

# SIR CALL

br146sircall@gmail.com

March 2019

Published For Our Members And Friends

## SIR Contra Costa Branch 146



### Big Sir's Notes

Jonathan Korfhage

I am continually in awe of the dedication, abilities, and talents of those six dozen members of SIR 146 who volunteer their time, energy, and resources to serve on the board, chair a committee or an activity, or just do something that allows our branch to be so successful! So many talented, giving, and fun guys!

Imagine the financial worth to our branch of the countless hours and value that is given each month! A writer named Sherry Anderson said, "Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless." Our branch may be non-profit, but our wealth is our valuable leaders who share their gifts or as William Shakespeare put it, "The meaning of life is to find your gift. The purpose of life is to give it away."

I encourage each of our Branch 146 members to make an effort to be ambassadors and invite new and fellow members to sit at your luncheon table and to invite them to join in activities that you are involved in as appropriate. The value of our Branch is in the character of our membership. 'Make friends for life' – reach out, bring new members, have fun!

Remember, "Even if it's a little thing, do something for those who have need of a man's help—something for which you get no pay but the privilege of doing it. For, remember, you don't live in a world all your own. Your brothers are here, too." – Albert Schweitzer

### 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.*

### WE ARE SIR – MAKE FRIENDS FOR LIFE

Luncheon— Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup>  
Boundary Oak Clubhouse

Guest Speaker:

Jeff Carman

Contra Costa Fire Protection District Fire Chief

"How the fire district is doing and insights into recent fire related events"

Gathering time: 11:00 am

Seating time: 11:45 am

Bringing a guest or can't attend?

Email: [nolunch@branch146@gmail.com](mailto:nolunch@branch146@gmail.com)

Telephone Message: (925) 979-5146

By Noon Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



Alayne Balke was the February guest speaker who gave a presentation on "Taking Steps to Prevent Falls Before They Happen".

What do you get when you cross poison ivy with a four-leaf clover?

A rash of good luck.

# 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**

Despite Mother Nature's efforts to drown members attending our February meeting (on Valentine's Day of all things), our speaker Alayne Balke - Program Manager for Falls Prevention at Meals on Wheels –

enlightened us on facts about falls, hints on how to protect ourselves while falling, prevention of falls and other helpful ideas.

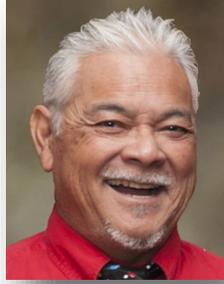
Join us at the March luncheon for the opportunity to hear from the Contra Costa Fire Protection District Fire Chief Jeff Carman. I am sure he will give us an insightful view of how the district is doing and his insights into recent fire related events.

You may remember I mentioned the work that the BEC is doing to focus on members who have not met our requirements to attend at least five out of ten luncheon meetings in last month's comments. I am pleased to tell you that we now have an approved process to communicate with members who are close to being "out of policy".

Please understand that even if you call in to tell us you will not be attending a luncheon, you still must meet the 5 out of 10 attendance criteria. If you think you have a problem in meeting the criteria, please contact **Ron Lew**, your Membership Chairman, to discuss your situation

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

Big Sir and I attended a State SIR Town Hall Meeting in February. Here are some facts I learned at the meeting. Membership is now at approx. 13,500. The State board approved a new logo and emblem. Both have the word "retirement" removed and replaced with "social activities for men". The State budget was presented and the single biggest item of expense is insurance (at 50% of the budget). After much study, state has revised the Sir Manual, which will be on State website in early March.



## Membership

**Ron Lew**

It has been a busy month trying to contact both our annual dues payers and contacting many of our members returning as an active SIR member of our branch. I am happy to report that we had 4 new members approved for induction at our February BEC meeting. **Franz Mair** is from Walnut Creek, sponsored by **Ross Abbott**. **David Hicks** is a returning member from 2017. Another **David**, but **David Shihabi** of Clayton, is sponsored by **Paul Beretz**, our own recruiting chair. Also, we have **Joseph Flannigan** sponsored by **Bill Hoban**. We go into March with 303 members, after one member is moving out of the area.

