



| | | |
|---|---|---|
|  | <p style="text-align: center;">SIR Branch 4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Foghorn</p> <p style="text-align: center;">March 2024</p> |  |
| <p>Big SIR-Stuart Ruth</p> | <p>Little SIR-Bill Gipe</p> | <p>God Bless Our USA</p> |
| <p>Secretary-Bob Calhoun Asst. Secretary-Jack Major</p> | <p>Foghorn Editor John McGlothlin</p> | <p>Treasurer-Bob Golton Asst. Treasurer-George Fenech</p> |

Dedicated to SIR Bob Arata who joined Branch 4 in March 1997. RIP.

March 2024 Lunch. SIR Branch 4 will hold its next luncheon meeting March 6th. at the Basque Cultural Center, 599 Railroad Avenue, South San Francisco. Lunch is served at 12 noon. The bar will be available at 11:30AM. Cost again will be \$30. Entre choices are:

1. Salmon
2. Chicken Cordon Bleu
3. Veal Stew
4. Mushroom Risotto

Please respond if you will be attending no later than Tuesday, February 27th, so we can make plans with the restaurant. We need to know if you plan on attending AND your choice of entrée, above.

You can respond directly to me at SIRpaul@nocero.com, or by phone to 415-254-8175.

Note: The *new-and-improved* SIR website at wearesir.com. Give it a look.

Paul Nocero

March's Speaker - Contact Alfred Herpe (650-992-3344) - Eugene Ostermiller, AKA "the tax man". 2023 was unique with the delayed filing deadline. What's in store for 2024, and for 2025 (when some legislation "sunset"), depending on action/inaction by Congress.

Announcements and Information, Bill Gipe

Birthday Boys. We celebrate March birthdays for Bob Calhoun, Pat Long, Bill McGee, Bob Richter and Woody Woodall.

Sunshine List. Branch 4 sends greetings and good wishes for the recovery path to Jerry Blumenthal, Tad Bogdan, Dennis Meixner and Joe Shasky.

Membership & Attendance. Membership total is 78 (mid-month) and February lunch attendance was 43 (from Badge Table count). Thanks to all members for the 2024 Dues Campaign. It's not too late to pay if you haven't contributed annual dues. Please check at the Badge Table or call 650-878-5746. Our drive ends on February 29th.

Remembering Bob Arata. Bob joined Branch 4 in 1997 and was one of our longest-serving members. Bob attended City College and UC, was an Army Veteran and worked as a Machinist with the US Navy. He was married to Joy for 67 years!

As Dave Sees It... Our February gathering was attended by forty-three members. Big Sir Stu Ruth called the meeting to order followed by Dave Nigel's invocation, the "Pledge of Allegiance," and our singing of "God Bless America."

Announcements by activity Chairmen began with Jack Major reporting on golf events. Next Bocce Ball Co-Chairman Charley Leach updated results from our games at Doelger Center, inviting all interested to join in. George Suter, "Walk for Health" leader, will write about future events in the Foghorn. David and Bill gave an update regarding our membership drive now projecting up to 84 members. Our campaign concludes Thursday, February 29th.

Big Sir Stu Ruth introduced Andy Danver, Director of State SIR Marketing and Communications and Past Branch 35 Big Sir. Andy described his responsibilities and shared research regarding why folks no longer join clubs and organizations as in the past. Andy presented Big Sir Stu with a certificate recognizing Stu's service as Branch 4 Big Sir for several years.

Tony and Rolf called out winning tickets for Charlie Hoenisch and David Barnett. "Birthday Boy" Chair George Suter needed to leave early, so David introduced the "Boys" and "Happy Birthday" and the singing response. Dave won the "Free" lunch ticket. Tony Quarto won the drawing for the "Geritol". Entrees enjoyed included fish, chicken, veal, or eggplant. Special thanks to SIR John Cooney who made our delicious Brownies!

SIR Alfred Herpe introduced speaker Richard Postal, who described the origins of Barbershop music and evolving of Quartets, Sweet Adelines, and Choruses. Richard explained harmony music can be traced back to African-Americans of the mid-to-late 1800s. Videos of 1950's harmony singers, especially famous singer Perry Como captivated our members. Feedback from our group was very positive. Big Sir Stu concluded our meeting, wishing everyone a wonderful month and good luck to our San Francisco 49ers. Our next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 6th, 2024.

ACTIVITIES



Golf: Jack Major 415-412-6654 (cell) and Bill McGee 415-806-4608. February 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 February 13th Sharp Park match. – The match was canceled due to muddy, unplayable holes, and cart path only conditions due to the rains. It probably won't be playable until May, like last year,

Next Sharp Park Tournament: Tuesday, February 13th - 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 **\$30 - \$26** greens, and \$4 prize fund. Add a cart for

\$20 for \$50. Breakfasts for \$13 are available per Kevin.

The **2024 Poplar Creek Tournaments** starting in February are Tuesdays 2/20 (now 3/5), 4/16, 6/18, 8/27 (will be changed due to aeration), 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 December 19th Poplar Creek match – cancelled due to rain that day.

Next Poplar Creek Tournament: Tuesday March 5th - First tee-off is 1000. Makeup date from 2/20 cancellation.



Walk for Health, George Suter 415-314-6768. Stay tuned for information and George's usual thorough instructions.



Local SIR Tours, Bill Gipe (650-878-5746). Please look for a signup sheet at the March lunch and your ideas are welcome. With the Spring weather we could start regular local tours. If interested please sign up for a future visit (TBD) to Pacific Bus Museum in Fremont (carpool), a return visit to Hiller Aviation Museum in San Carlos or a visit to the Computer History Museum in Mountain View. Websites for information are: hiller.org , computerhistory.org pacbus.org.



