



Jeff Baily

Big Sir's Notes

Personal reflections about SIR

As I approach the final stretch in my tenure as Big Sir of Branch 146, I'd like to opine a bit...

The Sons in Retirement (SIR) organization, and particularly Branch 146, have found a place in me and my wife's lives close to our hearts. There are so many

nice people we have become friends with in SIR and so many benefits to us that I won't try to list all of them here. To give you an idea of the influence that SIR has had on us, we have stopped talking about our lifelong consideration of moving elsewhere. This is where home and happiness are and SIR is a factor in that equation.

Having been involved in the governance of Branch 146 for the past number of years I have tried to act, as all of us on the BEC have, in the best interests of the branch and our member friends. In doing so there have been many lively debates and all of us have gotten to know each other better and have become good friends.

It is and has been a treasured experience that I would recommend to all Sirs and being a member of SIR is something I'd recommend to all retirees.

On a note about business... This morning I received an email from **Glen Renk** advising that he is resigning from the position of Luncheon attendance Chair for health reasons. I have asked **Bill Root** to fill in until we find a replacement for **Glen** and **Bill** has agreed to do that. This morning I will be meeting with **Stu Somerville** to select a new attendance chair to serve beginning on January 1, 2009.

Glen, I would like to thank you on behalf of the Branch for your service and the fine job you did as attendance chair. I wish you good health and continued happiness as a member of Branch 146.

If you haven't done so already, please sign up for the Fall Dinner/Dance. See the SIR Call newsletter for details or call **Vince Rettew**.

And finally, all you newbies, don't forget to bring a friend into the Branch. We'll make sure he gets a first-class welcome.



Little Sir's Corner

Stu Somerville

Our October Speaker will be Sir **John Roebuck**, Chairman of the Area 2 Speaker Exchange Program. He has been in the petroleum business since graduating with a degree in Chemical Engineering in 1941. He will present the risks and other disadvantages of depending on others over half of our energy needs. A timely topic indeed.

A New Activity Couples Dining Out

I am trying to start up a new group of couples that like to go out to dinner with the good company of Sirs and their Ladies. Initially, the idea is to go out at least once a month to a nice - but not necessarily expensive- restaurant. We will probably limit the number to 6 couples so as not to make it too hard for the restaurants to accommodate us. Another option is to occasionally meet at the home of a member and have a dinner, either hosted or sharing food, hopefully a gourmet potluck. If you are interested, contact me at 459-0852 or email me at fpllot@astound.net.

Don Tubb

Couples Duplicate Bridge Too

Joe Barry

Couples Duplicate Bridge #2 meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm at participants' homes. Couples play as partners.

The September bridge was as close as it gets. The high couples, **Bob & Janet Yolland** and **Joe & Josie Barry** were separated from the low by only 2 points, 21 for high and 19 for low. **Dick** and **Christy De Voe** will host the October bridge.



Duplicate Bridge **George Zunich**

Our match is held each month on the Monday after the SIR Luncheon at various homes. Bring your lunch.

In September, SIR **Bob Yolland** hosted 4 tables of Duplicate Bridge at his home.

The results were as follows: **Lynn Freeman** was in 1st place with 44.5 points. **Joe Barry** took 2nd place with 44.0 points. **Carl Johnson** was in 3rd place with 42.5 points and there was a tie for 4th place with **Jim Todhunter** and **Bob Yolland** each having 41.0 points.

The next match will be held on Monday October 13th at **Bill Rees'** home. Contact **George Zunich** @ 376-4439 for information. We welcome interested members.



Party Bridge **Fred Bolton**

1st Monday at 10 am at various members' homes. Contact Fred Bolton for details. Bring a lunch.

We played four tables of bridge at the home of **Jim Brown** on Sept 8th. First place went to **Jim Jackson** with 7260 points, 2nd to **Dick Johnson** with 5640 points, 3rd to **Lynn Freeman** and 4th to **Jim Brown**. Our next game will be played at **Jim Stedman's** home on October 6th.



