

# LAMORINDA SIR BRANCH 174

MARCH 2014

Vol. 6, Issue 3

Branch 174 Website:  
<http://branch174.sirinc2.org/>

Newsletter Editor:  
Dick Curry



## OUR NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2014

HOLY TRINITY CULTURAL CENTER – 1700 SCHOOL ST., MORAGA

Social Hour: 11:00 – Lunch: 11:45 – Cost \$25.00. Payment in the exact amount would be appreciated.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETS AT 9:45 AM

### **BIG SIR MESSAGE**

#### **DICK COURTNEY**



I hope each of you is planning on attending our lunch on March 12, nearly the Ides of March (March 15) and just a few days prior to St. Patrick's Day (March 17). To celebrate the occasion we will be served a wonderful lunch of corned beef and cabbage by our caterer, Dennis Wallace and his staff. Please help us make the day a festive one by "the wearing of the green". We will also induct three new members that

day, Sir Ed Mein, Sir David White, and Sir Clark Wallace. Please join me in welcoming them into our Branch!

I want to express my appreciation to Sir John Ringer, our Membership Chairman, who continues to do an outstanding job of providing prospective new members with the information they need to make it easy for them to join our Branch as well as organizing the induction process to help make new members feel at home immediately by meeting with Officers and Directors of the Branch to provide them with background information on the SIR organization and our Branch as well as let them ask any questions they may have. Thanks for all of your good work, John!!

Hopefully, each of you will help us in our ongoing efforts to retain current members and attract new members. Please think about inviting any friends and acquaintances who might be interested in membership in SIR to join us at one of our monthly meetings. As I've noted previously, you will be doing them a favor and helping us keep our Branch healthy with the ideas and enthusiasm of new members.

My inbox hasn't exactly been overflowing with feedback from my message last month inviting feedback from members about things we can do to make our Branch even better. I'm not sure if this means that everyone is happy with the status quo or that you don't want to get involved with making suggestions for change. I just want to note again that I welcome any and all suggestions and that my offer still stands to use this space to communicate any feedback that I do receive.

I look forward to seeing each of you at the lunch meeting on March 12. Erin Go Bragh and Beannachtai Na Feile Paedraig Oraibh!! (One dollar to the first member who emails me with the correct meaning of these two phrases.).

### **LITTLE SIR PROGRAM**

#### **DAN CAWTHON**



Our March speaker will be Charles Mead, the Executive Director of C.A.S.A (Court Appointed Special Advocates) for Children, Contra Costa County.

C.A.S.A is an organization that provides one-on-one court advocacy to abused, neglected, or abandoned children who are dependents of the juvenile court. Through no fault of their own, they are part of the court system; many have been removed from their families due to the abuse they have suffered.

C.A.S.A recruits, trains, and supervises adult volunteers who are appointed by a juvenile court judge to speak for the best interests of these children. They advocate on behalf of their educational, mental health, medical/dental, and family/sibling visitation needs, and work to increase the likelihood that the children are placed with families in homes where they will thrive. In a sometimes bewildering sea of child welfare workers, attorneys, therapists and caregivers, the C.A.S.A volunteer is a consistent and caring advocate for the child. The one-on-one relationship that forms between the volunteer and these dependent children is often the only stable relationship they have while in foster care.

This promises to be a very powerful, instructive, presentation. Do plan to attend.



**HAPPY MARCH BIRTHDAYS TO:**

KEN BRANCH  
TYLER HUNT

JOHN RINGER

LOU CIAPPONI  
ED KELLER

DENNIS ROSS

WOODY CONE  
CHRIS LARDGE

RALPH TORNICROFT

RICHARD ELLIOTT  
TED McCLELLAN

One of the above members will win a free lunch if they attend the MARCH 2014 luncheon. Members whose birth month is MARCH and who do not see their name in the above list should call the Big SIR prior to the March meeting to ensure their names are included in the drawing.

NOTE: Members 90 years old or more will receive a free lunch in their birth month each year; however they must notify the Big SIR prior to the meeting.

**BRANCH REPORTS**

**SUNSHINE REPORT: STEWART KNUDSEN 376-4919**

It is sad to report the passing of **SIR Carl Fernandez** on Sunday, Feb. 2nd. Carl had resigned due to poor health. A Memorial service was held at St. Mary's College on Feb.17th. Carl had originally joined SIR Branch 171 and switched to Branch 174 when the two groups split.

Sad also to report the passing of **SIR Jim Foreman**. A funeral mass service was held on Feb. 8th at St. Isadore's Church, Danville.

