

LAMORINDA SIR BRANCH 174

APRIL 2015

Vol. 7, Issue 4

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

Newsletter Editor:
Dick Curry



OUR NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2015

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

DAN CAWTHON



Though the calendar indicates that spring begins on March 21, in the Bay Area it seems to have arrived several weeks ago: the temperatures are balmy, the skies are clear, the flowers and trees are in full bloom. But we all know that one essential feature of the season is missing: RAIN! Hopefully we'll have "April showers" to compensate for the dry months of January, February, and March!

That said, there's nothing dry about the increase in membership for Branch 174. It was great inducting four new members in March, and we welcome two new members in April:

Tom Vinzent, who grew up in Oakland's Montclair district, and graduated from Cal in 1960. His career includes 15 years at Coldwell Banker, and 10 years at World Savings in Oakland. Following that, he was a commercial property appraiser.

Mait Dimock, was born in Berkeley, but grew up in Ithica, New York, where both his parents were employed at Cornell University. He enjoyed an insurance career; and formed his own SF company, Dimock and Associates, in 1981.

Many thanks to those of you who invite your friends to come to our luncheons as guests. It's the most effective way I know of to introduce them to SIR, Branch 174. "Growth is the surest indicator of life!" We're on a roll; let's keep it going!

The spring holidays are upon us: Passover begins on April 3, coinciding with Good Friday; Easter Sunday is April 5. And, another "Rite of Spring"—the first home game for the Oakland A's is April 6; for the San Francisco Giants, it's April 13.

Wishing you all the best-- however you choose to celebrate this glorious season of new life.

LITTLE SIR PROGRAM

JON LEUTENEKER



St. Mary's College is one of Lamorinda's great assets. Not only is the campus beautiful, the students engaging (when they are not racing through our neighborhoods to their classes) and their athletic teams nationally recognized, but they have many faculty who are an active part of the vibrancy of our communities. Brother Mel Anderson is one of those special people. His presentation to our group was well received and packed with St. Mary's history, current events and Brother Mel's many reflections on the status of higher education.

Our guest speaker at the April luncheon will be Dick Callahan. If you have attended an athletic event around the Bay Area, more than likely you have heard Dick's voice. Currently, he is the Public Address Announcer for the Oakland Athletics. He was the announcer for the Golden State Warriors for the past 19 years and university of California football for 11 years. For 35 years, he was the voice of basketball at St. Mary's College. In 1988, he was named Honorary Alumnus and currently serves on St. Mary's College Board of Regents.

Dick never booked anything that would interfere with the potential of post-season play until 2012. He planned a cruise with his three daughters and their husbands. Sure enough, the A's made the playoffs and Dick cancelled his cruise. He does not miss a game. He is known for his impeccable work ethic and grand-slam pronunciation of player's names.

Mr. Callahan started Kosich & Callahan Insurance Agency in Lafayette in 1981 and is still going strong. He is active in his community, his church and is well know all about town.

As always, if you have a suggestion for a speaker, please call me at 925.376.7035 or email jonleuteneker@comcast.net.



HAPPY APRIL BIRTHDAYS TO:

PAUL BRESLIN
RON PLOMGREN

DON KAVANAGH
RUDY REICH

JIM LIESKE
BOB WARNKE

JOHN McCLELLEN
BILL WIEGMANN

One of the above members will win a free lunch if they attend the APRIL 2015 luncheon. Members whose birth month is APRIL and who do not see their name in the above list should call the Big SIR prior to the APRIL 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 long time SIR Branch 174 member **Chuck McCoy** on February 23. Chuck was inducted into Branch 171 in August 1997 and moved to Branch 174 in 2009. Services were held last February 28th at the Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church.

From **Branch 171, Monte Logan** notes: We are sad to note the passing of SIR Marvin Duval on Sunday, March 15. A true gentleman.

Please try to contact your SIR friends with illnesses to offer your support and encouragement and keep them in your thoughts and prayers. A friendly call is always welcome. Cards and letters are also appreciated. If you are aware of an ill SIR, please let Stu or Monte know by e-mail or phone.

