

# SIR CALL

br146sircall@gmail.com

July 2019

Published For Our Members And Friends

## SIR Contra Costa Branch 146



### Big Sir's Notes

Jonathan Korfhage

I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND TO THE REPUBLIC FOR WHICH IT STANDS, ONE NATION UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE, WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL.

One of the impressive characteristics about our Branch 146 members is our patriotism. Many of our members have proudly served in the armed services. As Big Sir I lead our Pledge of Allegiance each month, and to hear our members recite this one sentence is inspiring!

The Pledge of Allegiance was written in 1892 by the socialist minister Francis Bellamy. It was originally published in *The Youth's Companion* in 1892. He had hoped that the pledge would be used by citizens in any country. In 1923, the words, "the Flag of the United States of America" were added. In 1954, in response to the Communist threat of the times, President Eisenhower encouraged Congress to add the words "under God," creating the 31-word pledge we say today. According to our 'Code', the Pledge should be rendered by standing at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart.

In order to feel pride as an American, and know that freedom does not come easy, we need to remember that we have a responsibility to ourselves and our country to be sure liberty and justice for all is more than something mumbled each month.

I encourage you to think about what you are saying in this pledge. The real bottom line for you should continue to strengthen your personal pride in being an American and valuing your freedom! Have a safe and meaningful Fourth of July!

### WE ARE SIR – MAKE FRIENDS FOR LIFE

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

#### Guest Speaker:

Ray Murray  
San Francisco National Park Service

"Your National Park Service – A closer look"

Gathering time: 11:00 am

Seating time: 11:45 am

*Bringing a guest or can't attend?*

Email: [nolunchbranch146@gmail.com](mailto:nolunchbranch146@gmail.com)

Telephone Message: (925) 979-5146

By Noon Friday, July 5<sup>th</sup>

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



June speaker Budd MacKenzie—"Getting off the Couch and into the Hearts and Minds" was about his efforts to help educate children and provide assistance to villages in Afghanistan



# SIR Mission Statement

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



## Little Sir's Corner

**Brad Hatcher**

Our June speaker was Budd MacKenzie. The title of his remarks was "Getting off the Couch and into the Hearts and Minds". It refers to his efforts in Afghanistan to serve the people and build schools. He had numerous slides and some video of his time in Afghanistan. The faces of the children shown were heart-tugging.

Our speaker in July is Ray Murray from the San Francisco office of the National Park Service. His topic is "Your National Park Service – A closer look". I am sure you will enjoy his remarks.

The Branch Executive Committee met and voted on attendance policy after several months of discussion. Big Sir was instrumental in formulating the final version of the policy. Big Sir also reported on his efforts to respond to the State "contest" for the best Sir Branch. The BEC and other members gave their usual reports.

On the agenda for the July luncheon will be the first introduction of the 2020 BEC board.

Please bring a guest to the meeting as we always want to expand our membership. If you do bring a guest, be sure to let our luncheon manager know he is coming.



## Membership

**Ron Lew**

The BEC inducted 2 new members for the month of June. **John Kendrick** #44 of Concord sponsored by **Peter Plante** and returning SIR veteran **Mike Navone** #168 of Pleasant Hill sponsored by **Loren DeLaurenti**. **John** was a past worker associate of mine.

Please continue inviting new members as we recently lost a few members to relocation, health, and family issues.

We hold new member training after luncheons in the same room where we hold our BEC meetings before the luncheon. At our last luncheon, two guests came across the hall and signed up to join, on the spot, while we were doing our training. Keep introducing your friends and associates to the best SIR Branch in California.

### June New Member Photo Additions



**John Kendrick**



**Mike Navonne**



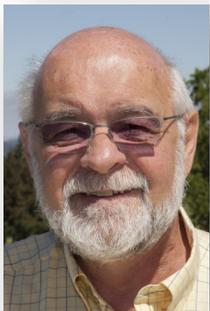
Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**Joe Fuchs** was presented the SIR Branch 146 Certificate of Appreciation award by Honoree Chairman **Doug Eisner**



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**Lewis Chapman**  
Wins colorful shirt & bottle of Hot Sauce



## Luncheon Chairman

**Rob Melrose**

WOW! It is July already. I'd like to wish you and yours a happy, safe Independence Day which this year will be celebrated on July 4th.

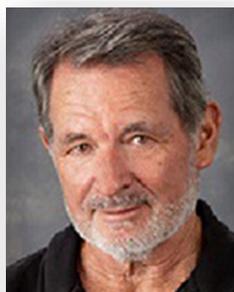
### July 11<sup>th</sup> Luncheon

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

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

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

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



## Sunshine

**Max Hinkle**

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

- **Hugh Ferguson**
- **Jim Gracey**
- **Joe Hunt**
- **Bill Klein**
- **Martin Lyle**
- **Howard Nemir**
- **Jim Saavedra**
- **Bill Stevenson**
- **Joe Suta**
- **Al Zamolo**

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

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

**Also, if you need a ride to and from our luncheons or know someone who does please notify me.**

## 2019 Branch 146 Officers and Directors

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

### RAMP – Chair Members

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

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

### **SIR BR 146 Nominating Committee has proposed the following list of candidates for the 2020 (BEC) Board Executive Committee as follows:**

Big Sir	<b>Brad Hatcher</b>
Little Sir	<b>Richard Hockenbrock</b>
Secretary	<b>Jerry Kaplan</b>
Assistant Secretary	<b>Max Hinkle</b>
Treasurer	<b>George Mon</b>
Assistant Treasurer	<b>Ross Abbott</b>
Director 2nd Term	<b>Milton Smith</b>
Director 2nd Term	<b>Frank Pandolfi</b>
Director 2nd Term	<b>Ron Lew</b>
Director 1st Term	<b>Peter Plante</b>
Director 1st Term	<b>Chuck Schreiber</b>
Director 1st Term	<b>Paul Beretz</b>

All the prospective officers will be introduced at the July meeting. Election of the officers will be held at our August luncheon. You may offer additional nominations from the floor at that meeting.



## Activities

Jerry Kaplan

We have now reached the 50 plus number of activities in Branch 146. In the last two months, three new activities have been added.

1) Another **Mexican Train Dominoes** group was started by **SIR**

**Bob Lucido** making a total of seven different groups playing. With this new group, at least 100 Sirs and their significant others are gathering monthly to pick the right dominoes! There may be space available for a few new players to join one of the groups; see **Bob's** column elsewhere in the newsletter for contact information. Single Sirs are welcome to play with any of the groups.

2) A brand new activity, **RV'ing**, has had its first meeting and is planning some trips later in the year. **SIR Bob Lucido** is also initially getting the group started as its chair. **Bob** has been in contact with other branches that have a similar activity to learn more about how they run their program. Contact **Bob** at 925 899-0974 or via email at [bobwendy3@comcast.net](mailto:bobwendy3@comcast.net).

3) Would you believe that **SIR Bob L.** is also chairing a new **Poker Group (#7)?** They have had their first meeting and are ready to ante up each month and have some fun. **Bob** has developed a Poker Group #7 column for the activity in the newsletter that provides further information on when, where and how.

### Activity Tables at Luncheons Open Again—

The June luncheon meeting saw several different activities highlighted in the bar area of Boundary Oak. The purpose was to show both new and old members some of the now 50 plus events and goings-on that Branch 146 members can participate in.

This month we had three information tables for display. **Pierre Mebane** had his multicolored bowling ball on display, and even if you don't bowl, it was a work of art. **Paul Dubow**, our fishing expert, had pictures of the fish that didn't get away, and **Jim Burk**, our Pickleball chairman, had to answer many times to the question "what the heck is Pickleball". Look for more activity tables to be set up in the months when the **Book Corner**, led by **SIR Peter Plante**, is not spread out with hundreds of books to be perused and enjoyed by Branch 146 members.