From Branch 171, **Monte Logan** notes: **SIR Dave Humm** suffered a heart attack on Tuesday, Feb. 4th. He was operated on at John Muir Hospital and is now home recovering.

**SIR Ted Westfall** fell at home and injured his leg. Surgery was successful and he is in rehab.

It is sad to report the passing of **SIR Bruce Cunningham** on Feb. 20th. He had gone inactive in Sept. 2009. There will be no service. If you wish, you can express your sympathy to his wife, Bea; the address is 205 Calle La Montana, Moraga, CA 94556.

**TREASURER REPORT: BOB MAYNE 482-0511**

Jan. 2014	Balance, Beginning	\$5,332.82
	Month's Receipts	3,266.46
	Month's Disbursements	<u>3,313.07</u>
	Balance, Ending	\$5,286.21

**ATTENDANCE REPORT: ED KELLER 254-5949**

Attendance at the FEBRUARY luncheon was 109. There were 102 members (79 %), 4 guests and 3 visitors including our speaker. There were 17 excused members and 10 unexcused who will be asked to pay the cost for the lunch. The following members have missed 6 or more meetings out of the last 12 and could be subject to termination if they do not attend the March meeting: #68 and 165 (total 2). Certification of attendance at another SIR Branch will be considered a credit to the Attendance Record.

**Note:** To be excused from a future meeting or to bring a guest, please see instructions under **ATTENDANCE INFORMATION** and **TO BRING A GUEST** on the [last page of this Newsletter](#).

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT: JOHN RINGER (510) 452-0189**

Changes:

- Inactive List: Pete Tidmarsh has been removed from our Inactive list.
- Candidate List: Three candidates have been approved for membership: Ira Kelly, Ed Mein, and David White.
- Member Roster: Glen Jackson has resigned; Bob Burke and Jim Foreman passed away.

Current status:

- Inactive List = 14
- Candidate List = 3
- Member Roster = 129

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORMS** are available at the front desk, on our website, or, preferably, requested from John Ringer at our General Meeting, phone (510) 452-0189, or [Jeringer@comcast.net](mailto:Jeringer@comcast.net).

**INDUCTIONS: JOHN RINGER** (510) 452-0189

There were no inductions in February.

**GREETERS:** Our February meeting greeters were **SIR BOB PRINDLE** and **JACK SECHLER**. Did you meet them?

**FREE LUNCH:** Who says there's no such thing as a free lunch? Ask **DAVID FUHRIMAN** (birthday recipient) and **JOHN RINGER** (membership recipient) who will receive a free lunch at our March 2014 meeting. Congratulations guys!!

**ROSTER CORRECTIONS: JOHN RINGER** (510) 452-0189 [jeringer@comcast.net](mailto:jeringer@comcast.net)

NOTICE: Whenever your mail or E-mail address, your phone number, or other data reported in the Members Roster changes please advise John. He will in turn update the master Roster and advise the Newsletter staff. Current Member Rosters are posted on our Branch 174 website monthly and may be viewed using your User ID and Password.

**BRANCH #174 NEWSLETTER:** Editor **Dick Curry** 376-5541 [racorinda@pacbell.net](mailto:racorinda@pacbell.net), 19 Descanso Drive, Orinda, CA  
The deadline for receipt of Newsletter material by the Editor is the 20th of each month! E-mail is preferred.

Also enjoy reading *SIR Happenings*, our State Newsletter, and find out about all the fun things that are going on throughout our organization. You can now find the **Fall 2013** edition of *SIR Happenings* on our SIR State website at [www.sirinc.org](http://www.sirinc.org).

### **ACTIVITIES REPORTS (Branch 174 & Branch 171)**

**(New) APPLE USER GROUP ACTIVITY: DICK MACY** (Br. 171) 376-1180, Open (Br. 174)

Our meetings are held in the conference room at the Contra Costa County Supervisor Office at 3338 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette on the fourth Monday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to noon. The location is at the fire station across from El Charro restaurant. Enter through the left side door at top of steps. We will discuss the Apple computer, iPad and iPhone applications and Q&A on problems, answers and new ideas on use of these devices. Novices and advanced users are welcome.

