**Big Sir** – Stuart Etzler (415) 819-8503

Little Sir – Stuart Ruth (415) 387-7176

**Secretary** – Pete Gandell - (415) 981-6551

**Treasurer** – Robert Golton (415) 661-8280

Ex-Officio: John McGlothlin State President: Derek Southern Editor: George Suter (415) 665-1185

#### Lunch Menu

January 2019 Caesar Salad Chicken parmesan Cream puff Alternate: Shrimp salad

Our speaker for the January meeting is Gisela Zebroski on the topic "Date line Berlin: after the war and beyond"

Ms Zebroski lived in Germany and numerous Eastern European countries during the 40's through the 60's. She is a witness to turbulent times in that region, and will relate some of her experiences. Significantly she was on the scene when, in 1948, Stalin challenged the West by blocking all land access routes to the Western zones of Berlin, dooming 2.3 million Berliners to starvation. Over the following 11 months, the Allies airlifted 4.6 billion pounds of supplies into the City. By treating the hungry children of West Berlin to candy (among other

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supplies), the Allies turned former enemies into friends.

Ms Zebroski expresses a particular fondness for a Lt Halverson of the Airlift, who became known as "the candy bomber".

Ms Zebroski came to California to earn a degree in Psychology and has written two novels from her experiences.

#### Membership Report - Bill Gipe

Membership and Attendance:

Active	121
Super Seniors	4
Total	125

November lunch attendance was 76 members and three guests.

ACTIVE MEMBERS! your dues help support SIR lunch and activities.

The Badge Table now has 2019 dues envelopes.

Dues can be paid through Wednesday February 6 for inclusion in the 2019 Member Roster / Directory.

Pay at the Badge Table or mail a \$25 check to Bill Gipe, 2323 Galway Drive, South San Francisco, CA 94080.

### God Bless America



#### January 2019 Issue

Meeting: January 2, 2019

Next meeting: February 6, 2019

## Thank you for your past and future support!

#### **Sunshine Report**

Branch 4 sends greetings to Ernie Braun, Bud Fields, Tom Heafey, Dan O'Leary, Harry Lieberman, Jack Negrin, Don Nuti, Ray Yoshak, and all who face daily challenges. Please let the Badge Table know if a SIR friend is ailing.

#### **December Birthdays**

Branch 4 remembers the birthdays of Peter Angelonides, Bob Bosch, Ernie Braun, Paul Denatale, Al Ertassi, Tom Heafey, Bob Hennig, Larry Kilcullen, Harry Lieberman, Ike Mejia, George Samoulides, and Mike Valenzano.

#### **January Birthdays**

Branch 4 remembers the birthdays of Larry Farrell, Rich Fraher, Peter Klein,

PabloMagat,LloydRinde,DavidSolomon,RichSoward,MariosStathopoulos,RaySteward,Wil Uclusin,and BrianWeiss.

#### Local Tours

Big Sir Stu Etzler and your editor George Suter will be driving down to the Hiller Aviation Museum on Saturday December 29 for an 11 AM talk by Brian Shul, Air Force Fighter Pilot, a Top Gun instructor, A-10 demonstration pilot, and SR-71 pilot. If you'd like to join us, call Stu or George and let us know.

All it takes for **you** to start a local tour is to set it up far enough in advance to get it into the Foghorn! Your fellow SIRs would be delighted to learn about the many things you are already familiar with.

#### Golf: Jack Major 415-412-6654 (cell) and Ken Reed 415-810-3832.

A 2019 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: <u>http://branch4.sirinc2.org/gol</u> <u>f.html</u>.

The **2019 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 **12/11** match had actually the best weather we've had lately, and course conditions were fine too. We only had 14 players. We did give out Xmas tips to José the starter, Kevin the cook, and Flora the server. Highlights are: Birdies - Don Appleton with 2, par-3 #8 and par 3 #15, and George Bacigalupi with 2, par-4 #3 and par-3 #12.

Park Next Sharp Tournament: Tuesday. January 8th - first tee-off is 0930. SIR members and their guests are invited. There's breakfast that starts at 0815, so you want to get there early. At least, check in a half-hour before your tee time. The lineup will be sent out by email a few days before. Sharp Park fees are **\$54 -** \$18 green, \$13 \$13 breakfast. \$6 cart. prizes...No cart saves you \$13.