TREASURER REPORT: BOB MAYNE 482-0511

February 2015	Balance, Beginning	\$5,100.53
	Month's Receipts	2,785.00
	Month's Disbursements	<u>2,812.61</u>
	Balance, Ending	\$5,072.92

ATTENDANCE REPORT: ED KELLER 254-5949

Attendance at the MARCH luncheon was 95. There were 89 members (67 %), 3 guests and 3 visitors including the speaker. There were 34 excused members and 9 unexcused who will be asked to pay the cost for the lunch. 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](#). Please ensure you use the **correct e-mail address**.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: JOHN RINGER (510) 452-0189

Changes:

- Inactive List: No changes have been made to our Inactive membership status list.
- Candidate List: Two applicants for membership, Mait Dimock and Tom Vinzent, have been accepted by the BEC.
- Member Roster: Four new members were inducted. SIR Chuck McCoy passed away during March.

Current status:

- Inactive List = 18
- Candidate List = 2
- Member Roster = 131

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.

INDUCTIONS: JOHN RINGER (510) 452-0189

MARCH INDUCTIONS

APPLICANT	NO.	YR.	ADDRESS	EMAIL	PHONE	BM
Jack Helms	200	2015	18 Betlin Pl. Moraga	jhelms@comcast.net	376-0312	12
Bob D'Angelo	201	2015	1073 Oak Hill Rd., Laf.	bobdangelo1@gmail.com	284-1431	8
Dieter Bluhm	202	2015	50 Ivy Drive, Orinda	wdbluhm@gmail.com	360-9348	12
Bill Hansen	203	2015	58 Corte Del Caballo, Mor.	hansenwilliamm@gmail.com	284-5268	7

GREETERS: Our March meeting greeters were **SIR BILL MUESER** and **BILL WATSON**. Did you meet them?

FREE LUNCH: Who says there's no such thing as a free lunch? Ask **KEN BRANCH** (March birthday recipient) and **CHUCK STRICKLER** (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

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 Member Roster and advise the Newsletter staff. Our current Member Roster is 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, 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 **WINTER 2015** edition of *SIR Happenings* on our SIR State website at www.sirinc.org. **Some very interesting articles including one spotlighting our own Branch 171/174 Stamp Collecting activity group.**

ACTIVITIES REPORTS (Branch 174 & Branch 171)

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's Office at 3338 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette on the fourth Monday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Our next meeting is scheduled for April 27. The location of our meetings is at 3338 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Lafayette adjacent to the fire station across from El Charro restaurant. Enter through the left side door at top of steps. We will be discussing the pending new Apple offerings - iPhotos to be replaced by OS X photos, Apple watch news, rumors on Apple TV, Apple car, etc.. Always focusing on your current problems and suggestions and discoveries you have found. Novices and advanced users are welcome.

ASTRONOMY: GEORGE COBB (Br. 174) 200-7749, **BILL HUNTER** 947-6947

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, April 13. Please join us for an entertaining meeting. All are welcome. Please call or e-mail George (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 number shown above, Brad's cell phone number is (510) 914-4644.



BOCCE BALL: BILL BONDY (Br. 171) 254-1266, **JOE FITZGERALD** (Br. 174) 376-4656

We are getting ready for the start of our 2015 Bocce Season. **We kick off our 2015 season with our first games at 10:00 am Tuesday, May 5th.**

Our arrangements remain similar to last season.

- every Tuesday and Friday morning, 10 am to 12 pm weather permitting, running thru mid-October and our season ending get together at Campo di Bocce in Livermore.
- a \$2 charge per day to cover basic costs, primarily use of the bocce courts
- location: bocce courts behind Band Shell at Moraga Commons
- Activities are very informal. No set teams, and scores aren't saved for any

sort of ongoing handicapping

- Everyone is welcome. No experience is required nor necessarily an advantage.

- OBJECTIVE: Fresh Air, Friendly Competition, Good Conversations & Relaxation

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

Area 2 Tournament bowling, sponsored by Branch 19, is held at the Clayton Valley Bowl on Wednesdays starting at 10 am. The Winter/Spring league has commenced; the league initially consists of 8 teams. Contact: John Carl, 827-2444, for information.

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. Some months we ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and pastries - other months are free. All SIR members and their guests (spouses included!) are welcome.

Our next meeting will be held April 16. Nick Klowski and he will discuss 3D Printing! It's amazing the range of products which a 3D printer can produce; from biological items such as bones to replicas of archeological treasures or fossils. Some uses are more trivial, exact models of bride and groom to adorn a wedding cake for example! When did this technique start? What other uses lie in store for the printer? Come and find out.



If there is time following the presentation, there will be a Q&A with the gurus, and possibly an informal "Sharing Tips & Tricks" segment where individuals will be asked to share some of their computer, Smartphone, tablet, etc. tips with the group.

