



Big Sir's Notes Bill Holly

We had another strong membership recruitment month in July. Six new members joined our branch: **Don Adolphson** sponsored by **Walt Busenius** with help from **Steve Siljestrom**, **Jim Battersby** sponsored by **Jonathan Korfhage**, **Darlo Boone** sponsored by **Dick DeVoe**, **Steve Dinning**, sponsored by **Steve Ybarra**, **Dick Firth** sponsored by **Jim Pope**, and **David Morris**, sponsored by **Glen Renk**.

In addition, four new guests visited us in July.

Lo McCarley received his 20 Year Membership Certificate and was acknowledged for his many years of service to our branch. **Terry Marchione** was awarded as a Branch Honoree for his longstanding service to our branch.

Three members responded to my request for volunteers to replace our Badge Chairman **Bill Roberts**, who is stepping down after seven years on the job. **Tony Greco** will replace **Bill** and **Dennis Dale** and **Bob Mehus** will serve as alternates.

The 2016 slate of candidates for Branch 146 officers and directors was introduced during the July luncheon. If you missed the luncheon, their names were published in the July 2015 SIR Call, which is available on our website under the "Newsletters" tab. At the August luncheon, we will call for nominations from the floor. If there are none, we will vote to elect the nominees as published in July.

Dick DeVoe did a masterful job of conducting our annual evacuation drill at the end of our July luncheon. For those of you who missed the meeting, please read the emergency evacuation plan, also posted on our website under the "Member Information" tab.

Remember August is our traditional luncheon for displaying our team colors. So put on that shirt, hat, or jacket commemorating your favorite school, college, or professional sports team and proudly show off your team colors.

Finally, if you know someone who might be interested in joining our branch, bring your guest to our luncheon on Thursday, August 13th, and be sure to notify our luncheon chairman before noon Friday, August 7th.

Luncheon – August 13th
Boundary Oak Clubhouse

Guest Speaker:
Jon Dwyer
Hydraulic Fracking, Cure or Curse

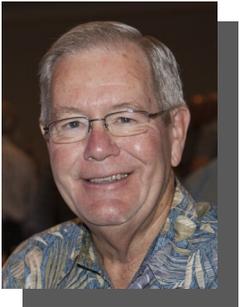
Gathering time – 11:00 am
Seating time - 11:45 am

Bringing a guest or can't attend?
Email: nolunchbranch146@gmail.com
Telephone message: (925) 979-5146
By noon Friday, August 7th



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Jonathan Korfhage, our supreme luncheon greeter, welcomes **Norm Baietti** to the July event



Little Sir's Corner

Walt Busenius

Hope you are staying cool and enjoying summer -- which seems to be flying by very quickly.

Our speaker for August is Jon Dwyer. His program is "Hydraulic Fracking: Cure or Curse". Jon gives an overview of how oil and gas was formed, where it is found, and the process of extracting it out of the ground, either by conventional methods or by a different and now controversial method known as fracking.

A history of the use of fracking in oil production will be summarized and a "Case For" and a "Case Against" will be presented in which the main arguments for and against will be highlighted. Even though Jon worked in the oil and chemical industry for 45 years, Jon strives to solely educate people on the fracking process and to be unbiased during his presentation.

Jon Dwyer holds a degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Notre Dame and for over 4 decades has worked in the oil, gas, and chemical industries in the USA and overseas. Jon is currently the Assistant Governor for the Solano County Rotary Clubs and lives in San Ramon with his wife Bonnie.

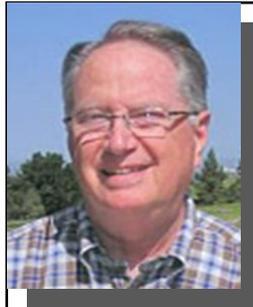
In July, we welcomed 6 new members and introduced 4 guests at the luncheon. We extend a very big thank you to the Sirs who invited these guests and new members. The summer season is a great time for you to invite a guest to a luncheon. We hope to see a guest with you at this month's luncheon.

Finally, if you need assistance finding an activity that meets your interest, please contact our Activities Chairman, **Jerry Kaplan**.



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

At the July luncheon, Photographer Richard Jones, right with the mike, running his aerial slide show



Membership

Ben Gleason

Branch 146 Statistics

We had a great membership month in July. At our BEC meeting on July 9th, we approved six new members and lost no active members raising our total active roster to 284 members (including our seven Honorary Life Members).

Two members were unable to return after being inactive for two years, reducing the number of inactive members to 17.

Status Changes

New Members*:

Donald Adolphson, Jim Battersby, Darlo Boone, Steve Dinning, Richard Firth and David Morris

*Pictures of the new members will appear in the September SIR Call

Active Members Resigned: none

Dropped from Inactive: **Bob Romero and Loui Nemeth**



Photo by Alicia Baily

Sue and Walt Busenius at the July Couples Dining Out event at the Brass Door Restaurant in San Ramon

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.

SIR Call Newsletter Group

Editor

Richard Hockenbrock

Assistant Editor

Jeff Baily

Proofreaders

Jeff Baily, Cal Tucker

Jonathan Korfhage, & Pat Lucia

Labeling & Mailing

Bill Cammerer

Internet Posting

Ron Plachy



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

George Trabert, Joe Stengel and Mike Stephenson
at the luncheon after visiting the book nook



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Sirs **Walt Schmidt, Charlie Koeber, Dick Woodman**
and **Jim Meehan** enjoying the July Luncheon



Photo by Bill Schultz

Apres golf
New member **Steve Ybarra**, standing gets the big
welcome from members, **Doug Eisner, Ed Marlovits,**
Joe Lamanna and Frank Rockwell.



