

# SIR CALL

br146sircall@gmail.com

April 2019

Published For Our Members And Friends

## SIR Contra Costa Branch 146



### Big Sir's Notes

**Jonathan Korfhage**

On March 1<sup>st</sup> we gathered 43 of our activity chairs for breakfast to thank them for their service to the Branch. We spent a few hours sharing information that should be helpful to them as they lead their various

activities each month.

All members should be aware of our Branch 146 Website - [www.sir146.com](http://www.sir146.com). It is an excellent tool for all of our members! We understand that many of us are challenged by our computers and all of our technology. But I am here to tell you that using it is very simple! Turn on your computer; select a search engine (for most of us it's Google); type in our address - [www.sir146.com](http://www.sir146.com) – and select it. BOOM, there it is! EXPLORE IT!

Near the top is an introductory video to SIR. Then you could choose 'GOLF' listing all the info for our golfers; then comes 'SPECIAL EVENTS' with photos from some of our events; then we have 'NEWLETTERS' with lists of our current and past Sir Call newsletters; then is 'BRANCH INFORMATION' which includes our regulations, history, financials, minutes, the State Sir Website, and our Branch calendar; then comes 'OFFICERS' which features some handsome pictures of our current branch executive committee; then comes 'MEMBERS' where you can find pictures of all our members, branch honorees, memorial listing of our members who have recently passed away, and a membership application which can be downloaded.

The final tab is for 'MEMBERS ONLY' and for this you need a user name and password which you can get from another member. Under this tab are 'branch services' which is a list with all the names & emails of those guys who make our branch run; next is a listing of our 'branch activities'; then comes our confidential 'member directory'; finally, there is a listing of the 'sponsor's role'.

Over on the right side are some activity icons. If you tap one, you will find out more about that activity. So now you know how to use this valuable tool!

### WE ARE SIR – MAKE FRIENDS FOR LIFE

**Luncheon— Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup>**  
**Boundary Oak Clubhouse**

**Guest Speaker: Paul Remack CFP, CPF**  
**"Create Your Legacy, Preserve Your Estate**  
**for Future Generations"**

**Gathering time: 11:00 am**  
**Seating time: 11:45 am**

**Bringing a guest or can't attend?**  
**Email: [nolunchbranch146@gmail.com](mailto:nolunchbranch146@gmail.com)**  
**Telephone Message: (925) 979-5146**  
**By Noon Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup>**



Deputy Chief Lewis Broschard gave an interesting talk on efficiency updates in the Contra Costa County Fire Department at our March luncheon

#### WISDOM:

"If computers get too powerful, we can organize them into committees. That'll do them in."

"Never let a computer know you're in a hurry."

## SIR Mission Statement

The Mission of SIR is to improve the lives of our members through fun activities and events – while making friends for life



### Little Sir's Corner

**Brad Hatcher**

Our luncheon speaker in March, Lewis Broschard who will become Fire Chief of the Contra Costa Fire Protection District Fire on April 1, 2019, gave us an insightful review of the District and discussed

his broader view of concerns at the state level. I found his comments on the state to be of real concern to us all.

Our April luncheon speaker will be Paul Remack. The full title of his speech will be "Playing the Game: Create your legacy and preserve your estate for future generations". I might add the above title is also the title of his book. Paul is primarily retired from his own wealth management firm. He holds several titles, including CFP and Certified Professional Fiduciary. I think you will find his comments on wealth transfer interesting.

While on the topic of luncheons, please E-mail [nolunchbranch146@gmail.com](mailto:nolunchbranch146@gmail.com) if you cannot attend the luncheon. We make a commitment to the kitchen for a given number of lunches to be served. If you do not arrive, we are still required to pay for your lunch. You will receive an E-mail well before the luncheon to remind you of your need to let us know if you are not coming.

As usual, the Branch Executive Committee meeting in March had a full agenda. Of interest were coming efforts to recognize volunteers who work "behind the scenes"; new member application to be housed on the website; and new Sir Branch 146 referral cards. The referral cards have the new logo. Please see Paul Beretz, our recruiting chairman, for your cards.

I urge you to bring a guest to the upcoming meeting. Our Sir branch is always looking for new men to enjoy the comradery of our meetings and activities.

See you on April 11<sup>th</sup>!



### Membership

**Ron Lew**

It has been another busy month trying to contact all our members returning as active members of our branch 146. If you have been on the "inactive status" in the past, please contact our Member

Relations Chair, **Pierre Mebane**, at 925-300-5239 for an update. I am proud to announce 2 new members for induction in March: [Jerry Baer #20 sponsored by Jim Solomon #304](#) and [Michael Anthony #51 sponsored by Paul Beretz #264](#). Thank you sponsors for continuing to bring new guests and members.

We were surprisingly blessed with 10 new guests at our March luncheon. Again, we had a great orientation meeting after the luncheon and everyone is welcome to come for a refresher. A few activities chairmen and other volunteers were present to give some valuable information for our new members. We start April with **301** members and we encourage you to bring a guest to April's luncheon.

We are pleased to announce that an updated member application form has been placed on our website under "Members". Please give your guests this form or direct them to this location in the future to join our Branch 146.

### February New Member Photo Additions



**Jerry Baer**



**Michael Anthony**

### SIR CALL Newsletter Group

Editor

**Richard Hockenbrock**

Co - Editors

**Walt Busenius, Rob Melrose**

Proofreaders

**Cal Tucker, Jonathan Korfhage,**

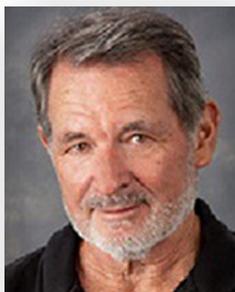
**and Jim Barry**

Internet Posting

**Ron Plachy**

One night, a king and a queen went into a castle. There was nobody in the castle, and no one came out of the castle. In the morning, three people came out of the castle. Who were they?

The knight (night), the king, and the queen!



## Sunshine

### Max Hinkle

Let us keep the following Sirs in our thoughts and prayers. We look forward to their continued healing and return to good health.

- ◆ Jack Calloway
- ◆ Hugh Ferguson
- ◆ Bill Klein
- ◆ Howard Nemir
- ◆ Jim Saavedra
- ◆ Angelo Costanza
- ◆ Joe Hunt
- ◆ Martin Lyle
- ◆ John Pearl
- ◆ Joe Suta

It is with sadness that we report the passing of **Ken Sihler** on March 16<sup>th</sup> and the passing of **Ron Pascoe** on March 21<sup>st</sup>. Memorial services for **Ken** are scheduled for April 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am at Christ The King Catholic Church in Pleasant Hill with a reception to follow.

As we were about to publish on March 29<sup>th</sup>, we were again saddened to learn that **Bob Schroder**, a long-time SIR member, had passed away earlier today.

Consider contacting a sick Sir to offer support and encouragement during his illness. A friendly call is usually welcome. Cards and letters are always appreciated.

If you are aware of an ill Sir, please let **Max Hinkle** know by e-mail: [hinkle3@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hinkle3@sbcglobal.net) or phone: (925)-408-6004 so that our SIR members can be advised.



