

SIR CALL

January 2013

Sons in Retirement Branch 146 of Contra Costa

Published For Our Members And Friends

Big Sir's Notes

Terry Marchione

I am honored to be serving as your Big Sir in the coming year. My job has been made easier by the work of outgoing Big Sir **Jim Burk**. Under Jim's leadership the branch has continued to prosper and I hope to provide the same kind of leadership.



The key to our continued success is bringing in new members. During 2012, for one reason or another, we lost 12% of our members. Fortunately you enabled us to maintain our membership numbers by bringing guests to our luncheons, many of whom turn into members. We need to keep that effort going in 2013. "Remember to Bring a Friend to Lunch". Another key to our success is having men step up to fill important positions in the branch. As you know, we rely solely on volunteers, not only for the BEC positions but also for all the committee and activities chairmen. I encourage you to get involved. The nominating committee will begin its work shortly after the first of the year. If you are called upon I urge you to step up. Also, you don't need to wait to be called. **Jim Burk, Pete Gates or Dennis Hallett** (the nominating committee) will be pleased to receive your call.

As you know, a new agreement has been reached with CourseCo which will enable us to continue at Boundary Oak in 2013. The possible renovation of the clubhouse still appears to be somewhere in the future so I and the BEC will be monitoring that situation.

How about a hats off to **Steve Dawkins** for another wonderful Ladies Day Christmas luncheon? The full house appreciated the Holiday décor, the great lunch and the Holiday songs performed by our Song Sirs and the Monte Vista High School Double Quartet. What a wonderful way to start the holiday season. Finally, I invite you to attend a Branch Executive Committee meeting. The BEC meets at 9:00 prior to the luncheon each month (except for May and December). Anyone attending the meetings has an opportunity for input to any discussion as well as bringing suggestions or issues to the board's attention.

The January luncheon will feature Leigh Kjeldsen, an engaging speaker.

Gathering time
10:45-11:00am

Little Sir's Corner

Doug Eisner

I'm sure you'll agree with me that filling the shoes of our 2012 Little Sir, **Terry Marchione**, will be a big task. However, with the help of a small committee consisting of **Alan Elnick, Tony Greco, Dave Pierce, and Cal Tucker**, we'll do our best to meet the standard **Terry** set by providing speakers on a wide variety of topics of interest to our members. We began our work a few months ago and already have commitments from several speakers for early 2013 meetings. A number of Branch 146 members have suggested speakers or provided other support and we certainly appreciate their help.



Our January speaker will be Leigh Kjeldsen, a local audiologist. Leigh will be addressing the topic "Hearing Loss - Causes and Remedies". Leigh is a very engaging speaker and I'm sure this topic will be of interest to all of us. We still have openings for speakers in 2013 so if you have a connection with someone who would be of interest to our group, please let one of us know so we can follow up with that person.



Luncheon Attendance

Jim Burk

Our SIR luncheon is the 2nd Thursday of every month at The Clubhouse Restaurant at Boundary Oak Golf Course. The price of our luncheon is \$25 with a no-host bar.

Remember we assume you are coming, but if for any reason you are unable to attend, please e-mail

nolunchbranch146@gmail.com

by noon Friday the week prior to the luncheon. The noon deadline has to be strictly enforced as that's the time the restaurant requires us to give them a guaranteed number of meals to prepare. Members failing to meet this deadline, or "no show" for the luncheon, will be required to reimburse the branch for the liability we will incur

The price of our luncheon is
[now] \$25 with a no-host bar.

with the restaurant for their meals.

Note: Only if you do not have a computer, call **Jim Burk** at (925) 946-1192 by the same deadline referenced above to let him know you will not be attending. If no one answers, leave your name, badge number, phone number and a short message.

Payment: Remember that our luncheon will be called to order at 11:45 a.m., so please allow enough time to check-in and make payment. A check for \$25 made payable to "SIR 146" is requested for your lunch on luncheon day.

Sir bringing a guest: Please e-mail also by noon on the Friday prior to the luncheon leaving your name, badge number, and your guest's name.

Special requests: If you require a vegetarian meal or any special meal, please make that request. Your request will remain in effect until you cancel it through the luncheon chairman. If for medical reasons you cannot eat lunch, please notify the luncheon chairman and your request will remain in effect until you cancel it also through the luncheon chairman.