**ASTRONOMY: GEORGE COBB** (Br. 174) 200-7749

We meet the second Monday of each month in the Tilden Room at the Concord Hilton Hotel on Diamond Boulevard. Our meetings commence at 1:30 immediately following Branch 8's monthly luncheon. Our next meeting will be on Monday, March 10, 2014 immediately following Branch 8's regular luncheon. Bill Hunter is our new Astronomy Activity Chairman. Please join us for an entertaining meeting. All are welcome. Please call or e-mail George ([GECBlue@aol.com](mailto:GECBlue@aol.com)) for details and further information.

**BARBERSHOP HARMONY: BRAD DEWEY (Br. 171) 376-3349, RON LEIKER (Br. 174) 376-3884**

HELP---The SIRpremes still NEED TO ADD ONE MORE TENOR---HELP

We are still looking for one more person to sing the tenor part in our songs. Tenors are special people--they have the ability to sing higher than the rest of us. Even some basses make excellent tenors by using their falsetto voices. Please check your falsetto next time you're in the shower. Maybe you can do it. If you think there's a chance, give me or Ron Leiker a call. In addition to the home phone numbers shown above, my cell phone number is (510) 914-4644.

**BOCCE BALL: BILL BONDY** (Br. 171) 254-1266, **NICK BIONDI** (Br. 174) 376-3233

Bocce Ball is normally played weekly on Tuesdays and Fridays at 10 a.m. just beyond the bandstand at the Moraga Commons, weather permitting. However, play has been postponed temporarily due to weather conditions. For information, call Bill or Nick.

**BOWLING - AREA 2: Lloyd West (Branch 19) 228-9037**

Area 2 Tournament bowling is held at the Clayton Valley Bowl on Wednesdays starting at 10 a.m. Contact: Mike Kropf - 689-1453. The format is four-man teams where at least three members have to be SIRs. COSTS: Lane costs, prize money and administrative expenses are currently \$13 per week for three games. All bowlers must join the USBC (United States Bowling Congress). There is an annual \$18 fee for the USBC. Contact Lloyd for additional information.

Additionally, SIR members are bowling at Diablo Lanes on Monument Blvd. also commencing at 10 a.m. on Wednesdays. Contact Dean Lucas 933-2737.

**BRIDGE: GREG TCHERKOYAN** (Br. 171) 838-0361 **STEWART KNUDSEN** (Br. 174) 376-4919

We meet at the Moraga Hacienda on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. Please arrive by 9:50 a.m. Play starts promptly at 10:00 a.m. Bring \$5 and a bag lunch. Call Greg or Stu for further information.

**COMPUTERS & TECHNOLOGY - AREA 2: NEIL SCHMIDT** (Branch 116) <np\_schmidt@pacbell.net>, **DEREK SOUTHERN** (Branch 8) <derek.southern@gmail.com>; **DICK CURRY** (Br. 174) 376-5541 <racorinda@pacbell.net>

Meetings of the Area 2 Computer and Technology Group are held the 3rd Thursday of each month (except June and December) from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Drive. Whether you are a beginner or a seasoned user, we try to offer something for everyone. We offer coffee & pastries and ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the hall rental and refreshments. Some months are free, so come and see if next month is one of those! All SIR members and their guests (spouses included!) are welcome.



At our next meeting on March 20 the presentation topic will Part 2 of our "Finance Management and the Internet" series. The first presentation, by Dennis Lowe, will address "Personal Finance Software & Apps". His presentation will explore various personal finance options, advantages/disadvantages as well as security issues. The second presentation, by Phil Goff, will be on "Internet Money (Bitcoin)". Phil will talk about how this new type of money, which bypasses the typical bank controlled process, works. Bitcoin is a market value controlled money so individuals may invest in it as well as use it buy things. There are articles in the news almost every day about Bitcoin and Phil will take the mystery out this new "fangled" money.

Time permitting, there will be a Q&A session with The Gurus of A2CAT where the advice is always 'priceless'. Suggestions for future presentations are always welcome. For more information and copies of our prior presentations visit our web site at [www.sir-web.org/computer/](http://www.sir-web.org/computer/).

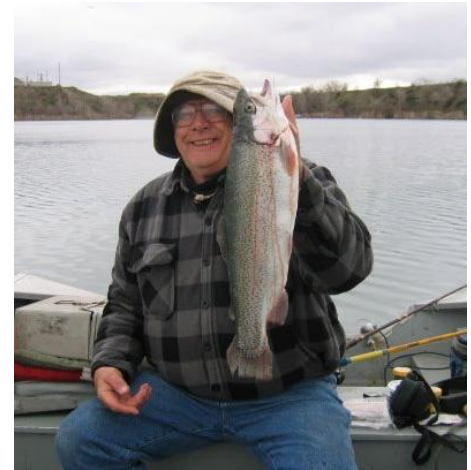
**DOMINOES: OPEN (Br. 171), OPEN (Br.174)**

Currently we are looking for interested members to resurrect this activity. Please call Donn Mall at 254-7145 or e-mail to [dmall@malltel.com](mailto:dmall@malltel.com) for details.