Jerry Kaplan  
(925) 330 8832  
[mtdana@aol.com](mailto:mtdana@aol.com)



# THE CLUBHOUSE

AT BOUNDARY OAK

## SIR 146 Luncheon

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

### Salad

#### **Spinach Watermelon Salad**

Baby Spinach, Sweet Summer Watermelon, Feta Cheese  
Balsamic Vinaigrette

### Entrees

#### **Lemon Baked Chicken**

Honey Lemon & Herb Marinated Chicken Breast, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables, Cream Butter Sauce

Or

#### **Baked Pacific Dory**

Chili Rubbed Marinated Pacific Dory, Rice Pilaf, Seasonal Vegetables, Avocado Tomato Salsa

### Vegetarian

#### **Vegetable Wellington**

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

### Dessert

#### **Italian Rum Cake**

Vanilla Sponge Cake, Chantilly Cream, Caramel Sauce



## Photography Group

**Richard Hockenbrock**

At our meeting this month we are going to discuss flash photography. With smartphones being the source of most pictures taken these days, the feeble flashes on the phones are almost never used. We will take a look where and when flashes should be used.

To prepare for this meeting, we would like all attendees to take some pictures with and without a flash with the purpose of comparing results in the various surrounding settings you may choose. Bring your pictures on a flash drive and we'll have a discussion as your pictures are shown. We will also show a video blog or two.

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

Cell: (925) 324-1713

### Next Meeting

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

**Subject:** Flash Photography

**When:** July 26<sup>th</sup> at 9 am



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**Jim Meehan, Dick Woodman, and Dan Schlatter**  
at the June luncheon



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Enjoying some friendly conversation, **Bill Laws, Lew Thompson, and Dick Richmond**



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Newer member **Bruce Kimmis** and **Brian McCarthy**  
having some fun at the June luncheon



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

June Greeters **Ross Hallberg, Charlie Walker & Jitu Patel**

### SIR Call Newsletter Group

Editor

**Richard Hockenbrock**

Co - Editors

**Walt Busenius, Rob Melrose**

Proofreaders

**Jim Barry, Jonathan Korfhage,  
Ron Polivka, and Calvin Tucker**

Internet Posting

**Ron Plachy**



### 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.*





## Book Group

The SIR Book Group met on June 10<sup>th</sup> at the Greenery Restaurant to discuss *The Path Between the Seas: The Creation of Panama* by David McCullough. We all thought this would be a thorough accounting of the brilliant engineering that resulted in the incredible Panama Canal project. There was some of that, but most of the book focused on the many characters who were the forces behind pushing the canal project forward.

The first major character was Frenchman Ferdinand de Lesseps. Who has ever heard of him? Apparently, all 19<sup>th</sup> century France knew de Lesseps as one of the saviors of the Suez Canal project. He would later focus his project development talents on the Panama Canal project. Eventually, without significant technical study, de Lesseps convinced the French investing world that the Panama project was a sound investment and a great opportunity to show the world again France's ability to manage mega projects. But the French project failed due to the vast amount of earth to be removed, uncontrolled yellow fever and malaria, and leaders who did not know what they were doing.

After the French, the Americans took the lead when President Theodore Roosevelt decided that the Panama Canal was a strategic must for the United States. McCullough then went on to detail all the movers and shakers in government and finance who helped bring the project to its glorious completion. For history enthusiasts this is a long but good read. None of us have finished the book yet.

For our next book we chose *The Maltese Falcon* by Dashiell Hammett. This is a short book, but we needed time to finish the McCullough book. Our next discussion will be at the Greenery Restaurant on July 15<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am.



## RV Activity

### Bob Lucido

We had our first meeting in June, and decided to have our first trip to Paso Robles.

Paso Robles is well known for their numerous wineries, and we will attempt to sample each of the hundred wineries before going home (I'm usually sauced after the third tasting). We will be going on the third week of September.

### Bob Lucido

(925) 899-0974

[bobwendy3@comcast.net](mailto:bobwendy3@comcast.net)



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**John Pearl, Dave Pierce, Bob Wilkenfeld, and Ben Gleason** welcoming **John** back after his illness



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Birthday Boy Winners for May and June **Jeff Baily** above and **Tom Boltz** below. Other names were drawn but you have to be present to win



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Newer member **Franz Mair** learning about Pickle Ball at **Jim Burk's** activity table



Photo by Richard



## Couples Dining Out

**Bruce Borgman**

Happy summer, fellow Sirs! We are now in the dog days of this warm season and your Dining Out hosts thought it would be appropriate to pick a barbecue restaurant for our July Dining Out experience. After checking out about five in the area, we've decided on **LUCILLE'S SMOKEHOUSE BAR-B-QUE**. While it is a chain, they've nailed the southern style of this specialty with a low and slow approach to cooking the meats. While several of the other restaurants of this genre are good as well, not all can accommodate a large group. This place is located on the northwest side of Sun Valley Mall in Concord and has the seating capacity for about 50 of us. We have negotiated a full menu, to include a shared appetizer of southern chicken strips with a honey mustard sauce, then a Caesar salad, followed by a choice of five entrees. We have included their signature baby back ribs (a half rack), a slow smoked BBQed tri tip, southern fried chicken, grilled salmon, and a spicy jambalaya. All of them are generous servings with appropriate accompaniments. For dessert we have selected their "best ever" chocolate cake. In short, this is not your light dinner and you might want to skip lunch to prepare for this feast. The cost for this dinner is \$45 per person for four of the entrees, with a \$5 surcharge for the baby back ribs.

We have sent out the notice to our email list – and the reservations are coming in fast. You will want to send me an email to reserve your spot quickly, and follow up with a check made out to BR 146, and indicate your choice of entrée.

The date for the event is Monday, July 29<sup>th</sup>, with our social cocktail hour starting around 5:30 pm, with dinner at 6:15. The parking is plentiful at Sun Valley mall. See you at this summer event!



Photo by Milt Smith

**At the Sun Gate above Machu Picchu**



## Travel

**Milt Smith**

**SIR Branch 146 Grand Baltic Sea Voyage—Small Ship Adventure by Overseas Adventure Travel**

**DEPARTURE DATE:** June 6, 2020 • Denmark: Copenhagen,

Bornholm • **Poland:** Gdansk • **Sweden:** Visby, Stockholm • **Latvia:** Riga • **Estonia:** Tallinn • **Russia:** St. Petersburg • **Finland:** Helsinki. Trip extensions available to Copenhagen and / or Stockholm from \$1,295 each.

As noted, this upcoming great trip to the Baltic departs June 6, 2020 and we have 9 Sirs signed up already, but there is still room for more if you act soon.

14 days from \$8,255 Includes international airfare from Sacramento. 14 days from \$6,695 without international airfare. Single Supplement: \$1,395.

Please mention code **GO-23630** when booking.

Reservations & Information call **1-800-955-1925**

[www.oattravel.com/crb2020](http://www.oattravel.com/crb2020)

Contact me for more information or if you have ideas about trips you'd like to take.