New members and/or sponsors: There will be a dedicated luncheon table set for any new members and their sponsors who would like to sit together to share their experiences as new members of SIR 146. It is voluntary, so please do not feel obligated as a new member to sit at this table.



Membership

Steve Sprague

Branch 146 Statistics:
As of our Executive Committee meeting on December 6th, we have 269 active members including seven Honorary Life Members (there was no change from the previous month). We

currently have no applicants awaiting BEC approval.

Status Changes:

Inducted: **Norm Baietti**
Ed Brands
Jim Swanson

Resigned: **Art Gagnon** and **Heino Valvur**

Moved to Inactive: **Ahmad Ghoreishi**

December Luncheon attendance:

A total of 280 members and guests enjoyed our December Ladies Day luncheon.

Changes to the Inactive roster:

As noted above, **Ahmad Ghoreishi** has been added. **Bob Abegg** has resigned after two years inactive status. Our inactive roster therefore remains at 15 members.

We remember the good things that Bob Hope did for our troops especially at this time of year. The historic and hysterical quips by him in this issue were provided by **Sir Steve Siljestrom...**

On turning 70... 'I still chase women but only downhill'

Cribbage

John Pearl

Nine of our group enjoyed the holiday season at Barney

Meade's home this

December, playing on Wednesday, the 19th.

With this many players, there was plenty of money to go around. First place went to

Ron Plachy, and our host

Barney Meade took second place. **Kirk McVean**

of Branch 116, who is a regular, took third. **Dennis Hallett**, when not too busy eating M&M's,

played well enough to take home fourth place

money. Season's greetings were exchanged by all.

We meet again in mid-January.



Monterey Mashers Golf Tournament

Save The Date: March 24-27, 2013

Please make sure the Monterey Mashers event is on your calendar for Sunday afternoon, March 24 through breakfast Wednesday, March 27, 2013.

We'll be sending the invitation by e-mail in early January, and you'll also find it in the February Sir Call issue.

For those who haven't gone before, this is an annual fun couples event that includes 3 nights in Monterey, 2 golf days at different courses, a heavy hors d'oeuvres party one night, a banquet another night, and 3 complimentary breakfasts.

Those who don't play golf go on outings with others or do their own thing.

Hope to see you there!

Questions? Call Coordinator **Dick DeVoe**, 932-5546.

Couples Duplicate Bridge

Lo McCarley

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

Jim Brown and Adrienne

Morrison hosted eight

couples for a gala evening of duplicate bridge on December 19th. The group thanked **Jim and Ruth Adams** for subbing and also thanked **Bob Yolland** for scoring. **Bob** and **Janet Yolland** took first place with 40 points with a winning margin of 4 points. **Jim and Ruth Adams** came in second with 36 points, **Margot Somerville** and **Vince Rettew** took third with 35 points, and **Bill and Margaret Rees** with 32 points came in fourth. **Lynn and Dasha Freeman** will host the next bridge on January 16th.

According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, while both male and female reindeer grow antlers in the summer each year, male reindeer drop their antlers at the beginning of winter, usually late November to mid December. Female reindeer, however, retain their antlers till after they give birth in the spring. Therefore, according to every historical rendition depicting Santa's reindeer, every single one of them, from Rudolf to Blitzen.... had to be a female. We should've known this when they were able to find their way.



Party Bridge

Fred Bolton

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

We played four tables of bridge at the home of **Fred Bolton** on Dec. 3rd. First place went to **Carl Johnson** with 5840 points. Second to **Bill Snyder** with 5670, third to **John Demos** with 5390 and fourth to **Lo McCarley** with 5080. Our next game will be at the home of **Bob Donahue** on January 7.

Duplicate Bridge

Doug Eisner



We played 4 tables of duplicate bridge at **Jim Brown's** home on Dec 17. **Carl Johnson** fortunately brought his "A" game as he needed all of it to eke out a narrow first place victory over the second place challenger **Fred Kovar** by a score of 43.5 to 43 pts. **Bob Donahue** took 3rd place with 41 pts and **Jim Jackson** picked up the 4th place honors with 40 pts.

Our next game will feature 3 tables only on Jan 21 and will be hosted by **George Zunich**.

Bob Hope on turning 80... 'That's the time of your life when even your birthday suit needs pressing'.