Couples Duplicate Bridge **Lo McCarley**

Meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month starting at 7:00 pm at participants' homes. Couples play as partners.

Lynn and Dasha Freeman hosted eight couples for a gala evening of duplicate bridge on September 17th. Every one had a great time. As for the bridge results, **Lo and Sue McCarley** took first place with 37 points. **Lynn and Dasha Freeman** (36 points) came in second. **Bob and Janet Yolland** (35 points) captured third place, and **Jim and Allison Todhunter** took fourth place with 33 points. Next bridge will be hosted by **Jim Brown** and **Barbara Lundblade** on October 15th.



ROMEO (Retired Old Men Eating Out) **Malcolm Hendry**

The ROMEO group meets on the third Thursday of the month at 6:30pm at select restaurants in the East Bay. Come join your fellow SIR members for delicious dining in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere.

On October 16th, we will be dining at Dallimontis Italian Restaurant which has been in business since 1982, and is noted for its family-style Italian dinners. Dinners include a tureen of minestrone soup, salad, entrée, platters of pasta and vegetables, and your choice of vanilla or spumoni ice cream.

Location: 1932 Oak Park Blvd., Pleasant Hill, ca 94523

Web Site: www.dallimontis.com (includes menu, directions <easy parking>, and history)

Phone: 925-944-5224

Please RSVP by Tuesday October 14th.

I welcome your suggestions for restaurants that you would like to visit.



Dick Richmond
Introduces
Dale Hertweck



**Jeff Bailly
Introduces
Walter Busenius**

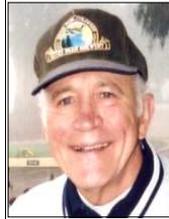


Cooking Dave Johnson

1st Monday at various members' homes.

In September, we held our sixth or seventh (memories vary!) annual wine bottling, at the home of **Jo** and **Bob Spellman**. Spillage has decreased significantly, minor technical problems continue and demand seems to have increased noticeably. We corked more than a hundred bottles, again, but members assigned to clear air from the siphon also "cleared" a certain amount of wine and seemed to experience some balancing problems and slurring of speech. According to **Al**, "someone" kept emptying his tasting glass but **Charlie** and **Jack** maintained a smooth running operation.

After inhaling some excellent vegetable and cracker hors d'oeuvres, we were treated to a dinner of mixed green salad, a special orzo dish and a fantastic chicken and spinach in phyllo casserole. Our dessert was a frozen strawberry mousse and there were no leftovers. Many thanks to **Jo** and **Bob**. The October meeting is at **Barney's** at 11:00, on the 6th.



Garden Club

Chuck Bobinecz

1st Thursday at 9:30 am at the Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church, 1801 Lacassie Ave., in the Multipurpose Room, unless otherwise announced.

On Sept. 4th we had a full bus for our trip to Copia and Castelello di Amorosa. An enjoyable trip, thanks to Sirs **Fred Kovar** and **Lo McCarley** who arranged the trip.

Sir **Jack Calloway** has arranged for a speaker for our regular October meeting at the Walnut Creek Presbyterian church. **Nicole Hackett** will speak on perennials and California natives. She recently gave us a talk on ornamental grasses. She is an excellent speaker. For our November meeting the featured speaker will be Sir **Malcolm Hendry**. His topic is on plant propagation.

Garden tip of the month: Fall is upon us. Lawns: mow high and no fast foods. Time to fertilize. Use a slow release, organic fertilizer for a better lawn in the spring. Also a good time to reseed. Lawns like temperatures in the 55 to 65 degree range.



Bocce Ball

Bob Frankland

2nd and 4th Mondays at 9 am, April through November, at Concord Bocce Courts in Newhall Park, Concord, near the corner of Turtle Creek and Ayers Roads.

Come join us at the courts. This is an easy game to learn and play. We will be playing most of October. This will be our last month on the courts until spring. We usually all go out for breakfast on our last game of the year.