**Milt Smith**

(925) 285-2897

[miltsmith549@gmail.com](mailto:miltsmith549@gmail.com)

### Prepping for the hike to the Sun Gate at Machu Picchu



Photo by Milt Smith

# WOODY SEZ

## June 6<sup>th</sup> Theater Party at Leshar Center



Photo by Bill Schultz

Twenty-eight SIR 146 members and guests attended the award-winning performance with music and stories about America's legendary troubadour Woody Guthrie, presented by Center REP



Photo by Bill Schultz

**Maria Gounaris and Gary Schaub** share a laugh with Woody Sez actor/musician David Finch after the performance



Photo by Maria Gounaris

Visiting in the lobby before Woody Sez at Leshar Arts Center on June 6<sup>th</sup> were (l-r) **Jerry Kaplan, Bob and Wendy Lucido, and Susan Kaplan**



Photo by Bill Schultz

David Lutken, music director and lead performer of "Woody Sez" greeted **Jerry and Susan Kaplan** following the performance



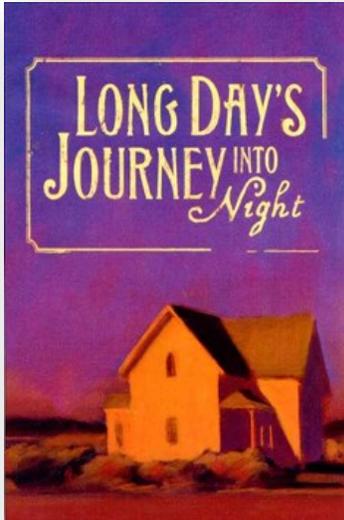
Photo by Maria Gounaris

Relaxing in the lobby before the performance were **Sally and Jim Whitsett**



Photo by Bill Schultz

**Dick DeVoe and Doug Eisner**, joined **Chuck and Mary Denney** before the performance



## **Joint Theater Party**

**With SIR Branches 8, 116, 128 & 146**

**Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 pm**

**The Old Barn Theater, Tao House  
at the Eugene O'Neill National  
Historic Site in Danville**



Reservations are still available for the SIR Joint Theater Party on Thursday, September 19 at 7:30 pm. SIR146 is joining with SIR Branches 8, 116 and 136 for this special presentation of Eugene O'Neill's *Long Days Journey into Night*, The play is to be produced at Tao House in the Danville hills – where the play was written and where O'Neill and his wife lived from 1937-1944. O'Neill is the only American playwright to be honored with the Nobel Prize for Literature.

*Long Day's Journey* is a memorable play about the playwright's family when he was growing up in New London, Connecticut. His father, James O'Neill, was a prominent actor; his mother – a former convent girl addicted to morphine after childbirth; and his carousing brother Jamie. All have dreams, ambitions and secrets that impact younger brother Eugene (named 'Edmund' in the play). *Long Day's Journey into Night* is considered one of America's greatest dramas.

Reservations at \$35.00 per person are available with a check payable to SIR146 and mailed to Sir Gary Schaub, 1400 Canyonwood Ct., #8, Walnut Creek 94595. Deadline is August 16<sup>th</sup>. (Please include your SIR Branch Number & e-mail address so we can confirm your reservation.)

Access to the O'Neill National Historic Site is by National Park Service shuttle departing from the Museum of the San Ramon Valley, 205 Railroad Ave, Danville. (No private car access.) Details for shuttles, beginning at 6:00 pm, will be provided to attendees in advance of performance date.



## AREA 16 Fishing Report

Paul Dubow

This has been a monster month, both in the size of the fish and the size of the catch. Our biggest fish was a 30 lb. salmon caught by **Bob Fieber**, which also won him the party boat pool that day. But the real monster was a 29 lb. catfish that **Ron Lew** of Branch 146 reeled in at San Pablo Reservoir. He and **Carl Moyer** had planned to fish for salmon in the ocean but it was too windy and so they repaired to San Pablo. Later, **Ron** also caught a 10 lb. catfish, which is normally a big fish at the reservoir. The windy ocean also proved beneficial to **Carl Moyer** on another occasion. He signed up for a salmon outing on the good ship Sundance, but *Captain R.J. Waldron* cancelled the trip because of the wind. But the captain invited **Carl** to join him on a halibut expedition in the Bay. **Carl** brought along **Bob Stein** and the trio landed over 40 halibut, releasing most of them.

On another day the wind died down and the Sundance was able to get out into the ocean with fishermen **Brion Beetz** of Branch 146, **Carl Moyer**, **Bob Stein**, and **Jack Waddell**. They came up two short of the limit. But the fish were big, ranging from 12 to 21 lbs. **Mario Moratorio** joined **Carl** on another trip in **Carl's** boat and they caught a dozen halibut, but none were keepers.

In other venues, **Pete Gates** and **Paul Dubow** of Branch 146, along with **Jack Waddell** and **Phil Scimonelli**, traveled to New Melones Reservoir and came home with 18 kokanee. A trip to **Lake Oroville** by **Karl Droese**, **Paul Dubow**, **Ken Konzak**, **Gordon Linebaugh**, **Barry Rauchle**, and **Jack Waddell** was not as rewarding. They caught only seven king salmon, but it was a beautiful day. **Bob Stein**, **Brion Beetz**, and **Carl Moyer** caught rockfish in the ocean. **Dick Thomson**, **Ray Pixton**, and **Chuck Vanoncini** fly fished the lower Sacramento for trout. **Tom Kostik** and **Mike Corker** continued their successful forays for black bass and stripers in the Delta. **Ernie Wong** and **Don Mittlestadt** caught and released a large amount of shad, fishing in the Sacramento and Yuba Rivers.

We are looking forward to an exciting summer. In addition to regular trips in the ocean for salmon, ling cod, and rockfish and in the Delta for sturgeon, stripers, and black bass, we have plans to fish in Lake Berryessa, Collins Lake, Lake Almanor, Lake Tahoe, and Pyramid Lake. We would love to have you join us! You can learn all about our outings by coming to our next meeting, which will be on July 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Legends Bar and Grill, located at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway in

Concord. The meeting begins at 8:30 am, but please join us for breakfast beginning at 7:30 am. For further information, please call branch fishing coordinator **Paul Dubow** at the number below.

**Paul Dubow**

(415) 495-6504.

Photo by Carl Moyer



Ron Lew's big catfish caught in San Pablo Reservoir

Photo by Monte Smith



Pete Gates, Phil Scimonelli, Paul Dubow, and Jack Waddell at New Melones Reservoir



## SIR 146 Explore & Eat

# Leshor Center for the Arts

Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30 am ~ Walnut Creek, CA

## Private Behind the Scenes Backstage Tour



Curious what goes on behind the curtain? Want to see all three theatres, the Green Room, backstage and the other many nooks and crannies of the Leshor Center for the Arts? Then sign up and join us on this SIR 146 Explore & Eat event. A spot for lunch in Walnut Creek will be announced at the July Luncheon.

There are only 30 spaces available on this Private Tour so sign up early. The cost for the Backstage Tour is just \$5.00 per person and the cost will be collected by the Leshor Theater staff at the time of the tour.

This event is open to all SIR 146 members and their guests. Make your reservation by emailing your name and the name of you guest(s) to Jim Pope at [jpope24@comcast.net](mailto:jpope24@comcast.net).

**We are looking forward to your participation!**

Co-chairs: Henry Thatcher (925) 997-5032 and Jim Pope (925) 699-6447

The Pentagon was originally going to just be a square but the contractor kept cutting corners.

Wanna hear a joke about a pizza?  
Oh never mind its too cheesy.



## Bocce

**Stan U'Ren / Jim Whitsett**

Attention all Bocce players! Our 2019 season is underway! We're in need of more players. If you are new to the game, come out and see how quickly you can pick it up!

Our July games will be held on Monday, July 8<sup>th</sup> and Monday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8:30 am.

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

Rain Cancels Play

Ladies are welcome. Come and join us

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



## Pinochle

**Charlie Kahsen / Jeff Morrow**

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



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

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

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

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

**Charlie Kahsen**

(925) 943-1750

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

**Jeff Morrow**

(925) 944-7009

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



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**George Carpenter, Frank Ascatigno & Steve Ybarra** are all smiles and in the spirit with their alluring shirts.



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Guest **Dean Clevenger** with **Gene Schulting, Reggie Fromm, & Henry James**

## Pickleball

**Jim Burk**

Branch 146 Sirs (some with their spouses) are now regularly playing this exciting and active game at the Activity and Recreation Center (ARC) of the San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church.

The ARC is located at 902 Danville Boulevard in Alamo and has three beautiful courts for playing Pickle Ball. Everyone is welcome to play there during any of the drop-in times on Monday thru Friday between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm. A player will pay \$5 per session. Each player will be allowed to get in as many games as the number of players that day allows using the traditional player wait list approach.