We want to give an acknowledgement to long-time member, **George Zurich** who passed away in January – a moment of silence for those also forgotten. We had our February birthday drawing and our sponsor's semiannual drawing for a free lunch. Of course, right after our lunch and guest speaker, we had our new members attend a membership orientation which all Sirs are welcome to attend. I encourage you to bring friends and acquaintances to one of our lunches, hopefully to join our branch 146, as we strive to meet our annual goal of 30 new members this year. Looking forward to seeing you at March's luncheon.

### February New Member Photo Additions



**David Shihabi**



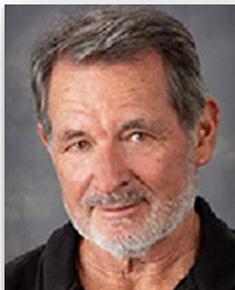
**David Hicks**



**Franz Mair**



**Joe Flannigan**



## Sunshine

### Max Hinkle

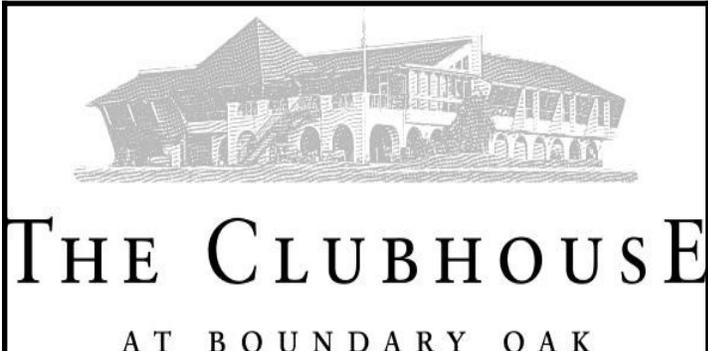
Let us keep the following Sirs in our thoughts and prayers. We look forward to their continued healing and return to good health.

- ◆ Joe Suta
- ◆ Jack Calloway
- ◆ Angelo Costanza
- ◆ Joe Hunt
- ◆ Bill Klein
- ◆ Howard Nemir
- ◆ Jim Saavedra
- ◆ Ron Pascoe
- ◆ Martin Lyle

Sadly, we report the passing of **Dale Haukland** on February 21<sup>st</sup>. The family plans to host a celebration of life in his memory at a date to be determined.

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.



# THE CLUBHOUSE

AT BOUNDARY OAK

SIR 146 Luncheon

March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019

## Salad

### Wedge of Baby Iceberg Lettuce

Hard Boiled Eggs, Cherry Tomatoes  
Thousand Island Dressing

## Entrees

### Braised and Glazed Corned Beef

Boiled Potatoes,  
Carrots and Cabbage

Or

### Lemon Garlic Tilapia

Confetti Rice, Seasonal Vegetables  
Fire Roasted Tomato Butter Sauce

## Vegetarian

### Seared Teriyaki Tofu Medallions

Vegetarian Fried Rice and Stir Fried  
Vegetables

## Dessert

### Grand Marnier Cake

White Cake, Orange Liqueur,  
Vanilla whipped Cream



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**Peter Plante** looks on while **Big Sir Jonathan Korfhage** pulls his winning ticket for having sponsored a new member over the past six months giving him a free lunch.

### SIR CALL Newsletter Group

Editor

**Richard Hockenbrock**

Co - Editors

**Walt Busenius, Rob Melrose**

Proofreaders

**Cal Tucker, Jonathan Korfhage,  
and Jim Barry**

Internet Posting

**Ron Plachy**

## Branch 146 adds three new Senior HLMs—Honorary Life Member

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



**Dick Richmond, Jeff Baily, and Jack Calloway** today received the State SIR's most prestigious level of award, the coveted Sr. HLM. The Award plaque reads: "In recognition of performing 10 years of active service as an Honorary Life Member we bestow the added honor of Senior Honorary Life Member by the Members and Executive Committee of Contra Costa Branch 146". Signed by **Big Sir Jonathan Korfhage**

**Jack Calloway** and **Jeff Baily** are past Big Sirs, and with **Dick Richmond** have continued serving branch 146 in many other roles and important ways. In addition, **Jeff Baily** was bestowed his 20 year membership award.

