

SIR CALL

Newsletter

Pleasant Hill SIR Branch 146 Volume 12 Issue 12

Published For Our Members And Friends

December 2000

Big Sir's Commentary :



As I near the end of my term, I want to thank all of those who have helped to make this a very successful year. Many members stepped forth to serve on the Executive Committee, fill an administrative or committee position, or head one of our many activities. A special thanks goes to those responsible for starting this year's new activities. Lastly, a great big thank you to all those members who participated in the activities. They exist only for your enjoyment and only as long as you are interested.

At the November Luncheon we honored our veterans. Chairman **Art Trost** presented a well balanced program, which included a ceremony for those Missing In Action, stories told by members and our own SongSIRs. The prize for best uniform went to Sir **Bill Knapp** who looked sharp while most of the other contestants had troubles with buttons and zippers.

The new Executive Committee for 2001 was installed at the luncheon. I congratulate Big Sir-Elect **Bill Hansen** and all those who will serve with him. Please give them your support and say "yes" if asked to give of your time. I am retiring "Big Teddy" and look forward to returning to the ranks next year.

Ralph Waldo Emerson Wrote, "One of the illusions of life is that the present hour is not the critical decisive hour. Write it in your heart that every day is the best day of the year". I wish you the very best for this holiday season and the coming year.

Jack The Lame Duck

Luncheon

Dale Haukland 820-0189

The second Thursday of every month at 11 am at Blake's at Boundary Oak.



Remember! The next SIR luncheon is Ladies Day scheduled for Thursday December 14 at Blake's at Boundary Oak, our regular meeting spot. The Social hour starts at 11 am. Lunch is served at 12 noon. Since it is by reservation only please do not call Hal Ruby to excuse or confirm.

The program will be presented by the Northgate High School Chorale.

Attendance

Lang Erickson 682-1337 flangley@flash.net

Attendance: Members 183, Honorary Life Members 4, Waiting List 16, Excused, 26, Unexcused 5.



A reminder to the additions and their sponsors to the waiting list who did not attend the November meeting: you must attend the January meeting or you will be dropped from the waiting list.

In summary, we now number 209 members, 5 Honorary Life Members, and 30 Wait List .

SIR Lang Erickson Honored



Bob Walton, state communications SIR and Honorary Life Member presents the plaque honoring **SIR Lang Erickson** for his years of dedicated service to Sons In Retirement

Eddie Tor is a Gone Goslin!

Beginning with this SIR CALL, a new editor is taking the reins. From old Eddie, though, take it as the gospel that it has been pure pleasure and an experience more rewarding than you can imagine. The editors who preceded Eddie set a standard that has been built on by each succeeding producer and to them goes tremendous credit, and I salute **Ernie Figuiera, John Fontenrose, and Don Nunn !**

We're riding "side-saddle" putting out this issue, so welcome Editor No. 4, **SIR Jeff Baily!** Be confident that anyone who can herd a 747 through the sky can handle our "bird", and he has great new ideas and features in store for you all.

You know how to make holy water? You take some regular water and you boil the hell out of it.

Know Your SIR!



SIR Ray Yonce

Ray, a SIRS member for 3 years, first came to Walnut Creek in 1940 when his father was transferred with Shell Oil Company from the web-foot state of Oregon. Walnut Creek population then was 2000. Three years

later it was off to Benicia. Ray graduated from Vallejo High in 1946 with, "dubious honors" (his words)..... In order to take advantage of the expiring G.I. bill, Ray joined the US Army in September 1946 at the tender young age of 17. He was posted to Mail Clerk in an infantry company acting as

M.P.s for the city of Trieste Italy. He retired from military service after serving 18 months of stressful postal duty, as a buck sergeant.

Immediately after his successful military career he attended San Jose State College graduating in 1952 with a Business degree and a commission in the USAF through the ROTC. He was discharged from the reserve as a 1st Lieutenant. In his senior year Ray was president of his SJSC Theta Chi fraternity, the year it won the coveted Fraternities, National Award as "1952's most outstanding chapter" out of 102 chapters.

After college Ray assisted his father in running a Shell Oil Company wholesale petroleum business throughout Contra Costa County from 1952 to 1958 when highway 24 was a 2 lane road.

In 1958 he developed a company in Martinez that retreaded tires, called Diamond Retread Service serving Contra Costa County from 1958 to 1969.

In 1969 Ray became a licensed real estate agent specializing in residential sales during the rapid growth of the 70,s 80,s and 90,s.

In 1969 the average price of a home in Walnut Creek was \$34,000. It was in 1969 that Ray formed Imperial Realtors. During his real estate career Ray also taught evening real estate courses for nine years at Diablo Valley College. He retired in 1998 after 30 years in the business.