THE CLUBHOUSE

AT BOUNDARY OAK

SIR 146 Luncheon

August 2015

Salad

Mediterranean Green Salad
Baby Green Tomatoes, Red Onions
Feta Cheese, Black Olives
Red Wine Vinaigrette

Entrees

BBQ Beef Brisket
Slow Braised Beef Brisket,
Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Sautéed Vegetables

or

Mahi Mahi
Herb Marinated Mahi Mahi,
Confetti Rice Pilaf, Sautéed Vegetables
Fresh Tomato & Avocado Relish

Dessert

Chocolate Cheesecake
with
Vanilla Whipped Cream
Raspberry Sauce



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Joe Hunt, Guy Rudberg and Dale Haukland
take a moment out for a picture at the July lunch



Photo by Carl Tilchen

Acoustic Musicians

Carl Tilchen

Hi Friends:

You are invited to the next meeting of The SIR Acoustic Musicians Group, Friday, August 14, 1 pm, [at **Alan Elnick's** home], 2177 Ward Drive, Walnut Creek. Directions from 680 going North: (I'm sure you can figure this out from other areas) exit Rudgear Rd, continue on South Broadway, right on Newell, straight to San Miguel Dr., right on Blackwood, slight left stay on Blackwood, sharp right on Ward. **Alan's** home is on the left. If you get lost call 925-864-2641 Or 925-786-7909. Our Acoustic Musicians Group welcomes all guitar, banjo, mandolin, bass etc.. The objective will be to enjoy our music. All levels of musical skill are welcome. Spouses & singers are also encouraged. Please bring your instrument, & any songs you enjoy. I am a singer/songwriter with an active musical career. I have facilitated many musical groups, and I will be glad to lead this group. **Alan** & I welcome your suggestions to make our group comfortable, & fun for all.



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Honoree **Terry Marchione** receiving a plaque for his many contributions to the branch

SIR 146 & Friends Dinner/ Dance

OCTOBER 21, 2015 (corrected)

SAVE THIS DATE!

BE THERE OR BE SQUARE

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

6 pm to 10 pm at Zio Fraedo's Restaurant

Price is \$109 per couple and includes hors d'oeuvres and dinner

Live music for listening and dancing

Your choice of: Beef – Fish - Chicken

Make your check payable to Branch 146 Dance and send to:

Richard Kincaide

10750 Inspiration Cr.

Dublin, CA 94568

Phone: (925) 479-9935

Tables of eight are encouraged

List your name and your partner plus guests who you are inviting to sit at your table	<u>Meal Desired</u>
1)	Meal1-
2)	Meal2 -
3)	Meal3
4)	Meal4
5)	Meal5
6)	Meal6
7)	Meal7
8)	Meal8

On the form above, 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.

Total Number of Tickets ___ at ___ ea.

Amount Enclosed _____

If you are not paying for all the guests at your table, list their names and they will be included when their payment is received.



SIR 146 Hiking

Rich Ahlf

YERBA BUENA COVE, TELEGRAPH HILL & CHINATOWN

On Friday August 14 at 10:00am we will meet at SF Ferry bldg. (Embarcadero BART). This is essentially Hike #1 in Adah B's book "Stairway Walks". Interesting neighborhoods; including the original site of Bank of America. Lots of hills and staircases (most with handrails), and the 400-plus Filbert St. steps (we descend them). Will the wild parrots be there? We will stop at Levi Plaza for lunch and continue on to Chinatown. You will see buildings that were erected on the edge of the shoreline along the middle third of Yerba Buena Cove and now the financial and commercial section of San Francisco. You walk toward Portsmouth Square, which was the center of the Pueblo of Yerba Buena and now is the center of Chinatown; you continue to the slopes of Telegraph Hill where the 19th-century waterfront workers lived. You may feel you are traveling through a land of plaques in this walk. The northeast part of the city is a small, concentrated area where the early Spanish commercial history of San Francisco began. The well written plaques don't overburden you with a multitude of facts; they include just enough to stir up your imagination. Let's admire together the amazing beauty of San Francisco! About 4-5 miles.

Recommend taking BART (I get on at Concord station just before 8:00am, no problem parking and plenty of seats available, by Lafayette usually standing room only and limited parking). Get off at Embarcadero station and walk to Ferry Building with plenty of time to have a cup of coffee and a pastry. If BART works out well for everybody there's some other nice hikes in San Francisco I like to do including the Bay trail from the Cliff House to Golden Gate Bridge and Angel Island.

Spouses Always Welcome

Hike starts at 10:00am August 14, 2015

E-mail rahlf@sbcglobal.net

Cell 925-550-4967

Walking Schedule

John Lewis

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



August Walks 2015

- Aug. 7 Alamo New Life Church, Alamo
Meet: At parking lot in back of church So. on 680, Rt. On Livorna Rd. Rt. On Danville Rd. left at Church
Walk: South on Iron Horse Trail
Coffee: Pascal French Oven Railroad Ave. Danville
- Aug 14 Cardinet Trail Clayton Road, Clayton
Meet: Clayton Library
Walk: Northwest from parking on first bridge along trail by golf course
Coffee: Deli Delight Shadelands Office Park, WC.
- Aug 21 Danville Railroad Museum, Danville
Meet: Railroad Museum Parking
Walk: North on Iron Horse Trail
Coffee: Pascal French Oven, Railroad Ave.
- Aug 28 Contra Costa Canal North
Meet: At Morello & Taylor shopping center
Walk: North along Contra Costa Canal
Coffee: Panera Bread, Willow Shop CTR, Concord



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Doug Cook and Joe Lamanna at the July lunch



Couples Dining Out

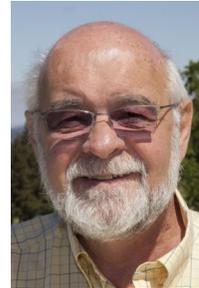
Bruce Borgman

The Couples Dining Out group had another one of our fabulous events on July 20. We had a great dinner at the Brass Door in San Ramon. This well established restaurant (since 1955!) was able to accommodate our sizable group in a separate room – we had 68 diners enjoying one another’s company and great dinner. Since the corkage was only \$12, many of us brought a selection from our home cellars. Most of us had the restaurant’s signature prime rib entrée, with a few die-hard healthy foodies enjoying the chicken piccata or Pacific salmon. Along with the tasty mixed green salad and rainbow sherbet for dessert – no-one went home hungry. We had a number of first time diners, since we always enjoy getting new folks involved in this popular SIR activity. We are actively looking for a new restaurant for September, and perhaps, for the first time – repeating a previous restaurant. We are open to your suggestions – let us know by emailing the coordinator, **Bruce Borgman**, at bgborgman@aol.com.