Photo by Henry Thatcher

March Greeters: (L—R) Joe Flannigan & Franz Mair



# THE CLUBHOUSE

AT BOUNDARY OAK

## SIR 146 Luncheon

April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019

### Salad

#### Quinoa Greek Salad

Butter Lettuce, Tomatoes, Cucumbers, Feta Cheese, Kalamata Olives, Red Wine Vinaigrette

### Entrees

#### Roman-Style Chicken

Thyme Marinated Chicken Breast, Mashed Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables White Wine, Tomatoes, Peppers, Prosciutto, Capers, Chicken Broth

Or

#### Cod Puttanesca

Chili Rubbed Cod, Red Rice Pilaf, Seasonal Vegetables, Basil, Garlic, Onions, Tomato, White Wine Sauce

### Vegetarian

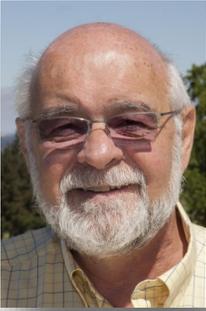
#### Vegetable Wellington

Sautéed Spinach, Mushrooms, Roasted Bell Peppers, Ricotta Cheese Wrapped In Puff Pastry, Red Pepper Coulis & Balsamic Reduction

### Dessert

#### Bread Pudding

Homemade Bread Pudding, Chocolate Sauce, Whipped Cream



## Luncheon Chairman

**Rob Melrose**

I have been doing this job since January 2017, I want to hand it over to a new Luncheon Chairman in 2020. If you are interested, please let me know.

### April 11<sup>th</sup> Luncheon

- Cost: \$26
- Preferred payment method is check
- Opt Out Deadline: April 5<sup>th</sup> before Noon
- Email: [NoLunchBranch146@gmail.com](mailto:NoLunchBranch146@gmail.com)
- If you need to call: (925) 979-5146

Special Requests: If you have dietary restrictions, want a vegetarian meal or can't consume a meal, please send email to [NoLunchBranch146@gmail.com](mailto:NoLunchBranch146@gmail.com) before the Opt Out Deadline.

Sponsors: If you are bringing a guest: please notify Lunch Chair with guest's name at the same email address: [NoLunchBranch146@gmail.com](mailto:NoLunchBranch146@gmail.com)

Annual Payers: Since we have lowered the price, we really need you to let us know if you are not coming before the deadline so we can keep the low price.

## 2019 Branch 146 Officers and Directors

Big Sir .....	<b>Jonathan Korfhage</b>
Little Sir .....	<b>Brad Hatcher</b>
Secretary .....	<b>Richard Hockenbrock</b>
Assistant Secretary .....	<b>Jerry Kaplan</b>
Treasurer .....	<b>Ben Gleason</b>
Assistant Treasurer .....	<b>George Mon</b>
Director(1 <sup>st</sup> Term) .....	<b>Max Hinkle</b>
Director(1 <sup>st</sup> Term) .....	<b>Frank Pandolfi</b>
Director(1 <sup>st</sup> Term) .....	<b>Ron Lew</b>
Director(1 <sup>st</sup> Term) .....	<b>Milt Smith</b>
Director(2 <sup>nd</sup> Term) .....	<b>Pierre Mebane</b>
Director(2 <sup>nd</sup> Term) .....	<b>Tony Greco</b>

### RAMP – Chair Members

Recruitment .....	<b>Paul Beretz</b>
Activities .....	<b>Jerry Kaplan</b>
Member Relations .....	<b>Pierre Mebane</b>
Publicity .....	<b>Frank Pandolfi</b>

Refer to branch directory, accessible under members only tab heading on our website, for phone numbers & email addresses.

## Reservations for Ladies Day Luncheon

### Salad

Apple Almond Salad  
Butter Lettuce, Apples, Celery, Walnuts  
Honey Yogurt Poppy Seed Dressing

### Entrees

New York Steak  
Roast New York Steak, Seasonal Vegetables, Scalloped Potatoes, Green Pepper Corn Sauce

Or

Alaskan Sole  
Flour Dusted Sole, Rice Pilaf, Seasonal Vegetables  
Roasted Tomato Butter Sauce

### Vegetarian

Vegetable Wellington  
Sautéed Spinach, Mushrooms, Roasted Bell Peppers,  
Ricotta Cheese Wrapped In Puff Pastry, Red Pepper  
Coulis & Balsamic Reduction

### Dessert

Holiday Chocolate Cake

*On the form below, type in the requested information and print this page, or just print this page and fill your information by hand then cut along the dotted line and send it with your check to the address also below.*

Thursday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Number of Tickets \_\_\_\_\_ at \$28 ea.

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*(If you want Vegetarian dish, write VEG. as Entrée Choice)*

NAMES	<u>Entrée Choices</u>	
	(Steak)	(Sole)
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		

Make checks payable to SIR Branch 146. Send to: **Steve Ybarra**, 142 Leonard Dr., Concord, CA 94518

*All reservations and payments in full must be received by May 3<sup>rd</sup>. There will be no tickets sold at the door. If ordering for a full (10) or partial table, list your names and seating guests. Your guests will be paired with you when their check and form is received or you may pay for them directly on your sheet listing their name & entrée.*

## SIR Branch Honoree

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



**Walt Busenius** received the highest Honor that Branch 146 can bestow on a member, the coveted Branch Honoree Award. The award was presented by past Big Sir, **Jim Burk**, making **Walt** only the thirty-first member to receive the award.

## State Honorary Life Member

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



In a ceremony befitting the presentation of both Area 16 Governor **Walt Busenius** and Region 5 Director **Bill Holly**, State VP **Dick DeVoe** was introduced at the March luncheon as the proud recipient of a State Honorary Life Member that was presented to him a day earlier on March 13, 2019, by the State Board and President Ed Benson.

Photo by Jerry Kaplan



The March luncheon brought out more members than were expected so Boundary Oak quickly set up another table

Photo by Henry Thatcher



**Rich Hanford with Tony Shebanek** at the March luncheon

## Birthday Drawing Winner



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**Jim Burk**, not this leprechaun, was the March birthday drawing winner



The leprechaun had some trouble staying on his feet after **Jim** got done with him





## Activities Coordinator

Jerry Kaplan

### Another Successful Activity Chair Breakfast

On March 1<sup>st</sup>, forty-three Activity Chairs (representing 31 of the 47 different Branch 146 activities) came to Boundary Oak for a delicious 8:00 am “appreciation” breakfast. Assistant chairs and co-chairs were also invited to attend for the important purpose of **recognizing their efforts in contributing to the success of the Branch 146**. One or two individuals, who had recently resigned from their positions as chair, were also invited to be recognized and thanked for their volunteerism. A picture of all those in attendance is below.

Mr. **Stu Williams** from the Napa Valley SIR Branch came to see what we were up to! Stu is also the State SIR Growth and Management Chairman and will likely be sharing our approach to recognizing member volunteerism with other branches.

The breakfast was followed by presentations by **Big SIR Jonathan Korfhage** and several others that covered key topics of interest to Activity Chairs such as details on SIR insurance coverage for branch sponsored activities, using the SIR Call to report and promote an activity, including activity info on the monthly Branch Calendar, and sending out E-Blasts to the membership. **Dick DeVoe**, a long-time member of our branch, who is also the State SIR Vice-President for 2019, provided information on changes that have been occurring at the State SIR level.

Most of the 47 activities are doing quite well but a few of the chairs are looking for other members to take over the duties involved in managing their activity at some time in the near future. Several chairs have been responsible for their group for 10 years or longer and may be looking for some relief.

Everyone in the branch who is involved in one or more activities is being asked to find out if their activity’s chairperson would like some help in sharing the responsibilities, or in fact, is looking forward to handing over the reins at some point to another person.

(If the reader wants to learn more about the meeting, the full set of the PowerPoint slides used will be available shortly under the Members Only tab on the website).