The **2018 Poplar Creek Tournaments** are all scheduled for **Tuesdays** this year -2/19, 4/23, 6/18, 8/20, 10/22, 11/19, 12/17 – starting at 1015.

The **12/18** match had fine weather and course conditions too. We had 18 delighted golfers, due to the golf fund financing. Results will be emailed and posted later due to the Fog Horn cutoff.

Next Poplar Creek Tournament: Tuesday February 19th - 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 \$33 double, \$23 single, payable at the Pro Shop. Prize merchandise vouchers can't be used for cart rentals during tournaments.

SIR Area 4 Away Golf Tournaments: these will be scheduled.

Stand by for updates. Sign up for the tournaments at the golf table at the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday lunch.

**Bocce Ball - Charley Leach and Roger Kelly - Co-Chairs** Meets every Wednesday at the Doelger Senior Center 10-12 AM. No Bocce Ball on the first Wednesday of the month because of SIR's Lunch.

#### Computer Club - Jerry Blumenthal - Chair (415) 728-5573 or glblumenthal@gmail.com

Meets every 3rd Wednesday at the Doelger Senior Center. We take lunch together at 12:00 PM (reserve a seat early!), then repair to Room 3 at about 12:45 PM.

# Walk for Health - Ken Reed - Chair

Meets on the last Friday of the month at a variety of locations at 9:45 AM. Badge 184. The walks are scenic, fun, and full of camaraderie. An email is sent monthly as to the current location. Guests welcome.

#### . From your editor – George Suter

A few months ago, National Public Radio ran a program called "The Great American Read". People would vote on books that "changed their lives." While I thought that I read a lot, I don't think any book actually changed my life. The host of the program, Meredith Viera. stated: "Reading...allows us to to escape new worlds. introduces us to a diverse range of people, opens our minds to different ideas, and allows us to keep learning no matter our age or background.". Many books I have read, even recently, The best have done that. were not on the list generated from The Great American Read however.

The best books I read in the last years were recommendations from fellow SIR David Solomon. These were:

"Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children" by Ransom Riggs. It was made into a 2016 movie, but the written version is 3 volumes of harrowing adventure – admittedly a fantasy, but very good and a satisfying read.

Next, he recommended "Wayward Pines" by Blake Crouch, described as "a mystery/ thriller/ science fiction novel" which was also made into a TV series, but the book is definitely worth a read. If you think you have "read it all" with respect to a dystopian future... (but no,... I'm giving too much away – if you start volume one, you'll be hooked for the series – get it in the library!)

Finally, there is an entire series of books by **C. J. Box**, starting with "**Open Season**" about a Wyoming game warden who gets into many scrapes in a part of the country many of us know little about, but think we would like to know better.

When I started to write about books, I was going to describe my latest great read: "Neptune's Inferno" by James Hornfischer – a silly title for a serious and revealing book about the Navy's part in the taking of Guadalcanal. We hear so much about the Marines that you'd think they were alone there, but they were not, and they were not "abandoned" by the Navy either.

At Land's End here in San Francisco, there is a brief memorial for the cruiser USS San Francisco, which honors one of the horrendous naval engagements off Guadalcanal, but there was a lot more.

This book goes into detail about a lesser-known aspect of the background of the fight and shows what a near thing it was back then.

Well, that's it for me – what about you? I think your fellow SIRs would be well-served by your comments on great reads – send me a description of your great books and I'll put it in the Foghorn.

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 6 free tickets for the raffle

### One more thing –

If you walk around much, you will eventually find yourself on the streets after dusk. Think of how hard pedestrians are to see from behind the wheel.

I found some lightweight reflective strap bands I can easily put on to become more visible at night.

The key is to carry them with you; they do no good in your desk drawer, so they must be small, light and easy to pack or put in a pocket, yet very visible

Go to <u>www.evolike.com</u> and check out the reflective bands. Also available on Amazon (what isn't?)

#### POSTMASTER: If undeliverable—Please return to:

Bill Gipe 2323 Galway Drive So. San Francisco, CA 94080



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San Francisco Branch 4

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