Table Pool

Bill Weinberg

*1st and 3rd Monday at 11:30 am.
(at Masse's 2721 N. Main, Walnut Creek)*

The Pool Club met for it's only time in Sept and we had a good turnout and some memorable shooting. **Otto Wilson** says he had one of the best shots of his career; unfortunately, very few people saw it but **Otto's'** description of it does make it a fantastic shot Hope to see you there in October.

New Member Relations Committee Report to the BEC, 9-11-08

The New Member Relations Committee (NMRC) was established to serve as a resource to new members and, indeed, maintains personal contact through the early months of membership. The purpose is to gauge the level of comfort the new member feels with the organization and to address issues noted.

To this end, meetings have been held with those men who were inducted in 2007, consisting of two groups of 14 and 16, respectively. In addition, phone interviews have been conducted with most of the men inducted in the first quarter of 2008.

We have received a lot of input from these new members and they overwhelmingly feel positive about the Branch, its management and their experiences so far. They like the idea of the NMRC being proactive, reaching out to members. Here are few examples of suggestions which have come out of this program:

- Several participants liked the idea of “mixers” such as the random seating days. Consensus was for increasing from one to two per year. *The October meeting will be a random seating day, our second for 2008.*
- One man suggested that we set up tables designated for new members and guests at the luncheons. *This has been implemented successfully.*
- It was noted that older members do not often make an effort to meet/greet new members and suggested that new members wear a different color nametag and that older members be encouraged to interface with newer men. *New members will henceforth wear yellow badges for their first six months.*
- One suggestion was that the luncheon programs be assigned to a Program Committee, perhaps headed by the Little Sir. *This and other input lead to approval by the BEC and is being implemented.*

There were several more suggestions aimed at helping new members become acquainted with each other and older members which are still being discussed. Among them are:

-Schedule more day trips and outings. *Couples Dine Out group now in the formation stage, be chaired by Don Tubb, might be one solution to this issue.*

-Having Activity Chairs clearly advertise that “new members are welcome” and/or “skill is not a prerequisite” for most of these activities.

-Assign tasks to groups of new members to encourage them to work as a team to accomplish the task. This was suggested by a Shriner. In his experience, long term bonds were formed between the men.

This new focus on the needs of new members has spawned some good ideas. It has also provided us the opportunity to measure the satisfaction level of this group and how welcome they feel. My conclusion is that they are generally enthusiastic about SIR and Branch 146.

Pete Gates, NMRC

Travel Opportunities Bob Spellman



Oct 28-30, SIR 50th Anniversary in Reno. Enjoy two nights at the beautiful and luxurious Grand Sierra Resort & Casino plus an exclusive SIR 50th anniversary reception and dinner followed by a performance by world famous comedian Yakov Smirnoff. The tour features: Deluxe motor coach transportation, two night's accommodations, SIR welcome reception, exclusive anniversary dinner and tickets to Yakov Smirnoff performance, baggage handling, gratuities and taxes. Cost: \$291 pp.do. \$ 45 single supplement. Contact **Bob Spellman** 934-8428 for more information.

Nov 3-15, 2008 Vietnam & Thailand Gateway to South East Asia. 13 day adventure that will take us from Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) Vietnam to Hanoi, Ha Long Bay, Chiang Mai and on to exotic Bangkok, Thailand. Trip includes round trip airfare, motor coach transportation, hotel accommodations, and all tips for guides and drivers, daily breakfast, nine hosted lunches and dinner daily. Cost: \$3885 per person. Contact **Bob Spellman** 934-8428.

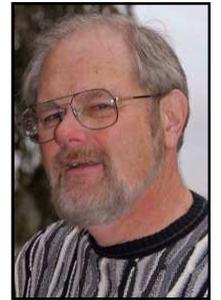
Sep 24, 2009 Highlights of South Africa. On this comprehensive 19 day trip you'll discover the cultural and natural wonders of South Africa. The trip will take you to Johannesburg, Kruger National Park, Swaziland, Zululand, Wilderness, and Cape Town with optional trips to a big five animal bush safari and Victoria Falls. Cost of the trip is \$4858 per person which includes all airfares, 17 night hotel stay, 32 meals, and 13 sightseeing tours. Space is limited so contact **Bob Spellman** to make reservations @ 934-9428.