A fraternity brother of Ray's, while in the navy, told a shipmate-dentist (Lee) to look up Ray when he started his WC practice. They met at a WC Optimist Club meeting and roomed together until

Lee married Liz, who, one year later, introduced Ray to a next door teacher friend, Donna....Ten months later they were married. The four have been close friends now for 35 years .

The Yonces have two boys... Jeff lives in Walnut Creek and Brett lives in Orange County. To everyone's delight Jeff and his wife Joyce have two sons.... 2 1/2, and 4 1/2 years old

Ray and Donna have been active in the WC Presbyterian Church for 40 years. The family enjoys snow skiing winters and water skiing in the summer while staying at their mountain home at Tahoe City.

Bowling



Al Zeppa 685-8920

Bon Voyage Don Bird!

We hate to lose one like Don Bird because he has not only played a big part in bowling but also to the SIR organization. He was always there when we needed him to help put on the big tournaments we held twice a year. He has been president of the SIR bowling League for a few years and always helped in the **Dave Valadao Challenge 2000.**

We would like to wish him and his wife Nancy, all the best in their new home, in the Paradise area.

Upcoming SIR Bowling Tournaments:

San Rafael:

Tuesday, November 28, Thursday, November 30.

Brentwood:

Tuesday, December 12, Thursday, December 14.

Also look for something new in the coming months. We are going to highlight the best bowler next month. And also write up some of the bowlers who you may not have met yet.

When I was in high school, I got in trouble with my girlfriend's dad. He said, "I want my daughter back by 8:15 ". I said, " the middle of August? Cool "

Candy

The candy certificates have arrived and are in the process of being mailed. Those who did not send in return envelopes will pick up the certificates at the Ladies Day luncheon. If you need them before or after that date you will have to catch Don Nunn.

Computer Action



Chris Satterthwaite 939-7826
3rd Thursday at 1 pm at WC ELK'S Club
1475 Creekside Dr. (off S. Main)

There will be no meeting In December. Our next meeting January 18th, 2001, will start off with a bang and will feature a guest speaker who owns a computer store in Moraga. She will be discussing computer hardware, how to improve it and how to fix same. She also plans to bring a mini-tower processor and will show us how to install a second hard drive together with additional memory. As usual the meeting will be at the Walnut Creek Elks Club, 1475 Creekside Dr. (off S.Main). Please contact Sir **Chris Satterthwaite** with questions at 939-7826

Cooking



Don Nunn 934-5214 donnunn@tpi.net
fax 934-5559
1st Monday 9:30 am at various members' homes or at restaurant or cooking school.

Warren Boero planned a super tour of Diablo Valley College Culinary School last month, followed by a sit down lunch. A great time was had by all and we noticed that we had several new members. **Barney Meade** will host this month's meeting at his home on Monday, December 4 at 9:30 AM. Remember if you plan to attend, you must inform him in advance. **Barney Meade**, 1757 Elmhurst lane, Concord, CA. 94523 Phone 825-9230 Good luck.



Cribbage



Al Tufo 798-4129
2nd Wednesday at 12:30 hosted by different members

The Cribbage Club played 2 tournaments on November 8th and was hosted by **Barney Meade**. The 1st tournament was won by **Barney and Carl Rush** came in 2nd. The 2nd tournament was won by **Al Tufo and Carl Rush** came in 2nd again. Next meeting will be hosted by **Bryant Fischback** on December 10.

Duplicate Bridge

Bob Donahue 376-4527
Monday following the monthly SIRS luncheon at 10 am at various members' homes. Bring lunch.



SIR Chuck Hammond hosted three tables of bridge in November with **Jim Stedman** coming in first with 29 1/2 points. **Fred Kovar** came in 2nd with 29 points and **Chuck Hammond** and **Carl Johnson** were 3rd with 28 points Talk about a close tournament! Join us next on Monday, December 18. Contact **Bob Donahue** for more information.

Gardening

Chuck Bobinecz 939-8740 bobinecz@flash.net
4th Wednesday at 9:30 am
At various locales and includes field trips.



There will be no meeting for the month of December due to the holidays. An announcement will be made at the January luncheon and the SIR CALL newsletter regarding the topic and location for our January meeting. When pruning your fruit trees this winter, tag some cuttings which are approximately twelve inches (the scion) from the tip of the branch. Bring them to the January meeting for an exchange so that we can graft some new varieties to our fruit trees.

When weeding, the best way to make sure you are removing a weed and not a valuable plant is to pull on it. If it comes out of the ground easily, it is a valuable plant.