**FISHING - AREA 2: KARL DROESE** (Br. 171) 376-0468, Big Fish **PETE GATES** 937-2035

All SIR members and guests are welcome and, indeed, encouraged to participate in fishing trips as well as attend the monthly meetings. Our next meeting will be held Thursday, March 27, at the Legend Sports Bar and Grill, Diablo Creek Golf Course at 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Meetings start at 8:30 a.m.

The March meeting will include our annual fishing gear silent auction! SO MANY GOODIES!!!! Meanwhile, the sturgeon bite is very good, lots of fish, a few keepers, and a lot of near keepers. Imagine catching a 35 pound fish too small to keep. What fun! Pete Gates did get a legal size keeper. Carl Moyer, Paul Dubow, Rich Fiscina, Tom Boltz, Dick Thomson, and Bruce Persons all caught spunky shakers. Tom Kostik hosted Barry Rauchle and Joe Miscione striper fishing in the delta with great success. Over 20 fish caught each time, almost all released, but Barry came home with two very respectable line sides. Karl Droese and Paul King boated some very delicious yellow fin tuna fishing from Kona, HAWAII. Raleigh and Helen Davis caught bonita, and skip jack tuna, and jack crevalle from Puerto Vallarta, MEXICO. Much closer to home, the trout fishing can best be described as dismal. Carl Moyer did catch a 5 pounder and a 2 pounder from Shadow Cliffs Reservoir, but that was his total catch for 7 trips. Many others have fished Shadow Cliffs and Lafayette Reservoir catching 2 fewer fish. We have hope for the recent opening of San Pablo Reservoir, but it is poor after a rain, and we are finally getting just enough rain to muddy it. The lack of rain is going to make this a very challenging year for fishing.



*Carl Moyer caught this nice 5 pound trout at Shadow Cliffs Reservoir in Pleasanton*

We will be very busy this spring with: delta fishing for bass, catfish, and sturgeon; trout in mountain and local lakes.

Please contact Karl Droese (Br 171) at 376-0468 or Carl Moyer (Branch 8) 925-685-5243 for more information .

**GOLF: TONY SCHOEMEHL** (Br. 174) 376-1471 **GENE BELL** (Br.171) 284-1786

Golf outings this month are: Mar. 17 – Poppy Ridge and 3/24 – Blue Rock (E). Members who are interested in joining the Golf Group will find an application, the 2014 schedule, and other information at our Branch web site, <http://branch174.sirinc2.org/golf/home.htm>.

**HISTORICAL ADVENTURE and VETERANS ACTIVITIES: RICH SJOBERG** (Br. 174) 254-1661 **TED WESTPHAL** (Br. 171) 283-5467

We are reviewing new and exciting adventures to undertake during 2014. Your suggestions of activities to add to our list are always welcome.

**INVESTMENT GROUP - AREA #2: ALLEN ESPENMILLER** (Br. 174) 376-3977

The Area 2 \$ums Investment group meets at 8:00 a.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month (except November when we meet on the third Wednesday and December when there is no meeting) at the Diablo Creek Golf Course in Concord, off Port Chicago Highway. The Legends restaurant opens at 7:00 a.m. so plan to have a leisurely breakfast

along with your fellow members. Bring along a prospective member or two to hear this very timely talk and see what the Investment Group offers as an activity. Let me know if you are bringing a guest so we can acknowledge them. Let's support the restaurant and its excellent staff. Occasionally we will ask for a \$2.00 donation which we need to pay for items that come up. Please make sure that you all support us in this regard.

At our next meeting on March 26 our guest speaker will be **David Chee, CPA and Vice President of Reverse Mortgage Solutions, Inc.** David will go over the concepts of reverse mortgages and discuss whether or not reverse mortgages fit into your financial planning future. Reverse mortgages are controlled by the Federal Housing Authority and there have been some recent changes to the financial assessment of this program. David will delve into the details of what to consider in order to receive the most amount of money from a reverse mortgage with the least amount of fees and lowest interest rate. Be sure to plan to attend and learn about this aspect of Financial Planning.