Dan O'Sullivan
Introduces
Bruce Gilbert



Theater Gary Schaub



BRIGHTEN UP YOUR JANUARY IN NEW YORK CITY

For a great SIR getaway in January, join us for the "Bright Lights on Broadway" theatre tour, January 26 – 30, 2009. Those who went with us in 2005 had a great time, so we're doing it again.

We promise Orchestra/Mezzanine seats for three fun-filled Broadway shows, accommodations at a top Times Square area hotel, two dinners (including the famous Tavern on the Green), and air transportation from Bay Area to JFK, with transfers to our hotel, all taxes & gratuities, plus some additional attractions that will make this a memorable getaway.

In your free time, you can shop at Bloomingdale's or skate at Rockefeller Center. There's always lots to do in New York, and joining your SIR friends will make it even more fun.

Package cost is \$2,565 per person/double occupancy (\$690 single supplement). A \$200 deposit holds your reservation.

Pick up a flyer at the entry desk or contact Sir **Gary Schaub** for a copy.

1758 Candelero Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94598
e-mail: artzar@aol.com
Phone: (925) 938-5454

Luncheon Attendance **Bill Root**



SIR Luncheon is the 2nd Thursday of every month at the Sunrise at Boundary Oak Restaurant

Call me by Friday noon prior to the Luncheon at 943-6194 if, for any reason, you are unable to attend. If I am not home, leave your name, badge number and phone number. Be sure you call!

Waiting List:

If you are going to attend, you must call by Friday prior to the Thursday Luncheon.

Sir bringing a guest:

Call by Friday prior to the Thursday Luncheon and leave your name and the name of your guest.

Regular members missing 3 consecutive meetings without notifying their attendance chairman, giving a valid reason, or attending less than 6 meetings in the last 12 months shall be notified by letter of their pending membership termination.

Certification of another Branch meeting will be considered as credit to attendance record.

Luncheon Menu

Caesar Salad
Beef Burgundy with Mushrooms
Carrots and Onions or White Wine Poached
Salmon with Tomato Relish
Rice Pilaf
Braised Greens
Pumpkin Pie with Cinnamon Whipped Cream

Special Luncheon Requirements

If you need a vegetarian lunch, please call and make a request.

Your request will stay in effect until you cancel it.

If for medical reasons you cannot eat lunch, please notify me. Your request will stay in effect until you cancel it, however, you will be required to pay a \$1 fee for club dues.

Membership

Jim Jackson



Branch 146 Statistics:

Members 262, HLMs 4, Waiting List 3, Inactive 9.

August Attendance:

Members 197, HLMs 1, Waiting List 2, Guests 3, Excused 49, Unexcused 9.

Total August Attendance: 203.

Status Changes:

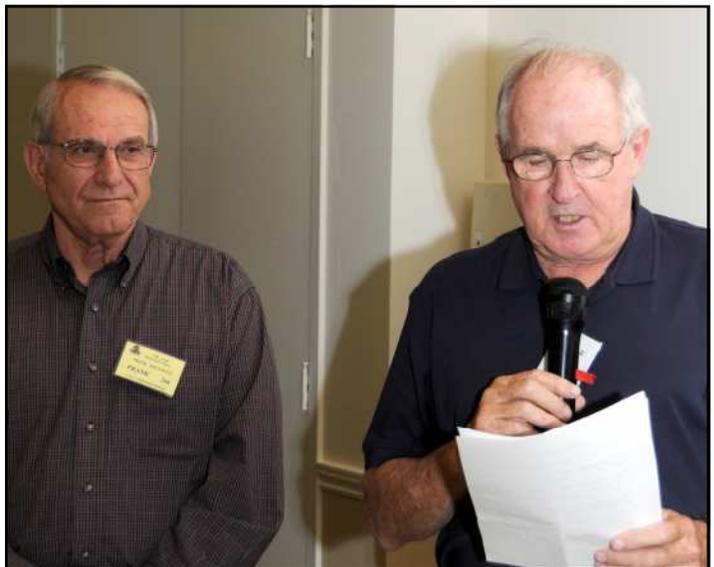
Inducted: **Walter Busenius, Bruce Gilbert, Dale Hertweck, Kirby Narcisse, Paul Yee, Frank Ascatisno** and **Charles Campbell**