Couples Party Bridge

Dave Pierce

George and Pam Rammell hosted three tables in their festive and seasonally decorated home on December 3rd. The cards were unseasonably warm, and **Dick DeVoe** tried adding

fuel to the fire. **Dave and Joan Pierce** placed third at 3460, and our hosts **Pam** and **George** were rewarded for their fine hospitality by coming in second at 3630. **Terry and Sharon Marchione** copped first at 3930, a commendable performance in a close-knit field.



GOLF

Ray Weisz

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 posted on our web site, www.sir146.com. In addition to regular stroke play, we have many Tuesday tournaments specifically set up for our players. There is a 9-holes group that plays at Diablo Hills. They play every Thursday except the second Thursday of the month, which is the luncheon date. For those with golf playing partners, there is Couples Golf offered on the 4th Wednesday of the month, April through October.

Like playing other courses? On the first Thursday of each month (From May through October) we offer Away Golf.

Do you enjoy competing against other SIR players from different branches? We have several different formats throughout the year.

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 should be receiving GEMs. If you'd like to be added to the distribution list (non-golfers are welcome too), please let us know by emailing your request to sir146golf@gmail.com.

Bob Hope on turning 90... 'You know you're getting old when the candles cost more than the cake'.



Branch pianist **Dave Obera** waits for a new volunteer sing-along group to form during the cocktail hour at the luncheon. This activity is gaining popularity so keep an ear out for them and do join in.

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



Branch 146 Photographer, Sir **Richard** and **Sherry Hockenbrock**

Area 2 \$ums Investment Group

Co-Chairmen:

Allen Espenmiller (Br-174) 925-376-977

George Schulze (Br-8) 925-429-1756

Leary Wong (Br-8) 925-457-0807

Coordinator: **Ken Nakashima** (925-376-0421)

The Area 2 \$ums Investment Group will meet on Wednesday January 23, 2013, 8:00 AM at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Our guest speaker Tom Kopas, Principal Portfolio Manager, Pring Turner Capital Group will present "How much Life is Left in the Current Cyclical Bull Market". Tom will update Pring Turner Capital Group's outlook for stocks, bonds and commodities. His past popular presentation "Are you Prepared for Another Lost Decade" details the reasons investors should be prepared for challenging markets. The program will cover a wide array of timely topics including: What's ahead for the economy and the financial markets? Are we approaching an important long-term turning point for interest rates? How will investors and retirees with bond funds cope with higher inflation? What are the current and long-term themes for profitable opportunities? Valuable insights, original research, and extensive industry experience are all part of this important presentation. In addition, Tom will discuss what asset allocation decisions will bring investors profitably through this cycle and where the risks and opportunities are for investors now and in the coming months and years. The Legends restaurant opens at 7:00 AM so plan to have a leisurely breakfast along with your fellow members. Bring along a prospective member or two to hear this very timely talk. Also plan to support the restaurant and its excellent staff.



Phil Goff



Derek Southern

Area 2

Computers and Technology Group

Phil Goff and Derek Southern Co-chairs

The Area 2 Computer and Technology Group invites all Sirs and their guests to our next meeting at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge on Thursday, January 17 at 9am. There was no meeting in December.

Phil Goff will present his Emergency Records Organizer that outlines information you will need in an emergency situation. This was originally presented in January 2008, so **Phil** will explain how, and why, he has updated it. Also, **Phil** will show how to use password organizer programs, e.g. Last Pass, Password Keeper, Roboform, etc. Time permitting, **Dick Curry** will then lead a Q&A discussion to address current computer issues that you identify. So please bring your questions and join us for a fun and informative session. As always there will be coffee and cookies available before and during the meeting. Meetings of the Area 2 Computer and Technology Group are held the 3rd Thursday of each month (except June and December) from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Drive. Whether you are a beginner or a seasoned user, we try to offer something for everyone. We ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and cookies. See you there.



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



Sir Bill "Santa" Boyd

On turning 100...I don't feel old. In fact, I don't feel anything until noon. Then it's time for my nap.'