**MODEL RAILROADING: GEORGE McLAIN** (Br. 174) 283-1957 **TOM WESTHOFF** (Br. 171) 283-5467

We have a small group of model railroaders, and I would like to invite all other interested members (and those on the waiting list) to join us. There is no need to have a model railroad of your own, as we will also be visiting some amazing model railroad club exhibits from time to time throughout the Bay Area. Just call George (or e-mail: geomclain@prodigy.net) to be included in our plans.

**PINOCHLE: Open** (Br. 174), **BILL KORN** (Br. 171) 376-1643

Our pinochle players meet from 9:30 to 12:30 at the Moraga Royale, 1600 Canyon Road, Moraga every Wednesday (except we meet on Tuesday preceding the first Wednesday of each month). An optional lunch is available following play for \$10.00. Please check with Bill as space is limited.

**POKER: DICK MEDEL** (Br. 174) 376-5568 & **BILL WIEGMANN** (Br. 174) 376-6088

Our low-stakes poker group meets the fourth Wednesday of each month from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. We meet at various locations. To join, please call Dick or Bill for information.

**RUBBER BRIDGE - AREA 2: ROD SPICER** 935-5306

Rubber bridge is played on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month from 9 a.m to 1:00. We meet at Carl's Jr. located in the Nob Hill Shopping Center on Oak Grove Road near Ygnacio Valley Road in Walnut Creek. Call Rod for information.

**STAMP GROUP: LARRY BEANS** (Br. 171) 376-7306, **RICH SJOBERG** (Br. 174)

We meet on the Friday following the first Wednesday of each month in the Board Room of Aegis, 950 Country Club Drive in Moraga at 9:30 a.m. Call Larry or Rich for information.

**TABLE POOL - AREA #2: BILL WEINBERG** 682-0962

We meet the 1st & 3rd Monday at 11:30 a.m. at Masse's - 2721 North Main in Walnut Creek. No advance notice is necessary. Just show up and play. Cost is \$5.00 for as long as you want to play. This is a special rate that Masse's gives the SIR members. You can also play during the day, at other times, for the same \$5.00 fee. Just tell them you're a member of SIR. We play mostly two man teams of eight ball, or a unique three-player game, called "Crazy Eights", depending on the number of participants. We usually play about 2 hours but not everyone stays for the final curtain. All SIRs in our area are welcome.

**TENNIS: RALPH THORNICROFT** (Br. 174) 376-8140, **JIM COUNTRYMAN** (Br.171) 631-1766

The tennis group plays at St. Mary's College at 8 a.m. on Tuesday and Thursday each week. They have players at every skill level and additional members are welcome. Call Ralph for information.

**WALKING: AL DONNER** (Br 171) 376-0421 **LYLE DECK** (Br. 174) 254-3829

We meet every Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. at the Serbian Church, unless we advise you otherwise via E-mail.

**WINE TASTING: GENE BELL** (Br. 171) 284-1786, **JON LEUTENEKER** (Br. 174) 376-7035

There are now two wine tasting groups. Both are couples events and normally held in-home starting about 7:00 p.m. with a cost per person averaging about \$15. Jon Leuteneker is chairman of the group that meets on the second Tuesday of each month - this group has a full roster. Gene Bell is chairman of the group that meets on the third Tuesday of each month - membership in this group is still open. For more information give Jon a call.

**TRAVEL: JOE TRACY** (Br. 174) 954-7801 e-mail: jotracy@comcast.net, **Open** (Br. 171), and **Bob Spellman** (Area 2) 934-8428

**Mar 21: SIR Day at the Races.** The horses are running at Golden Gate Field and the race track dedicates March 21st to Sons in Retirement. It's a very popular day trip as well as a good value. The cost of \$29.00 p/p includes admission, reserve parking, daily race program, great buffet lunch, tax and tips. Put your group together and join your fellow SIR for a fun day at the races. You might even win some money. Contact Bob Spellman Br 146, 934-9428.

**May 13-25: Hidden Gems of the Dalmatian Coast & Greece.** A 16 day Cruise aboard a privately owned Grand Circle small ship with a maximum of 50 passengers. Ports of Call will include Zagreb, Split, Hvar, Korcula, Dubrovnik, Montenegro, Butrint, Albania, Corfu, Delphi and Athens. Prices range from approximately \$4,595 to \$6,170 depending on accommodations and airfare. Trip also includes 37 meals, 12 exclusive tours with personal headsets, home hosted dinner, and resident Grand Circle Program Director. Currently 22 people have signed up. Contact Ken Richter Br 146, 689-6217.