Added to Waiting List: **One**

Inactive:

Resigned:

Current Waiting List (prioritized): **Ronald Louis, David Pierce, Steve Snow.**



Frank Ascatisno
Introduced by
Dan O'Sullivan

Area 2 Computers and Technology Group

PHIL GOFF, Chairman, 831-3692,
philgoff@yahoo.com

DICK CURRY, Asst. Chairman, 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 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Drive (just off South Main.)

Thursday, October 16, **Dean Steichen** will show how to use the Internet to solve computer related and many other questions and problems. **Floyd Skelton** will present his favorite websites.

Almost every problem or question has been recorded on the internet with various solutions. **Dean** will show you how to use the power of Internet search engines to solve your problems and answer your questions.

Floyd Skelton has developed a wide range of favorite websites. These include: (1) Hulu - Free TV on the web, (PC Magazines #1 website) plus Free TV from the major networks websites, (2) Google Maps - 'Streetview' to get a view of your house that's available to the world, (2) GasBuddy, to find the cheapest gasoline in your neighborhood, (3) FlightView, to track family or friends incoming flights you need to meet, live, up to date, and interactively, (4) Zillow, to see what your neighbors, family or friends home is worth, and too many more to mention here. The most fun will be to see them all accessed live and displayed via the SIR projector at the meeting, allowing time for your questions and comments. Following the two presentations, **Dick Curry** will lead an informative Computer Q&A session.

Whether you are a beginner or a seasoned user, we try to offer something for everyone. We serve coffee and pastries and all SIR members and their guests are welcome.

SIR HAPPENINGS

SIR Happenings is the statewide SIR Newsletter. Just go to www.sirinc.org and click on SIR Happenings to read the current issue. You may enjoy reading about the activities of other SIR Branches.

Fishing

Sal Costanza



4th Thursday at 8:30 am. at Diablo Creek Golf Course (Legends Grill). North Port Chicago Hwy

All SIR members and guests are welcome and, indeed, encouraged to participate in fishing trips as well as attend the monthly meetings. In September, **Kent Cremolini** shared his experiences and knowledge on San Diego long range fishing trips. In October **Paul Dubow** will provide a colorful and exciting description of fishing in British Columbia for Salmon and Halibut.

Dick Thomson, Joe Peterson, and Carl Moyer fished the bay for halibut on 3 occasions, catching a total of 9 delicious fish to 12 pounds. **Bob Kahl** fished a very low and unproductive Little Truckee stream. **Karl Droese** led **Romano Gnusti, Tom Boltz, and Paul Dobow** on yet another very successful trip to Lake Tahoe. **Romano** landed a beautiful 13 pound Mackinaw Trout, and everybody caught many other gorgeous Macks. **Sal Costanza** fished the same lake 3 other times catching Mackinaws to 23 inches, and some very feisty rainbows to 24 inches. **Carl Moyer** found a calm day on the bay, and fishing solo by the Berkeley pier trolled up 2 Halibut, 13 and 8 pounds. **Carl** was not so lucky fishing Montezuma with a friend for sturgeon, catching only a very pitiful 15 incher. **Dick Thomson, Harry Sherinian, and Joe Karg** fished the ocean with **Carl** for lots of many colored rockfish. The seemingly eternal wind kept **Craig Walton** and **Joe Peterson** woefully looking at the Sacramento River, where they would love to be fishing.