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

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

**Jim Burk**

(925) 946-1192

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

# SIR 146 Explore & Eat John Muir Home Tour Martinez



Henry Thatcher

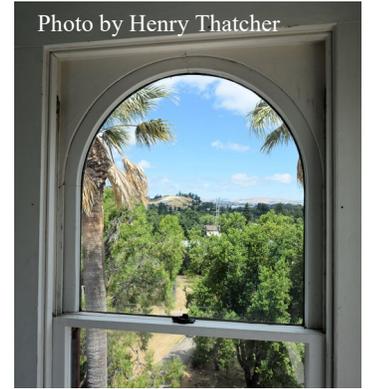


Jim Pope

Photo by Henry Thatcher



Photo by Henry Thatcher



After the tour we all proceeded to lunch at

the **Front Room Restaurant** in downtown Martinez for lunch.



Photo by Henry Thatcher

We had 27 participate in June for the John Muir Home Tour with three new members joining the group (*Shown with \**). Those in attendance were: **Paul and June Beretz, Larry and Ann Kaye\*, Clinton and Bev Colliers, Bob and Jane West\*, Carl and Joyce Feil, Richard and Sherry Hockenbrock, Bob and Judy Wilkenfeld\*, Don and June Seaton, Ron Louis and Fran Matthews, Dick and Leslie Firth, Jonathan and Barbara Korfhage, Henry and Barbara Thatcher, and Jim and Renie Pope** with their Granddaughter **Reagan Coll**.

We watched a wonderful film of John Muir's life outlining his career as a farmer, his rise to national environmentalist, lobbyist and friend to Teddy Roosevelt. He was a family man with his wife, two daughters; a writer (12 books) and founder of the Sierra Club. Following the film, we toured the "Big House" (all three floors) which is a 17-room wood frame mansion of the late Victorian period (Italianate style) built on a knoll with a commanding view of Alhambra Valley. It is a two-story structure with a full basement and attic, a cupola on the peak of the roof, 12-foot high ceilings in the rooms, and over 10,000 square feet of floor space. The house has remained largely unaltered structurally since Muir's time.

We then toured the surrounding grounds and other buildings.

Photo by Jim Pope



Photo by Henry Thatcher



Park Ranger showing drawings of John Muir's inventions & designs

# Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 1 (UNO)

**Jerry Kaplan**

The Group One players met on June 14<sup>th</sup> for our first Second Half of 2019 Game Night at the inviting hillside Concord home of **SIR Corrie Oranje** and his wife, **Sue**. Delicious snacks were provided by the hosts, including a special treat of A&W Root Beer floats available at the break. A group of regular players were in attendance, but a few were traveling or ill. To complement the group, **SIR Jeff Baily** and his wife, **Alicia**, joined the Game Night.

A Special Event occurred during the evening when **SIR Richard Hockenbrock** and his wife, **Sherry**, poured champagne for everyone in celebration of 50 years together! **Congratulations!**

**SIR Jerry Kaplan** had a very good evening taking first place (\$18) by going out first in six of the ten games he played; he averaged a very low 6.5 points per game. **Carmen Schiavone**, wife of **SIR Rob Melrose**, averaged a score of 11.6, good for second place worth \$9, followed very closely by **SIR Corrie Oranje** (11.7), worth \$3 for a third place finish.

Lottery scratchers were awarded to the two players who totaled the most points during the evening. **SIR Rob Melrose** and **SIR Jeff Baily** were each handed a lottery ticket they hoped would pay for a trip to a far off land. Haven't seen them around for a while, so perhaps they won a jackpot!

Mexican Train Dominoes is an easy game to learn and a great number of Sirs, many with their partners, have been playing for several years. Single Sirs are always welcome. Click [mexicantrainrulesandstrategies.com](http://mexicantrainrulesandstrategies.com) to see how to play and the set of rules that the seven groups in Branch 146 are following. If someone is interested in joining a group, call the chair (listed in the Branch website) to see if there may be space to become a regular or a substitute.

Two nuns are driving down the road when Dracula jumps out.

"Quickly," says the first, "show him your cross".

The other winds down the window, leans out and yells "Get out of the road you goofy bastard!"



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

MTD Group 1 June Winners **Jerry Kaplan** 1st, **Carmen Schiavone** 2nd, and host **Corrie Oranje** 3rd



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

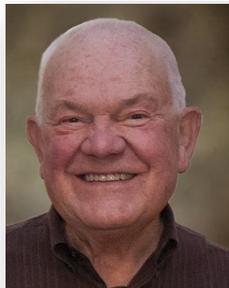
MTD 1 high scorers holding their CA Lottery consolation tickets, **Jeff Baily** and **Rob Melrose**



Photo by Jerry Kaplan

On a beautiful June 14th evening, **Sherry** and **Richard Hockenbrock** brought two bottles of fine French champagne and shared it with the MTD 1 group in announcing that they were happy to spend their 50th Wedding Anniversary with us

# Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



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

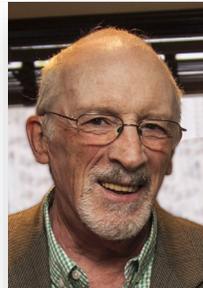
May is a fun time to report on MTD2 because we get the results of the May game night plus the results of the January through May Pot.

**Chuck** and **Mary Denney** stepped up to take on the May game night which was very much appreciated. They did their usual great job of making everyone welcome and filling them with lots of good snacks. **Mary's** ice cream cake was amazing.

The winners of the May game night: In third place was **Ron** winning \$3 with an average game score of 15.8. **Ismini** took second place winning \$8 with a score of 15.0 and **Martha** took first place with the amazing score of 11.8 winning \$17.

Our first place winner for the Jan-May Pot was **Ismini** winning \$46 with a average total score of 15 points per game. Second place goes to **Dick** with a score of 20.6 winning \$23. Third place goes to **Chuck** winning \$8 with a score of 23.9. Congratulations to all our winners!

Our next game night was played at the home of **Ron** and **Anne Plachy** on June 28<sup>th</sup>. The results will be reported in the August SIR CALL.



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

On June 28<sup>th</sup> our games were held at the home of **Sharon Varner** with **Jim Stedman** sharing the duties of setting up. **Sharon** assembled an impressive assortment of yummys including delicious pastries that she made.

Game play at table 2 was highlighted by **Judy Richmond**, no stranger to winning, who went out 4 out of 10 games and racked up a score of 17.6 winning the table and taking 3<sup>rd</sup> prize overall.

At table 1, **Linda Siljstrom** went out twice out of 9 games and then managed to keep 4 more game scores under 7 for a score of 13.6. She won the table and achieved 2<sup>nd</sup> position overall.

Table 3 was the site of an impressive score by **Alicia Baily** who went out 4 times out of 11 games played chalking up a score of 10.1 to win the table and take the overall 1<sup>st</sup> prize.



Photo by Jeff Baily

MTD 3 Winners **Linda Siljstrom, Alicia Baily, & Judy Richmond**



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

We had a rousing 14 show up to play Dominos Friday night on the *First Day of Summer*. We drank refreshing libations and ate wonderful sweets and savories with outstanding camaraderie. All treats were provided by members of the group. The group included: **Henry** and **Barbara Thatcher**, **Don** and **June Seaton**, **Bill Weinberg** and **Yvonne Killips**, **Dick** and **Leslie Firth**, **Darlo Bonne** and **Mariwyn McComb** (*Back from Florida*), **Rich & Kim Pace**, and **Jim** and **Renie Pope**. We had two tables of seven (7) and 2 winners. The low score table winners were **Yvonne Killips** and **Jim Pope** (See picture). They received seven California Lottery tickets with possibility of winning a maximum prize of \$1000 off each ticket. Fun was had by all. We'll be back together on the July 19<sup>th</sup> for the next El Quattro Mexican Train Dominos night.