Golf



Joe Jansen 935-6691

Every Tuesday at 9 am at Boundary Oak for all, and once a month away for those who sign up.

Boundary Oak Tues Golf Results Thru Nov 14:

October 17: Closest to the pin: Tom Gorman

1st Flight: Joe Lamanna, Gary Jones and Ray Edmondson

2nd Flight: Garth Cummings, Rollie Nordeen and Jim Brown

October 24: Closest to the pin: Al Milano

1st Flight: Ken Beattie, Doug Cook and Myles Ringle

2nd Flight: Ralph Fowler, Carl Johnson and Bob Wheaton

October 31: Closest to the pin: Ray Nordstrom

1st Flight: Mitch Mitchell, Joe Lamanna and Bill Hansen

2nd Flight: Ralph Fowler, Fred Kovar and Tom Noonan

November 7: Closest to the pin: Ralph Fowler

1st Flight: Bob Yolland, Myles Ringle and Joe Lamanna

2nd Flight: Carl Johnson, Dick Richmond and Ernie Dickson

November 14: Closest to the pin: Myles Ringle

1st Flight: Bill Hansen, Rich Hanford and Myles Ringle

2nd Flight: Joe Jansen, Fred Kovar and Bob Wheaton



Recounting: Are these guys from Florida?

A guy's traveling on a business trip and has to take his secretary with him, and she's really crazy about him. The first night on the Amtrak, she's in the top bunk and he's in the bottom bunk. She says, "Mr. Forsythe! I'm chilly! I think I need a blanket!" He says, "Miss Schmitt, how'd you like to pretend you're Mrs. Forsythe for a little while? She says, "Oh, I'd like that." He says, "Then get your own damn blanket."



Gone Fishing

Pablo Chavez 256-8516



Holy Toledo! These fishermen are jumping!! There's a new SIR Area 2 Fishing Calendar out for 2001 that's alive with action. This sort of thing likely has been going on for some time, but we'd have to believe there's incredible new energy and interest in fishing right now that may come as a surprise to many SIR. We've reported on outings during this past year that have drawn good groups provided the opportunity not only for fishing, but for great and relaxing interaction between sir from different branches.

In the upcoming year, the group has already scheduled outings for trout fishing, kokanee salmon, fly fishing, bass, and Eagle Lake trout. The locations are equally varied: McSwain, New Melones, McCloud River, Clear Lake, Lake Davis, The Sacramento River, Eagle Lake, Cabo San Lucas (Mexico) and Idaho rivers.

If you've not been involved you have a couple of choices. You can join the group for breakfast and tall stores at Coco's Restaurant in Pleasant Hill, or you can call or talk to **Al Bruner** (687-0594), **Bob Walton** (930-0113), or **Pablo Chavez** (256-8516) and they'll provide the 2001 Fishing Calendar and answer all your questions!



Staying cool under pressure:

A guy calls the hospital. He says, "You gotta send help! My wife's going into labor!" The nurse says, "Calm down. Is this her first child?" He says, "No! This is her husband!"

Investments



Phil Leigh 685-8090
4th Wednesday at 7:45 am at Coco's
Restaurant at 3202 Buskirk Ave. Pleasant Hill.

Gentlemen: here's the schedule of the December 2000 program for SIRs Area 2 Investment Group

Wednesday, December 27:

A continuation of reviewing the market's best and worst performers of the year and what to look for in the new year.

Area 2 SIRs Investment Group meets the fourth Wednesday of each month at Coco's Restaurant in Pleasant Hill at 3202 Buskirk Ave at 7:45 AM. No reservation is required for breakfast or for the meeting. All Area 2 SIRs and SIR visitors are welcome. As a courtesy to Coco's we are each requested to purchase a breakfast. Please contact Phil Leigh at 685-8090 (e-mail pleigh@hotcoco.infi.net) with comments or for further information.

Party Bridge

Fred Bolton 932-1580
1st Monday at 10 am at various
Members' homes. Bring a lunch.



Bob Yolland hosted four tables of Party Bridge on November 6. **Carl Johnson** was the winner with 5,880 points. **Jim Brown** was 2nd with 5,310, **Lo Mearley** was 3rd and **George Schulze** was 4th.

SIR Lynn Freeman will host our next meeting on Dec 4th at 10:00 am. Contact **Fred Bolton** if you'd like to play.

Roster Changes

SIR Bob Mehus to the active list from inactive.
SIR Richard Tomsik passed away.