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

Currently we are looking for interested members to resurrect this activity. Please call Chris Lardge at 376-7830 or e-mail to chrislardge@aol.com for details.

FISHING - AREA 2: KARL DROESE (Br. 171) 376-0468, Big Fish **DICK THOMSON** 944-1760

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, April 23, 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.

It's all about the trout, most from San Pablo Reservoir. Fishing there were Ernie Wong, Pete Gates, George Vogt, Reggie Fromm, Karl Droese, Rich Fiscina, Terry Miller, Mike Corker, and Carl Moyer. Everybody caught fish. The one's we kept were between one and two pounds. No giants yet. Carl Moyer, Ernie Wong, and Ken Konzak fished the shore at Shadow Cliffs Reservoir for a couple of trout. Shadow Cliffs is still too low to launch our boats there, but it is being filled, so we are hopeful. Two boats tried for sturgeon by the mothball fleet. Rich Fiscina took Pete Gates, Tom Boltz, and Ron Maciak. Carl Moyer took Terry Miller. Only a few small sturgeon were caught on a gorgeous spring day. April 4th is the opening day for salmon in our area. April 15th is the opening day for rockfish from the ocean. We have great expectations. Meanwhile Tom Kostik continues his fun and productive striper fishing in the Delta. Soon the black bass will be occupying his time.



Rich Fiscina is pleased with these nice trout caught at San Pablo Reservoir fishing with Karl Droese and Carl Moyer

We will be very busy this spring with: delta fishing for bass, catfish, striped bass, and sturgeon; trout in mountain and local lakes. Salmon and rockfish season on the ocean starts in early April. We live in a fishermen's paradise.

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: April 6 at Paradise Valley, April 13 at Roddy Ranch and April 27 at Tilden. Members who are interested in joining the Golf Group will find an application, the 2015 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

Several openings are available for those of you who wish to tour the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory on Tuesday May 12. And many more sign-ups are needed for our tour of the Computer History Museum in Mt. View on Thursday, June 11. Please let me know by phone or e-mail (283-2172 or tawiii@att.net). Also, there will be an opportunity to sign up at our April luncheon.

We are currently reviewing other new and exciting adventures to undertake during the first quarter of 2015. Your suggestions of activities to add to our list are always welcome.

INVESTMENT GROUP - AREA #2: GARY MOORE (Br. 174) 254-8742, **David Sutton** (Br-8) 686-0158, and **Leary Wong** (Br-8) 457-0807

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 April 22 our guest speaker will be **Brian Pretti**, Partner and Chief Investment Officer of Capital Planning Advisors, in Walnut Creek. Brian's topic will be "Through the Global Financial and Economic Wormhole". On the surface, the general economy and markets appear as if all is well. But Brian will discuss how underneath we are watching one of the most anomalous economic and financial market cycles we've ever seen. Just what is the character of the current domestic and global economies and what are the key points we need to watch as investors?

Brian has been an investment management professional for over three decades. Prior to joining Capital Planning Advisors as Partner and Chief Investment Officer, he served as Senior Vice President and Chief Investment Officer for Mechanics Bank Wealth Management since 1990 where he was instrumental in growing assets under management from \$150 million to over \$1.4 billion. Brian is a sought after public speaker on the topics of the financial markets and economy, and has been quoted in Barrons, the Financial Times, San Francisco Business Times and Comstock's. Brian was the founder, publisher and editor of ContraryInvestor.com, a subscription based investment research website serving institutional, private and retail investors from 1998-2012, and continues to write for numerous well known investment websites such as ZeroHedge and Financial Sense.

Brian holds the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) and Certified Financial Planner (CFP(r)) designations as well as having earned an MBA in Finance from San Francisco State University, a BS in Economics and BA in Business Administration from the University of San Francisco.

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 and second Wednesdays 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 1st 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 every 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 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, Br. 171 (OPEN)

We play at St. Mary's on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8:30 a.m. during the summer and 9 a.m. during the winter. An email call is sent out on Friday and the roster is e-mailed Sunday. Let Ralph know if you would like to be on the email list. Open to members of both SIR Branches. Ralph can be reached at 925-376-8140 and at grtincal@aol.com.