Photo by Henry Thatcher

MTD 4  
Winners:

**Yvonne**  
**Killips** **Jim**  
**Pope**

# Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 5 (CINCO) Chuck Campbell

Mexican Train Dominoes 5 met at the home of **Patti** and **Doug Eisner** on June 20<sup>th</sup> with all the regulars present and anxious to get it on. After about 30 minutes of catching up with one another and enjoying Patti's snacks and some wine, the group got down to business. The men had dreams of recapturing the title of "winner" which has eluded them for some time now while the ladies had no intention of giving up that honor. At the dessert break the hand-writing was on the wall but the men refused to believe it. They fought on but, alas, the ladies captured the first two places with a tie between **Ann Hallett** and **Patti Eisner**. **Doug Eisner** was way back in third place to salvage a bit of male pride but prompting the men to schedule MTD training sessions weekly until the next game on July 18<sup>th</sup>.

*Reported Doug Eisner*



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 7 (Siete) Bob Lucido

We had our first Mexican Train Dominoes game at our house. Wendy made me paint all the rooms in the house, and buy all new furniture. That's the last time I will host anything at our house. Well actually, she did make me clean the tables, and wash the floors.

We had a number of players who were new to the game. After explaining the rules, and playing a practice game, we managed to totally confuse the newbies. I guess that's why **Malcolm's** wife **Robin**, a newbie, won first prize. So much for being confused. Wendy came in last and won a lotto ticket. She said if she won \$30 million she would give everyone back their entry fee of \$3.

We still have room for more substitutes. Please contact me at:

**Bob Lucido**

(925) 899-0974

[Bobwendy3@comcast.net](mailto:Bobwendy3@comcast.net)



Photo from Bob Lucido

MTD 7 lone CA lottery ticket recipient **Wendy Lucido** does not look happy earning the high score for the evening with a group of new MTD players who she was teaching how to play just earlier in the evening



Photo by Bob Lucido

MTD 7 Winners: (left to right) **Bonnie Roach, Robin Harrison, & Julia Holland**

A week after Mozart died, his ghost was discovered trying to erase his music.

When asked why, it said "I'm decomposing."

Two drums and a cymbal fall off a cliff, *ba dum tsh.*

# Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



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

Our June 25<sup>th</sup> game night was hosted by **Rob Melrose**, **Carmen Schiavone**, and of course, **Bruno**. Our hosts had a great selection of treats, wines, "other beverages" and whatever else folks wanted. My thanks to the dynamic trio for hosting our June event.

The competition for the lowest score at the yellow table which included **Carmen Schiavone**, **Jim Barry**, **Susan Sheldon**, **Bob West**, and **Richard Hockenbrock**, was at a high pitch with enthusiast screams and frustrated mumbles. When the dust settled at the end of the evening, the low score winners were 1) **Bob Lucido**, 2) **Bruce Borgman**, 3) **Bob West** and what is this! A tie for third place with 3) **Jane West**. A conspiracy one may say between **Bob** and **Jane**?

**Jim Barry** and **Wendy Lucido** were the high point winners with the "Beginner's Luck" scratchers. Congratulations to all the winners!

Our July 23<sup>rd</sup> Mexican Train Domino event will be hosted at the home of **Bruce Borgman** and **Susan Sheldon**. Look for an email with all the details shortly. Wishing you all a Happy Fourth of July!!

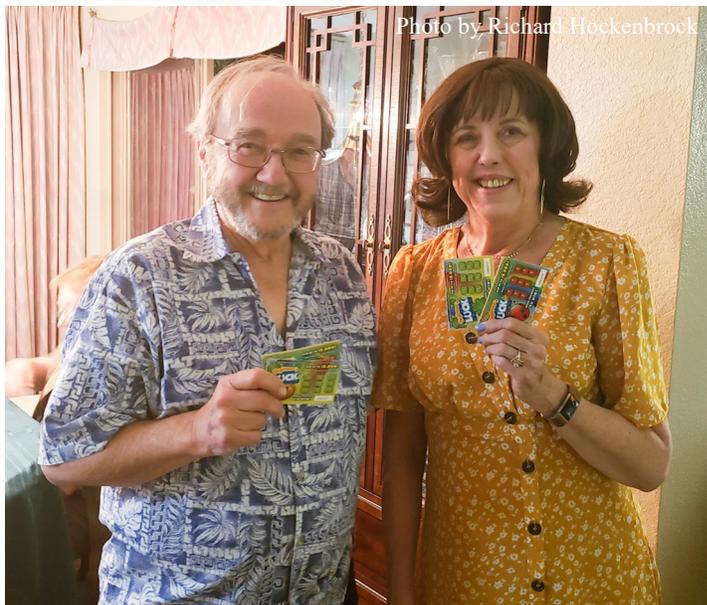


Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

MTD 6 High Scorers for the evening were **Jim Barry** and **Wendy Lucido** with their CA lottery tickets



Photo by Moose Kelly

**Brian McCarthy** looks ready to pounce as **Rob Melrose** and **Wendy Lucido** ponder their next moves



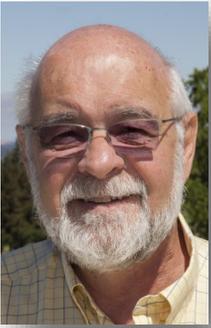
Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

MTD 6 **Bob Lucido** 1st, **Bruce Borgman** 2nd, and **Bob West** tied his wife, **Jane West** at a different table for 3rd place



Photo by Moose Kelly

It's half time at MTD 1 game night and the food is plentiful



## Wine Tasting

**Rob Melrose**

Our next event is July 24<sup>th</sup> at the home of **Bob and Wendy Lucido**. We will be tasting Champagne or any other sparkling white wine and the reds will be Beaujolais. I will send final information to the group in the first week of July.

Not sure if this group is for you? Join us and see. The cost of admission is a bottle of wine, an appetizer to share and a couple of hours of your time. If you are new to SIR 146, this is a great way to socialize in a smaller group than the monthly luncheon. Bonus – this event is open to all Branch 146 members and their partners.

If you are not on my email list and would like to join us for an afternoon of wine tasting and socializing, please send me an email.

Rob Melrose

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



## SIR 146 Hiking

**Rich Ahlf**

Hayward Regional Shoreline

On Friday July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 10:00 am we will be hiking the Hayward Regional Shoreline, this route follows the trail out and back it is a flat 6 miles.

You can turn around and come back anytime you want. This is a Trails Challenge hike and should be nice and cool, hope you can make it.

Directions; From I-880 take Washington Avenue exit head south on Washington Avenue to Grant Avenue then turn right on Grant Avenue. The staging area is on the right side of the road about 100 yards from the end of Grant Avenue.

Spouses Welcome -Rain Cancels

Dogs not allowed

**Rich Ahlf**

Cell (925) 550-4967

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



## Table Pool

**Bill Weinberg / Jim Barry**



*We meet every Monday at 11:00 am at Masses, 2721 North Main in Walnut Creek. No advance notice is necessary. Just show up and play. Cost is \$5 for as long as you want to play. This is a special rate that Masses gives SIR members. You can also play at other times during the week for the same \$5. Just tell them you are a member of SIR. We play mostly two man teams of eight ball, or a unique three-player game, called "Crazy Eights", depending on the number of participants. We usually play about 2 hours but not everyone stays for the final curtain.*

On Monday, the 24<sup>th</sup>, **Larry Brown** made the 8 ball on the break. The mathematical probability is nearly impossible to calculate, but professional players can make it about 5% of the time. Amateurs, only about 1 in a 1000.