**NEW POSSIBLE ACTIVITY**– A new **RV (recreational vehicle)** group is starting with **SIR Bob Lucido** taking the lead to establish the group. Those members (with an RV, a trailer, or a fifth-wheel), who are interested in getting together for a group outing and camping experience a few times a year should contact Bob at 925 899-0974 or by email at [bob-wendy3@comcast.net](mailto:bob-wendy3@comcast.net). There are other RV groups in some nearby branches and Branch 146 may, after a meeting among interested members, decide to join them in an upcoming trip or two.

*Continued on next page under Activities Coordinator column.*

Photo from Bill Holly





## Activities Coordinator

**Jerry Kaplan**

*Continued from previous page.*

### Epecially for New Members

If you still haven't found an activity that you like, or you are on a substitute list and want to play **Poker** or **Bridge** or **Mexican Train Dominoes** on a more regular basis, let me or **Bob Lucido** (my assistant) know and we can help get another group going. We can also assist in starting up a brand new activity that may be attractive to others in the branch, like the proposed RV activity noted above.

**Jerry Kaplan**

925 330-8832

[mtdana@aol.com](mailto:mtdana@aol.com)



## Pickleball

**Jim Burk**

Branch 146 Sirs (some with their spouses) are now regularly playing this exciting and active game at the Activity and Recreation Center (ARC) of the San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church. The ARC is located at 902 Danville Boulevard in Alamo and has three beautiful courts for playing Pickle Ball. Everyone is welcome to play there during any of the drop-in times on Monday thru Friday between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm. A player will pay \$5 per session. Each player will be allowed to get in as many games as the number of players that day allows using the traditional player wait list approach.

There is also instruction available from 1:00 - 2:30 pm on Tuesday and Thursday. The cost of instruction is \$10 per player, plus the \$5 drop-in fee referenced above. A player would be allowed to play until 4:00 pm, space permitting, before or following the 1 1/2 hours of instruction. A player wishing to take advantage of the instruction should call the ARC at (925) 837-2011 and reserve a time (8 players is the maximum for each instruction session).

Call or email [jimanneburk@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jimanneburk@sbcglobal.net) to learn more about the game and/or information about the facility where the Pickle Ball courts are available.

**Jim Burk**

(925) 946-1192

[jimanneburk@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jimanneburk@sbcglobal.net)

## Photos from the March 1st Activity Breakfast



Photo by Jerry Kaplan



Photo by Bill Schultz



Photo by Jerry Kaplan



## Travel Milt Smith

**NEW! Grand Baltic Small ship Voyage—Denmark, Poland, Sweden, Latvia, Estonia, Russia and Finland.** June 2020. Overseas Adventure Travel. (877)-220-2630. Pre-register Group Code GG23630, deposit is \$500 per person until dates finalized. Already have 10 signed-up, need only 20 for our own group.

**Battle of the Bay Oakland - Coliseum — Oakland A's vs San Francisco Giants. August 25th, 1:00 pm.** Save \$10+. Deadline June 1<sup>st</sup>. Send your check, for \$52.00 per person, plus stamp addressed return envelope to Sir **Lee Moy**, 127 N. Helm Ave., Clovis, CA 93612



## Book Group Chuck Campbell

Six Sirs met the morning of March 11<sup>th</sup> to discuss *The Swamp Fox* by John Oiler. The book is a nonfiction account of the American Revolution as it unfolded in North and South Carolina starting in the late 1770's.

The British had successfully taken control of Charleston and further won decisive battles against the highest ranked American officers in the Carolinas. One American officer remaining at large at this desperate time was Francis Marion, who became known as the Swamp Fox. Oiler took great pains to research the actions of Marion as he tried to disrupt the British plans to control all of the Carolinas.

We found the book interesting primarily because our grade school accounts of the Revolutionary War with Britain did not cover the fighting that occurred in the South. We were taught that somehow a poorly trained, primarily volunteer army prevailed over mighty England. It turns out that the American victory was also due to southern men like Frances Marion, in addition to George Washington and the northern patriots.

For our next book the group choose *The New Iberia Blues* by James Le Burke. We will meet Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am in the Greenery Restaurant .



## SongSirs Bruce Borgman

The SongSirs performed at the Walnut Creek Senior Center on Friday March 15, just a few days shy of St. Patrick's Day. We thus sang our Irish songs repertoire, which included all the traditional Irish

songs. We started with "When Irish Eyes are Smiling" with **Lynn Shafer** singing the verse as a solo. Then we did "My Wild Irish Rose" and "Danny Boy", for both of these **Corrie Oranje** sang the verse as a solo. We followed those songs with "Too-Ra-Loo-Ra-Loo-Ral", "McNamara's Band", and a few more – all of them appreciated by our audience with enthusiastic applause. We had a good group performing, and we were decked out with green bow ties and green hats. You will be able to see how we looked in a picture taken at the Senior Center.

Now we will be deciding on a new set of songs for the spring and summer, so **Steve Dinning**, our pianist, and I as director will be going through our music library to find some appropriate songs. This would be a great time to join us if you enjoy singing. We will practice starting in April on the first and third Wednesday at 1:30 pm until about 3:00 pm. See you there!

(925) 932-3961  
[bgborgman@aol.com](mailto:bgborgman@aol.com)



**Our own leprechauns, The SongSirs spreading Irish cheer at the Walnut Creek Senior Center.**

Q: What has a face and two hands, but no arms or legs?

A clock.

Timmy's mother had three children. The first was named April, the next was named May. What was the name of the third child?

Timmy of course!



## Photography Group

**Richard Hockenbrock**

With all the rain we have had this spring, there should be an opportunity to find some beautiful wild flowers growing around the area. Let's keep our eyes open for a possible field trip in mid-April to Mt Diablo or another

nearby location.

If you would like to join us and you are not on the photography email list, send me a note with your name and email address.

Email: [rhock@pacbell.net](mailto:rhock@pacbell.net)

Cell: (925) 324-1713

### Next Meeting

**Where :** Thurman G. Casey Ygnacio Valley Library  
2661 Oak Grove Road  
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

**Subject:** What to be aware of when taking pictures with your smart phone. Some examples will be shown of what to avoid.

**When:** 9 am—Friday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019



## Pinochle

**Charlie Kahsen /  
Jeff Morrow**

*We meet on  
the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday of the*



*month at Rocco's Ristorante Pizzeria, 2909 Ygnacio Valley Rd, Walnut Creek, CA. Optional lunch is from Noon – 1:00 and card playing from 1:00 – 3:00 pm.*

*All Sirs in Area 16 and their guests (including spouses) are welcome to attend. Introduction and training will be provided to those who have never before played, as well as those who last played many years ago.*

*If you are interested in joining our group, call one of us or send an email to both our email addresses and one of us will get back to you.*

*If you plan to come, please let us know ahead of time so we can let Rocco's know you plan to have lunch with the group.*

**Charlie Kahsen**

(925) 943-1750

[cwkahsen@gmail.com](mailto:cwkahsen@gmail.com)

**Jeff Morrow**

(925) 944-7009

[jeffrey.morrow@gmail.com](mailto:jeffrey.morrow@gmail.com)



## Hearts

**Bob West**

We meet on the third Thursday of each month at Rocco's Ristorante Pizzeria, 2909 Ygnacio Valley Rd, Walnut Creek, CA. We play from 1-3 pm with an optional lunch at noon. This is a Men's SIR 146 function with new members welcome.

Because of some rescheduling we met twice this last month. In our first meeting Sir **Brian McCarthy** had the low score just beating out Sir **Bob West** on the last hand.