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

July 22-28, 2015: Baseball Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. Trip will include baseball games in New York and Boston. The Highlight will be the Baseball Hall of Fame and induction ceremonies at Cooperstown. Travelers will enjoy home pick-up, airport transfers, professional tour host, r/t airfare, 6 nights' accommodations, all taxes and gratuities. Cost \$2,975.00. Contact **Ken Richter**, Br. 146, 698-6217.

Aug 21-Sep 12, 2015: Treasures of France-a River Journey from Normandy to Provence. A 22 day river cruise aboard a deluxe river boat. The highlights include visits to D-Day Beaches of Normandy, Beaujolais, Burgundy regions, Lyon, and

other river towns. Prices range from \$6,499 to \$8,299 which includes airfare, 22 nights' accommodation, 59 meals, 17 sightseeing tours with audio headsets, all transfers, luggage handling, and beer or wine at dinner. Pre and post trips are available. Contact **Ken Richter** Br. 149, 698-6217.

Aug 21- Sep 1, 2015: Paris & Highlights of Normandy-a Seine River Cruise. 12 day cruise aboard deluxe river boat with visits to Paris, D-day Beaches of Normandy, Vernon, Honfleur, and Rouen. Prices range from \$3,699 to \$6,199 including 10 night accommodations, 29 meals, 9 sightseeing tours with audio headsets and beer or wine at dinner. Two for one airfare is available plus pre or post trips. Contact **Ken Richter** Br.146, 689-6217.

Aug 31-Sep 12, 2015: French Waterways- Highlights of Burgundy, Beaujolais & Provence. 12 day river cruise on deluxe river boat with visits to Lyon, Avignon, Vivier and Beaujolais-Burgundy regions. The prices range from \$3,999 to \$6,649. Trip includes 10 night accommodations, 29 meals, 8 sightseeing tours with audio headsets, and beer or wine with dinner. Two for one airfare is available plus pre & post trips. Contact **Ken Richter** Br 146, 689-6217.

Oct 10, 2015: Fleet Week on the San Francisco Belle. The Belle is a San Francisco landmark that evokes the City's charm. There will be no better vantage point to see the Fleet Week Air Show than directly under the planes. Cost \$128.00 includes r/t deluxe motorcoach transportation, cruise on board the SF Belle, reserved seats on board ship, hosted buffet luncheon, music entertainment, special viewing of the Blue Angels and gratuity. Contact **Ken Richter**, Br 146, 689-6217.

Dec 7, 2015: The Holidays are Blooming in the Valley. Your first stop will be at Hilmar Cheese Factory, where your guide will step onto your motorcoach for a tour through their facility, followed by a delicious hosted buffet lunch. After lunch you will have time to shop in their large country store. Next stop will be Duarte Nursery to view their amazing Holiday poinsettias. Their greenhouses hold one of the largest selections of poinsettias available. You will tour the facility with time to shop before departing for home. Cost \$54.00 p/p including r/t motorcoach, hosted lunch, tours and driver gratuity. Contact **Ken Richter**, Br. 146, 689-6217.

The quarterly State **SIR Happenings** travel web page at <http://sirinc.org/HappeningsTravel-2015-02-Vol-12-Issue-1.pdf> offers additional SIR travel options. Tours addressed include 13 days cruising the Best of Scandinavia, a 5 day trip to Las Vegas, 11 days on the Italian Riviera and Lake Como, 8 days cruising the Mississippi River, an 11 day Eastern Mediterranean cruise, 18 day land tour of Turkey, and a round-trip cruise to the Mexican Riviera. **Be sure to check these tours out!!**

Know Your SIR

Please note biographies of our newest members, Jack Helms, Bob D'Angelo, Dieter Bluhm, and Bill Hansen have recently been posted to the Members Biographies section of our website. View your and other member biographies by visiting our website, <http://branch174.sirinc2.org>, and clicking on the Member 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 our current Member Roster. If you have forgotten or misplaced your user name and/or password, check with Dick Curry at racorinda@pacbell.net. **Do we have your biography?**

Know Your SIR is edited by **DICK COURTNEY** 376-1295, 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. Remember, many hands make for little work!! If you have an interest in serving in an activities capacity in Branch 174 please contact Donn Mall at 254-7145 dmall@malltel.com. If you have an interest in a position on our BEC as an officer or director (and get your picture in the Newsletter!!) please contact Pete Giers at 254-4667 paulgiers@comcast.net.