*Reported by Jim Barry*



## Cooking II

**Bob Yolland**

Cooking II had an excellent lunch Monday, June 10<sup>th</sup> hosted by **Steve Ybarra**. We started with a wide variety of really nice cheeses accompanied by several types of crackers. The cheeses included a

French Basque sheep's milk cheese from the Pyrenees, a Syrah soaked Creamy Toscano, a German Brie with wild mushrooms and a Dutch smoked cheese. **Steve** also served a very nice thinly sliced German Prosciutto and home made Olive Bites which are stuffed Green Olives encased in a cheese pastry. As usual, all these wonderful choices went along with some very good wines and lots of conversation. For the main course, **Steve** BBQed a great Brisket and accompanied it with Sesame Green Beans and Potato Salad. For dessert he served a homemade shortcake with strawberries and whipped cream. Thank you **Steve** for a great lunch.

Our next special event will be the A's game August 1<sup>st</sup> arranged by **Steve Ybarra**. Our next lunch is Monday, August 12<sup>th</sup> hosted by **Bruce Borgman**.



## Men's Duplicate Bridge 1 Doug Eisner

**Brad Hatcher** hosted 3 tables of Duplicate Bridge 1 on June 17<sup>th</sup>. Numerous regular players and substitutes were unavailable so we went outside the Sir 146 player's list to find a guest, Tosh Kuritsubo, willing to join us. The Branch member's pleasure in holding the game in the first place was short-lived as Tosh jumped out to a huge early lead at the lunch break. His 24 pt nearly lapped **Dave Steinberg's** 15.5 pt and **Bob Yolland's** 14.5 pt. Alas, the afternoon session did not treat the Branch stalwarts any better as Tosh took us all to the cleaners with a final score of 32.5 pt, 60%, for first place. **Brad Hatcher** and **Bob Yolland** rounded out the money winners with 30.5 pt and 27.0 pt, respectively.

**Bill Snyder** will host our July 15<sup>th</sup> game.



## Men's Duplicate Bridge 2 Bill Schultz

**Fred Bolton** hosted three tables of duplicate bridge on Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup>. Not only did he host but he grew the rhubarb that his wife **Phyllis** turned into a delicious coffee cake.

In the morning session, **Dave Pierce** lead all players with a 69% game. He was followed by **Fred Bolton** and **Bob Yolland** in second and third places. In the afternoon, **Mark Curtis** came roaring back with a 79% game followed by **Dick DeVoe** in second place and **Dave Steinberg** and **Bob Yolland** tied for third. At the end of the day, it was **Bob Yolland** in first place with a 60% game followed by **Dave Pierce** in second. **Mark Curtis's** good second half showing propelled him into third place.

For the day, **Fred** had ten 2's and **Dave Steinberg** and **Bob Yolland** each had only four 0's.

There were two perfect 6 partnerships. **Fred Bolton** and **Mike Whitaker** on boards 1 thru 3 and **John Boyan** and **Dick DeVoe** on boards 16 thru 18.

**Jim Brown** is scheduled to host the next game on Friday, July 5<sup>th</sup> although there is some discussion as to whether we should reschedule due to the 4th of July holiday.



## Couples Duplicate Bridge 1 Bob Yolland

Couples Duplicate 1 had an excellent game hosted by **Bob** and **Janet Yolland** on Wednesday June 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Janet** put out a great array of goodies especially the lemon bars and **Bob** served some good wines and soft drinks. We thank the subs that played and hope they will join us again.

For results we had a tie for 1st place at 23 1/2 points between **Dave** and **Joan Pierce** and **Ken** and **Elaine Richter**. **Bob** and **Janet Yolland** came in 3rd with 21 points. Our next game will be Wednesday evening July 17<sup>th</sup>, hosted by **John** and **Kathy Kluesener**.



Duplicate Bridge 2 - **Bob Yolland** 1st, **Mark Curtis** 3rd, and **Fred Bolton** accepting second place money for **Dave Pierce** who had to make a hasty exit

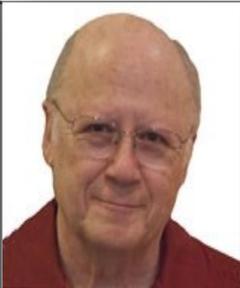


## Couples Duplicate Bridge 2 Dave Pierce

The Couples Duplicate Bridge 2 group was nicely hosted by **Larry** and **Linda Brown** on June 11<sup>th</sup>. **Brad** and **Lynne Hatcher** brought their formidable "A" game with them, earning 1st Place honors with ease. **Larry** and **Linda** not only hosted us all with aplomb, they took 2nd Place as well. **Rich Ahlf** and **Ismini MacLean** slipped into 3rd Place, leaving the rest of us

looking for a crash course on "Winning Bridge" to prepare for next month's event. *Reported by **Dick DeVoe***

**Dave Pierce**  
(925) 932-3877  
[dwpi@astound.net](mailto:dwpi@astound.net)



## Men's Duplicate Bridge 3 Sid Landman

Our fearless leader **Sid Landman** is on the DL so **Jim Pope** stepped up and took over the hosting duties this month. We wish **Sid** a speedy recovery and hope that he will be back at the bridge table soon. Thanks to **Joe Fuchs, Dave Pierce, Vince Rettew** and **Larry Brown** for agreeing to substitute at the last minute to fill out the three table game.

In the morning session it was **Larry Brown** who was in first place with 17.5 points, a 73 % game. He was followed by our host **Jim Pope** second, and **Jim Brown & Jerry Benoit** tied for third place. In the afternoon **Jim Stedman** lead all players with 15.5 points improving his first half score by 7.5 points. **Bill Schultz** and **Tony Greco** were second and third. At the end of the day, it was steady **Jim Brown** who was the winner. **Bill Schultz** was second, and **Jim Pope** was third. There was only 1 point separating first and third places—a very close game.

For the day **Jim Brown** and **Bill Schultz** had eight 2's and **Tony Greco** had only three 0's. There were no perfect 6 partnerships, but the **Brown Boys, Jim and Larry** scored 5.5 points on boards 10 thru 12.

Next game will be Friday July 19<sup>th</sup> with the host yet to be determined..

*Reported by **Bill Schultz***



Photo by Bill Schultz

Duplicate Bridge 3 Winners: **Jim Brown** 1st, **Bill Schultz** 2nd, and **Jim Pope**, our host, showing his winnings for 3rd.

## Party Bridge Jim Pope

The Men's Party Bridge group held a 3-table game hosted by **Dick DeVoe** on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. The beauty of party bridge is that when you have good cards and partners who can play them well, it's essentially a shoo-in for a high score. That happened with **Dick**, whose partners helped him big-time to get 5520 points, followed very closely by **Bill Schultz** with 5420 and 2nd Place. **Jim Brown** took 3rd with 4910, slipping by **Brad Hatcher's** 4820 score.

A side note- **Dick's** apple cider was left unsupervised under heat, boiling completely away. Yikes. Try as he might to scour the pot and hide the "scent", his spouse knew instantly upon her return that the old guy had- once again—screwed up. This incident proves once again that life is full of risks and rewards- hey, the apple cider was a great idea at the time!

*Report by **Dick DeVoe***



Not only did **Dick DeVoe** host three tables of party bridge today, he also ran away with all the money. **Dick** was first, **Bill Schultz** was second, and **Jim Brown** was in third place

What's the difference between swine flu and bird flu? Bird flu requires tweetment, and swine flu requires oinkment!



## Couples Party Bridge

**Tony Greco**

The Couples Party Bridge group held a 3-table game hosted by **Dick and Christy DeVoe** on June 4<sup>th</sup>. As luck would have it (and the question was raised about their luck vs. skill percentage), the hosts came in 3rd. After all, the hosts are supposed to be too busy to concentrate on the play of the game... **Rich Ahlf** and **Ismini MacLean** slipped into 2nd, while **Brad** and **Lynne Hatcher** took 1st by bringing their A game- something that the rest of the group left at home. Sometimes bridge is just not fair.

*Reported by Dick DeVoe*



## Cooking Lunch & Wine

**Dick Woodman**

Our June lunch was hosted by **Paul Dubow** in their SF home across from the newly named Giants' home, Oracle Park. It was a gorgeous day and we enjoyed ourselves having wine and snacks on the patio before lunch. Lunch included a wonderful combination of goodies and shrimp. I don't know what all was included but it was very good. My memory of the dessert is perfect however: Margarita pie, which was very much like key lime pie with tequila in it. It was all very good.