In our second meeting Sir **Rich Lyon** again took low score as he did in January. In January he said he was just lucky, now he has won two of the last three times; so we are endeavoring to watch him more closely, or maybe believe it is more than luck. Perhaps he is just good with numbers and can give us some investment advice over lunch. Sir **Frank Lucas** did not win but he was close, and has been the first member to "shoot the moon" or take all the points twice in one game.

Hearts is a game of constantly changing challenges whether playing against someone experienced or new, each hand can be very dynamic. Compared to some other games where someone in the lead bids more conservatively making



Known as the Heart's Table, **Rich Lyon, Fred Reich, Frank Lucas, Bob West**, and guest Bob Finlayson share their enthusiasm for playing Hearts

it hard to catch up, hearts moves very quickly. Most of us have not played in a long time but we still fondly remember the game. If you want to get back into it, please join us.

Please contact me at 925-518-8472 or [robrtawest@aol.com](mailto:robrtawest@aol.com) if you are interested or have any questions



## Couples Dining Out Bruce Borgman

As anticipated, our Couples Dining Out event in March was a grand success. As advertised, we wound up having two evenings – Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, and Tuesday March 19<sup>th</sup>, with a final attendance of 48 on the first evening and 30 for the second evening. This actually worked out well because we were able to have an even number of tables for six, and since this was a shared dish kind of place, the amount of food for each table was just right. A number of our diners showed up early, especially on Monday, so that we did not inundate the bar with our entire group – and we enjoyed the specialty cocktails and the reasonable cost of the Happy Hour wines and beer. The dinner started with a lettuce wrap chicken dish, then the signature Burmese fermented tea leaf salad. We had a variety of main course dishes, including mango chicken, tender pork, honey walnut shrimp, beef curry, green beans, and spicy noodles, all accompanied with several kinds of rice. Dessert was sweet sticky rice, banana jackfruit with ice cream.

All agreed this was a wonderful selection of our Dining Out experience and many expect to return to try this restaurant on their own. You will be able to see some pictures of the two evenings, thanks to Bill Holly and Walt Busenius.

We did get some suggestions for our next event, which will likely be on May 20<sup>th</sup>. We will be checking out your recommendations over the next few weeks! Save the date!



**Bocce**  
Jim Whitsett  
with  
Stan U'Ren

Attention all Bocce players! This is an ADVANCE NOTICE of the start of Bocce this year. Our first meet will be in late April (weather permitting). We have over 50 SIR members who have indicated their interest in the game. We expect a good turn-out to start this year's play! If you are new to the game, come out and see how quickly you can pick it up!

We'll plan to start play on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of April. This will be Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8:30 am.

In the past, we have played the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays, April / May through September at 8:30 am at the Concord Bocce Courts in Newhall Park, Concord, near the corner of Turtle Creek and Ayers Roads. This year we'll begin using that schedule UNLESS there is interest in playing weekly.

Please let me know if you plan to attend the April 22<sup>nd</sup> start of play.

Rain or wet courts cancels play.  
Spouses/Significant Others always welcome!

**Jim Whitsett**—(925) 689-5493  
[AFRES056789@gmail.com](mailto:AFRES056789@gmail.com)



Photo by Walt Busenius

Seated around the table (L-R) **Bobbie & Walter Schmidt, Steve & Karen Dinning, and Dana & Steve Ybarra**



Photo by Walt Busenius

Couples Dining Out (L-R) **Walt Busenius, Etta & Don Dotson, Bill & Bernice Cammerer, and Sue Busenius**

# Couples Dining Out



Photo by Walt Busenius

(L-R) Laurie & Bill Hoban, Diana & Michael Rose,  
Joe & Chris Flannigan



Photo by Walt Busenius

(L-R) Carl Feil, Frank Ascattigno, June and Don Seaton,  
Marie Ascattigno, and Joyce Feil



Henry Thatcher

Explore  
&  
Eat



Jim Pope

## Oracle Park Event

The SIR 146 Group toured the San Francisco Giants Oracle Park at 24 Willie Mays Plaza near McCovey Cove. We were blessed with glorious sunny weather to walk around the Ballpark. We toured the Giant's new Museum, the visitor's locker room, the visitor's dugout, on the field, 3 World Series Championship trophies and 3 World Series Championship rings, the Club Level including viewing the many Giants memorabilia displays and Tony Bennet's personal Club box, the Sports Writers Box and the fabulous views from the high view level seats.

We had 25 SIR members, spouses and guests on the tour: **Ron Louis and Fran Matthew, Henry and Barbara Thatcher, Jim Stedman, Paul and Joan Dubow, Steve Ybarra, Ken and Carol Sout, Robert Soldano, Don and June Seaton, Peter Gates, Ed and Audrey Marlovits, Roger and Peggy Meyers, Steve Pickelman, Jeff and Nancy Glass (Guests), Ann Fletcher (Guest), and Jim and Renie Pope.** After the more than one(1) and a half hour tour we all enjoyed lunch at the **Public House** restaurant located in the stadium.



Photo by Walt Busenius

(L-R) Tony Greco, Anne & Ron Plachy,  
Nancy & John Pearl, and Cindy Greco



Photo by Henry Thatcher

Tour of the Giant's home team dugout

# Explore & Eat



Photo by Henry Thatcher



Photo by Henry Thatcher

Group Picture at Willie May's Gate



Photo by Henry Thatcher



Photo by Henry Thatcher



Photo by Henry Thatcher

The Press Box



Photo by Henry Thatcher

**Legendary  
Troubadour  
Featured at  
SIR Theater  
Party on  
June 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Woody  
Sez**  
the life & music of  
WOODY GUTHRIE

The life and music of America's greatest troubadour will make for a memorable evening in the theatre, as SIR 146 sponsors *Woody Sez* on Thursday, June 6 at the Lesher Theater in downtown Walnut Creek in this production by Center REP.

Woody Guthrie greatly enriched America's songbook with such notable foot-stompers as "This Land Is Your Land," "This Train Is Bound for Glory," and "So Long, It's Been Good to Know You." More than forty songs have been woven into this upbeat evening with messages of love, friendship, freedom and equality.

Featuring David Lutken and Darcie Deauville who devised this musical tribute for New York's Irish Theater, the quartet of performers also includes David Finch and Megan Loomis. *Woody Sez* was also a hit at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, and toured throughout Europe, and in China. The New York Times called *Woody Sez* "exhilarating, brisk and polished." Born in Oklahoma in 1912, Guthrie lived a life of turbulence, often reflected in his songs, but he left us with a greatly enriched memoir and songbook.

A limited number of discount seats have been reserved for SIR146 members and friends for the June 6 performance at 8:00 p.m. Tickets are \$36 per person, and may be reserved with a check payable to SIR146, and mailed to Gary Schaub, 1400 Canyonwood Ct., #8, Walnut Creek 94595. Deadline for reservations is May 6<sup>th</sup>.



Tickets for *Woody Sez* will be distributed in the lower lobby of the Lesher Center (1601 Locust Street) on June 6 at 7:00 p.m.

Parking is available in the city garage adjacent to Lesher Center.

# Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 1 (UNO)

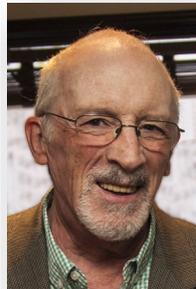
The Group One players met on March 15<sup>th</sup> for our third Game Night of 2019 at the inviting home of **SIR Frank Ascigno** and his wife, **Marie**. A very green St. Patrick's Day theme was evident throughout the evening, including delicious Soda Bread.

We had almost a full complement of regular players -only **SIR Sig Kalteis** and his wife, **Nancy** had to cancel at the last minute. Everyone at the three tables tried their luck at choosing the winning tiles. As usual, some did better than others!