Sir Lynn and Sally Shafer

Cooking II

Bob Yolland



Cooking II had a most enjoyable lunch at **Bruce Borgman's** home on December 10th. Their beautiful home was very festive with lots of Christmas decorations. Bruce has set a

high bar for future events starting with several very nice appetizers which included a smoked salmon spread on endive, a sweet cheese spread with a touch of honey on bagette rounds and a variety of four cheeses with crackers. The main course was an excellent chicken canzanese with potatoes and Brussels sprouts, followed by a very nice dessert. We of course also enjoyed an ample supply of several types of wine and for quality purposes checked out our cooking group's recently bottled Sangiovese which is a fresh light red wine. As previously confirmed this was a good bottling year. Hope everyone has a wonderful Christmas and a very Happy New Year. Our next event will be January 14th at **Bill Cammerer's**.



Charlotte and Sir Bob Darius

Photo by Ken Kratz

Poker Club 1

Frank McNamee

Poker Club #1 met on 12-12-12 at the residence of **John Lewis** to see who would be the last winner of the year. It turned out to be our only guest, **Rich Hanford**, (who needs him back?) along with **Bob**



White, Don Martin , Bill Cammerer and Dan O'Sullivan. That left host **John Lewis** and **Frank McNamee** as the only losers. We'll start the new year at **Don Del Bene's** home January 9th 2013.

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



Karen and Sir Cliff Perkins

Poker Club 4

Chuck Bobinecz

January 28, 2013 is the next poker session at the home of Sir **Chuck Bobinecz** and will be hosted by Sir **Bob Mehus**. Sir **Garth Cummings** is the host for the February game. As in the past years the host will send a reminder a week before each session.



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



Truly superior pilots are those who use their superior judgment to avoid those situations where they might have to use their superior skills.

Photo by Ray Kan



Elaine and Sir Ken Richter

On giving up his early career in boxing 'I ruined my hands in the ring. The referee kept stepping on them.'

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



Betty and Sir Joe Hunt

On never winning an Oscar... 'Welcome to the Academy Awards or, as it's called at my home, 'Passover'.

Photo by Ken Kratz



Sir **Jim Bogue**, the retired Singing Fireman from San Francisco with branch pianist **Dave Obera**.



Fishing Report

Paul Dubow

We began the year with a group outing to the Sportsmen's Expo in Sacramento, enjoying various fishing demonstrations, purchasing gear, and ogling the many boats for sale in the auditorium.

And, as per usual, we enjoyed a pleasant dinner on the way back to the Bay Area.



Sir Gene Schulting and his 5 foot Sturgeon catch.

On the fishing front, sturgeon and trout have been the catch of choice. **Gene Schulting** of Branch 146 probably had the most interesting month. He went sturgeon fishing with **Carl Moyer** twice. In the first outing, **Gene** hooked a monster but it broke his line. However, he and **Carl** did land five of the spiny devils that were under the 46 inch limit. **Gene** was undeterred by his misfortune and set out with **Carl** a week later. This time, the big one did not get away and **Gene** came home with a five footer. On another occasion, **Carl** and **Terry Miller** landed 18 sturgeon, but none were keepers. But they did keep and eat a pair of nice stripers.

Shadow Cliffs Reservoir has been sensational. The topper was a 7 lb 28 inch rainbow that was caught by **Carl Moyer**. **Paul Dubow** ventured out on the day prior to Carl's successful trip and limited out in two hours, all of the fish weighing in at between two and three pounds. **Harry Sherinian** and **Carl** took **Harry's**

new boat for a maiden voyage and picked up some nice trout. **Carl** also soloed for a limit to five pounds and **George Vogt** joined **Carl** and **Paul**, and the trio caught a limit of 15 fish up to four pounds. **Terry Miller**, **Gordon Linebaugh**, **Gene Schulting**, **Joe Miscione**, and **Carl Moyer** caught the lake on a slow day but still caught some fish. **Joe** and his son plus **Mario Moratorto** made several successful striped bass trips to Montezuma Slough, capped by **Joe's** 16 pounder.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, January 24, at the Legend Sports Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course at 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. The meeting starts at 8:30 am but come early for breakfast. In February, we have planned three group trout outings, including our inaugural at San Pablo Reservoir, plus an outing in the Delta for sturgeon and trout. As always, former fishermen and fishermen-to-be are welcome to join us at the outings as well as the breakfast meeting. For further information, feel free to call Big Fish **Pete Gates** (925-937-2035), secretary treasurer **Tom Boltz** (925-825-5695) or fishing coordinator **Paul Dubow** (415-495-6504).

