

# SIR Branch 4 Foghorn

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SIR Branch 4</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Foghorn</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>May 2025</b></p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Big SIR-Tim Hazen</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>God Bless our USA</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Little SIR-Paul Nocero</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Secretary-Bob Calhoun</b> <b>Asst. Secretary-Jack Major</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Foghorn Editor</b> John McGlothlin</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Treasurer-Bob Golton</b> <b>Asst. Treasurer-George Fenech</b></p>

**May 7<sup>th</sup> Luncheon.** SIR Branch 4 will hold its next luncheon meeting Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at the Basque Cultural Center, [599 Railroad Avenue, South San Francisco](#). Hope to see you there! Lunch will be served at 12 noon. The bar will be available at 11:30AM. Menu choices are:

- |                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| 1. White Fish.    | 3. Steak Haché |
| 2. Chicken Breast | 4. Penne Pasta |

Cost will again be \$30.00.

Please respond if you will be attending no later than Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, so we can make plans with the restaurant (late responses will be accepted but are not preferred). We need to know if you plan on attending AND your choice of entrée, above.

You can respond to this email, respond directly to Paul at [SIRpaul@nocero.com](mailto:SIRpaul@nocero.com), or by phone to 415-254-8175. Please include your name with the e-mail response so Paul can be sure to record your request correctly.

Cost will again be \$30.00.

Please include your name with your e-mail response so Paul can record your request correctly.

**May's Speaker.** Jeffrey Pink, CEO Are You Being Served, Inc. Jeffrey is a Process Server who will discuss his profession and services he provides. (Contact Alfred Herpe 650-992-3344).

## **Announcements and Information, Bill Gipe**

**Welcome to Little SIR, Paul Nocero.** At our last Board meeting, Paul Nocero volunteered to take over as Little SIR for 2025. This frees Bill Gipe to concentrate on the important work he contributes as Membership Chair as well as leading our Local Tours. Many thanks to Bill for stepping up (for a second tour) when we needed a Little SIR and to Paul for bringing his ideas and creativity to the position!

**Branch 4 remembers.** David Nigel led our remembrance for longtime member Dan O'Leary.

**Branch 4 Welcomes.** Sponsored by Paul Nocero, Kent MacMaster (badge No. 135) is a Pennsylvania native and graduate of Penn State. He lived in Asia for 12 years and is fluent in Mandarin. Say "hello" to Kent at our lunch.

**SIR Birthdays.** Branch 4 sends May birthday greetings to Elmer Eckart, Rich Palmer, Dan Machado, Larry Hurley, John Hoskins, Jack Cardon, Jim Fogelstrom, Richard Nishiki-Finley, Jeff Chinn, Pat Stan, Bob Arzave, and Forrest Holleman.

**Awards and Recognition.** John McGlothlin and David Nigel presented Bob Fox with the Distinguished Service Award recognizing Bob for his dedication and work as 2012 Little SIR, 2013 Big SIR and Area Governor 2013-16. Bob was also our Guest Speaker chair for **nine** years.

**Sunshine List and Best Wishes.** Branch 4 sends greetings to Dan Quigg and Bob Pardini.

**Branch 4 Membership & Lunch Attendance.** Branch 4 membership total: 77.  
April lunch attendance: 33.

**SIR Newsletter.** Some of you may be receiving duplicate copies of the State President's Newsletter, "*The Rooster Crows*". We're working so you will only receive ONE, direct from the State. In the meantime, Jack Major will be our contact for distributing. The April version is now available. Click the link.

<https://sirinc.org/uploads/newsletters/April2025Newsletter.pdf>

### **Geritol for May.** *The tale of two Gamays.*

Once upon a time (in the 60's and 70's) there were two California wines, one labeled Napa Gamay, the other Gamay Beaujolais, both touted as the "true" Gamay grape of France's Beaujolais region. Both were imposters. Gamay (aka Napa Gamay) was actually Valdiguie, a grape from Southern France. Gamay Beaujolais was a clone of Pinot Noir. Gamay now must be labeled Valdiguie. When you buy a bottle of Valdiguie, expect a pleasant lighter-bodied red wine. Pleasant, but not Beaujolais. You'll find J. Lohr's Monterey County Valdiguie fairly priced, fruity, and pleasant, even minus a pedigree. Plus, the label is beautiful!