**SIR Jerry Kaplan** came in first place and had a very good evening worth \$19.00 with a low average score of only 11.4 points. **Jerry** went out first in five of the 10 games he played. **Sherry Hockenbrock**, wife of **SIR Richard**, had a score of 15.0, enough to win the second prize of \$10. Third place worth \$3.00 was won by **SIR Richard** with an average of 19.5. **SIR Jim Stedman** was close behind at 19.8, but finished just out of the money.

Lottery scratchers were awarded to the two players who amassed the most points during the evening. **Carmen Schiavone**, wife of **SIR Rob Melrose**, and **SIR Corrie Oranje**, were each handed a ticket they hoped would pay for a trip to Hawaii. **Corrie's** ticket won him \$5.00, a tad better than finishing in third place.

MTD Group One continues to have 12 substitute players that we welcome whenever space is available. There may be enough substitutes to start a new group between all the six MTD groups. If other SIRs are interested in playing on a more regular basis, contact **Jerry** or Assistant Activity Coordinator **Bob Lucido** to get help in establishing a new group The game is entertaining to play and easy to learn! Single SIRs as well as a SIR and his Significant Other are always welcome.



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 3 (TRES)

March dominoes for MTD#3 was held at the home of **Dick** and **Judy Richmond**. A delicious snack and dessert offering were enjoyed by all.

The highlight player of the evening was **Walt Busenius**. **Walt** went out 6 times in 9 games and came up with a record-breaking average score of 9.3!

Right behind **Walt** came **Judy Baldrige** with another impressive score of 10.4. **Judy** went out 4 times on 11 games played. In third place **Judy Richmond** went out twice in 9 games to average 15.2.

Sir **Bob Lucido** and his wife, **Wendy** will be joining Group 3 as substitutes. Welcome aboard, **Bob** and **Wendy**.

In April the MTD Group 3 hosting will be by **Lynn** and **Sally Shafer** on the 26<sup>th</sup>.



Photo by Alicia Baily

MTD (Tres) L to R: Showing their winnings are **Judy Baldrige**, **Walt Busenius** and **Judy Richmond**.



## SIR Happenings Newsletter

*SIR Happenings is the statewide SIR newsletter.*

*Click on the link in the*

*SIR 146 webpage to read the current issue. You may enjoy reading about the activities of other branches.*



Q. Where does the Easter bunny eat breakfast?

A: IHOP.

# Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 4 (El Quattro)

**Jim Pope**

The El Quattro Mexican Train Dominos group met on March 15th to celebrate St. Patrick's Day in style. We had 17 rousing leprechauns, all clad in **Green** and one special guest, "**Blarney Murphy**"; **Henry and Barbara Thatcher, Bill Weinberg and Yvonne Killips, Ron Louis and Fran Matthews, Dick and Leslie Firth, Mariwyn McComb, Jonathan and Barbara Korfhage, Dick and Christy DeVoe, Rich and Kim Pace, Jim and Renie Pope and Blarney Murphy** . The evening was filled with "Irish Cheer" and wonderful food provided by the women in the group. We played three (3) tables with three(3) Low Score winners receiving California Lottery tickets. The winners were **Barbara Korfhage, Bill Weinberg and Leslie Firth**. **Blarney Murphy** had the lowest score but he was not eligible as he is just blarney.



**MTD 4 Group: Blarney Murphy, Jonathan Korfhage, Renie Pope, Mariwyn McComb, Bill Weinberg, Kim Pace, Jim Pope, Ron Louis, Leslie Firth, Barbara Thatcher, Christy DeVoe, Henry Thatcher, Rich Pace, Fran Matthew, Dick Firth, Dick DeVoe, Barbara Korfhage, and Yvonne Killips**



MTD 4 winners were **Bill Weinberg, Blarney Murphy** (Bill's Friend), **Leslie Firth, and Barbara Korfhage**.



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 5 (CINCO)

**Chuck Campbell**

Our Mexican Train V group had a trainload of fun at our March 21<sup>st</sup> gathering at **Jim & Anne Burk's** home. We celebrated our host **Jim's** 80<sup>th</sup> birthday together, relishing **Anne's** homemade chocolate cake and laughing as **Jim** attempted to snuff out his candles in one breath (it took two).

We welcomed guest players **Bob & Janet Yolland** and **Judy & Jim Baldrige** this month and **Judy** won the evening with her 58 points across 6 games. Coming in 2<sup>nd</sup> place was **Steve Sprague** with 61 points and chugging into 3<sup>rd</sup> was hostess **Anne**, with 64. The remaining players—**Sally Sprague, Dennis Hallett** and **Chuck & Marty Campbell**—were content to enjoy the wine and nibbles in the caboose.

# Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 6 (SEIS) John "Moose" Kelly

Brian and Mary McCarthy welcomed the MTD 6 "posse" into their home with a great array of Easter treats, food, and, need I say, a lot of great wine. YES!! Thanks for their outstanding hospitality on a rainy evening. The competition was at a high pitch for the jackpot as well as the treasured "Sweet Money" scratchers for high point prize. The low score winners were **Jim Barry** (1), **Mary McCarthy** (2), and **Kathe Mitchell** (3). **Moose Kelly** and **Susan Sheldon** surpassed everyone with the highest points that yielded no "Sweet Money"! CONGRATULATIONS to the winners.

Our next event will be at **Richard and Sherry Hockenbrock's** home on Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Mrs. Moose and I will not be at next month's gathering but I will be coordinating details with **Richard and Sherry**. My thanks to **Brian and Mary** for hosting the MTD 6 "posse".



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 2 (DOS) Dick Woodman

Our February game night was hosted by **Chuck and Mary Denney**. They laid out a fine spread of snacks and goodies for everyone's enjoyment. We had a great time chatting, eating and playing Mexican Train. The flu season took its toll on our players so the total was down to 14 but a good time was had by all.

**Bill Cammerer** scored a startlingly low score of 8.5 points per game to finish in first place and win \$17. **John Pearl** also had a very low score of 12.1 points to win second place and \$8. **Dick** followed with 20.9 to win third place and \$3. Congratulations to all of our winners!

I would like to welcome **Ron Plachy** on board as our new Assistant Chair for the Mexican Train Dominos Dos Group. We have enjoyed having **Rich Ahlf** as assistant and thank him for his service.

Our next game night is March 22<sup>nd</sup> at **Dick and Janice Woodman's**.

Photo by Mary Schmidt



Low point winners - **Jim Barry, Mary McCarthy, Kathe Mitchell**



Photo by Mary Schmidt

MTD 6 High point winners - **Susan Sheldon, Moose Kelly**

Photo by Mary Schmidt



A Number of Trains NOT Leaving the Station.



## Cooking II Bob Yolland

**Ken Richter** hosted a terrific Cooking II lunch on March 11<sup>th</sup> with an appropriate St Patrick's day theme. We started with some rather special Dubliner Irish cheese with a variety of crackers. This was accompanied by tasty Deviled Eggs and Almonds.

For lunch **Ken** created a Ruben Bake. This superb dish had top and bottom crispy crusts and was filled with plenty of Corned Beef, Cabbage, Thousand Island dressing and Cheese. It truly tasted great. This was accompanied by a delicious Mandarin Salad with glazed toasted Almonds. Along with plenty of wine and good conversation, **Ken** finished the meal with his signature special milk shake-style drink made of Vanilla Ice Cream, Kahlua, Rum, Galliano and other special secret ingredients.

Thank you **Ken** for a great lunch and everyone for fun time. Our next event will be hosted by **Corrie Oranje** on the second Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup>.