Bowling Larry Mitchell



The SIR Area 2 Bowling League is in the thirteenth week of thirty-three and Team No. 2 composed of: **Mike McCay**, **Larry Mitchell**, and **Jeff Davis** is in first place by two games over the second place team.

Some last week's stats. are **Pierre Mebane** bowled the high scratch game of 185 and high scratch series of 500 and **Baha Zarah** bowled the third highest handicap game of 212.

The season-to-date highs remain: **Larry Mitchell** high scratch game at 279, and **Jeff Davis** high series at 637. The above mentioned Team No. 2 also holds the high scores for the scratch series, handicap game, and handicap series.

We are still looking for more bowlers to fill some vacancies in the league teams. If interested, whether you have bowled before or not, please contact **Larry Mitchell** at 925-798-5440.

*On his early failures...
I would not have had anything to eat if it wasn't for the stuff the audience threw at me.'*



Travel Opportunities

Bob Spellman

Mar 2, 2013: Turmoils at Professor Ming's Mansion.

Join fellow SIR at Buddha's Universal Church in San Francisco, doors open at 1:30pm. Prior the performance there will be a tour of the Terracotta Warriors exhibit at the Asian Art Museum. Price of \$85pp also includes hosted lunch in Chinatown and bus transportation.

Contact **Dick Schally** Br 8, 260-5534 for more information.

Apr 14-22, 2013: Tulip Time Cruise. Discover the beauty & history of the Dutch and Belgium waterways in springtime. Cruise ports include, Amsterdam, Arnhem, Antwerp, Bruges, Middelburg, and Rotterdam. Prices range from \$3225 to \$5080 and include airfare, complimentary beverages, many guided tours, tips and gratuities. Contact **Jim Lunn** Br 8, 925-551-3329 for more information.

Jun 1-9, 2013: Memphis Blues to the New Orleans Jazz on the American Queen. A 7 night cruise on board the American Queen down the Mississippi with a pre-cruise stay in Memphis and a optional 2 day post trip in New Orleans. Cruise features RT motor coach to airport, RT airfare, all meals, including wine and beer with dinner, daily lectures, nightly entertainment, shore tours, and port charges, transfers, and baggage handling. Prices start at \$3658 to \$6486 depending on accommodations. Space is now very limited ,so all future reservations will now be on a first come first serve basis. Contact **Bob Spellman** 934-8428 if you still want to go and we will try to secure space for you.

Aug 28-Sep 7, 2013: SIR 55th Anniversary Alaska Golden Age Cruise. Save the date for a celebration! We will leave out of San Francisco and visit the ports of Juneau, Skagway, Tracy Arm Fjord, Ketchikan, Victoria and return to San Francisco on the Grand Princess. The cost of the Cruise is from \$1579 to \$3300 depending on accommodations and includes: Gratuities on the ship, Ship board Credit, Cocktail Party, Hospitality Suite, Transportation by Motor Coach to and from the Pier, Wine, Gifts and a Alaska Salmon Bake excursion.

Contact **Bob Spellman**, 934-8428.

May, 2014: Hidden Gems of the Dalmation Coast & Greece. A 16 day cruise aboard a privately owned Grand Circle small ship with a maximum of 50 passengers. Ports of Call include Zagreb, Split, Hvar, Korcula, Dubrovnik, Montenegro, Butrint, Albania, Corfu, Delphi and Athens. Prices range from approximately \$4595 to \$6170 depending on accommodations and airfare. Trip also includes 37 meals, 12 exclusive tours with personal headsets, home hosted dinners, and resident Grand Circle Program Director. Contact **Ken Richter**, 689-6217.

Couples Dining Out

Bruce Borgman

As noted in the last SIR Call, fourteen couples enjoyed a wonderful first dinner at Venessa's Bistro in Walnut Creek on November 29. With a separate room and festively decorated tables, the social hour and the dinner

were very enjoyable – with five courses of the “Vietnamese tapas with a French flair”. Lots of good conversation with old friends and new. A poster with a number of pictures was displayed at the December luncheon.



Photo by Bruce Borgman

Our next event will be on Monday January 21st , at the Walnut Creek Yacht Club on the Aft Deck – a private room located at 1555 Bonanza street in Walnut Creek. We will again start with a social hour of no host cocktails at 5:30pm (Happy Hour 'til 6!), with dinner at 6:30pm. The menu will have a choice of soup or salad, three choices for entrees, and two dessert options. Attendance is limited to the first 18 couples who reserve. Cost will be \$45 per person, inclusive of tax and tip. For detailed information on the menu and to select your menu choices, contact **Bruce Borgman** at 932-3961, or email bbborgman@aol.com

January 2013 Birthday Boys Happy Birthday!

