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**Editor** – George Suter

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### Luncheon Menu

**May:** Beef Enchilada, House Salad with Raspberry Vinaigrette, Vanilla Flan. Fruit Salad with Yogurt and Granola

**June:** BBQ Pork Ribs, Caesar Salad, Coffee Ice Cream w/ Biscotti. Shrimp Avocado Salad

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### Thoughts from Our Big SIR – John McGlothlin

As I write at the end of April, I want to reflect on two events that changed history and happened 100 years ago. April 6, 1917, the U.S. declared war on Germany bringing new, fresh strength to the coalition fighting Germany and its allies. This was said to be the Allies' (not so) secret weapon. Germany put Lenin on a "sealed train" and sent him to Russia starting a train of events driving Russia from the war, transforming an absolutist empire into a communist one; Germany's secret weapon.

U. S. involvement helped end the Great War and defeat the Central Powers at a cost of millions of dead, devastation of Europe and



sowing seeds for territorial ethnic and religious disputes, depression, arms races, and horror of a greater war. Russia's Communist revolution created two great powers USSR and China, who spent much of the 20th Century competing with the democracies the Great War was supposed to make the world safe for. Punishment of losing countries set the stage for the rise of Fascism and Nazism and their alliance with Japan's totalitarian regime.

The tumultuous events of 100 years ago underscore the importance of reflecting on the sacrifices of, and honoring those, who fought for us and made the ultimate sacrifice. May ends with Memorial Day which started as a way of remembering those who perished in our Civil War, at that time the most terrible our country had known.

It is said that Mothers, who are infinitely more sensible than Statesmen or Generals, started the observance during the Civil War. After the War, the practice spread in the North and the South with an appreciation that all who gave their lives were worthy of respect. This day was first recognized as "Decoration Day" in 1868, though "Memorial Day" was often used in the South. From the beginning,

**God Bless America**



**May 2017 Issue**

Meeting: May 3rd 2017

Next meeting: June 7, 2017

some areas honored those lost regardless of their side in the war and after the reunion of Northern and Southern veterans at Gettysburg in 1913, this became common.

Until 1967, Decoration Day was the official name for the Holiday, celebrated on May 30th. In 1968, the Holiday was changed to the last Monday in May.

Please join me in remembering those we have lost serving our country.

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### May meeting Speaker is Debbie Huey

Community Technology Specialist at the Millbrae Library. She reviews and selects emerging technologies appropriate for the San Mateo libraries. She will be presenting the exciting technology of 3D printing, and how quickly it is being applied to our lives. You'll be able to see something being 3D printed before your very eyes, and learn about how you can get started with 3D printing at many libraries throughout San Mateo County.

## This SIR branch needs your help



### HERE IS YOUR CHANCE- VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE FOLLOWING:

- **LITTLE SIR**
- **ACTIVITY CHAIRMAN**
- **RECRUITMENT CHAIR.**
- **PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN**
- **BIRTHDAY CHAIRMAN**
- **BOARD MEMBER**
- **MEMBER RELATIONS**

This month we feature another new position for Branch 4; the Member Relations Chair.

This new position works closely with Recruiting and the new Activities Chair to help assure we are meeting the Member's needs. Member Relations is the eyes and ears of your Board, listening to the members and getting their feedback on how meetings are going, things that can be improved and ideas for new activities, speakers, menus and other things that will make the SIRs experience more enjoyable. A special focus will be on working with recruitment to help new members feel comfortable and talking with SIRs who leave Branch 4 to learn what we can do to help them stay and stay active.

As a new Chair, Member Relations should also work with Recruitment and Activities to determine who is responsible for what. New, challenging and a chance to make a difference.

Talk to any of the following for details:

**Bud Sandkulla**

650-342-5004

**Ken Reed**

415-810-3832

**Jack Major**

415-566-2243

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### From our Little Sir - George Suter

A few weeks ago a single panel cartoon by Bizzaro showed a grumpy-faced man with a helmet attached to wires being observed by two women. The caption was "On the plus side, Howard's rage now powers the entire house." Pretty funny right? Well I thought so until I reflected on some pretty unfunny stuff that seems to have become common. Too often, I don't appear to get as embarrassed as I ought to be when I go off on a rant. Am I deliberately doing this, and if so, what is the payoff?

There is a positive side to anger: you can use it to energize yourself to focus attention on a problem: The frustration builds, you yell at your computer, and when that doesn't work, you eventually figure a way out. The jolt of energy. Some potential opponents have backed away in the face of my anger, though I would not count on this as a common thing.

The negative side is the damage to relationships, and even property when things get out of hand. I

once threw a recalcitrant phone across a parking lot – that action did not improve reception. My family still laughs at the time I got side tracked at a McDonald's ordering station and my blue language was being broadcast for all the world to hear. Thank goodness that's never happened to you, and if you follow your best advice it never will.

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### Membership Report – Bill Gipe

Branch 4 thanks all members who paid 2017 annual dues or made contributions. Remember to pick up a SIR wallet card or an extra Foghorn copy at the Badge Table. The card and newsletter are perfect to give to friends interested in SIR lunch and activities.