Photo by Alicia Baily

A new member in January, **Don Seaton** and his wife **June** enjoying the Couples Dining Out event



Wine Tasting

Rob Melrose

Thirty-two people attended the July 22nd SIR wine tasting at the home of **Tony and Jean Shebanek** where we tasted wines from Oregon and Washington. The weather, the appetizers, the wine and the surroundings all contributed to a very successful event. What makes these wine tastings special are the people. If you are not on the mailing list and are interested in wine tasting in a social setting, please send an email to **Rob Melrose** (RWMelrose@Gmail.com) Our next tasting will be on October 21st at the home of **Al and Diane Munayer**.



Photo by Rob Melrose

Wine Tasting chair, **Rob Melrose** presents the July host, **Tony Shebanek** with a gift bottle of wine.

L to R **Marilyn** and **Ken Kratz** and **May** and **Ray Kan** enjoying the time at the July Couples Dining Out event



Photo by Alicia Baily

Jim and Renie Pope with **Frank** and **Marie Ascatigno**



Photo by Alicia Baily

Dana and Steve Ybarra and **Anne** and **Pete Gates**



Photo by Alicia Baily



Sirs **Chuck Denny** and **Larry Gray** enjoying a luncheon moment

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



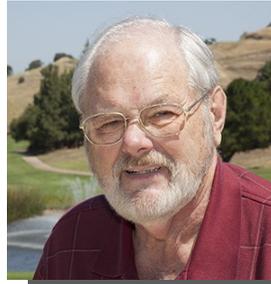
Charlie Bates and Bob Bogardus at the July lunch

One day, while strolling down the boardwalk, John bumped into an old friend of his, Rob, from high school. "You look great John, how do you stay looking so young? Why you must be 60 already but you don't look a day over 40!" Rob exclaimed. "I feel like I'm 40 too!" replied John. "That's incredible" exclaimed Rob, "Does it run in the family? How old was your dad when he passed?" "Did I say he was dead?" asked John. "He's 81 and is more active then ever. He just joined the neighborhood basketball team!" responded John. "Whoa! Well how old was your Grandfather when he died?" "Did I say he died" asked John. Rob was amazed. "He just had his 105th birthday and plays golf and goes swimming each day! He's actually getting married this week!" "Getting married?!" Rob asked. If he's 105, why on earth does he want to get married?! John looked at Rob and replied, "Did I say he wanted to?"



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Ray Spears and Charlie Abrams at the July lunch



Theatre Gary Schaub

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS'
CLASSIC IS SIR146 THEATER
PARTY FOR SEPTEMBER 11th



This is the last call for the SIR146 Theatre Party for September. It's the Tennessee Williams classic *A Streetcar Named Desire*.

We have set aside Friday, September 11th is the date for this early fall event at the Village Theatre in Danville. Curtain time is 8:00 p.m. Deadline for ordering is August 13th. A limited number of reserved seats for the September 11th performance have been set aside for Sirs and guests.

Produced by Role Players Ensemble, *A Streetcar Named Desire* won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 1948 after its Broadway debut starring Marlon Brando and Kim Hunter. *Streetcar* is always included in a short list of the finest American dramas, along with *A Long Days Journey into Night* (Eugene O'Neill) and *Death of a Salesman* (Arthur Miller).

Set in the Mississippi Delta, *Streetcar* centers around schoolteacher Blanche DuBois who visits her sister Stella Kowalski and her husband Stanley in their New Orleans apartment. Fireworks and passion erupt over ownership of their ancestral home, *Belle Rive*. Brando's famous line "S-t-e-l-l-a..." helped make him famous. Tickets are \$15.00 per person, and will be available until August 13th or until our allotment has been reached. Early reservations are encouraged. Tickets will be distributed in the lobby of the lobby of the Village Theatre (233 Front Street, Danville) beginning at 7:30 p.m. Parking is readily available in the area. Reserve tickets with a check payable to SIR146 and mailed to Sir **Gary Schaub**, 1400 Canyonwood Court, #8, Walnut Creek 94595. Questions? Contact **Gary** at schaub1@gmail.com or (925)938-5454.

I work as a pediatric nurse, and often have the painful job of giving shots to the children. One day upon entering the examining room to give a shot the little girl starting screaming "No! No! No!" "Jessica" her mother scolded, "that is not polite behavior!" At that the girl continued to scream "No thank you! No thank you! No thank you!"



Fishing Report

Paul Dubow

The salmon fishing in the ocean continues to be disappointing. Nevertheless, **Carl Moyer** and **Ken Konczak** ventured out of the Golden Gate and picked up two decent sized salmon. On another ocean trip, **Rich Fiscina** of Branch

146 and **Carl Moyer** caught ling cod and rockfish but were turned back by nasty waves when they tried for salmon. **Tom Tipton** continued to harass the black bass in the Delta. But the star of the month was Branch 146's very own **Gene Schulting**. **Gene** joined **Harry Sherinian**, **Terry Miller**, **Barry Rauchle**, and **Carl Moyer** on an outing in San Pablo Reservoir. The group caught seven catfish and **Gene** caught five of them, including an eleven pounder!

We also journeyed far and wide to catch fish. **Pedro Contreras** spent eight days in Mexican waters and returned with a cooler full of yellowtail and yahoo. **Paul Dubow** of Branch 146 went on a hiking trip with his four children in Iceland, but **Paul** insisted that they do some fishing as well. The fishing was successful as the group caught six Arctic char in a lake and eight large codfish on a two hour rainy and windy outing in the ocean. **Rich Bal** hosted a trip to Oregon for black cod and salmon. He was joined by **Ed Dijkman**, **Karl Droese**, and **Gary Yancey**. They fished for five days, limiting out each day, with a total of 56 cod and 48 salmon.

We have outings planned for sturgeon, striped bass and black bass fishing in the Delta, trout fishing in local lakes and the Sierra, catfish in local lakes, salmon fishing in the Sacramento and Feather Rivers and hopefully in the ocean, and ling cod and rockfish in the ocean. All of you are invited to our monthly meeting where you can sign up for the outings as well as arrange for individual trips with our members. Our next meeting is Thursday, August 27, at the Legends Sports Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. The meeting starts at 8:30 am, but please join us for breakfast, beginning at 7:30. For further information, call **Paul Dubow** at (415) 495-6504.

As a 7th grade biology teacher, I was teaching my class about the flow of blood in the body. After my lecture I asked the class the following: "Why is it that if I would turn upside down, my face would turn red since the blood would flow to my head, but when I stand upright my feet don't turn red?" I was taken aback when a boy blurted out, "that's cuz your feet aint empty!"