William Linn, Franklin Rockwell, James Kohl, Elmer Kaprielian, James Meehan, Lynn Shafer, Richard DeVoe, William Knapp, Robert Storkan, Thomas Thomson, Frank McNamee, Lynn Miller, Dale Haukland, Arthur Ainscough, Steve Siljestrom, Dennis Hallett, William Schultz, Stan Matsumoto, Eugene Diana, Kenneth Richter, Gary McGrath, Charles Eichten, Robert Lyman, Garth Cummings, William Hoban, Charles Gleason, Pierre Mebane, Henry James, Robert Bogardus.

On Golf, 'Golf is my profession. Show business is just to pay the green fees.'

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



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SIR Happenings Newsletter

SIR Happenings is the statewide SIR Newsletter. Just go to www.sirinc.org and click on SIR Happenings to read the current issue. You may enjoy reading about the activities of other branches. bn41 please call Jim Burk or Chuck Campbell regarding your free lunch.

Non-Responsibility Declaration
Rule 345: All activities arranged

for or by Sons in Retirement Inc. and its branches are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their guests who desire to participate. Sons In Retirement Inc. and its branches do not assume any responsibility for the well being or safety of the participants or their property, in any matters pertaining to said activities.



Now that the holidays are over here is a brief history of the most ubiquitous of plants during this season, the Poinsettia. It is capitalized because it is named after Joel Roberts Poinsett who introduced the plant to the United States in 1828. The Poinsettia is native to Mexico and found wild in the tropical climates down the entire coast of Mexico. The plant became popular during Christmas when the Albert Ecke family began selling their plants in Los Angeles during the early 1900s. In the 1990s, through new grafting techniques, the plants took on their bushy look, thus creating their current popularity. The red color of the plant is created through photoperiodism which means the plant requires 12 hours daily of total darkness five days in a row. The part that turns red are not the flowers but bracts which are actual leaves of the plant. The Ecke family still lives in Southern California and provides 70% of the Poinsettias sold in the United States.

*On Receiving the Congressional Gold medal,
'I feel very humble, but I think I have
the strength of character to fight it.'*

Duplicate Bridge 2

Dick DeVoe

The Duplicate Bridge 2 group met at host **Dick DeVoe's** on December 7 in holiday spirit, while also acknowledging the significance of that date in our nation's history. At the event's halfway point **Max Hinkle, John Demos, and Bill Schultz** had all the big points. **Max** continued his domination, amassing a record 35 points in our first year of existence. **Bob Yolland** found his mojo during the last half, ascending from 6th to 2nd with 30.5. **John Demos** hung in there to take 3rd with 27.5. **John Boyan** captured 4th as a late bloomer for the 2nd straight month. Everyone have a wonderful holiday season as we tick off the last days of a fun bridge year.



Sunshine

Walt Busenius

945-0715

Busenius@astound.net

We offer our condolences and prayers to **Alan Elnick** and family on the passing of his wife **Vicki** on December 14th from cancer.

Please keep the following Sirs in your thoughts and prayers as we hope for continual healing and recovery to good health.

Jack White

John Lively

Reggie Fromm

Elmer Kaprielian

Rod Sharretts

Charlie Kiser

Jim Helmick

Bob Van Luchene

Jim Locker

Please try to contact a sick Sir to offer support and encouragement during his illness. A friendly call is always welcomed. If you are aware of a sick Sir, please let me know by phone or e-mail, as shown.



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Long time friends, **Nancy Burchett** and **Sir Jim Stedman**.

On Fishing... 'Forget it, fish don't applaud'.

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



Branch Candy man, **Sir Baha Zarah** and his wife **Wafa**

On his family's early poverty...'Four of us slept in the one bed. When it got cold, mother threw on another brother.'



Book Corner

Ken Richter

The Book Corner will be starting its third year at the January luncheon. The books will be located in the back bar area every other month after January 2013. All books are welcome. Thanks to our ladies the December Book Corner was a complete success.

Sir Bob and June Donahue enjoying fine dining at the Ladies Day luncheon.

On going to heaven...