SIR ORGANIZATION 2015

STATE PRESIDENT
REGION 6 DIRECTOR
AREA 2 GOVERNOR

BOBBIE HAIRSTON
RICHARD DeVOE
ED BENSON

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

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

OFFICERS:

BIG SIR	DAN CAWTHON	(510)748-7455
LITTLE SIR	JON LEUTENEKER	376-7035
SECRETARY	GIL NEFF	254-5132
ASST.SEC.	DICK CURRY	376-5541
TREASURER	BOB MAYNE	482-0511
ASST. TRS.	LOU CIAPPONI	376-7536

DIRECTORS:

ED KELLER	254-5949
DONN MALL	254-7145
TONY SCHOEMEHL	376-1471
BILL LUND	376-3520
RON LEIKER	376-3884
TYLER HUNT	284-5561

PAST BIG SIRs

2009	BILL SUMNER
2010	BILL SUMNER
2011	PETE GIERS
2012	RON BASS
2013	NEAL HUNTLEY
2014	DICK COURTNEY

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS:

2011	BILL SUMNER
2014	PETE GIERS

SENIOR CERTIFICATE AWARD

WOODY CONE
CHUCK McCOY

BRANCH 174

MEMBERSHIP

ATTENDANCE

HISTORIAN

PROGRAMS

CHAPLAIN

INDUCTION

PIANIST

SUNSHINE

ARRANGEMENTS

BAR ASSIST

ROOSTER TAILER

BRANCH AUDIT

LADIES DAY

PUBLICITY

STRATEGIC PLANNING

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

BACK UP

WEB MASTER

BACK UP

KNOW YOUR SIR

PHOTOGRAPHER

ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN:

JOHN RINGER	(510)	452-0189
PHIL BROOKS		376-6149

ED KELLER	254-5949
RON LEIKER	376-3884
PETER BERRYHILL	376-6624
BILL WIEGMANN	376-6088
FARZAD NAMDARAN	254-7977

NEAL HUNTLEY	283-5127
JON LEUTENEKER	376-7035
TOM HENRY	(510) 502-5724

JOHN RINGER	(510)	452-0189
FRANK LINDSKOOG		376-2424
STU KNUDSEN		376-4919
HAROLD HILL		254-4742
BILL MANN		254-4969
ART HILLMAN		254-0377
WALT SASSER		283-8790
JACK HOLTZAPPLE		283-5148
PETE GIERS		254-4667
NEAL HUNTLEY		283-5127
BOB HICKMAN		283-2212
PETE GIERS, Chair.		254-4667
DICK CURRY		376-5541

DICK CURRY	376-5541
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DICK COURTNEY	376-1295
JORGE BROWN	254-4863

CHRIS LARDGE	376-7830
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ACTIVITY

BRANCH 171 COORDINATOR

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

BRANCH 174 COORDINATOR

DICK CURRY	376-5541
GEORGE COBB	200-7749
RON LEIKER	376-3884
JOE FITZGERALD	376-4656
OPEN	
STU KNUDSEN	376-4919
DICK CURRY	376-5541
OPEN	
OPEN	
TONY SCHOEMEHL	376-1471
OPEN	
RICH SJOBERG	254-1661
OPEN	
GARY MOORE	254-8742
OPEN	
GEORGE McLAIN	283-1957
OPEN	
DICK MEDEL/BILL WIEGMANN	376-5568/376-6088
RICH SJOBERG	254-1661
OPEN	
RALPH THORNICROFT	376-8140
JOE TRACY	954-7801
LYLE DECK	254-3829
JON LEUTENEKER	376-7035

AREA 2 CHAIRMAN

BILL HUNTER, Br 8	254-6281
LLOYD WEST, Br 19	228-9037
ROD SPICER	935-5306
NEIL SCHMIDT, Br 116	
DEREK SOUTHERN, Br 8	253-1646
DICK THOMSON	944-1760
RAY WEISZ Br. 146	240-0424
GARY MOORE	254-8742
DAVID SUTTON	686-0158
LEARY WONG	457-0807
BILL KORN	376-1643
ROD SPICER	935-5306
BILL WEINBERG, Br 146	682-0962
BOB SPELLMAN, Br 146	934-8428

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 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 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.

E-MAIL CONFIRMATION: If you advise the Attendance Chairman using our e-mail address (lunch677@gmail.com) you will receive a confirmation response. If you fail to receive a response please submit your request again.

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 [<jjeringer@ix.netcom.com >](mailto:jjeringer@ix.netcom.com).