Photo by Paul Dubow



Gene Schulting with an 11 lb. catfish caught in San Pablo Reservoir.



Table Pool

Bill Weinberg

We meet every Monday at 11:30 am at Masse's, 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 Masse's gives SIR members. You can also play during the day, at other times, for the same \$5. Just tell them you're a member of SIR. We play mostly two man teams of eight ball, or a unique three-player game, called "Crazy Eights", depending on the number of participants. We usually play about 2 hours but not everyone stays for the final curtain. All Sirs in Area 2 are welcome.

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



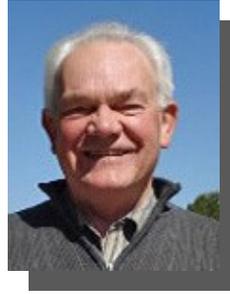
Big Sir Bill Holly presenting **Lo McCarley** with a 20 year certificate for his years of service in many aspects of branch life



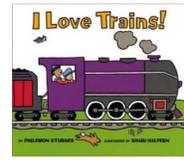
**Mexican Train
Dominoes Group 1
Jerry Kaplan**



The July game night was hosted by **Terry** and **Sharon Marchione** at their attractive Walnut Creek home on July 10th. We had a full house of 18 players that enjoyed the delicious treats available during the evening. Sir **Bruce Borgman** was the big winner for the night, with **Terry** coming in a very close second. Third place was won by **Mari Ascatisno**, wife of Sir **Frank Ascatisno**.



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



Sixteen players gathered at **Dick and Janice Woodman's** on June 26 and had a great time. **Bill Cammerer** took first prize and won \$19; **Ismini MacLean** won second place and won \$10; and **Linda Boyan** won third place and won \$3. **Janice Woodman** and **Phyllis Meehan** tied for fourth, out of the money. The men need to step up our game as the women are dominating. Thanks to **Bill** for pulling out first place in the month of June.

Our next game is at **Anne and Ron Plachy's** on Friday, July 24th at 6:45 pm. They already have the full commitment of 18 players so it will be a great night for Mexican Train. The winners for the 24th will be announced next month.



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

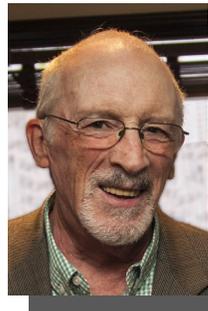
L to R **Jerry Kaplan**, **Sig Kalteis** and **Walt Schmidt** tabulating the numbers



**Mexican Train
Dominoes Group 4
(El Quattro)
Jim Pope**



El Quattro Mexican Train Domino group had our first domino night on July 17th at the **Renie & Jim Pope** home. We had 9 couples with new member **Dick & Leslie Firth** and a soon to be SIR 146 member **Henry & Barbara Thatcher**. The night started with dominos up for first game to get all on board and domino's down to start the scoring. During the mid-evening break we enjoyed wine, fabulous snacks and cookies from **Renie**. We decided to have our 2nd meeting on August 21st at the home of **Jim & Renie Pope**. We're off and running. Gracias.



**Mexican Train Dominoes
Group 3 (TRES)
Jeff Baily**



We had a great July game night at the home of **Larry** and **Linda Brown**. After some tutoring for newbies and a review of MTD for the rest of us we settled down to a very enjoyable evening of Mexican train dominoes. Due to travel and illness we were down to 14 players, hardly enough to polish off the delicious snacks that **Larry** and **Linda** prepared. Guests were **Walt** and **Sue Busenius**, **Charlie** and **Janet Abrams**, **Jeff** and **Alicia Baily**, **Mike** and **Sharon Varner**, **Steve** and **Linda Siljestrom** and **Dick** and **Judy Richmond**. Our next game is scheduled for August 28th.

*A Roman walks into a bar and holds up two fingers,
"Sir can I have five beers please."*



Luncheon Attendance

Max Hinkle

Last Month's Attendance:

There were 211 meals served at our July luncheon, the most since January. 72% of our membership was in attendance.

August Luncheon:

Our August luncheon will be held on Thursday the 13th at the Boundary Oak Golf Course in Walnut Creek. Remember, we assume you are coming, but if for any reason you are unable to attend, please send an e-mail message to nolunchbranch146@gmail.com by the

NO SHOW DEADLINE, NOON, FRIDAY AUGUST 7TH .

Please also provide your badge number in that message. If you do not have convenient access to a computer call (925) 979-5146 before the same deadline and follow the prompts given there. The noon deadline has to be strictly enforced to enable us to meet our deadline to give the chef our guaranteed number of meals. A non attending member who fails to meet this deadline is required by our rules to reimburse the branch \$25 for the liability we will incur for his meal.

Confirmation of No Show Notices: I intend to confirm via reply e-mail or phone call to each "no show" notifier the receipt of his notice. **If you have not received such confirmation within a day or two after sending your notice please call me at 925.408.6004.** There have been some problems with emails not being displayed in the no lunch mailbox.

Payment: Remember that the luncheon will be called to order at 11:45 a.m. Please allow enough time to check in and make payment. The price of the luncheon is \$25. As usual, there will be a no-host bar. The preferred form of payment is a check for \$25 made payable to "SIR 146" delivered when you check in on luncheon day.

Bringing a guest or a visitor: If you intend to bring a guest or a visitor please advise of that intention via an e-mail to "nolunchbranch146@gmail.com" by noon on the Friday prior to the luncheon (the no show deadline). If you do not have convenient access to a computer please call the phone number stated above and follow the prompts given there. **Please remember to spell the full name of your guest or visitor during that call.**

Special requests: If you desire a vegetarian meal or require a special diet or if, for medical reasons, you cannot eat lunch please so advise me before the no show deadline and in the same manner as described above. Your request will be honored and remain in effect until you cancel it through the Luncheon Attendance Chairman.



Photography Group

Richard Hockenbrock

We are going to shift the focus (no pun intended) of the photography group to concentrate on giving members and their guests a forum to show off their picture-taking creativity. Basically, if you take pictures, the

photography group wants to see them. **Bill Holly** recently purchased a new higher resolution projector for the branch and your pictures will look utterly amazing on the big screen. With many of you traveling to exotic places or enjoying interesting hobbies, you will have an opportunity to share and discuss your photos with all the Branch 146 members and guests who attend our free meetings.