***As Dave Sees It...***, by Dave Nigel

April's luncheon meeting was held at the BCC with 33 attending. Big Sir Tim Hazen called the meeting to order followed by a tribute to Dan O'Leary, a very popular and friendly SIR who passed away recently. I spoke about Dan's exceptional Irish tenor voice that he displayed during our meetings. Next, we honored Sir Robert "Bob" Fox with our Distinguished Service Award recognizing Bob's significant contributions and achievements for our Branch and Branches throughout the Peninsula. Members rose for the invocation, the Pledge of Allegiance, and "God Bless America."

Tim called on Activity Chairs for announcements and reports. Golf Chair Jack Major covered upcoming golf competitions. Community Services Chair, Tad Bogdan, discussed planned activities of the SF-Marin Food Bank distributions and invited SIRs to join in. Charley Leach announced Bocce Ball games and invited interested members to participate during the weekly fun and competition (see the Bocce Schedule under Activities for information). Local Tours Chairman, Bill Gipe described a very successful excursion to the Pacific Pinball Museum in Alameda and described future trips including to hear the SF Banjo Band at Malloy's Tavern. Bill, also our Membership Chair, reported we now have 77 paid-up members and introduced guest Jim Remington, a friend of Sir Mike Chapman.

Tony and Rolf, Raffle Co-Chairs, conducted our raffle calling winning numbers for Jeff Chinn and Jack Major. Rolf presented Assistant Treasurer, George Fenech, with proceeds of \$51 for our treasury. Filling in for Birthday Chair Herman Ng, Bill Gipe introduced birthday honorees Bob Fox and Rolf Rosander. A coin toss determined Rolf was the recipient of a "Free" lunch ticket. Another drawing for a "Free" lunch was won by Bill Gipe. Bill thanked Paul Nocero for taking on the responsibilities of Little Sir and Stu Ruth for serving as Big Sir since 2021.

John McGlothlin described our "Geritol" prize, a bottle of La Cetto Nebbiolo, a dry red wine from Baja California. SIR Peter Aiello will be enjoying this prize.

Four entrees and two desserts were enjoyed. John Cooney prepared delicious chocolate brownies and Alfred Herpe brought assorted Entenmann donuts.

Guest Speaker Chair, Alfred Herpe, introduced our presenter, Bill Greig, a ship bar pilot for San Francisco and San Pablo Bays and the Sacramento River. Bill explained his profession is not an entry level job. He became a bar pilot after extensive sea experiences eventually leading to Captain of his ship and becoming a Pilot. An interesting "Question and Answer" session followed. Alfred thanked Bill for his interesting and informative talk.

Next meeting is Wednesday, May 7th, 2025 at the Basque Cultural Center.

## ACTIVITIES



**Local SIR Tours, Bill Gipe (650-878-5746).** Please join SIR friends at Malloy's on Saturday May 3 at 2 pm to hear and enjoy the San Francisco Banjo Band.

*A note from David after he and Ramon Canova attended the band's April performance.* The band performs the first Saturday of each month. During the April performance, booklets with all the words to songs being played were distributed to the audience for "singing-along."

Our very own John Cooney, a member of the band, played his banjo and performed a solo song he composed. The San Francisco Banjo Band celebrates 48 years of entertaining throughout the Bay Area. Often referred to as the "Best Kept Secret in the Bay Area," the band packs each performance with songs of our rich musical heritage, featuring the only instrument said to be indigenous to America, the Banjo! Join in the fun on May 3<sup>rd</sup>!



**Golf: Jack Major 415-412-6654 (cell) and Bill McGee 415-806-4608. May 2025.** 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 **2025 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 April 8th Sharp Park match:** Sharp Park was unplayable due to wet conditions with runoffs, many temporary greens, and the resulting cart-path-only restrictions. The tournament was cancelled.

**Next Sharp Park Tournament:**  
**Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> – 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. Fees are **\$35** - \$26 greens, and \$9 prize fund. Add a cart for \$25 for **\$60**. Breakfasts are available per Kevin. The previous months' wet conditions should

improve by May, so we should be back for the monthly tournaments.

**2025 Poplar Creek Tournaments** are Tuesdays 4/29 (was rescheduled from 4/15), 6/17, 8/20 (will change-aerating) 10/21, and 12/16. These start at 1000 with a 24-player max. This year's contract is pay the green fee \$38, pro shop merchandise voucher fees (\$8), and optional cart fees (\$18 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 April 29<sup>th</sup> –** results were not available at press time.

**Next Poplar Creek Tournament:** June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The latest date I have for reopening the bar area is **June 2025**.