We did solve a number of the world's problems in our discussions. We seem to have a way of doing that every month which was very satisfying.

Our next luncheon is at **Bob Spellman's** home on July 17<sup>th</sup>.

### Possible New Activity

Is anyone interested in art/sculpting? Larry Kaye is hoping someone else is, and would like to form a small group to do some welding sculpturing. If you are not afraid of getting burned.....

Contact  
Larry Kaye  
(925) 698-4030  
[larrykaye2@comcast.net](mailto:larrykaye2@comcast.net)



Photo by Janice Woodman

**Pete Gates, Dick Woodman, Bob Spellman, Syd Whalen, Paul Dubow, Frank Rockwell, Vince Rettew and Jim Meehan**



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**Moose Kelly & Pete Bishop** showing us their happy faces. Very colorful shirt **Moose**.

Fishing Coordinator **Paul Dubow** with **Jerry Kaplan, Franz Mair** at Fishing Activities table before luncheon.

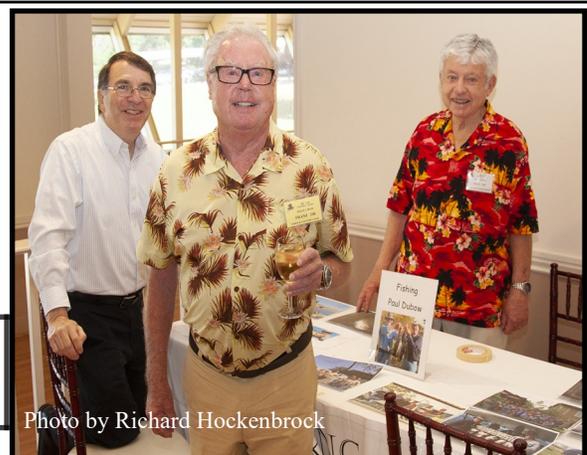


Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



## Cycling Group

Larry Kaye

**June 17th**—It was 08:30 and five SIR Br 146 members have gathered for the inaugural SIR Cycling Group ride. This hearty bunch mounted their steel, aluminum, and carbon fiber steeds for a ride into the unknown. **Bob Lucido, Jim Nelson, Ed Brands, Michael Wolfson** and **Larry Kaye** set out from Alamo for a social ride into the country.

We toured the back roads of both Alamo and Danville and stopped to enjoy the Hap McGee Ranch along the way. With an in-house local historian we learned the history of this famous old ranch and used the facilities for stress relief.

We visited the old Alamo/ Danville cemetery and the site of the old Union Academy. After 13 miles of fun and chat we returned to Alamo for libations at Peets.

A fun social ride for all. No left behinds and no unhappy bodies. Five guys in spandex was the local topic after we left.

Next week we expand into the Blackhawk loop. 18 miles of more fun. Ladies & partners welcome.

**June 24th**—Today was the second SIR Br 146 Cycling ride. We left Alamo at 08:30 hoping to beat the heat. **Bob Lucido, Ken Studer, Michael Wolfson**, and yours truly, **Larry Kaye** setting out to do an 18 mile tour. We visited Danville, Blackhawk as well as cruised through the Towns of Diablo and Alamo. We stopped at Oak Park in Danville to refresh ourselves.

Today's ride was a sampling of hills, both steep and long. We finished the ride with a very long downhill into Alamo. Everyone joined together after at Peets for some libations and chat. A great step towards longer country rides.

The group will meet again on July 8<sup>th</sup> at 08:30 for a DIY workshop. We will go over changing flats, basic tune up, and how to clean your rig. If you can make it, please bring rubber gloves, some Talc, tubes for YOUR specific bike and either a CO<sup>2</sup> cartridge and gun or a pump. THIS WILL BE AT MY HOME IN ALAMO. IT'S IMPERATIVE THAT IF YOU'RE COMING TO PLEASE RSVP.

The next ride was agreed upon to be Lafayette to Moraga and into Orinda returning thru the backroads of Lafayette. Parking will be at the parking area on Olympic near Pleasant Hill road in Lafayette. Mileage will be about 20. Date to be decided.

**Larry Kaye**

(925) 698 4030

[larrykaye2@comcast.net](mailto:larrykaye2@comcast.net)



## Hearts

Bob West

We meet on the third Thursday of each month at Rocco's Italian Restaurant, located at 2909 Ygnacio Valley Rd. in Walnut Creek. We play from 1-3 pm with an optional lunch at noon. This is a Men's SIR 146 function with new members welcome. Our next meeting is July 18<sup>th</sup>.

At our June 20<sup>th</sup> meeting we played in two groups, two games each. For group 2, Sir **Joe Fuchs** won both games with scores of 39 and 40, with Sir **Steve Ybarra** coming in second in game 1 and Sir **Ray Bland** coming in second in game 2, when he "Shot the Moon" in the last hand.

For group 1, game 1, Sir **Ray Spears** came in first with a historically and indecently low score of "9", with Sir **Bob West** placing second. For game 2, Sir **Bob West** was first with a score of 19, with Sir **Jim Nelson** placing second.

The overall winner based on averages of both games was Sir **Bob West** with an average of 3.2 points per hand, second was Sir **Ray Spears** with an average of 4.8, and third was Sir **Joe Fuchs** with an average of 5.2, and 4<sup>th</sup> was a new participant Sir **Steve Ybarra** with an average of 6.7.

For QTR2 averages, Sir **Joe Fuchs** and Sir **Bob Finlayson** tied for first with an average score per hand of 5.4, Sir **Bob West** was second at 6.3, with Sir **Ray Bland** placing third at 7.0. Beware, Sir **Ray Bland**, has "Shot the Moon" once at each of the last 3 meetings, and Sir **Frank Lucas** did it twice in February. These two have it together so you have been forewarned to pass with care.

Hearts is a game of constantly changing challenges whether playing against someone experienced or new, each hand can be very dynamic. Most of us had not played in a long time but had still fondly remembered the game. If you want to get back into it, please join us. Even if you only have a warm interest, I can add you to the email list, with the hope that your interest will increase in the future.

Please contact me at (925) 518-8472 or [robrtawest@aol.com](mailto:robrtawest@aol.com) if have any questions or would like to be added to our group's email list.

If someone hits you over the head with a coffee cup, have you been mugged?



### Poker Group 1

**Dan O'Sullivan**

Poker Group 1 held its monthly outing at **Dan O'Sullivan's** home on June 12<sup>th</sup>. Our group had 2 guests and as always, a good time was had by all.

Our next outing will be July 10<sup>th</sup> at the home of **Bill Cammerer**.



### Old Money Poker

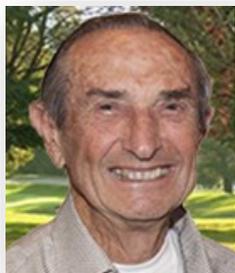
#### Group 6

**Brad Hatcher**

We met on the first Thursday in June at **Howard Charlop's** home. As usual, **Howard** provided tasty snacks. Among the beverages offered was wine from Brooklyn – who knew? One hand of note was a royal flush but it was made with the help of wild cards. As the first Thursday in July is the 4<sup>th</sup>, our next gathering will be postponed to August 1<sup>st</sup>.

Tel: (925) 935-1571

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



### Poker Group 2

**Al Zamolo**

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



### Poker Club 3

**Sig Kalteis**

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



### Poker Group 7

**Bob Lucido**

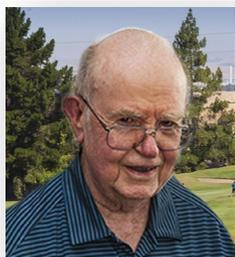
We had our first poker game this month at my house. Unlike hosting the Mexican Train Domino group, **Wendy** didn't have to prepare much, she just threw some peanuts on the floor, so all the guys were happy. A \$7 buy in, so you can lose all of your retirement savings.

