

	<p style="text-align: center;">SIR Branch 4 Foghorn February 2026</p>	
President -Tim Hazen	God Bless our USA	Vice President -Paul Nocero
Secretary -Bob Calhoun Asst. Secretary -Jack Major	Foghorn Editor John McGlothlin	Treasurer -Bob Golton Asst. Treasurer -George Fenech

February Luncheon. SIR Branch 4 will hold its next luncheon meeting Wednesday, February 4th, at the Basque Cultural Center, 599 Railroad Avenue, South San Francisco. We hope to see you there. Lunch will be served at 12 Noon and the bar is available at 11:30AM. Menu choices are:

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| 1. White Fish. | 2. Chicken Breast |
| 3. Steak Haché | 4. Mushroom Omelet (sold out) |

Cost is now \$35.00. This increase in cost is due to general rising costs affecting the amount the restaurant is now charging Branch 4. **Please respond ASAP if you will be attending, so we can make plans with the restaurant (late responses will be accepted but not preferred).** We need to know if you plan on attending AND your choice of entrée. You can respond directly to Paul at SIRpaul@nocero.com, or by phone to 415-254-8175. Please include your name with the e-mail response so Paul can record your request correctly.

February Speaker and more.... To be announced. Help is needed finding and scheduling speakers; can you help? We do have March tied down, our favorite "Tax Guy" with the latest information to help you make sure you prepare your returns and cope with 2026 changes, including the new requirement to make electronic payments of amounts due and your estimated taxes. Changes are in the wind for IRS with a reorganization plan announced in the last few days. Anyone want to bet with your editor that the changes will improve your customer experience?

Announcements and Information

Luncheon Attendance. The January lunch attendance was 36 (badge table count) and 54 members have paid their 2026 dues (through Jan. 15). The annual \$30 dues campaign continues until March. Your dues help support your branch and the SIR organization expenses. Please pay dues at the Badge Table or via USPS to Bill Gipe, 2323 Galway Drive, South San Francisco CA 94080. Thank you from Davd and Bill!

Membership. Branch 4 welcomes two new members, #52 Mike McCurdy of McCurdy Roofing sponsored by Bam Foster (SIR Golf) and #51 James Spes who is a retired AT&T communication tech (recruited by Bill). Say hello to Mike and James at the SIR lunch.

Sunshine. It was good to welcome back Al Herpe and Bill Lippincott to the January lunch.

Birthdays. Branch 4 celebrates the February birthdays of George Bacigalupi, John McGlothlin, Kent MacMaster, David Nigel and Paul Nocero.

SIR Book Drop or Swap is now open. Look for your next interesting read. You'll find the donated books located at the side table. Book report, "The FBI Way, by Frank Figliuzzi". Very readable story about the inside workings of the FBI, agent training and the high expectations. The author discusses the Comey and McCabe firings from a very balanced perspective, and some major cases including the Anthrax scare. Thank you, Bill Gipe!

Geritol For February. January's Beaujolais Nouveaux is waiting for a winner after we postponed the drawing. February's wine is a 2021 Zinfandel from Storey Winery in Glen Ellen. The Andrews vineyard is in the Fountaingrove area just north of Santa Rosa. At one time Zinfandel was referred to as "California's Beaujolais".

Not a fair comparison for either wine. If you like this wine, try Storey's Amador County Chenin Blanc (under \$10.00 at Lunardi's or closer to \$20.00 elsewhere).

Lost your Foghorn (gasp!) or want to look up an article in an older edition, this is the link for Branch 4's Newsletter Archive, <https://sirinc2.org/branch4/foghorns.html> . While you're at it, browse the SIR Website, Members Section, for more useful information, including training opportunities. <https://sirinc.org/members/>

Missing your copy of the State Newsletter, *The Rooster Crows*?
https://sirinc.org/uploads/newsletters/December-2025-Newsletter-Final_1.pdf

As Dave Sees it, by David Nigel

Branch 4 started the new year with our luncheon at the Basque Cultural Center in South San Francisco, attended by forty members. President Tim Hazen opened the meeting, highlighting the success of the recent Holiday Party and commending Party Chairman Bill Gipe and the organizing committee. David Nigel recognized Sir David Barnett for being profiled as an Exceptional Sir Member in our Foghorn newsletter, then led the invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, and "God Bless America."

Activity reports followed: Jack Major announced upcoming golf events, with special recognition for Jon Bologna's hole-in-one. Bocce Ball Co-Chair Charley Leach reported strong interest at the Doelger Senior Center and celebrated Sir Richard Soward's gold medal win during a Caribbean cruise Bocce competition. Bill Gipe detailed an upcoming tour of the WWII Liberty Ship Jeremiah O'Brien in San Francisco.