December Birthdays

Jim Balderidge	Dick Holmberg	Bill Ray
Jim Barkley, Jr.	John Humphrey	Larry Reilly
Jerry Bellows	Dick Joyce	Dick Richmond
Russ Bliese	Ken Kratz	Harry Rieck
Chuck Bobinecz	Don MacDonald	Charlie Sheets
John Denham	Lo McCarley	Ray Yonce
Bill Hansen	Don Nunn	Al Zeppa

Restaurant Dinner Special -- Turkey \$2.35;
Chicken or Beef \$2.25; Children \$2.00

SIR CALL Contributions



Jeff Baily 906-0521

or

SIRCALL@ATT.NET

Get "all the news that fit to print" in to
SIR CALL by the 20th of the month.

Illiterate? Write today for free help.

Song Sirs



Owen Sullivan 943-7998

Practices are held after the SIRs
monthly luncheon plus once per month
at Dave Obera's place at 4 pm. Singers
welcome. Contact Owen.

The SongSirs were forced to cancel an encore appearance at the Oak Grove Library scheduled for Tuesday- a busy day for most. Practices resume in January. We welcome our new baritone, **Bill Boyd** who strengthened his vocal cords parachuting from a B-17.

GERRONIMMO !!



Table Pool

Bill Weinberg 682-0962

2nd Monday at 11:30 am (this is hard to
remember-mark the calendar now!) at
Masse's , 2721 N. Main in Walnut Creek.



Monday Nov. 14 had a good turnout. Many gentlemen displayed clear evidence of a misspent childhood.

John Fontenrose and **Dick DeVoe** caromed to the winners' circle, but **Barney Meade** and **Stan Strange** also were formidable players. **Don Martin** and **Jeff Baily** placed third but nevertheless qualified as "pool sharks".

If you enjoy playing pool, mark your calendar for Monday December 11 at 11:30 am at Masse's , 2721 North Main in the old Kelleway Hardware building. Good food too!

Travel Opportunities

Charlie Kiser 274-1575

Man wanted to work in dynamite factory. Must be willing to travel.



December 13, 2000– Beach Blanket Babylon Christmas Show! Includes motorcoach transportation, dinner at the New Pisa Restaurant and the show at Club Fugazi, an unforgettable Christmas performance of Beach Blanket Babylon. Cost is \$85 per person.

Contact **Charlie Kiser** at 274-1575.

March 1-8, 2001 – Land of Cajuns and Creoles! The Atcna Falaya Basin and Lower Mississippi – an 8-day journey through the swamps and bayous of Louisiana with river barge excursions aboard the R/B River Explorer. Optional package in New Orleans February 26-28, 2001 for Mardi Gras. Includes r/t air, shore excursions, and all transfers. Cost is \$2295 per person, double occupancy.

Contact **Sir Bob Hagler**, Branch 8 at 934-7620.

May 3-7, 2001 –Pageantry of Southern California! Amtrak Starlite Oakland to Glendale, with dinner on board. Then Getty Museum, Universal Studios, Nixon Library, Crystal Cathedral, and Romana Pageant in the foothills of Mt. San Jacinto! Return by air. Trip includes 4 breakfasts and 4 dinners and all gratuities. Cost is \$826 p/p, double occupancy, single supplement is \$190. Contact **Charlie Kiser**, Branch 146 @ 274-1575.

June 20-28, 2000 – British Columbia Golf Getaway! Round trip air from San Francisco to Vancouver. 4-nights on Vancouver Island, 4 nights Whistler, 4 rounds of golf, 5 dinners. Two hosted cocktail parties, round trip ferry to Victoria. Tournament awards, taxes and gratuities. Cost is \$1629 per golfer and \$1329 for non golfers.

Contact **Charlie Kiser**, Branch 146 @ 274-1575.

A man walked into a hotel gift shop smoking a cigarette. Looking up from her register, the clerk politely informed the man that smoking was prohibited in the shop.

“Well , if you sell cigarettes in here, I ought to be able to smoke here,” the man said irritably.

“You’re right; we do sell cigarettes in here,” the clerk answered calmly as she rang up another’s purchases. “And we also sell condoms.”

Hard work spotlights the character of some people: Some turn up their sleeves, some turn up their noses and some don’t turn up at all.



Walkers



John Lewis 825-3561

Every Friday at 9:30 am at various locales. Call John or just show up and get healthy.

December Walking Schedule

Dec 1 Oak Rd Trail. Meet at Clayton Library.

Dec 8 San Francisco Christmas walk from Powell

St BART. Meet at WC BART (10: am sharp). Lunch in the city.

Dec 15 Lafayette Reservoir trail. Meet at LR parking lot.

Dec 22 Canal Trail. Meet at Arbolado Park (WC)

Dec 29 Heather Farms Canal Trail. Meet in Parking Lot near trail.