Whether you take your travel pictures with a cell phone, tablet, pocket camera or a DSLR, there is now no reason not to begin attending the new photography group meetings. This will be the place to share your adventures even from many years ago. For those of you with camera or photography questions, we can address those at the end of the meetings with a separate Q & A.

We will meet every other month and we will poll the membership each time through a SIR Branch 146 email blast asking for three or four photography or video presenters. We will get some idea of what will be presented and if this is successful it will be like going to the movies at 9 am. I'm excited and hope you will be too! We can accommodate seating for 30 or more people.

Where:

Thurmon G. Casey Ygnacio Valley Library
2661 Oak Grove Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

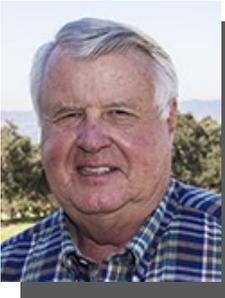
When:

August 28th 9 am. Fourth Friday of the month
RSVP to: rlhock@yahoo.com

New Members, Guests and Sponsors: There will be a luncheon table or tables with places reserved for new members and their sponsors as well as for guests and their sponsors. New members along with their sponsors will be asked to join our Membership Chair immediately following the luncheon.

Max Hinkle

Luncheon attendance chairman



Cooking II

Bob Yolland

Cooking II had a great lunch at **Bill Roberts'** home Monday 7/13. **Charlie Koeber** was a guest in our group due to vacations. With the fine weather we had wine and an excellent hot artichoke cheese dip outside. **Bill's**

main dish was a pork tenderloin with a really good bourbon sauce accompanied by pasta with a tomato sauce. The conversation was lively and the camaraderie fun. Our next lunch will be Monday August 10th at **Bill Cammerer's**.



SongSirs

Bruce Borgman

The SongSirs are putting out an open invitation for all of our Sirs who enjoy singing to join us as we start on a new repertoire of songs for the summer. We are now practicing songs which are melodious and

familiar – including 'Oh You Beautiful Doll', 'It's a Lovely Day Today', 'Always', 'It Had to be You', 'Pretty Baby', 'If You Were the Only Girl in the World', 'Smiles', 'Take me Out to the Ballgame' and others. There are no gigs scheduled at this time, but we'll sing at one of the assisted living facilities in the area towards the end of the summer.

And of course – we are an important part of our luncheons as we lead our branch in 'God Bless America' at the end of our monthly meetings.

We are actively recruiting for a pianist to accompany us since our stalwart **Dave Obera** is unable to practice on a regular basis – and whom we sorely miss!

We practice every first and third Wednesday at 1:30pm at Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church. For more information, contact our coordinator, **Bruce Borgman**, or our director, **Pete Miller**. No auditions required!



Bocceball

Martin Lyle

We play the 2nd and 4th Mondays May through October at 8:30 am at Concord Bocce Courts in Newhall Park, Concord near the corner of Turtle Creek and Ayers Roads. Rain cancels play.

We are near the mid-point of our Bocce season, and enjoying some good turnouts by our regular players. New players are always welcome for good fun in the sun. Ladies welcome.



Book Nook

Hank James

The Book Nook will be open at the August meeting. Donate and share with your fellow Sirs all those books you have read. While you are at it, donate those books you intended to read but haven't that have been on

your bookshelves for the past five years.

You may want to review your "To read" list—you might just find the book that is on the top of your list at the August Book Nook.

I am happy to announce that **Dick McElroy** has joined the Book Nook Project. You can meet **Dick** and talk with him as he arranges books at the August Book Nook. Contact **Hank James**: hankjames@hankjames.com or 925-351-7440 to volunteer.



Sunshine Report

John Pearl

Please try to contact a sick Sir to offer support and encouragement during his illness. A friendly call is usually welcome. Cards and letters are always appreciated. Also, please

take a minute to sign the get-well cards that are across from the sign-in tables at our monthly meetings.

If you are aware of an ill Sir, please let me know by e-mail or phone so that our SIR membership can be advised.

John Pearl, Sunshine Chair

mcpearl@astound.net

925-934-6920

Over 50 Exercise

*Begin by standing on a comfortable surface, where you have plenty of room at each side. With a 5-lb potato bag in each hand, extend your arms straight out from your sides and hold them there as long as you can. Try to reach a full minute, and then relax. Each day you'll find that you can hold this position for just a bit longer. After a couple of weeks, move up to 10-lb potato bags. Then try 50-lb potato bags and then eventually try to get to where you can lift a 100-lb potato bag in each hand and hold your arms straight for more than a full minute. (I'm at this level.) After you feel confident at that level, put a potato in each bag. **Larry Mitchell***



Travel Opportunities

Ken Richter

Day Trips

October 10, 2015: Fleet Week on the San Francisco Belle. You will enjoy watching the Blue Angels perform their air show aboard the San Francisco Belle Sternwheeler.

There is no better vantage point on the bay to see the show. The price includes roundtrip motor coach ride from Walnut Creek, a hosted buffet lunch aboard the Belle, free flowing Champagne and background music from an onboard d.J. Cost is \$125 pp. Contact **Ken Richter** (Br146) (Br 146 925-689-6217 or KERichter@astound.net)

October 23, 2015: SIR Day at the Races. The horses are running again at Golden Gate Fields. It is a popular day for all. Price includes admission, valet parking, daily racing program, buffet lunch and taxes and tips. Cost is \$33.00. Contact Ken Richter, Br. 146 ([925\) 689-6217](tel:925-689-6217) or KERichter@astound.net.

December 7, 2015: The Holidays are Blooming in the Valley The first stop will be at the Hilmar Cheese Factory with a guided tour of their facility, followed by a hosted buffet lunch. After lunch there will be time to shop in the Country Store and sample gourmet cheeses. The next stop is at Duarte Nursery to view their amazing holiday poinsettias. A large selection of poinsettias in a variety of colors and species will make your choice of a favorite a difficult decision. Price includes roundtrip motor coach ride from Walnut Creek, buffet lunch and driver gratuity. Cost \$54 pp. Contact **Ken Richter** Br. 146 925-689-6217 or KERichter@astound.net.