We will be very busy in the future with trout fishing in the Eastern Sierras; tuna and bill fish in Mexico; striped bass and halibut in the bay; trolling and fly fishing for trout at Lake Davis; crab and sand dab or rock cod on the ocean, delta fishing for striped bass and sturgeon, and trout fishing in our local lakes. If you haven't been fishing in a while, but might like to test drive an adventure, come on down to our next meeting.

Next meeting will be Thursday, October 23rd, at the Legend Sports Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course at 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Meeting starts at 8:30 am. For further information, please contact **Craig Walton** (Big Fish) (925-937-4876;) **Carl Moyer** (Branch 8 Coordinator) (925-685-5243;) or **Joe Peterson** (Treasurer/Secretary)(916-777-5363.)



**Kirby Narcisse
Introduced by
Jack Calloway**

SIR Computer Classes

Lo McCarley

Photoshop Elements 6

New approach this year

We have easy step-by-step scripts that we'll email to you with sample pictures. Learn to:

- **Bring you pictures into Elements**
- **Make quick fixes and rotate and resize photos**
- **Select all or part of a picture for editing**
- **Get rid of red eye**
- **Retouch photos, add color and special effects**
- **Use layers: the heart of Elements**
- **Order prints, print at home or make CDs**

When: Every Wednesday in October

Class Dates: October 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29

Time: 10:00 am to 12:00 noon

Where: Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church, Room 303

Teachers: Rich Ahlf, Jeff Baily, and Lo McCarley

Register by email:

**LoMcCarley@Astound.net or JeffnAlicia@astound.net
or**

Register by Phone: Lo 935-3939 or Jeff 906-0521

Come to the class and have some fun while learning to improve your pictures.

Explore and Dine John Pearl



Explore and Dine had their first "away" outing in August, visiting the Ming Dynasty collection at the San Francisco Asian Art Museum. This collection and the San Francisco exhibit is made up of pieces from multiple Chinese museums, and took several years to put together. We got an early tour with a docent who showed us some of the most important pieces in the display. We took our picture in front of a window mural on the main floor of the museum, which was "converted" from being the former main library for the city. We then "strolled" a few blocks over to the Hayes Street Grill and had some excellent food. Most of us took BART, which seemed to work pretty well (Walnut Creek parking is tough!)

While we're skipping September, we are still planning to visit Benicia on Thursday, October 30, and having guided tours of the former capital and the adjacent **Fischer-Hanlon House**. The California budget crisis is affecting the staffing there, so we won't know if the facilities will be available until October. They do use a lot of volunteers. This outing will be a little different, as we will probably have lunch first, and then the tours, as that is when they are available.

John Pearl

mcpearl@astound.net

934-6920



**Explore & Dine Group
At the Asian Art Museum
in San Francisco**



The Solvang Tournament Sept 14 -17 was a rousing success. Nearly 90 SIR golfers and 30 ladies competed in the two-day event. **Jim** and **Judy Baldrige**, **Ron** and **Anne Plachy** and **Gene Diana** represented Br. 146. While our ladies finished in the money our SIRs only got to cheer for others at the awards banquet. Because of the great turnout the State Golf Committee will look at having this event again next year. Next up for travel events will be the seven-day stay at the new Riu Santa Fe Resort in Cabo San Lucas Mexico October 18-25. The tournament is done in a shotgun/scramble format over three days at three different courses. Details and prices are on the sirinc.org website. Our own **Dick Richmond** will be one of the hosts on this trip.

On November 3rd and 4th the 2008 SIR State Golf Championship Tournament will be held at Poppy Hills Golf Course in Monterey. There will be two days of individual stroke play with openings for 144 players. Seventy of the slots on Monday Nov 3 will be filled with SIRs who have qualified at local levels, the other 74 spots are used for open play. On Tuesday Nov 4 all 144 spots are used for open play. We are told that there are still some open spots available. The cost is \$85. For details, contact **Gene Drennan** 530 873 3377 e-mail genebert1001@sbcglobal.net

The Mexican Riviera Cruise and Golf is scheduled for November 10-20. This cruise is on the Star Princess that leaves from San Francisco and visits Acapulco, Ixtapa, Cabo San Lucas and returns to SF. For details visit the sirinc.org website. I also have copies of the entry forms for Poppy Hills, Cabo San Lucas and the Mexican Cruise, In my article for the September Call I asked if there were other Br 146 SIRs who would be interested in working on Away Golf. The response was great. **Bob Lyman**, **Ray Kan** and **Ron Plachy** have all expressed interest. We will be looking at scheduling some additional local Away Golf events in the last quarter that fit into our busy end of year calendars and don't conflict with planned trips.