**Sep 19-Oct 3: Grand Norwegian Coastal Voyage.** 14 night trip starting in Bergen, Norway with a stay at a Superior First Class Hotel before boarding your working Norwegian coastal vessel designed for comfortable cruising. You will visit 34 ports of call, with 12 orientation walking tours with Program Manager. Additionally cost of \$4,649 includes accommodations, 36 meals, audio headsets, all transfers and baggage handlings. Post trip to Copenhagen, Denmark also available. Contact Bob Spellman Br 146, 934-8428 for more information

The quarterly State **SIR Happenings** travel web page at <http://sirinc.org/HappeningsTravel-2013-11-Vol-10-Issue-4.pdf> offers additional SIR travel options. Tours addressed include a Mississippi River Cruise, a Mexican Riviera Cruise, a cruise to the Dalmatian coast and Greece (Branch 146), a tour of Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard and Cape Cod, and a 13 day trip in Spain. Be sure to check these tours out!!

**Know Your SIR**

**Please Note** – No new biographies of SIR Branch 174 members have been posted this month to our Members Biography directory link on our website <http://branch174.sirinc2.org>. View your and other member biographies by visiting our website, <http://branch174.sirinc2.org>, and clicking on the Members Biographies link in the column on the left side of the page. You will need your User Name and Password to access this section as well as the section with our current Member Roster. If you have forgotten or misplaced your user name and/or password, check with Dick Curry at [racorinda@pacbell.net](mailto:racorinda@pacbell.net). **Do we have your biography?**

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**Know Your SIR** is edited by **DICK COURTNEY** 376-1295, [courtney@silcon.com](mailto:courtney@silcon.com). We would like to have all of our members included in this directory which can be viewed by Branch 174 members on our website. If you have not previously done so please write down the salient points of your life (1/2 page) and provide it to Dick (via e-mail if possible). It will then be written up and posted on our website.

**Ask not what your Country can do for you; ask what you can do for your fellow SIR**

We all enjoy our SIR Branch, the activities, the camaraderie, the speakers, the food. But there is more. You can help make our organization more enjoyable and add to that which you draw from the Branch by filling a position and helping to distribute the work load from a few to many. If you have an interest in serving in a capacity in Branch 174 please contact Donn Mall at 254-7145 [dmall@malltel.com](mailto:dmall@malltel.com).

**2014**

**YOUR OFFICERS**

**YOUR DIRECTORS**



**Gil Neff**  
**Dick Courtney**  
**Dan Cawthon**  
**Lou Ciapponi**  
**Bob Mayne**  
**Dick Curry**

**Bill Lund**  
**Donn Mall**  
**Tony Schoemehl**  
**Jon Lueteneker**  
**Ed Keller**  
**Ron Leiker**

BIG SIR	DICK COURTNEY	376-1295
LITTLE SIR	DAN CAWTHON	(510) 748-7455
SECRETARY	GIL NEFF	254-5132
ASST.SEC.	DICK CURRY	376-5541
TREASURER	BOB MAYNE	482-0511
ASST. TRS.	LOU CIAPPONI	376-7536

JON LUETENEKER	376-7035
DONN MALL	254-1745
ED KELLER	254-5949
TONY SCHOEMEHL	376-1471
BILL LUND	376-3520
RON LEIKER	376-3884

# March 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Table Pool	4 Tennis Walking Pinochle	5 League Bowling	6 Tennis Rubber Bridge	7 Stamps	8
9  <i>Daylight Savings Time Begins</i>	10 Astronomy	11 Tennis Walking Pinochle Wine Tasting 1 Bridge	12 <b>SIR Branch 174 General Meeting</b> League Bowling	13 Tennis	14	15
16	17 Table Pool Golf  <b>St. Patrick's Day</b>	18 Tennis Walking Wine Tasting 2	19 Pinochle League Bowling	20  Tennis Computer & Technology <b>Spring Begins</b>	21	22
23	24 Golf Apple User Group	25 Tennis Walking Bridge Open Bowling	26 Pinochle Poker League Bowling Investments	27 Fishing Tennis Tourn. Bowling	28	29
30	31					

### February 2014

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23	24	25	26	27	28	

### Notes:

### April 2014

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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

# SIR ORGANIZATION 2014

STATE PRESIDENT  
REGION 6 DIRECTOR  
AREA 2 GOVERNOR

MAYNARD RODLAND  
DEAN STEICHEN  
GARY PLISCO

SIR Inc. Website: <http://www.sirinc.org>  
Area 2 Website: <http://area2.sirinc2.org/>  
Branch 174 Website: <http://branch174.sirinc.org>