February 3, 2016: Jersey Boys. This is the true story of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons. The story of how a group of blue-collar boys from the wrong side of the tracks became one of the biggest American pop groups. The price includes round trip motor coach from Walnut Creek to San Francisco and ticket in center orchestra. Cost is \$116. Contact **Ken Richter**, Br. 146 ([925\) 689-6217](tel:925-689-6217) or KERichter@astound.net. (Only 40 tickets are available.)

Longer Trips

March 25 – April 10, 2016: Big Band Voyage Across The Atlantic Ocean. A 16 day all inclusive cruise across the

Atlantic Ocean on the Crystal Symphony. Relish the blissful luxury of days at sea and highlighted by visits to Bermuda, the Azores, Barcelona Spain, Bandol France and Monte Carlo. Cruise cost from \$ 3,665.00 pp. Contact **Ken Richter** (Br 146) 925-689-6217 or KERichter@astound.net.

March 13-17, 2016: Spring Training, Phoenix, Arizona. This 5 day/4 night trip has something for everyone. Included in the trip is all transportation starting once at the Phoenix Airport. Your stay will be at the Embassy Suites and all meals will be hosted. There will be three Spring Training Games with the best seats available. They should be Giants and A's games. During your stay, morning activities will be planned and escorted by our guide. Cost is \$1,795.00 pp, double occupancy. Air transportation to and from Phoenix is not included. Contact **Ken Richter**, Br. 146 (925) 689-6217 or KERichter@astound.net.

May 3–5, 2016: Ronald Reagan Presidential Library A once in a lifetime opportunity to view the Vatican Splendors Exhibit and tour the Reagan Library with lunch under the wing of Air Force One. Also on this trip will be a guided tour of the Mission at Santa Barbara. Included in the trip is round-trip motor coach transportation, 2-night stay at the Pepper Tree (Santa Barbara), 6 hosted meals along the way and Driver Gratuity. Cost \$591.00 pp, double occupancy. 30 travelers are required for this trip. Contact **Ken Richter**, Br. 146 (925) 689-6217 or KERichter@astound.net.

September 13–27, 2016: Essence of the Elbe - Prague to Berlin. This trip starts out with 2 nights in Prague , 7 nights aboard the M/S Allegro in an outside cabin and 3 nights in Berlin. Included are 29 meals with wine and beer served aboard the Allegro at lunch and dinner. There will be 10 exclusive tours with personal headsets and Discovery Series events. Cost starts at \$3,595.00, plus air. Contact **Ken Richter**, Br. 146 (925) 689-6217 or KERichter@astound.net.

Teacher to class
A wealthy man dies and leaves ten million dollars.
One-fifth is to go to his daughter, one-fifth is to go to his son, one-sixth to his brother, and the rest to his wife.
Now, what does each get?"
After a very long silence in the classroom,
Little Paul raises his hand and says, "A lawyer?"

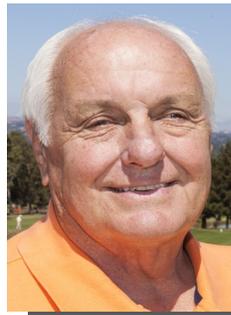


Poker Group 1

Dan O'Sullivan

Poker Group 1 met at the home of **Al Zamolo** on Wednesday July 8th. As always a good time was had by all, (ie food, drink and conversation). The big winners were **Frank McNamee** and **Don Del Bene**.

There also were small winners and losers. Our next outing will be at **Bill Cammerer's** residence on August 12th.

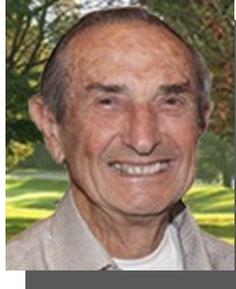


Poker Group 5

Bill Roberts

*Poker Group 5 meets the Wednesday prior to the SIR luncheon. **Bill Roberts** is the permanent host for our event. The regular players going forward are **Bill Roberts, Bob Spellman, Charlie Koeber, Terry Marchione, Doug Eisner, Ken***

***Richter and Frank Rockwell**. Subs are sometimes needed due to travel and the like. Play begins at 4:00 pm and ends around 8:00 pm with time out for dinner.*



Poker Group 2

Al Zamolo

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

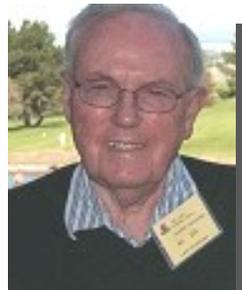


Poker Group 3

Sig Kalteis

*Poker Group 3 plays on the 4th Monday of the month at 1:00 pm, usually at the house of **Sig Kalteis**. Our regular players are **Ron Plachy, Bill Baltezare, Bob Wedin, Jim Passaglia, Bob Lyman, Jim Barry, Harvey Oxman, and Sig***

***Kalteis**. We have eight players because at least one of us is unavailable monthly. Some of our subs are former regular players who can't make it regularly.*



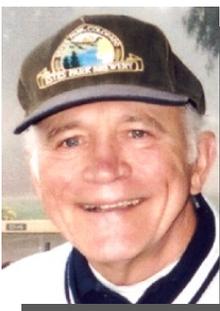
Old Money Poker

Group 6

Al Twyford

Poker group 6 met at **Brad Hatcher's** home in Walnut Creek Wed. July 8th. Players were host **Brad Hatcher, Bob Larson, Rich Ahlf, Norm Baietti, Harvey Oxman** and **Al Twyford**. **Sid**

Landman and **Frank Lucas** were absent. **Norm** continues to take our money, and is on a hot streak. **Norm** took home \$10, **Brad** and **Rich** followed with \$3 each, and **Harvey** made a buck. **Al & Bob** were the big losers. We played several different games, with bury your wildcard the most popular. Plenty of wine and snacks provided by host **Brad** made for lively conversation and fun. Our next game is scheduled for Wed August 12 at **Harvey Oxman's** home in Walnut Creek.



Poker Club 4

Chuck Bobinecz

Our next (\$10 to \$10 session – you may win or lose \$10 - rarely happens) is at the home of Sir **Chuck Bobinecz** and will be hosted by Sir **Bob Mehus**. Texas Holdem has become one of our popular poker games. We play

variations of the game and since we have a 25 cent raise limit, it changes the way the game is played. Another game we like is Omaha. In this you end up with four cards in your hand and four community cards on the board to make a high hand or go for the low hand. The confusing aspect is that you must use two cards from your hand and three from the board after you declare weather you are going high or low. Good luck!