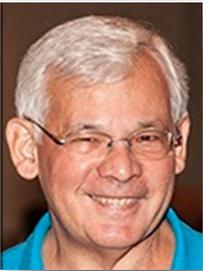


## Wine Tasting Rob Melrose

We had another successful wine tasting event on February 27<sup>th</sup> at the home of **Brian** and **Mary McCarthy**. Since I was unable to attend, **Bill Holly**, **Al Munayer** and **Peter Bishop** stepped up and assisted. Thank you! I've heard that **Brian** and **Mary** had everything ready so it made it a breeze. About 18 years ago, the late **Dale Haukland** started the original Wine Tasting group so glasses were raised in honor of such a fine gentleman.

**Dan** and **Sandy Schlatter** were winners of the best White Wine and new guests **Bruce Kimmis** and **Christine Stratton** were the winners of the best Red Wine.

Our next Wine Tasting is scheduled for April 24<sup>th</sup> at the home of **Peter** and **Gabriela Bishop**. I will be sending out an email with wine types and directions so if you are not on our mailing list and would like to join us for a fun afternoon, please let me know.



## Book Corner Peter Plante

The Book Corner is next open in May during our Ladies Day Luncheon.

In May, we will have some great fiction and non fiction in both paperback and hardcover selections. Donations from your personal libraries are always gratefully accepted.



Photo by Bill Holly

**Diana and Mike Rose, Barbara and Joe Stengel** enjoying the February Wine Tasting.



Photo by Bill Holly

**Bob Lucido, Gabriela Bishop and Al Munayer** with the wines





## AREA 16 Fishing Report

Paul Dubow

The rain kept coming, but a few of us sneaked into San Pablo Reservoir between the raindrops and had some fantastic luck. **Carl Moyer** caught an 8 ½ pounder and another at 7 lbs. **Thom Watkins** also caught a 7 pounder. **Brion Beetz, Pete Gates,**

and **Lee Clark** of Branch 146 along with **Phil Scimonelli** and **Mike Corker** caught smaller trout but limited out. **Stan Wong** did well at Folsom Lake, catching a bevy of trout and salmon. **Tom Kostik** returned to his haunts in the Delta and caught and released stripers in double figures on several trips. On the negative side, **Ernie Wong** found the fishing to be slow at Pyramid Lake in Nevada while **Ron Lew** and **Paul Dubow** of Branch 146, joined by **Stan Wong**, didn't get a bite fishing for sturgeon on a windy day in the Delta.

The ocean salmon and rockfish seasons open in mid-April and prospects look good. Indeed, it may be the best salmon season in years and we are very excited about it. We are also planning excursions to Lake Almanor, Don Pedro Reservoir, Lake Oroville, Pyramid Lake, and some other great venues in addition to our regular outings in the Delta, at San Pablo, and out of the Golden Gate. All SIRs are welcome to join us, regardless of whether they fished before or have equipment. If you are interested, please come to our next meeting, which will be at 8:30 am on April 25<sup>th</sup> at the Legends Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. You can come earlier to join us for breakfast, beginning at 7:30 am.

For further information, please call branch fishing chair **Paul Dubow** at (415) 495-6504.



**Bob Lucido & Tony Greco** checking in Breakfast Activity chairmen at March 1st meeting



## SIR 146 Hiking

Rich Ahlf

**Carquinez Strait Regional Shoreline  
Bow Valley Trail/Carquinez Overlook  
loop Trail/ Bow Valley Trail Loop**

April 12<sup>th</sup>, we will be hiking along the Carquinez Strait. This Trail traverses open grasslands and small eucalyptus groves, and at the midpoint, takes you through the historic town of Port Costa. The bluffs and shoreline between the towns of Crockett and Martinez are home to the mule deer, gray fox and many small mammals. Birds such as the Western Meadowlark and American Goldfinch forage and nest in the area, as well as owls, hawks, and other birds of prey.

Driving directions: On hwy 4 west of Martinez, exit onto Cummings Skyway, then turn right onto Crockett Boulevard & right again on Pomona Street in Crockett. Pomona Street becomes Carquinez Scenic Drive. Proceed to the staging area on the left and drive to lower area in Parking lot near Eckley pier.

Dogs are allowed on this hike  
Spouses / Significant Other — Always Welcome  
Hike starts at 10:00 am & Rain Cancels

E-mail: [rahlf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rahlf@sbcglobal.net)  
Cell (925) 550-4967



## New RV Activity New

**Bob Lucido**

If you have a motor home, 5th wheel, trailer, or box on wheels, this activity is for you.

As we form the activity, we can hold a meeting to find out how members want to run the program.

The Napa SIR 126 has an RV group with the following agenda, which can be used as a guide.

- They schedule trips 2-3 times a year
- Travel 3 to 4 hours to the destination
- Stay from a few days to a week
- Use sites with full hook ups
- Book early to stay together, get discounts, and use of the banquet facilities for large turnouts

This is open to members and significant others.

Contact **Bob Lucido** (925) 899-0974 or

E-mail: [bobwendy3@comcast.net](mailto:bobwendy3@comcast.net)  
Cell (925) 550-4967



## Men's Duplicate Bridge 1 Doug Eisner

**Jim Stedman** hosted us in a classy game room at his new digs in Rossmoor. What with the many choices for snacks Rossmoor provided, plus two desserts for every player, we all voted to play there every month. At the noontime turn, **Fred Bolton** and **Tony Greco** tied for first (60%) and **Bill Snyder** was third (58%). Often enough, the mighty fall in the afternoon. At the end, **Fred Bolton**, **Dick DeVoe** and **Bill Schultz** were all tied for second (56%). Our host, **Jim**, had a 75% game after lunch and rocketed from 10th place to first, with 59% overall. Congratulations, Jim. You can host any time.

Reported by **Dave Pierce**



## Men's Duplicate Bridge 3 Sid Landman

The March game for Duplicate bridge Group 3 was hosted by **Bill Schultz** at his home in Oakland. Some of the players felt that they needed to have overnight accommodations to make the trip through the tunnel!!

**Mike Whitaker** led the field in the first half with 16 points but close on his heels were **Dick DeVoe** and **Fred Bolton**, each with 15.5 points. In the second half **Dick** had 14.5 points and **Mike**, **Tosh Kuritsubo**, **Ray Bland** and **Bill Schultz** were close and tied with 14 points. At the end of the day **Dick** and **Mike** tied for first place with 30 points, a 63% game. **Fred Bolton** was third with 28 points. For the day, **Fred** had nine 2's and **Mike** had only two 0's. **Ray Bland** was the come-back kid by improving his first half score in the second half by 4 points.

There were no perfect 6 partnerships, but there were three that scored 5.5 points for the three boards they played together. **DeVoe/Bolton** boards 10-12, **DeVoe/Bland** boards 16-18 and **Greco/Schultz** boards 19-21. **Jim Brown** will host the next game on Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>.

Reported by **Bill Schultz**



## Men's Duplicate Bridge 2 Bill Schultz

**Mark Curtis** smartly hosted 4 tables of duplicate bridge for the SIR Duplicate Bridge 2. Not only did he host but he also ran away with all the money. **Mark** was second in both the first half and second half and finished first overall with 47 points for a 65% game. Second was **Bob Yolland** with 45 points, third was **Bill Schultz** with 39.5 points and fourth was our guest, **Jim Pope** with 38.5 points. **Mark** also had the most 3's (9), and the fewest 0's, none.

Two pairs scored perfect 6's. **Bill Schultz** and **Bob Yolland** on boards 5 and 6 and **Dave Steinberg** and **Bob Yolland** on boards 19 and 20.