•**Bocce Charley Leach 415-333-7277, Roger Kelly 650-346-9668:** We meet at Doelger Senior Center Wednesdays between 1-3PM. Doelger Center is about 1/2 Mile North of Westlake Joe's. We don't meet first Wednesday of each month (SIRs Luncheon). Show up and get a game or two or maybe even 3. Beginners (very) welcome!

Bocce Report, by David Nigel, February 21, 2024

After five weeks not being able to play, 7 Bocce Ball enthusiasts competed at Doelger Senior Center. Following the strong storms of the weekend the players were hoping to be able to renew their camaraderie and friendly competition.

SIR's including Charley Leach, Jere Driscoll, Pat Long, Bill Gipe, Tim Hazen, Richard Soward, and David Nigel, began play in a light mist. Suddenly sun appeared and the players enjoyed perfect, weather! The competition was extremely close as the players displayed excellent bowling skills. We look forward to many rematches and great friendships in the future.

Feel free to join this activity as it is a lot of fun. Co-Chairmen Charley Leach and Roger would love to include you in our fun-filled activity.



•**Branch 4's Community Service Volunteers. Tad Bogdan** (tadbogdan@gmail.com, 650 863 8866). **Branch 4 Community Service Volunteers- Bill McGee (TDY)** while Tad undergoes foot surgery (wcmcgee@pacbell.net, 415-806-4608).

Many thanks to SIRs Jack Major, Paul Walsh, Paul Nocero and Dave Barnett for coming out to St. Dominic's at the end of January to help distribute pop-up pantry food supplies. The next community service opportunity will be held on Wednesday, March 27th at Glad Tidings San Francisco. There are still plenty of slots available for the March event.

Wednesday, March 27, 8:30a - 11:00a

Rosa Parks @ Glad Tidings San Francisco | 1280 Webster Street, San Francisco CA 94115

Email tadbogdan@gmail.com or wcmcgee@pacbell.net if you would like to participate. Join the fun, invite friends and family — and fill your Karma Pool!

Membership Campaign. Chairman Bill Gipe and Committee Member David Nigel worked diligently retaining and building up Branch 4's membership. The Campaign concludes February 29th. Bill and David initially estimated 55 members rejoining for 2024. **Surprise**, membership is now at 78 and projected to reach 85! Thank to members for responding quickly; a positive reward for Bill and David's work. Branch's 4 goal is to maintain and increase our membership. Special thanks to SIRs who have recruited and sponsored new members.

“Exceptional SIR Members”, by Dave Nigel,

Native Son, Dan Quigg was born in the Mission District, and attended Mission Dolores Elementary, Sacred Heart High, and City College. Dan graduated City College with an AA Degree in Business.

Upon graduation Dan worked in the Insurance Business in SF, the Peninsula, and in LA for 25 years. Retiring from Insurance Dan embarked on his new career as a Handyman. Thanks to friend Dominic Bregante of Ace Hardware in Burlingame, Dan was never at a loss for business and worked as a Handyman for another 25 years.

Dan and his wife, Catherine have two sons who live in San Diego and Pasadena and three grandchildren. Dan and Catherine have lived in Millbrae for fifty-three years. As their children grew up the family enjoyed water sports. Dan loved to water ski and enjoyed fixing cars. Dan and Catherine love to travel and visited wonderful places in the US, Europe, and Asia.

Dan was in Public Office in Millbrae for over 30years as City Treasurer, a Councilperson, plus serving as Mayor three times. He served 20 years as a Board Member of the Bay Area Water Supply & Conservation Agency. When his children attended St Dunstan School, Dan was President of their School Board.

Dan has been an active member of Millbrae Lions, Native Sons of the Golden West, (serving as President), and a member of SIR for many years, joining Branch 4 in December 2018. To keep active, Dan volunteered for the Millbrae’s Park and Recreation Commission, and was the city’s liaison for the new Recreation Center. He also Volunteers at Millbrae’s Historical Society. We are pleased to have Dan as a member of our Branch.

Want to Recognize a SIR, talk to Dave.

Congratulations to SIR David Nigel! Dave was honored with the City of San Bruno *Extraordinary Service Award* on February 22nd. SIRs Elmer Eckart, Bill Gipe and John McGlothlin attended the ceremony. All you must do to be considered is contribute to the city for 25, or more years and be nominated by 2 community organizations. David, being David, did a lot more. Use the link below to see photos and read the citation.

<https://www.priechel.com/City-Award-Nigel-Sammut-2024-02-22.html>

Branch 4 New Members in 2024, by Little Sir Bill Gipe. Introducing new members Conrad Arenas, Mike Chapman, and Eugene Hom. Please welcome them to our branch.

Conrad Arenas visited the SIR lunch last year. He has recently moved to San Bruno from the East Bay. Conrad worked for Safeway's produce department at the Market and Bryant St. stores. Conrad was a 49ers season ticket holder (end zone) for over 25 years at Candlestick Park. He was sponsored by Bill Gipe.

Mike Chapman attended the SIR holiday party at Oyster Point Yacht Club and has a boat at the Oyster Point Marina. Mike is a retired SFFD fireman. Interests include

antique cars, bocce, computers, travel, and wine tasting. We welcome his input and participation for activities and lunch.

Eugene Hom was sponsored by his friend Jeff Chinn. Eugene retired from the SF Public Works- Bureau of Construction Management and was a construction inspector. Eugene also worked for Cahill and Plant Construction for 43 years. Eugene is a Vietnam Veteran, awarded the Army Commendation Medal. He served 5 years in the Army.

Please greet Branch 4's new members at the lunch. Remember to invite your retired friends to our monthly lunch.



See you at the March 6th Luncheon at the Basque Cultural Center!