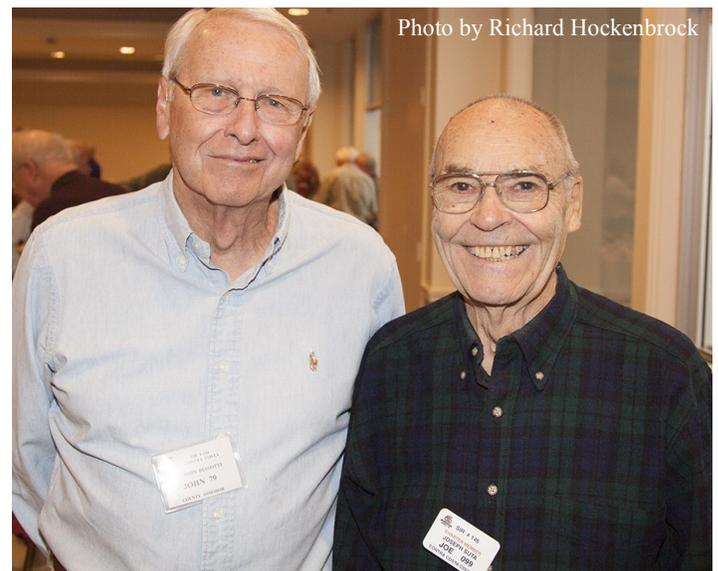


Photo by Richard Hoekenbrock

John Biasotti and Joe Suta at the July lunch



Men's Duplicate Bridge Group 1

Doug Eisner

Jim Brown hosted 3 tables of duplicate bridge on July 20. At the lunch break, sub **Dave Steinberg** jumped off to a fast start with 17.5 points, ahead of **Jim Jackson's** 15.0

and **Doug Eisner's** 14.0. However, after the break **Dave** slowed down a bit, **Jim** held steady, and **Doug** fell off a cliff. Final results indicated **Dave Steinberg** and **Jim Jackson** tied for 1st place with 29.0 points and sub **Tony Greco** was a close 3rd place with 28.5.

Our next game is scheduled for Aug 17 at **Dave Pierce's** house.



Photo by Alicia Bailly

Sue and Lo McCarley laughing it up at the Couples Dining out at The Brass Door,



Party Bridge

Fred Bolton

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

We played three tables of bridge at the home of **Bob Burley** on July 6. First place went to **Lo McCarley** with 5240 points, Second to **Jim Stedman** with 4320 and third to **Rich Ahlf** with 4200. Our next game will be on August 3 at the home of **Carl Johnson**.



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

New member **David Morris** and sponsor **Glen Renk** enjoying their iced teas provided by CourseCo



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

The Branch 146 leaders, L to R; **Corrie Oranje, Bob Spellman, Bruce Borgman, Steve Sprague, Brad Hatcher, Jim Barry, Richard Hockenbrock, Al Elnick, Jonathan Korfhage, Jerry Kaplan, Walt Busenius, Bill Holly and Roy Hodgkinson.**



Mens Duplicate Bridge 3 Sid Landman

The Duplicate Bridge 3 Group had its July game with 3 tables on July 17, hosted by **Rich Ahlf**.

The group schedules all its game on the 3rd Friday of each month. We welcome new members or those who want to play bridge but cannot find a game to let **Sid Landman** know. We will give such players preference so they can get a chance to play in a SIR Duplicate Bridge game.

Final Rankings - **Max Hinkle** came in 1st place with 28.5 pts., scoring very high in the second half to come back from 7th to 1st. Congratulations to **Max**! This is the second win in row for **Max**.

Let's see how long a streak he can maintain. **Tony Greco** came in second with 27 pts. and **Carl Johnson** came in 3rd with 26.5 followed by **Dave Morris** in 4th with 25.5.

Most Two's - **Max** and **Tony** with 10 each.

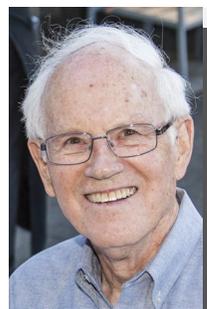
Least Zeros- **Carl** had the least zeros with only 4 out of 24 boards.

The next event will be hosted by **Tony Greco** on August 21st.



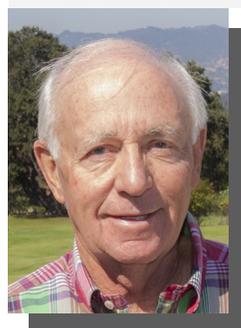
Men's Duplicate Bridge 2 Dick DeVoe

The Group was hosted by **Bob Yolland** in June. **Sid Landman** made a huge comeback in the 2nd half to win with 29 pts. Congratulations, **Sid**. **Carl Johnson** took 2nd with 27 and **Rich Ahlf** 3rd with 26. The July event was hosted by **Tony Greco**. **Carl Johnson** decided that last month's 2nd place wasn't good enough and took 1st place this time with 30.5 pts.. **Dave Pierce** overcame his lackluster showing in the 2nd half with big points in the 1st half, falling into 2nd with 27. **Brad Hatcher** and **Dick DeVoe** tied for 3rd with 26 points joining **Carl** with 8 top boards each.



Couples Duplicate Bridge 1 Lo McCarley

Eight couples had a great time playing duplicate bridge on July 20th at **Bob** and **Janet Yolland's** home. I called this morning and asked **Tony** and **Cindy Greco** to substitute at the last minute. They agreed to play bridge this night. Whew! As for the bridge results, **Margot Somerville** and **Vince Rettew** came in first with 39 points. **Bob** and **Janet Yolland** tied **Lynn** and **Dasha Freeman** for second with 36 points. In fourth place were **Carl** and **Anne Johnson** with 32. **George Zunich** and **Susi Cherry** will host the next couples duplicate bridge on August 19th in **Susi's** home.



Couples Duplicate Bridge 2 Terry Marchione

Our July game was hosted by **Ruth** and **Jim Adams** on Tuesday the 14th. **Joan** and **Dave Pierce** coasted to victory with a score of 25. **Lynn** and **Brad Hatcher**, who were filling in for the **Richters** eased into 2nd place with 23.5 points. **Terry Marchione** and **Doug Eisner** (who filled in for **Sharon**) managed to secure 3rd with 20.5 points. Our next game will be on July 14th and the **Richters** will host.