**Tony Greco** and **Dave Steinberg** were the come-back kids by improving their first half scores by 8.5 points in the second half.

The next Duplicate Bridge 2 game will be Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup> hosted by **Bill Schultz**.



Duplicate Bridge 2: **Mark Curtis**, **Bob Yolland**, **Bill Schultz** and **Jim Pope** show off their winnings



Duplicate Bridge 1: **Jim Stedman** was first and **Fred Bolton**, **Dick DeVoe** and **Bill Schultz** tied for second.



## Couples Duplicate Bridge 1 Bob Yolland

Couples Duplicate 1 had a very enjoyable evening of bridge hosted by **Margot Somerville** on March 20<sup>th</sup>. As always she put out a delightful variety of goodies and some great wines. Thank you, **Margot**, for doing an excellent job hosting.

Bridge-wise, **Rich Ahlf** and **Ismeni Maclean** took third with 17 1/2 points. **Dick** and **Christy DeVoe** were second with 24 points and **Bob** and **Janet Yolland** finished first with 28 1/2 points. Congratulations to all the winners. We especially thank our subs, **John** and **Kathy Kluesener** and **Ken** and **Elaine Richter** for playing. As a group we are looking for two permanent couples to replace the two who recently retired. If interested, please let Bob Yolland know. Our next event will be hosted by the **Yollands** on Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>.



## Couples Party Bridge Tony Greco

**Larry & Linda Brown** hosted our March 5<sup>th</sup> event. Commute traffic was unusually light on the rainy drive to Clayton so everyone arrived by the 7:00 pm scheduled time. Those who arrived early got a head start consuming wine, soft drinks and snacks which included sliced cheese with crackers, cashew nuts, chocolate bark, grapes and **Larry Brown's** very tasty homemade salmon cheese ball. **Linda Brown** topped off the evening with a delicious homemade apple crisp a la mode that was served as we gathered around the living room area. Everyone was chatty throughout the evening which is a sure sign everyone was having fun. That's what party bridge is all about.

A thank you goes out to **John & Kathy Kluesener** for subbing for **Brad & Lynne Hatcher**, when **Brad** reported in with a cold.

Hand point distribution promoted bidding of games by everyone, so most total scores were above average. **Jerry & Christine Benoit** were in 5<sup>th</sup> PLACE after 2 rounds of play but finished strong to surge into 1<sup>st</sup> PLACE at the end of play. Congratulations! **Dick & Christy DeVoe** were in 1<sup>st</sup> PLACE after 3 rounds but faded in the last 2 rounds and settled into 2<sup>nd</sup> PLACE at the end of play.

Our top three finishers are as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> PLACE with 4210 points – **Jerry & Christine Benoit**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> PLACE with 3690 points – **Dick & Christy DeVoe**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> PLACE with 3190 points – **Tony & Cindy Greco**

Next month's event will be held on April 2<sup>nd</sup> (no fooling!) and hosted by **Tony & Cindy Greco**. Anyone interested, especially the new yellow badge members, in joining the fun and subbing once in a while, give me a call



## Couples Duplicate Bridge 2 Dave Pierce

On a brisk and windy March evening, **Dave and Joan Pierce** hosted all our regular players. **Larry and Linda Brown** were second with a 55% game, just as they were in February. **Brad and Lynne Hatcher**, also 55%, shared the second place money. The hosts were first with a 61% game. **Ken and Elaine Richter** rate an honorable mention as the only pair to bid and make a slam. **Joan Pierce's** chocolate cake certainly rates honors of its own.

(925) 932-3877

[dwpi@astound.net](mailto:dwpi@astound.net)



Photo by Bill Schultz

Our slightly hard to see Duplicate Bridge Group 3 Warriors who are thought to be in the witness protection program.



## Party Bridge Byron Nelson

We played two tables of bridge at the home of **Byron Nelson** on March 11th. First place went to **Rich Ahlf** with a score of 6480. Congratulations on the really big score! Second place went to **Jim Stedman** with 5020 points and third went to **Fred Bolton** with 3690. Our next game will be on April 1st.



### **Poker Group 1** **Dan O'Sullivan**

Poker Group 1 met March 13<sup>th</sup> at the home of **Bill Cammerer**. There was a big winner (no name mentioned) and, as always a good time was had by all. Our next outing will on April 10<sup>th</sup> at the home of **Rich Hanford**.

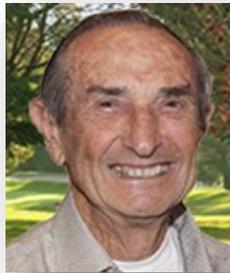


### **Old Money Poker Group 6** **Brad Hatcher**

After a one-month delay, **Rich Ahlf** kindly hosted the game. Snacks were plentiful and wine flowed (even onto the table). Many times, our host is concentrating on his duties and thus his play is less successful. That was clearly not the case for **Rich**. He cleaned up – both at the game and after it was over. He may have set the record for winnings!

Tel: (925) 935-1571

[bhatcher1942@gmail.com](mailto:bhatcher1942@gmail.com)



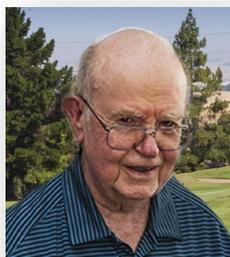
### **Poker Group 2** **Al Zamolo**

*Poker Group 2 meets on the fourth Monday of the month at various members' homes. Contact **Al Zamolo** if you would like to be on the list as a substitute.*



### **Poker Club 3** **Sig Kalteis**

*Poker Club 3 meets on the fourth Monday of the month. We usually play at my house. Contact **Sig Kalteis** if you would like to be on the list as a substitute.*



### **Poker Group 4** **Rich Hanford**

*Poker Group 4 meets on the fourth Monday of the month at homes of the various members.*



### **Poker Group 5** **Bill Roberts**

*Poker Group 5 meets the Wednesday prior to the SIR luncheon. **Bill Roberts** is the permanent host for our event.*



### **Cooking Lunch & Wine** **Dick Woodman**

Twice a year instead of cooking lunch at one our homes we go to dinner with our wives and significant others. The month of March was one of those months and we had a great dinner at Massimo's in Walnut Creek. Health and travel issues kept several people away but we had ten diners including: **Bob** and **Jo Spellman**, **Jim** and **Phyllis Meehan**, **Paul** and **Joan Dubow**, **Bill Hartman** and **Marlys Siegel**, and **Dick** and **Janice Woodman**. Massimo's tucked us into a back corner and provided us with very good service and wonderful food.

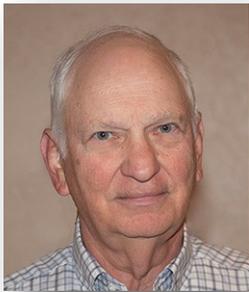
Our luncheon in April will be hosted by **Jim Meehan** in their home. On their own, the wife or significant other of the host for the monthly lunch organizes a luncheon for themselves and have a great gathering at the same time we are meeting. Good times are had by all.



Kdssb Vsulqj iurp doo ri xv dw VLU Fdoo KT

If you shift each letter to the left by 3, there is a hidden message from us to you.





## GOLF

### Ed Marlovits

Our annual golf meeting and shotgun start event will be on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. This year's event will double as our qualifier for the state team championship so get your teams together. If you need

assistance in forming a team, send a note to the golf gmail account.

**Bill Laws** has invited a speaker to the meeting who will go over some of this year's rule changes. This is not intended to be an extensive discussion but will highlight the new rules that may be somewhat complicated or are situations that occur fairly frequently.