The April 5 lunch attendance was 75 members and 1 guest. Branch 4 active membership is 123 with 7 Super Seniors (over age 95).

Branch 4 remembers longtime member Ed Murphy, 1922- 2017.

### Sunshine List

Branch 4 sends greetings to Bob D'Elia, Bud Fields, Don Nuti, Ernie Pead, Paul Rosenberg, Hank Prawicki, Antoon Van Arkel, Andy Ynostroza, and all those with challenges these days. Good to see Bob Bowen and Ted Wright at the April lunch.

### Birthday Greetings

Branch 4 remembers the May birthdays of Jeff Chinn, Alex Christ, Elmer Eckart, Bud Fields, Dan Machado, Steve Machado, Issac Meijia, Paul Rosenberg, and Andy Ynostroza.

**Golf News** – Jack Major 415-566-2243 and Ken Reed 415-810-3832.

A one-page summary of the **local SIR golf rules** has been published and is now available. Pick up a copy on the golf table or check the web site: <http://branch4.sirinc2.org/golf.html>.

The **2017 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. Copies will be on the golf table at the lunch too. Make sure I have your email for alerts, lineups, and results.

The Tuesday **April 11<sup>th</sup> Sharp Park tournament** was cancelled due to rain the week before and the unplayable course. We are expecting the course will be in playable shape for the May tournament.

**Next Sharp Park Tournament: Tuesday May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017 - first tee-off is 0930.** SIR members and their guests are invited. Sign up for tournaments at the golf table at the first Wednesday's lunch. There's **breakfast that starts at 0815**, so you want to get there early. At least, **check in one hour before your tee time.** The lineup will be sent out by email a few days before. Sharp Park fees are \$47 for green fees, cart, and breakfast, and prizes (\$4 each). Carts are allowed on most par 4's and 5's, depending on the ground conditions. 113.

The **2017 Poplar Creek Tournaments** are all scheduled for **Tuesdays** this year – 2/21, 4/18, 6/20, 8/29, 10/24, 11/28, and 12/19 Tee times start at 1015 with a 40 player limit. **No-shows without notification** will require a **\$10**

**contribution** to the commissioner's pocket fund at the next tournament.

The **April 18<sup>th</sup> Poplar Creek tournament** results weren't available at press time.

**Next Poplar Creek Tournament: Tuesday June 20<sup>st</sup>** - first tee-off is 1015. Sign up at the golf table or call Jack or Ken. Green (\$33) and prize fees (\$7) are **\$40**; optional cart fees are \$15 per player double, \$20 single, payable at the Pro Shop.

**SIR Area 4 Away Golf Tournaments:** The second 2017 Away Tournament is **Wednesday May 24<sup>th</sup> at Chuck Corica Golf Course**, Alameda, starting at 0830. A signup sheet will be available at the May lunch, and a lineup sheet will be emailed the week before.. The \$40 fee will be payable at the course to Jack or George Rodriguez; don't pay at the desk.

The away tournament activity needs a volunteer chairman. Golf is one of the most important activities of our organization, and it would be great if one of our members would step up to the plate. This is an activity we should not lose.

**Bocce Ball** - Charley Leach and Roger Kelly - Co-Chairs

Meets every Wednesday at the Doelger Senior Center 10-12 AM. No Bocce Ball on First Wednesday because of SIR's Lunch.

**Computer Club** - Jerry Blumenthal - Chair

Meets every 3rd Wednesday at the Doelger Senior Ctr. 11:45 AM All those interested in computers are welcome.

**Pinochle** - George Samoulides - Chair

Games are on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month. All SIR's are invited to join in the fun. Call George for further information. Hope to see you there for some fellowship and fun.

**Walk for Health** - Ken Reed - Chair

Meets on the last Friday of the month at a variety of locations at 9:45 AM. The walks are scenic, fun, and full of camaraderie. An email sent monthly as to the current location. Guests welcome

**SIR Happenings** - The latest edition of SIR Happenings has just been posted on the SIR website:

<http://sirinc.org/sirhappenings/> hope you enjoy reading our latest edition. Don MacGregor, editor:

**Branch 4 Travel Chair**, Bill Gipe

The Branch 4 local trip for April is a docent tour of SF City Hall on Friday April 21. An insider's tour of AT&T Park is planned for Friday May 19. Details & signup sheet will be at the lunch, or call 650-878-5746.

Any suggestions for a future local trips are always welcome.

Interested in an away trip with SIR travel? These out-of-town travel opportunities are detailed on SIR website, [www.sirinc.org](http://www.sirinc.org).

Look for your badge number in the Fog Horn, if you see a number that just doesn't belong in the context and it's yours, claim your 5 free tickets for the raffle.

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*San Francisco Branch 4*

**Invitation to travel to Yosemite with fellow SIRs**

SIR Crystal Springs (Branch 142) and SIR North Peninsula (Branch 9) have invited interested members from our branch to join them on a trip to Yosemite June 5-7, 2017. They have arranged roundtrip motorcoach transportation with two overnight stays at Chuckchansi Gold Resort & Casino, a tour of Yosemite Valley, and a visit to the Hilmar Cheese factory. Cost is \$633 per person double and \$768 single. Call Harry Redlick for details and reservations – (650) 583-3961