A break in the action at the July Men's Duplicate Bridge III group. Standing left to right; **Tony Greco**, **John Boyan** in the background, **Jim Brown**, **Dave Pierce**, **Jim Stedman**, **Charlie Abrams**, **Brad Hatcher**, and **Dick DeVoe**. Seated L to R, **Carl Johnson**, **Max Hinkle** and cameraman **Bill Shultz**. Missing from the picture, **Fred Bolton**.



GOLF

Ed Marlovits

Golf is one of our most popular activities with over 100 registered golfers. We are fortunate to have a large assortment of venues and formats. We play Tuesdays at Boundary Oak. Players are

randomly paired and starting tee times are emailed to each player. In addition to regular stroke play, we have many Tuesday tournaments specifically set up for our players. In the summer we also have "away golf" at nearby courses and State SIR Golf offers numerous other fun events at interesting courses.

Since we have so much going on, we have found it necessary to publish a weekly golf email (GEM) outlining upcoming events and results from past events. All of our golfers receive GEMs. If you would like to be included in the distribution, please email us at sir146golf@gmail.com.



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. The exceptions are the 2nd 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 Monday I will send out an email asking who is coming for golf, who is walking and who plans to stay for lunch? On Wednesday 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. The lunch, most of the time, is better than our golf game. vlaursen@astound.net

Mac User Group (MUG)



Max Burchett



Vern Laursen

*The Mac Users Group is back to the first Monday of every month at the Thurman Casey Library at 10 am. We finish by noon. **Max Burchett** and **Verner Laursen** are the leaders and we try to help Mac users with their questions or problems. Since we are using Macs we don't have problems, but only need some help in how to accomplish the task. We do have suggestions on software and where to get the best deals on products related to your Mac.*

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 us from time to time and I will let you know about items that are of interest to Mac users.



Couples Golf

Paul Masta

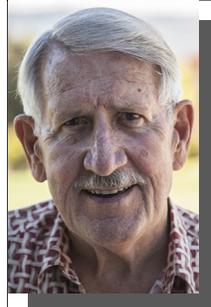
We play at local courses on the 4th Wednesday of each month April thru October. Monthly tournaments are planned by volunteer coordinator couples who schedule the golf course and choose the tournament format. Emphasis is on fun contests involving both players and contributions. We enjoy the awards session and socializing after every tournament.

*We have room for new members so please contact **Paul Masta** if you are interested in joining the group. 925-933-3612 or pamasta03@yahoo.com.*



Before Golf

L to R, **Jerry Crumpler**, **George Trabert**, **Colin Holland** and **Terry Marchione** pause to await a clear shot ahead.



Lunch and Wine

Syd Whalen

The LAW cooking group meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at a different member's home with one member responsible for preparing the menu for the rest of the group.

We gather at 11:00 am for good conversation, appetizers and wine followed by lunch.

Area Two Events

Area 2 \$ums Investment Group

Co-Chairmen: **Gary Moore** (Br-174) 925-254-8742
David Sutton (Br-8) 925-686-0158
Leary Wong (Br-8) 925-457-0807

The Area 2 \$ums Investment Group will meet on Wednesday August 26, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. at the Legends restaurant at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway, Concord.

Our guest speakers in August will be Jenifer Leece and Ryan Lockhart, trusts and estates attorneys at Buchman Provine Brothers Smith LLP in Walnut Creek. Jenifer and Ryan will discuss: Planning for the Designated Beneficiary and Overview of Trust Administration, including:

- Primer on New Tax Act
- Irrevocable Life Insurance Trusts
 - o What are they, how do they work, and how can we fix a broken one?
- Non-Trust Assets
 - o Planning for retirement and when joint ownership is appropriate
- Trust Administration After Death of First Spouse
- Trust Administration After Death of Surviving Spouse (or Single Person)

Jenifer is a partner at Buchman Provine Brothers Smith, where her practice focuses on estate planning, trust and estate administration and estate related litigation. Ms. Leece has extensive litigation and mediation experience of trust and probate related matters representing trustees, executors, beneficiaries and conservators. Ryan is an associate attorney at the firm and focuses his practice on estate planning, wealth transfer planning, estate and gift tax planning, tax controversy, trust administration and probate.

Please feel free to bring your wife or other family member to this timely presentation on estate planning.

The Legends restaurant opens at 7:00 am so come early and have a leisurely breakfast with your colleagues prior to the meeting.

Computers and Technology



PCs

Meetings of the Area 2 Computer and Technology Group are held the 3rd Thursday of each month (except June and December) from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Drive. Whether you are a beginner or a seasoned user, we try to offer something for everyone. Some months we ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and cookies, while other months are free.

The Area 2 Computer and Technology Group announces that our next meeting will be at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge on Thursday August 20 at 9:30 am. Sirs and their guests are welcome and invited to attend.

In August, our subject for discussion is "How to fix a slow computer," presented by **Dean Steichen**. If you're finding that your computer seems to be running slower than in did in the past, come learn some of the ways to correct the problem and return you PC's operation to "like new."

We look forward to seeing you 9:15 AM, August 20, 2015, at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Drive. We ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and cookies -- but some months are free, so come and see if our August meeting is another one of those! All SIR members and their guests (spouses included!) are welcome to attend. See you there.

An old man went to the Doctor complaining that his wife could barely hear. The Doctor suggested a test to find out the extent of the problem. "Stand far behind her and ask her a question, and then slowly move up and see how far away you are when she first responds." The old man excited to finally be working on a solution for the problem, runs home and sees his wife preparing supper. "Honey" the man asks standing around 20 feet away "what's for supper?" After receiving no response he tried it again 15 feet away, and again no response. Then again at 10 feet away and again no response. Finally he was 5 feet away "honey what's for supper?" She replies "For the fourth time it's lasagna!"



Photo by Sue Busenius

Part of the Thursday golfing group which **Vern Laursen** has been growing over the years pauses for a picture at Diablo Hills Golf Course. L to R, **Bob Skirvin, Vern Laursen, Jim Swanson, Jim Stedman, Jim Pfohl** and **Jim Kohl**.