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

**Important Update:** May will be the last SF-Marin Foodbank Pop-Up event, so please join us if you are able.

The Pop-up Pantries have been very popular, but are being “sunsetted” due to loss of funding. Based on the change in venues, I would like to recommend that we explore other volunteer opportunities for our branch. Please email Tad Bogdan or a SIR Board member with any recommendations.

Little SIR Paul Nocero, Paul Walsh, Bob Richter and Tad Bogdan represented our branch at the April 16 event. The traffic was slow, so we had an easy time of it before meeting up for a coffee and pastries afterwards.

Final SIR Branch 4 SF-Marin Food Bank opportunity:

**May Shift:** Roosevelt @ St. Dominic's

**Date and Time:** Tue, May 20, 2025 @ 10:30am -1:15pm

**Location:** 2390 Bush St, San Francisco, CA 94115

Please contact Tad Bogdan [tadbogdan@gmail.com](mailto:tadbogdan@gmail.com) or 650 863 8866 if you would like to join the fun and add to your Karma Pool.



**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,** from Dave Nigel. Bocce competition resumed during the month of April with a large turnout of players. Prior to the competition, SIR Charlie Leach, Roger and Nancy Kelly, Ramon Canova, and David Nigel met for lunch and conversation sharing many wonderful stories at the Doelger Center Deli. Play began at 1:00 p.m., The competition was keen, closely contended and featured many outstanding, and some lucky, shots.

Branch 4 Bocce players enjoy continuing gatherings and exciting competition Wednesday afternoons each month meeting the second, third, and fourth Wednesdays at the Doelger Senior Center court. We hope more SIR members will join the Bocce Ball Teams that meets every Wednesday afternoon from 1:00-3:00 p.m. except the first Wednesday. Co-Chairmen Charley Leach and Roger Kelly extend an on-going invitation for all interested to join in on this wonderful activity.

**State Branch Advisory Council and Area SIR Meetings.** The next Area 13 Big and Little SIR meeting is May 16<sup>th</sup>. Next month's Foghorn will feature a report. The Branch Advisory Council (BAC) met April 11<sup>th</sup>. The following items were discussed:

- Status of 501-C-3 conversion. We discussed pros and cons, the biggest being we could solicit and accept tax-deductible contributions and grants. One major factor is the cost of converting. I asked if the existing SIR Foundation (inactive) could be repurposed at a much lower cost.
- We discussed the current long-range planning effort. Is 5 years reasonable, or a shorter period? Agreed periodic review and updating is needed.
- "Joint Activities". Branches working with other organizations (i.e food distribution, BOCCE, golf) are encouraged and branches can use signs, t-shirts, caps, etc. to bring attention to SIR. (*your editor*)

### **"An Exceptional SIR",** by Dave Nigel.

This month, we feature SIR Jere Driscoll. Jere was born in San Francisco on July 9th 1942 and grew up in Bernal Heights. Jere was third of nine brothers and sisters. His education included Saint Anthony's Grammar School, Lowell High, Class of 1960 and City College of San Francisco. Jere loved sports, especially football at Lowell and City College.

Jere served in the United States Marine Corps Reserve 1964 through 1970, earning the rank of Sargent E-5. He worked at various jobs including PG&E and Pan American World Airways, before becoming a City of SF employee working first on the Embarcadero Belt Railroad. Jere retired from San Francisco's Department of Public Works as a Supervisor in 2002.

Family life is a profound love of Jere. Married for almost fifty-eight years. Jere and Sandy have three daughters and six grandchildren: three granddaughters and three grandsons. All these years, Jere and Sandy have resided in San Francisco.

Jere joined SIR Branch 4 in November 2011, sponsored by Doug Martin and Jim McCoy. Jere is an avid Bocce Ball player and enjoys the weekly competition and camaraderie of many Sirs. Jere worked as a football official for forty years for local high school and college games until retiring. Thanksgiving Day 2009, Jere officiated his last game, also the fiftieth anniversary of the last football game he played in at Kezar Stadium for Lowell High School.

Jere is a 45-year member of the Native Sons of the Golden West Twin Peaks Parlor 214, the Ancient Order of the Hibernians, the Old Time Athletes (OTA), and the Old Timers Baseball Association of San Francisco. Jere is a wonderful, well-liked, friendly member of our Branch and we are fortunate to have him as an active member of our Club.

*Want to Recognize a SIR, talk to Dave Nigel*

**See you on May 7<sup>th</sup>!**

## **Help (Still) Wanted!**