for Tuesday, October 29th. Everyone has enjoyed the Cesar Chavez location, at Potrero del Sol Park — so I've scheduled next event there. I pre-registered the usual suspects, but I know 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: 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.

Some More from Tad; "Breadcrumbs" We all remember Tad sharing his book, "*How To Master the Universe*". Tad has also shared a link to "*Breadcrumbs*", a thought-provoking Afterword, worth exploring <https://www.straitjackets.org/spring-2023/2023/3/31/breadcrumbs-by-tad-bogdan> This is also available in an "AI" authored podcast that requires access to a Google Account to read. Hopefully, Tad will be able to discuss this novel approach at one of our future meetings.

An Undiscovered Gem (Gym?). San Bruno's Recreation and Aquatic Center is open. Great facilities including swimming and workout areas.

“An Exceptional SIR”, Stu Ruth by Dave Nigel. This month's featured SIR is our BIG SIR Stuart Ruth. Stu joined Branch 4 in March of 2011 and became Branch Secretary in 2018 and Little Sir in 2019. Since 2021, Stu has led our Branch as Big Sir.

Stu was born in Newport, Rhode Island and traveled extensively as his father was a career Army officer, a “West Pointer”. Following World War II, the family was stationed in Tokyo for four years and Stu attended school there.

Stu's mother grew up in Walla Walla, attending Whitman College and joining Kappa Kappa Gamma Sorority. Upon completing her studies, she boarded a liner to travel around the world. When the ship reached the Philippines, she met Stu's father; changing her plans when the couple married. Ruth Thomson became Ruth Ruth, a name she delighted in. The couple's first child was Stu, brother Bill was born two years later.

Stu's father's next assignment was at Oakland Army Base, and the family purchased a home in Piedmont where Stu attended Piedmont High. After graduation, he attended the University of California, Berkeley earning a Liberal Arts degree. Stu began his professional career working in an architect's office studying blueprints and construction plans. Sitting indoors at a desk did not suit him, so he qualified as a General Building Contractor with partners of mutual interest. Stu enjoyed his career in building and remodeling, specializing in kitchens, bathrooms and decks.

He met Grace and they were married in 1968, recently celebrating their 55th anniversary. They have one daughter, Annie, who resides in Florida. Annie attended last year's SIR Holiday party at Oyster Point, where many of us enjoyed meeting her.

Stu's commitment to community service was recently recognized and honored by the S.F. Unified School District for his dedicated and exemplary work with students at George R. Moscone Elementary School in the historic Mission District where he chaperones field trips, reads to students, assists them with writing assignments, and counsels them to be successful in their endeavors. He is currently in his 16th year, volunteering two mornings each week.

Stu enjoys golfing, making improvements to his home, working in his beautiful garden, and his dedication to SIR Branch 4. We are fortunate to benefit from his leadership and commitment.

Want to Recognize a SIR, talk to Dave Nigel

SIR Email and Internet Security (Part 3). Other Protection. Better protection combines a password with an additional passcode that you receive by phone, email, or text. With another alternative some sites use, you receive a small “fob” (security key) that generates a series of numbers as a second “factor”. Some operating systems (i.e. MACOS) uses your fingerprint to key the user and password in; good if someone else can't get around it by simply entering the password information. See if facial recognition (biometrics) or voice recognition is an option.

The key is combining security measures. Of course, most landlines won't receive text messages, so don't have the access code sent to your landline phone. Protection software comes and goes. Today's (semi) fool-proof app may no longer provide protection or may be compromised. Some

(Continued from Page 6) of the very best security software (Kaspersky) comes from the other side of what was the “Iron Curtain” raising the question, who are they working for? Norton used to be top-of-the line as was Bitdefender; not so good now.? Compare notes with others!

There are several fake versions of Norton and BitDefender on the market. If interested, buy the boxed copy from a place like BestBuy, buy from the Apple, Android, Chrome or Microsoft App Store, or go to the actual company website to purchase.

Stay Informed and Alert. Remember, to the scammer, phisher, whatever, this is their livelihood and their occupation. They are at the top of their game if they want to succeed. You want to learn as much as possible. Take advantage of AARP’s website and magazine especially AARP’s Podcast, “The Perfect Scam”. <https://www.aarp.org/podcasts/the-perfect-scam/> . Make the most of classes from your Library, Senior Center, SIRInc, etc. Compare notes with others.

SIR Actions and Outreach. Computer and smartphone security are major concerns for SIRInc. When something affects one of us, there is potential fallout for our entire organization. Some of our members have volunteered their time and energy to bring things like the August 16th workshop to you. Several issues came up during Q&A’s and internal discussions regarding training for SIRs including:

1. WEBSITE Security. Currently most branch websites are not password protected. It is possible to access newsletters which often contain contact EMAIL and telephone numbers for officers and members. Password protection may reduce threats but also make it harder for individual SIRs to get the information they need (i.e. for activities).
2. Some branches have added password protection and/or implemented a “contact form” where you can ask for information.
3. Other branches stopped sending group emails with all recipients listed on the “To” or “CC” line. Persons receiving the email are entered as Blind Copies (BCC) and no one receiving the email knows who else is receiving it (of course, it is a good idea to mention in group emails the message is going to the board and officers, etc.)
4. When important to solicit responses (i.e. who is coming to the Luncheon and what are they ordering), a unique EMAIL address for replies can be provided.
5. Newsletters frequently list Activity Chair phone numbers and EMAIL addresses. Instead consider asking readers to refer to their Roster for the correct contact information.
6. Use your Computer/Technology Activity as a forum to discuss security and other matters of concern. Don’t have an Activity, why not start one or join another Branch’s?
7. Look for educational opportunities from AARP, your library, other organizations, etc.

Also, don’t forget to be on the lookout for stealing in more traditional ways. Review your financial accounts, especially those you don’t access a lot (i.e. IRA’s). We had one hacked that was protected by 2-factor identification. Thieves with access to routing numbers and account numbers can submit bogus transactions without worrying about access; they did this to us.

Finally, here is a link to the August 16th. SIR training (worth your time to watch!): <https://sirinc.org/videos-of-sir-meetings/#fraud> . The end (for now, Editor, John)

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.

\$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.

*See you at our Holiday Luncheon **on Dec. 4th** at Oyster Point Yacht Club!*