Members have expressed interest in having more opportunities to play and the upcoming season will provide some. In addition to the monthly Away Golf events we will have four inter-branch events at Franklin Canyon where we can compete either as a single or as a best ball team. The first event will be April 25<sup>th</sup>.

Finally, it appears that about the time this Sir Call is distributed, the remodeled Grill will be open for business and we can again enjoy beer and fries after golf!



## Nine Hole Golf Group

### Verner Laursen

The SIR 146 golf group tees off at 9:30 am at the Diablo Hills Golf Course on most Thursdays. Exception is the second Thursday when we normally go to the SIR luncheon.

If you are interested, let me know and I will put you on my list. On Mondays, I will send out an email asking who is coming for golf, who is walking and who plans to stay for lunch. On Wednesdays I will send out an email setting forth the pairings for Thursday morning. Thursday morning there may be adjustments based on who did or did not show up. Most of the time the lunch is better than our golf game.

[vlaursen@astound.net](mailto:vlaursen@astound.net)

GOLF



## Table Pool

### Bill Weinberg



We meet every Monday at 11:00 am at Masses, 2721 North Main in Walnut Creek. No advance notice is necessary. Just show up and play. Cost is \$5 for as long as you want to play. This is a special rate that Masses gives SIR members. You can also play at other times during the week for the same \$5. Just tell them you are 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 Area 16 are welcome.

Photo by Jerry Kaplan



**Gary Brown, Peter Plante and Frank Barton** loading Book Corner boxes for another trip back into storage for another month or two.

Can you see both the duck and the bunny in this ambiguous drawing? The duck's bill is the bunny's ears. This was first used by a psychologist named Joseph Jastrow in the early 1900s.



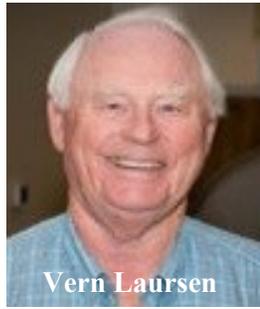
Happy Spring from all of us at SIR Call HQ

## Area 16 Events

### Mac User Group (MUG)



Max Burchett



Vern Laursen

The Mac Users Group (MUG) meets the first Monday of each month from 12 noon until 2:00 pm at the Thurman G. Casey Ygnacio Valley Library, 2661 Oak Grove Road, Walnut Creek, CA 94598.

**Max Burchett** and **Verner Laursen** are the leaders and are available to help Mac, iPhone and iPad users with their questions. Please note that Mac users do not have problems. We do have suggestions on software and where to get the best deals on Mac related products. We will also demonstrate various software products.

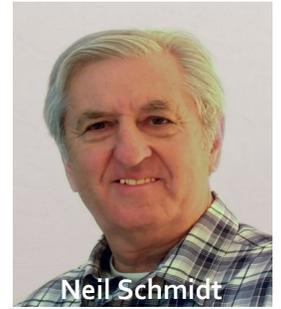
If you have or may have an interest, please contact us and we will put you on our mailing list. If you are on the list, you will receive an email from time to time about items that are of interest to Mac Users.

### Computers and Technology



Derek Southern

PCs



Neil Schmidt

The next meeting of the SIR Area 16 Computer and Technology Group will be at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge (1475 Creekside Dr., WC) on Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 starting at 9:30 am. SIR members from all branches and their guests, including spouses, are welcome and invited to attend. Plan to come a little early and for coffee, goodies and to chat.

The presentation topic for the April meeting will be "**So You Have a New Computer - What's Next?**" by Frank May. Frank will be discussing subjects such as: Do you really need a new computer?, Where is your data? and How to migrate your existing apps and email. He will also present an example task list for getting your new machine ready to go.

This presentation, as well as past presentation notes, are available on the CAT Web page ([a2cat.sirinc2.org](http://a2cat.sirinc2.org)). Note that we ask for a \$5 donation to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and cookies. We look forward to seeing you on April 18th.

### Area 2 \$ums Investment Group

\$UMS in Retirement meets again on Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, at 8:00 am at the Legends Restaurant at the Diablo Creek Golf Course on Port Chicago Highway, Concord, just north of Hwy 4.

Our speaker will be Russell Watts. He is the Contra Costa County Treasurer and will be speaking about the debt crisis in California counties and cities and the difficult political decisions that are going to have to be made.

The Legends opens at 7:00 am. Come early and have a leisurely breakfast with your colleagues prior to the meeting. Ladies are welcome.

\$UMS Chairman: **Tom Henry** [tomhenry925@gmail.com](mailto:tomhenry925@gmail.com)

Co-chairman: **Dave Sutton** [davesutn@comcast.net](mailto:davesutn@comcast.net)



Photo by Henry Thatcher



Photo by Henry Thatcher

Sir **Jim Owen** and **Ron Lew** enjoying the March luncheon

## SIR 146 Activities Calendar

To add new or one time special events for the calendar, contact Bill Holly

2018    Jan    Feb    Mar    Apr    May    Jun    Jul    Aug    Sep    Oct    Nov    Dec    2020   

### April 2019

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Apr 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
10:00 AM Party Bridge 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Mac User Group (MUG)	9:00 AM Golf 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 7:00 PM Couples Party Bridge	10:00 AM Bowling 1:30 PM Song Sirs 1st	9:30 AM NINE HOLE GOLF-1 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Poker Group #8	9:30 AM - 2:00 PM Men's Duplicate Bridge 2 7:15 PM California Magic Club Dinner Theater Martinez
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
8:30 AM Book Group Greenery Restaurant 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses 12:00 PM Cooking II	9:00 AM Golf 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 7:00 PM Couples Duplicate Bridge 2	10:00 AM Bowling 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM Poker Group #8 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Hearts Rocco's Italian Restaurant 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Pinochle Rocco's Italian Restaurant 1:00 PM Poker Group #1 4:15 PM Poker #5	9:00 AM - 10:45 AM BEC Meeting 11:45 AM - 1:00 PM SIR LUNCHEON	10:00 AM Hiking Moderate 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM Chess Pleasant Hill Senior Center 6:45 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Group 1 (UNO)
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
Income Taxes Due 10:00 AM Men's Duplicate Bridge #1 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses	9:00 AM Golf 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church	10:00 AM Bowling 11:00 AM Cooking Lunch and Wine (LAW) 1:30 PM Song Sirs 2nd 7:00 PM Bridge - Couples	9:30 AM - 11:30 AM Computers And Technology (CAT) 9:30 AM NINE HOLE GOLF-2 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Tres Gourmet 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Group 5 (Cinco)	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM Men's Duplicate Bridge 3 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes - El Quattro
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Poker #3 1:00 PM Poker Group #2 1:00 PM Poker Group #4	9:00 AM Golf 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 6:45 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Group Seis	8:00 AM - 10:00 AM Sums in Retirement 10:00 AM Bowling 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM Cribbage 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Pinochle Rocco's Italian Restaurant 2:30 PM - 5:00 PM Wine Tasting	9:00 AM Area 16 Fishing Breakfast Meeting Diablo Creek CC	12:30 PM - 2:30 PM Chess Pleasant Hill Senior Center 6:30 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Dos 6:45 PM - 10:15 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Group 3 (Tres)
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>May 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses	9:00 AM Golf 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church	10:00 AM Bowling 1:30 PM Song Sirs 1st	Mediterranean Cruise Athens to Rome	
			9:30 AM NINE HOLE GOLF-1 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Poker Group #8	9:30 AM - 2:00 PM Men's Duplicate Bridge 2