Wine Tasting



Dale Haukland 820-0189

Meet once per quarter at wineries, or at various members’ homes or restaurants.

The winning wine at the most recent tasting was a 1995 Cabernet Sauvignon by William Harrison Wineries of Napa, brought by **Bob and Sally Burley**. All wines brought to the tasting had to sell for less than \$20.



"Troubles are a lot like babies--they grow larger if you nurse them."

Anon E. Mouse

Officers 2000

State President	Mel Augustine
Region Director	Robert Eden
Area Governor	Jack Harrison

Branch 146 Officers and Directors

Big SIR	Jack Calloway	933-2998
Little SIR	Bill Hansen	939-4951
Secretary	Fred Kovar	937-2951
Ass't Secretary	Jim Baldrige	689-9232
Treasurer	Doug Carlson	934-2091
Ass't Treasurer	Jim Brown	689-2797
Director	Dave Johnson	945-8636
Director	Mitch Mitchell	686-0537
Director	John Lewis	825-3561
Director	Stan Jackson	939-3314
Director	Hal Ruby	686-2748
Director	Bob Yolland	932-4758

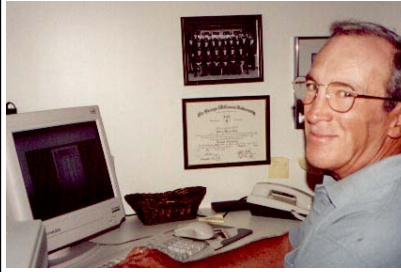
Committee Chairmen-2000

Attendance	Hal Ruby	686-2748
Audit	Roy Fredrickson	254-5623
Badges	Dick Richmond	947-1167
Badgemaker	Lang Erickson	682-1337
Bocce Ball	Al Milano	933-3482
Bowling	Don Bird	680-0721
Bridge-Dup	Bob Donahue	376-4527
Bridge-Party	Fred Bolton	932-1580
Bulletin	Don Martin	376-3682
Chaplain	Tom Stack	846-8430
Computer	Chris Satterthwaite	939-7826
Cribbage	Al Tufo	798-4129
Fishing	Pablo Chavez	256-8516
Gardening	Chuck Bobinecz	939-8740
Golf	Joe Jansen	935-6691
Golf Schedule	Tom Gorman	685-9721
Greeters	Ernie Dickson	376-4590
Hardware	Gene Diana	510 483-7004
Historian	Glen Furlow	631-0158
Honorees	Dick DeVoe	932-5546
Investment	Phil Leigh	685-8090
Luncheon	Stan Jackson	939-3314
Membership	Lang Erickson	682-1337
Nominating	Don Nunn	934-5214
Pianist	Dave Obara	932-2584
Radio	Charles Unfried	687-1724
Social	Don Nunn	934-5214
SongSirs	Owen Sullivan	943-7998
Sunshine	Warren Harrison	682-5199
Travel	Charlie Kiser	274-1575
Veterans	Art Trost	934-2889
Walkers	John Lewis	825-3561

Past Big SIR's



1989	Charles Unfried	1995	Bob Walton
1990	Gill Rhodes	1996	Dick DeVoe
1991	Gene Hackett	1997	Warren Boero
1992	Walt Entelman	1998	Don Nunn
1993	E (Kap) Kaprelian	1999	Dave Valladao
1994	Joe Jansen		



A Note from Jeff Baily

As Don Martin and I co-produced this issue I couldn't help being impressed by the amount of time

and effort that Don has given to bringing this newsletter into the computer age. He was surely the beneficiary of previous efforts as I will be a beneficiary of his efforts and accomplishments.

I felt real comfortable in volunteering for this duty until finally Don said "As of next month you're it". Which prompted the thought; Help!! How did I ever get myself into this? Anyway I'm here now and I plan to make the best of it. In fact I'm downright excited about the whole operation. Can't type worth a darn but we'll deal with that as we go along.

One of the first challenges was to reproduce the front page SIR banner. After a few weeks I determined that it was impossible with my software so what you see is a result of tinkering to the nth degree. Also, with Don's input, some layout changes. I hope you like it.

To Don I say "Well done. I know I can't fill your boots but all I can say is that I'll give the SIR CALL newsletter my best effort". And many thanks for the time spent training me and coaxing me along.

Jeff

Someone asked the Pope how many people worked in the Vatican. He replied, "about half of them".



SIRs Joe Jansen, Don Martin, Tom Gorman and Dick Richmond enjoying a little pre lunch camaraderie.



SIR CALL *Newsletter*

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Walnut Creek CA 94598**

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