## BRANCH 174

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

#### OFFICERS:

BIG SIR	DICK COURTNEY	376-1295
LITTLE SIR	DAN CAWTHON (510)	748-7455
SECRETARY	GIL NEFF	254-5132
ASST.SEC.	DICK CURRY	376-5541
TREASURER	BOB MAYNE	482-0511
ASST. TRS.	LOU CIAPPONI	376-7536

#### DIRECTORS:

JON LUETENEKER	376-7035
DONN MALL	254-7145
ED KELLER	254-5949
TONY SCHOEMEHL	376-1471
BILL LUND	376-3520
RON LEIKER	376-3884

#### PAST BIG SIRs

2009	BILL SUMNER
2010	BILL SUMNER
2011	PETE GIERS
2012	RON BASS
2013	NEAL HUNTLEY

### HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS:

2011	BILL SUMNER
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### SENIOR CERTIFICATE AWARD

WOODY CONE  
CHUCK McCOY  
JOHN GILCREST

### COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN:

MEMBERSHIP	JOHN RINGER (510)	452-0189
	PHIL BROOKS	376-6149
ATTENDANCE	ED KELLER	254-5949
	DICK NASH	376-5799
	PETER BERRYHILL	376-6624
	GARY ELLIOT	254-8073
	RALPH DAVISSON	376-7048
	BILL WIEGMANN	376-6088
	FARZAD NAMDARAN	254-7977
HISTORIAN	NEAL HUNTLEY	283-5127
PROGRAMS	DAN CAWTHON (510)	748-7455
CHAPLAIN	TOM HENRY (510)	502-5724
INDUCTION	JOHN RINGER (510)	452-0189
PIANIST	FRANK LINDSKOOG	376-2424
SUNSHINE	STU KNUDSEN	376-4919
ARRANGEMENTS	HAROLD HILL	254-4742
BAR ASSIST	BILL MANN	254-4969
	ART HILLMAN	254-0377
ROOSTER TAILER	WALT SASSER	283-8790
BRANCH AUDIT	JACK HOLTZAPPLE	283-5148
LADIES DAY	BOB MAYNE	283-8924
PUBLICITY	LARRY SWINDELL	376-5692
STRATEGIC PLANNING	BOB HICKMAN	283-2212
NOMINATING COMMITTEE	BILL SUMNER	376-3200
NEWSLETTER EDITOR:	DICK CURRY	376-5541
BACK UP		
WEB MASTER	DICK CURRY	376-5541
	BACK UP	
KNOW YOUR SIR	DICK COURTNEY	376-1295
PHOTOGRAPHER	JORGE BROWN	254-4863
ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR	DONN MALL	254-7145

<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>BRANCH 171 COORDINATOR</u>	
APPLE USERS	<b>DICK MACY</b>	<b>376-1180</b>
ASTRONOMY		
B'SHOP HARMONY	<b>BRAD DEWEY</b>	376-3349
BOCCE BALL	<b>BILL BONDY</b>	254-1266
BOWLING		
BRIDGE	<b>GREG TCHERKOYAN</b>	838-0361
COMPUTERS & TECHNOLOGY		
DOMINOES	OPEN	
FISHING	KARL DROESE	376-0468
GOLF	GENE BELL	284-1786
HISTORICAL ADVENTURES & VETERANS	<b>TED WESTPHAL</b>	283-5467
HORSESHOES		
INVESTMENT		
MODEL RAILROAD	<b>TOM WESTHOFF</b>	376-2609
PINOCHLE	<b>BILL KORN</b>	376-1643
POKER		
RUBBER BRIDGE		
STAMPS	<b>LARRY BEANS</b>	376-7306
TABLE POOL		
TENNIS	JIM COUNTRYMAN	631-1766
TRAVEL	OPEN	
WALKING	<b>AL DONNER</b>	376-1594
WINE TASTING	<b>GENE BELL</b>	284-1786