We would like to have more substitutes so if you would like to participate, contact me.

**Bob Lucido**

(925) 899-0974

[bobwendy3@comcast.net](mailto:bobwendy3@comcast.net)



### Poker Group 4

**Rich Hanford**

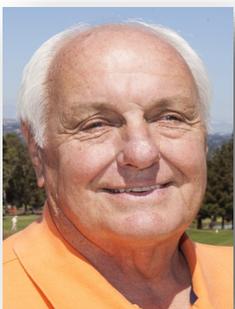
*Poker Group 4 meets on the fourth Monday of the month at homes of the various members.*



### Book Corner

**Peter Plante**

The Book Corner is open for our July luncheon. Come one, come all for your favorite authors and tales of history, mystery or espionage.

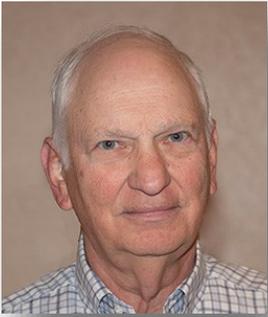


### Poker Group 5

**Bill Roberts**

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

Two muffins are in an oven. The first muffin says, "Hey man, it's getting pretty hot in here." The other muffin says, "Holy moly, it's a talking muffin."



## GOLF

### Ed Marlovits

The new, improved Taphouse Grill at Boundary Oak is now open with a new beer menu, large screen TVs and comfortable seating inside and out. While the people are the same, the change in atmosphere is significant.

The Area Qualifier event will be held June 27<sup>th</sup>. Until **Ed Brands** hurt his shoulder we had four of the eleven teams participating. There are several Area branches that will have no participants.

During the week of July 30<sup>th</sup> Boundary Oak will be hosting a Web.com qualifying tournament and our normal Tuesday golf has been displaced. Because we have several die-hard golfers in Branch 146, we felt compelled to find an alternative venue. Mark Curtis presented several alternatives to the golf committee, which after fifteen minutes of deliberation, opted for the nice offer from Diablo Creek, which includes lunch.

As of this writing, we have about four spaces left for our July 25<sup>th</sup> Green Valley outing. We would really like to fill up all twenty-three available slots. The course is not long, but has small, well-protected greens.

We had a relatively small turnout for away golf at Napa Golf Course at Kennedy Park. The course was fairly difficult for us and we only had one person with a net under 70. That wasn't terribly different from our results at Rancho Solano — mainly serving to reinforce the fact that new courses always seem more difficult.

There will be no away golf in July because of the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday. So our next Away Golf will be held at Blue Rock Springs in Vallejo. Since we have played this fairly frequently, there is a good chance we will have some low nets.

**Bill Laws** set up June's "Chicago Points" Tournament Tuesday competition. This appears to have been the first time our group has played this format and I have been asked to describe it: Each player started with a points deficit equal to 39 minus his handicap. He eats away his deficit with each (gross) bogie, par, birdie and eagle: 1 point, two points, 4 points and 8 points, respectively. There was no reason to continue play on a hole once you pass bogie. There were two flights with **Max Hinkle** and **Joe Fuchs** taking a first place, each with a final total of six points.



## Nine Hole Golf Group

### Verner Laursen

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

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

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

Golf



Boundary Oak Tap Room after Lone Wolf Tournament—  
**Dave Steinberg, Ed Marlovits, Bill Laws, and Jim Burk**



Sir Area 16 Team Qualifier at Deer Ridge GC on Jun 27<sup>th</sup>:  
L-R are **Max Hinkle, Bill Cammerer, Jim Burk and Bill Laws**

## Area 16 Events

### Mac User Group (MUG)

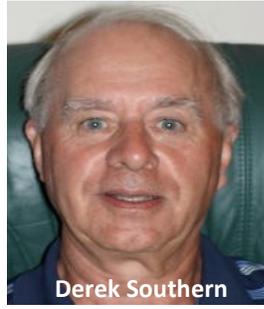


Max Burchett



Vern Laursen

### SIR Area 16 Computers & Technology (PCs)



Derek Southern



Neil Schmidt

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

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

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

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

The presentation topic for July will be "Windows 10 Tricks" by Neil Schmidt. Neil will introduce several new and different ways to expand the functionality of your Windows 10 computer. These techniques are useful for both Windows 10 novices as well as useful for more experienced users. Members will also be encouraged to contribute their own "tricks" as well.

Note that we ask for a \$5 donation to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and cookies. We look forward to seeing you on July 18<sup>th</sup>.

### Area 16 \$ums Investment Group

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

The presenter will be Kevin Gahagen of Mosaic Financial Partners, San Francisco. He will talk about possible signs of recession in current financial statistics and indicators.

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

\$UMS Chairman: **Tom Henry** [tomhenry925@gmail.com](mailto:tomhenry925@gmail.com)  
Co-chairman: **Dave Sutton** [davesutn@comcast.net](mailto:davesutn@comcast.net)



Our Sirs of Summer enjoying the 19<sup>th</sup> hole at Deer Ridge GC during the Area 16 Team Qualifier June 27<sup>th</sup> :

L-R: **Dan Holland, Dave Steinberg, Bill Cammerer, Jim Burk, George Mon and Gary Brown**

## SIR 146 Activities Calendar

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

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

**July 2019**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Jul 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
10:00 AM <b>Party Bridge</b> 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses	9:00 AM Golf 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 7:00 PM Couples Party Bridge	10:00 AM Bowling 1:30 PM Song Sirs 1st	9:30 AM NINE HOLE GOLF-1 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Poker Group #6	9:30 AM - 2:00 PM Men's Duplicate Bridge 2
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
8:30 AM Bocce Ball 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses 12:00 PM Cooking II	9:00 AM Golf 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 7:00 PM Couples Duplicate Bridge 2	10:00 AM Bowling 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM Poker Group #8 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Pinochle Rocco's Italian Restaurant 1:00 PM Poker Group #1 4:15 PM Poker #5	9:00 AM - 10:45 AM BEC Meeting 11:45 AM - 1:30 PM SIR LUNCHEON	10:00 AM Hiking Moderate 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM Chess Pleasant Hill Senior Center 6:45 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Group 1 (UNO)
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
8:30 AM Book Group The Greenery Restaurant, WC 10:00 AM Men's Duplicate Bridge #1 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses	9:00 AM Golf 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church	10:00 AM Bowling 11:00 AM Cooking Lunch and Wine (LAW) 1:30 PM Song Sirs 2nd 7:00 PM Bridge - Couples	9:30 AM - 11:30 AM Computers And Technology (CAT) 9:30 AM NINE HOLE GOLF-2 10:00 AM Explore & Eat John Muir Home Martinez, CA 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Tres Gourmet 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Hearts Rocco's Italian Restaurant 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Group 5 (Cinco)	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM Men's Duplicate Bridge 3 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes - El Quattro
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
8:30 AM Bocce Ball 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Poker #3 1:00 PM Poker Group #2 1:00 PM Poker Group #4	9:00 AM Golf 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 6:45 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Group Seis	10:00 AM Bowling 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM Cribbage 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Pinochle Rocco's Italian Restaurant 2:30 PM - 5:00 PM Wine Tasting	9:00 AM Area 16 Fishing Breakfast Meeting Diablo Creek CC	9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Photography Group Ygnacio Valley Library 2661 Oak Grove Rd, W.C. 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM Chess Pleasant Hill Senior Center 6:30 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Dos 6:45 PM - 10:15 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Group 3 (Tres)
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>Aug 1</b>	<b>2</b>
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses	9:00 AM Golf 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church	10:00 AM Bowling	9:30 AM NINE HOLE GOLF-1 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Poker Group #6	9:30 AM - 2:00 PM Men's Duplicate Bridge 2