Bob Fox discussed restarting the wine tasting group. Bill Gipe introduced guest Jim Spes. Drawing Chairmen Tony Quarto and Rolf Rosander announced winners Ramon Canova and Al Herpe. Birthday Chairman Herman Ng recognized December and January birthdays, followed by a group serenade.

The luncheon featured four entrée options. Guest speaker Andy Danver, our Area Representative and State SIR Communication Director, outlined our organization's history and emphasized the importance of member recruitment, followed by a Q&A session. The "Geritol" prize presentation by John McGlothlin was postponed to the February meeting due to early departures. Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 4th

ACTIVITIES



Local SIR Tours. Bill Gipe, 650-892-5857 First Saturday, we try to visit Molloy's for the SF Banjo Band's program. Please look for a local tour clipboard at the Badge Table and make a local tour suggestion. Thanks for your suggestions. Look in the March Foghorn for details of a return visit to Hiller Aviation Museum in San Carlos.

Activities, Continued.



Golf: Jack Major 415-412-6654 (cell) and Pat Stan 650-504-6146

February 2026. 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>. Reported by Jack Major.

The 2026 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 January 13th Sharp Park match: The course was too wet to play, and depending on future storms, might be cancelled for February through April.

Results of the December 16th Poplar Creek match: It was cold and crisp to start and warmed up in the afternoon. We had 14 players, and 4 guests, Mike McCurdy and Jim Reed with Dennis

Meixner, David Silver with Tad Bogdan, and Wil Grownay with George Bacigalupi. Headline: Jon Bologna got Hole-in-One on #17. Too bad the bar was still closed, and he was in the last group. The rest rooms were open, showing some improvement since October 2024. The next tournament is scheduled for February with not much hope for progress on the repairs. Detail results were emailed.

The next Poplar Creek tournament is Tuesday February 17th. The 2026 schedule for Poplar Creek is: Tuesdays 2/17, 4/28, 6/16, 8/18, 10/20, and 12/15.



Community Service. **Tad Bogdan 650-863-8866.** Please contact Tad with your ideas and to request information. David Nigel and Paulie Walsh have been promoting an effort to collect “pull-tabs” to donate for Ronald McDonald House to use to raise funds to support families of cancer victims. Our BEC will be meeting with Tad to discuss other service opportunities. Please send Tad your suggestions.



Bocce. **Charley Leach 415-333-7277, Roger Kelly 650-346-966.** 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 play a game or 2, or maybe even 3. Beginners are (always) welcome!

Bocce, continued. Several Bocce Ball games were cancelled in December and early January due to inclement weather. Despite this, the group celebrated the achievement of “regular” Sir Richard Soward, who won first place in a Bocce tournament aboard a Celebrity Cruise in the Caribbean, outperforming twenty-six competitors. Our players salute Sir Richard Soward!

Co-Chairs Charley and Roger organize weekly games and recruit new members. Matches are competitive, with teams playing to 12 points; typically, three matches are played per session. Participation is growing, with regulars Charley Leach, Roger Kelly, Tim Hazen, Richard Soward, Pat Long, Jere Driscoll, Rey Hernandez, Ramon Canova, Herman Ng, and David Nigel.

Games are played on the second, third, and fourth Wednesdays each month from 1:00–3:00 p.m. at the Doelger Senior Center’s court in Daly City. The Co-Chairmen invite all interested SIR members to join the Bocce Ball teams and participate in this enjoyable activity.

“An Exceptional SIR”, as reported by David Nigel

Paul Walsh was born in 1955 in San Francisco. Raised in Daly City with three brothers, Paul’s family has deep roots in the area. His father, a WWII veteran and longtime PG&E employee, and his mother, a Lowell High School graduate, instilled strong values and a commitment to community. Paul attended Our Lady of Mercy, St. Ignatius High School, Skyline College, and Heald College’s Electronics School.

He began his career delivering newspapers and assembling bicycles, later working for CG Electric and Spreckles/Adhor Dairy. After college, Paul spent twenty-six years as an Adjuster/Mechanic in several Bay Area envelope companies, followed by sixteen years at ITW Labels in San Jose, where he retired as lead maintenance supervisor in 2022.

An avid athlete, Paul played softball for over four decades and now enjoys golf and bowling. He is an active member of the San Mateo Elks, the Young Men’s Institute #32 (where he served as president), and the American Legion. Paul is also involved with SIRs, participating in golf, volunteering, and charitable activities such as collecting pull tabs for Stanford Children’s Hospital’s Ronald McDonald House.

He has lived in several Bay Area communities and currently resides at Shelter Creek. Paul and Barbara are proud grandparents. His family includes his mother, daughter, son-in-law, and grandson. Notably, his late brother Robert was a Jesuit priest and held leadership roles at Loyola High School and Loyola Marymount University. Paul values his community involvement and finds great fulfillment through his ongoing service and participation in local organizations.

See you at our next Luncheon on March 4th!