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Treasurer – Bob Golton (415)
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Ex-Officio: Jerry Blumenthal

State President - John Dill

Editor – George Suter

Assistant Editor – Open

Lunch Menu

August: Calamari Steak, Honey Balsamic Vinaigrette Salad, Boston Pie.

Alternate: Chef's Salad

September: BBQ Steak, House Salad with Italian Dressing, Strawberry Cake.

Alternate: Shrimp Salad

Thoughts from Our Big SIR John McGlothlin: Your Board and Officers-Continued

As part of our July Luncheon Meeting, we tried a little exercise. Bud placed a list of Branch 4's vacant positions on each table and asked each group to discuss the vacancies and suggest SIR's who they considered good candidates. We did get a few suggestions and I hope we started you all thinking and talking.

I'm convinced we will be an even better organization with greater participation in our leadership

and decision-making. After each meeting, I leave



impressed and appreciative of the small band of Chairs, Directors and Officers who work to put together a successful meeting and facilitate activities such as Golf, Bocce Ball, Cyber SIRs, Local Travel and our Walk for Health. I know you appreciate all the activities you are involved in.

On the other hand, have you ever thought, "if we just did this a little differently, or, we didn't do this" we might all enjoy ourselves even more. These are ideas we need, along with your energy to make them happen. Badge 083.

So, how do you stick your neck out without getting it chopped off? There are several ways: Talk to your activity chairs about your ideas and about helping out, sit in on our Board meetings (they are public!) and see how we make decisions, offer to take on one of our vacant positions on a temporary basis and see if you like it, or take on an "assistant" or "co-chair" position to help and learn more about the job.

God Bless America



August 2017 Issue

Meeting: August 2, 2017

Next meeting: September 6, 2017

As SIR Bevis of Hampton said in the 1300's, "many hands make light work."

August Speaker - Don Cecil, Consultant

"A Professional Way to Discuss Differences in Politics"

Don Cecil has been providing public and government affairs consulting to corporations, public agencies, trade associations and nonprofits in the Bay Area for the past 15 years. In his consulting practice, MC² Public Affairs, Don brings innovative and strategic thinking, as well as meticulous attention to detail, to clients including SAMCEDA, Comcast, Dignity Health, Castilleja School, Chevron, OpTerra Energy Solutions, and other local companies.

Prior to starting his own firm, Don managed more than 30 successful campaigns for city council, the board of supervisors and state

assembly. Don works successfully on behalf of clients and issues by maintaining positive relationships - even among people who may not see eye-to-eye - and always being honest and above-board with all parties. Learn more at ww.mcbayarea.com.

Membership Report - Bill Gipe

The July 5 lunch attendance was 66 + 1 guest. Active branch membership total is 126 with 6 Super Seniors. It was good to see Super Seniors Bob Hennig and Mel Kranke at the July meeting.

Remember both SIR wallet cards and extra Foghorn copies are available at the Badge Table. Both are useful to spread the Sons in Retirement active retirement message to possible new members.

The Sunshine List includes Ron Appel, Claude Blakeslee, Bud Fields, Harry Lieberman, Don Nuti, and Jim Smith. Branch 4 sends greetings to all members facing challenges these days.

The August birthday list of active members includes Mike Abeyta, Ron Appel, Don Appleton, Douglas Bishop, Terry Kirchoff, Rich MacDougall, Jack Major, Leonel Parra, Matteo Rizzo, and Peter Roosakos.

Golf: 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 **July 11th Sharp Park tournament** course conditions were decent, but a bit dried out 14, 16, and 17. Kevin put out a buffet for our 29 players. Results are out on the website above.

Next Sharp Park Tournament: Tuesday August 15th, 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.

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 **June 20th Poplar Creek tournament** results are out on the website above.

Next Poplar Creek Tournament: Tuesday August 29th - 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 last 2017 Away Tournament was Tuesday **July 25th** at **Chuck Corica Golf Course**, Alameda, starting at 0830. Fees are \$45 including green, cart, warm up bucket, and prize fund. We had spaces for 24 players.

Stay tuned for the next Away tournament.

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 (415) 7285573 or gblumenthal@gmail.com

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

However, there will be no meeting in August.

The next CyberSirs meeting will be on Wednesday, September 20, 2017.

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 is sent monthly as to the current location. Guests welcome.

Tours – Bill Gipe - Chair

Local tour: SIR Branch 4 will try again to take the AT&T Park tour in August with optional lunch. First choice is the 12:30 tour on Friday August 11 (alternate date is August 25). Since the planned June date was sold out, tickets (\$17) must be purchased at SIR Badge Table signup. This will be a chance for Branch

4 to tour AT&T's clubhouse, dugout, suites, and broadcast booth. We'll learn about the construction of this wonderful landmark

Interested in an away trip with SIR travel? These out-of-town travel opportunities are detailed on the SIR website, 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.

From Big SIR John McGlothlin: SIR Insurance Requirements and Their Effect on Our Events

This month I am writing about a very important matter because I believe it is important for you to know. Since the State Organization's (State) original email was sent out on June 11th, Big SIR's and Branch Boards have been wrestling with the requirements and working to get better policies from the "State" Organization to cover events where we use caterers or other contractors.

This all started with a very serious problem. One Branch had an event, catered by a branch member. Ten members became ill, one was hospitalized and one passed away. I know you understand how serious that is. We don't know which branch it was and who was injured and that doesn't really matter; one person is one too many!

As a reaction we received orders to assure caterers and other contractors we used were insured and agreed to hold SIR harmless for mishaps at an event where they provide services to SIR. This is intended to protect SIR and SIR's insurer from claims. As we reviewed the State's mandates, many of us had concerns with the language and how to implement it. As we talked to caterers and contractors they also expressed concerns EVEN WHEN THEY

WERE INSURED. In addition to communicating our concerns, some SIR's who are attorneys drafted more suitable language and sent it to the State. We're waiting for a response.

This policy mandate affected the caterer we use for the picnic we host with Branch 91. Caterer Ryan Rawlings informed Branch 91 he would not cater our picnic. To complicate things further, Branch 91's Little SIR has been hospitalized and will not be able to coordinate the picnic. To date, Branch 91 has not located a replacement caterer and it is very possible we will not have a picnic. We may not know before the August Foghorn is distributed so a special notice may be necessary.

We all want our events to be safe and enjoyable. The most important step is to assure our caterers follow sound procedures and provide safe products and services. Insurance is no substitute for good, safe practices.

There are other State policies mandated regarding participation at events and I'll cover them in the future.

Mark the Date on your calendars and resolve to attend:

Wednesday December 13, 2017 – SIR Branch 4 Xmas Party at the Oyster Point Yacht Club – lunch, presents, songs, and good cheer

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San Francisco Branch 4

Branch 4 Events

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