<u>BRANCH 174 COORDINATOR</u>	<u>AREA 2 CHAIRMAN</u>
OPEN	
GEORGE COBB	<b>BILL HUNTER, Br 8</b> 254-6281
RON LEIKER	
NICK BIONDI	
OPEN	
<b>STU KNUDSEN</b>	<b>LLOYD WEST, Br 19</b> 228-9037
DICK CURRY	ROD SPICER 935-5306
	<b>NEIL SCHMIDT, Br 116</b>
	<b>DEREK SOUTHERN, Br 8</b> 253-1646
OPEN	
OPEN	<b>PETE GATES</b> 937-2035
<b>TONY SCHOEMEHL</b>	<b>RAY WEISZ Br. 146</b> 240-0424
376-1471	
<b>RICH SJOBERG</b>	
254-1661	
OPEN	
<b>ALLEN ESPENMILLER</b>	<b>ALLEN ESPENMILLER</b> 376-3977
376-3977	<b>LARRY WONG</b> 457-0807
	<b>GEORGE SCHULZE</b> 429-1756
<b>GEORGE McLAIN</b>	
283-1957	
OPEN	<b>BILL KORN</b> 376-1643
<b>DICK MEDEL/BILL WIEGMANN</b>	<b>ROD SPICER</b> 935-5306
376-5568/376-6088	
RICH SJOBERG	
254-1661	
OPEN	<b>BILL WEINBERG, Br 146</b> 682-0962
<b>RALPH THORNICROFT</b>	
376-8140	
<b>JOE TRACY</b>	<b>BOB SPELLMAN, Br 146</b> 934-8428
954-7801	
LYLE DECK	
254-3829	
<b>JON LEUTENEKER</b>	
376-7035	

BOLD - INDICATES ACTIVITY CHAIRMAN



## GENERAL INFORMATION

**SONS IN RETIREMENT INC.** is a Non Profit Organization for Retired Men, Devoted to the Promotion of Independence and Dignity of Retirement.

**NON RESPONSIBILITY DECLARATION:** All activities and trips arranged for or by, or sponsored by, Sons in Retirement Incorporated or its Branches, are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their guests who desire to participate. Sons in Retirement, Inc., Lamorinda Hills Branch 174 Inc., and its Officers, Directors, and Activity Chairmen do not assume any responsibility for the well being or safety of the participants; their property; or for any monetary loss in matters pertaining to SIR activities or to travel.

**PARKING:** Luncheon parking is available in the lot at the side of the Holy Trinity Cultural Center, 1700 School Street, the lot at Willow Springs Church across the street, and on the street. Car-pooling is recommended.

**TABLE RESERVATIONS:** Seats at tables at our luncheon meeting may only be held or "reserved" when a paid luncheon ticket is placed on the table in front of the seat.

**ATTENDANCE INFORMATION:** Members missing three (3) consecutive meetings without being excused, or attending less than six (6) of the last 12 meetings (excluding Ladies Day), are subject to termination. Certification of attendance at another SIR Branch will be considered a credit to the attendance record.

**TO BE EXCUSED FROM A FUTURE MEETING:** At each regular meeting, a sign-out sheet will be available at the Attendance Table for the next 2 regular meetings. If you have other planned activities for either of those meeting dates, please enter your name and number on the appropriate sign-out sheet. You can also be excused from a meeting by E-mail to [lunch677@gmail.com](mailto:lunch677@gmail.com) providing your name, membership number, and request to be submitted prior to 1 p.m. on the Saturday before the scheduled meeting (for those without E-mail capability see instructions below). UNEXCUSED MEMBERS will be asked to pay the cost of the missed luncheon.

**TO BRING A GUEST:** A member may bring a guest to a meeting with an E-mail request to [lunch677@gmail.com](mailto:lunch677@gmail.com) providing your name and number and the guest's name as he wants it on his Guest badge. If you do not have E-mail capability, you may call the HOTLINE at 925-377-5880, identify yourself as a Branch 174 member, and provide the information above for either being excused from a meeting or bringing a guest. Either the call or your E-mail request must be submitted prior to 1 p.m. the Saturday before the meeting. Sponsors must make a reservation for each guest for each meeting attended and will be responsible for paying for his guest(s) meal should his guest not show.

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS:** A Guest must attend a regular meeting before submitting an application for membership. Branch 174 application forms can be obtained at the front table, on our Branch website at <http://branch174.sirinc2.org> or from John Ringer. Completed applications should be handed to John or mailed to John at his residence at 165 Oak Road, Piedmont, CA 94610.

**TEMPORARY INACTIVE STATUS** may be granted by the Executive Committee for "prolonged illness of the member or his spouse, or for an extended absence from the Branch locale". To request inactive status call or e-mail the Membership Chairman John Ringer at 510-452-0189 or [<jeringer@ix.netcom.com>](mailto:jeringer@ix.netcom.com).