Questions: **Jim Baldrige** 925-689-9232 e-mail jimjudy39@aol.com or **Dick Richmond** 925-947-1167 e-mail drichmon@pacbell.net.

Latest Tournament Results

August 5: First Flight: **Ray Spears (72), Joseph Barry, Joe Fitzsimmons**, Second Flight: **Don Nunn(69), Bill Weinberg, Ralph Fowler**. Closest to the pin: **Joe Fuchs # 2, Jack Calloway # 12**.

August 12: First Flight: **Larry Sheerin (69), Bill Hansen, Joe Suta**, Second Flight: **Doug Cook (67), Bill Weinberg, Raymond Kan**. Closest to the pin: **Dean Merritt # 12**.

August 19: First Flight: **Albert Zamolo (72), Joe Fitzsimmons, Rich Hanford**, Second Flight: **Doug Cook (70), Dick Woodman, Mitch Mitchell**. Closest to the pin: **Joseph Barry # 2, Larry Sheerin # 12**.

August 26: First Flight: **Bob White (68), Russ Bliese, Ron Binder**, Second Flight: **Mitch Mitchell (68), Doug Cook, Dick Woodman**. Closest to the pin: **Bob White # 2, Bob Royster # 12, Jeff Baily # 12**.

As of September 1st out of the 68-prize fund participants 60 have won money. This is an 88% winning rate. I would encourage all the golfers to participate in the prize fund, you may be a winner to.



Paul Yee
Introduced by
Bill Danzig

Bowling

Larry Mitchell



Two tournaments are scheduled for October. The first will be at the Fireside Lanes in Citrus Heights and will be a Doubles (2 SIR) or Mixed Doubles (SIR plus a female type person). It will include Singles and All Events as well. It will be held on October 6th. and 8th. The second event will be at Harvest Park in Brentwood, on October 21st. and 23rd., and will have the same events as indicate above. If more information or entry forms are needed, please call me at 925-798-5440.



Sunshine Otto Wilson

Phone: 825-1943

E-mail: ottowilson@astound.net



Sir Walt Barabash is home again from the hospital. He is in a period of gaining strength for further surgery. No visitors please.

Sir Bob Schroder's daughter-in-law **Carole**, passed away August 26th. Our prayers go out to the family.

Sir Don Patterson is fighting cancer again and is at home.



Charles Campbell
Introduced by
Bob Johnson



Poker Club #1 Frank McNamee

Poker Club #1 met at the residence of **Frank McNamee** on September 10th and **Frank** proved to be the most generous and congenial host in recent memory as he ended up as the Big Loser followed by our guest of honor **Rich Hanford**. **Bob White** again led a parade of winners that included **Harvey Lewis**, **Dan O'Sullivan**, and **Bill Cammerer**.

Our next contest will be on October 8th at the home of **Dan O'Sullivan**.



Poker Club #2 Al Zamolo

Ron Binder took back much of **Ken Kratz's** winnings from last month. **Jim brown** introduced a new game called 7127. Ask **Jim** about this one. **Doug Cook** will host our September session.

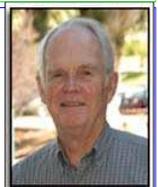


Poker Club #4 Chuck Bobinecz

Poker group #4, note that September 22nd has been changed to the home of Sir **Skip Thomas** and our October 27th game will be held at the home of Sir **Frank Rockwell**.

The game and jargon of poker have become an important part of American culture. Phrases as: ace in the hole, ace up ones sleeve, high roller, poker face, etc. are used in everyday conversation. Their origins are from the poker table.