'I've done benefits for all religions.'

'I'd hate to blow the hereafter on a technicality.'

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



Maggie and husband Sir Paul Masta



THE CLUBHOUSE

AT BOUNDARY OAK

Sirs 146 Menu

January 2013

~Salad~

Classic Caesar with Croutons and
Shaved Parmesan Cheese

~Entrée~

Herb Marinated Roast Pork Tenderloin, Apple-Cranberry
Compote, Sour Cream and Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Sea-
sonal Vegetables

Or

Citrus Marinated Atlantic Salmon,
Corn Roasted Salsa & Lemon Butter Sauce,
Rice Pilaf, Seasonal Vegetables

~Dessert~

Vanilla Bean Pannacotta
With Carmel Sauce



Sir Mike and Sharon Varner and Sir Peter and
Carole Miller. Mike and Pete are Songsirs

ROMEO

(Retired Old Men Eating Out)

Malcolm Hendry

The ROMEO group meets on the third Thursday of the month at 6:30pm. We select eclectic restaurants in the East Bay recommended by you, as well as those favorably reviewed in the media. Come join us and experience dining in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere with your fellow Sirs and other male guests.

Walnut Creek Yacht Club

This will be our first repeat visit to WCYC, for good reason. Not only did we thoroughly enjoy our first visit to this acclaimed seafood restaurant, but January is "lobster month", featuring delicious lobster dinners at very reasonable prices. Also, they serve only the freshest seafood classic preparations, and non seafood dishes, which are bought mostly local and organic. A full bar and an award winning wine list awaits us.

When you respond,
let me know if you want
lobster.

Location: 1555 Bonanza St., Walnut Creek

Web Site: www.wcyc.net

Phone: 925-944-3474

Please let me know by Monday, January 14th, that you will attend.

Your recommendations for restaurants are welcomed.



L to R standing, Sir Bill Rees and his wife Margaret,
Jim Bogue with Sir Dave Obera at the keyboard.

Ladies Day Luncheon, Christmas 2012

Photo by Ray Kan



Ginnie Meyer, Santa Claus and Sir Lou Meyer

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



Sir Jack Harrington and friend Barbara Barrett



Photo by Ray Kan

Janet Yolland, Alicia Baily and Bev Gorman

Photo by Ray Kan



Ladies Day organizer Sir Steve Dawkins and his wife Marna



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Sir Bill and Bernice Cammerer



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Sue and Sir Jim Hanck



Photo by Ken Kratz

Big Sir Terry Marchione being congratulated by outgoing SIR President, **Jim Stedman**.



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Alicia Baily, Sir Dick Richmond and Judy Richmond



Photo by Ken Kratz

Sirs Dennis Dale and Steve Loftin chatting it up.

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



Anne Burk, Sir Chuck and Sandy Clark



Walkers

John Lewis



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

January 2013 walks planned by

Frank Ascatigno

January 4: Bruce Lee Trail-Clayton Road, Clayton
Meet: At Clayton Library

Walk: Cross Clayton Rd. to Marsh Creek Rd., left on Center St., pass the creek, right on trail. Paved, gently uphill, no shade.

Coffee: Deli Delight, Shadelands Office Park, Walnut Creek

January 11: Lafayette Moraga Trail, St. Mary's
Meet: St. Mary's Rd. - parking lot across road from the college

Walk: South on Lafayette Moraga Trail. Paved, level, some shade

Coffee: Terzetto Cuisine, Moraga Shopping Center

January 18: Arbolado Park South

Meet: Arbolado Park parking lot

Walk: West on Arbolado Dr., south on Ygnacio Canal. Level, some shade

Coffee: Deli Delight, Shadelands Office Park, Walnut Creek

January 25: Osage Park – Iron Horse Trail South Danville

Meet: Parking lot at Osage Park. Take 680 South to Danville, Sycamore Valley Rd. East exit. Go over freeway. Right at Camino Ramon, to second signal at El Capitan, turn left to Orange Blossom Lane, turn left to park on your right.

Walk: South on Orange Blossom Lane, West on El Capitan, south on Iron Horse Trail. Paved, level, some shade.

Coffee: Pascal French Oven, 155-B, Railroad Ave. Danville



Photo by Ken Kratz

Branch Chaplain Jim Baldridge with his wife **Judy**.

SIR CALL *Newsletter*

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