SongSirs Don Tubb



Your SongSirs have been busy entertaining this summer at Aegis Assisted Living in Pleasant Hill in July and the VA Martinez Hospital in August. Both were great fun with very appreciative audiences. We have two more gigs planned for this year - Manor Care Walnut Creek in October and the SIR Christmas lunch. We can always use a few more good men so contact me if you're interested.

Don Tubb

20th Anniversary Party and Dinner Dance

"Come out in your casual duds and dance"

Come on and celebrate our 20 years at Branch 146 SIR

When: Wednesday, October 1, 2008 -- 6pm to 10pm

How Much: All inclusive price of \$55.00 per person

Your dollar buys: Hosted Cocktails, Hors d'oeuvres, Salad, Beef/Chicken combo dinner, dessert and wine.

Dancing to the five piece band plus a vocalist.

Make up your tables of ten if desired and send your check (s)

Payable to SIR Branch 146

To: Sir **Vincent Rettew**, 290 Dover Drive, Walnut Creek CA 94598

Sir Name _____

Evening "Date" _____

Table mates _____

We will require _____ Vegetarian dinner(s)

The dance location will be at:

The Shadlands Art Center Ygnacio Valley Road at
N. Wiget Lane,
Walnut Creek



Walkers

John Lewis



Every Friday at 9:30 am at various locales. Call **John** or just show up. Rain cancels any walk.

October Walks planned
by **Bob Madge**

Oct 3 Mitchell Canyon Park Mitchell Canyon Rd Clayton
Meet: At Clayton Library for carpooling
then right on Clayton Rd to
left on Mitchell Canyon to Park
Walk: South on trail
Not Paved Not Level Some Shade
Coffee: Peet's Clayton & Ygnacio Valley

Oct 10 Martinez Marina Walk Ferry St Martinez
Meet: At Sun Valley B of A for carpooling
Take 680 North turn right just before
Benicia Bridge to Marina Vista. Then left
into Martinez and right on Ferry St
Cross tracks to parking near water
Walk: Marina Trail
Not paved Level No Shade
Coffee and Donuts at Marina

Oct 17 Lafayette Moraga Trail North Moraga Rd Moraga
Meet: At Moraga Safeway parking
Walk: North on School St Cross Moraga Rd at light to
Regional trail toward St Mary's College
Paved Level Some Shade
Coffee: Terzetto Cuisine Moraga

Oct 24 Railroad Museum North Railroad & Prospect Danville
Meet: At Railroad Museum parking
Walk: North on Iron Horse Trail
Paved Level Some Shade
Coffee: Pascal French Oven 155-B Railroad Ave

Oct 31 Arbolado Park South Arbolado Rd Walnut Creek
Meet: At Arbolado Parking
Walk: West on Arbolado Dr then South on
Ygnacio Valley Canal
Paved Level Some Shade
Coffee: Deli Delight Shadelands Office Park

FALL CANDY SALES

It is time to order your See's candy. The price is \$11.60 for a one pound box certificate. Retail price is \$15.00 a pound so you are saving \$3.40 a pound. You can pick any type of candy you like. Soft centers, nuts and chewies etc. There is no limit to the amount you can order. Make your check payable to "Sir Branch 146" and send it to **Mitch Mitchell**, 5350 Lightwood Drive, Concord, CA 94521. Please include a stamped self addressed #10 envelope (this is the long envelope).

The deadline for me to receive this is November 15, 2008

Your certificates will be mailed to you shortly thereafter.

Name _____

Address _____

City and Zip _____

Enclosed is my check for \$_____ to cover the cost of
_____ one pound certificates.

Thanks to **Bill Cammerer**, **Don Del Bene**, and **Larry Sheerin** for folding and labeling, to **Rich Ahlf** for photography, to **Bill Cammerer** for mailing, and to **Pete Gates** for proofreading.

SIR CALL

Newsletter

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Sir's Duplicate Bridge Group