## Branch 146 Valentine Dinner Dance



**Bill and Alice Schultz, Mike and Marry Anne Whitaker, and Cindy and Tony Greco** calling it an evening after a fun time at the SIR 146 Gala Dinner Dance. A good time was had by all.



**Christy and Dick DeVoe** just after taking a spin around the dance floor



## Recruitment

Paul Beretz

### HOW TO SPONSOR A NEW MEMBER

- ◆ First, tell candidate about our branch and our many activities.
- ◆ Then, bring him to a luncheon as a guest and help him meet our SIR members.

There are reserved seats at a table marked for the two of you.

*(Please advise the Luncheon Chairman that you are bringing a guest by email at [nolunchbranch146@gmail.com](mailto:nolunchbranch146@gmail.com) or by phone at (925) 979-5146 and leave a message)*

- ◆ Your guest will receive an envelope with helpful information: welcome letter from Big Sir, an issue of the SirCall, a list of branch activities, a membership application and biography form.
- ◆ Since you are sitting at the same table, your guest will be briefly introduced to the general membership.
- ◆ Right after the luncheon is a good time to ask him to join our branch and to complete the application and biography. Be prepared to follow-up.
- ◆ You will sign his member application and forward to the Membership Chairman.
- ◆ You will be notified when he is to be inducted as a new member. At that luncheon, you have reserved seats and he will be introduced. There is an orientation session for the two of you right after the luncheon.
- ◆ Please have him sit with you at his first few luncheons to introduce him to our members. Remember as a new member, he is wearing the new member canary colored name tag.
- ◆ As his sponsor, keep in touch to find out how he is doing and if there is anything you can do to enhance his SIR experience.

Thank you for giving guests the opportunity to learn about our branch and its many activities and events, followed by being their helpful sponsor.

What do ghosts drink on St Patrick's Day?  
BOOs



## Book Group

Chuck Campbell

Author Howard Markel documents the little known and sad history of the Kellogg brothers. The older brother, John, was a doctor known for his advocacy for healthy living through proper diet and exercise as was practiced in his famous Battle Creek sanitarium. The younger brother, Will, did not have the college credentials that John possessed, but became a successful financial manager through his ability to understand operational details and then manage them.

One of John's interests was the production of a grain cereal that could be easily prepared for breakfast and be tasty enough for consumers to buy. While John developed initial plans for grain flake recipes and flake processes, he left the experimental details to Will. When Will finally found what he thought were the right ingredients and production process, he could no longer get John to help with developing the cereal idea. Finally, Will gave up waiting for brother John, obtained legal rights to the new cornflake invention and proceeded to develop the very successful cereal company: Battle Creek Toasted Corn Flakes Company.

In the end John lost the health sanitarium because he could not find a financial manager to replace Will. Will went on to grow his company to the multibillion enterprise that continues today. The book group found the book to be interesting, but not difficult to put down. We give a "slog" rating.

Our next book will be *The Swamp Fox* by John Oller. We will meet to discuss this book at 8:30 am on March 11th, 2019 at the Greenery Restaurant.



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**Dick Firth** was the February SIR birthday drawing winner of a SIR logo hat



## SongSirs

**Bruce Borgman**

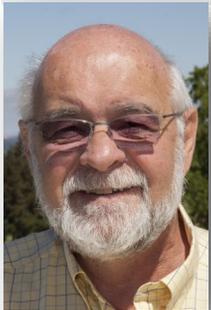
The SongSirs had a good performance for the VIP group at the Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church on February 6<sup>th</sup>. We sang most of our Romantic Songs repertoire, appropriate for this time of the year.

Several of our group were away, or ill, but we had an enthusiastic number of singers and the performance was much appreciated. We are now practicing our Irish repertoire for a scheduled performance on Friday March 15<sup>th</sup> at the Walnut Creek Senior Center. While these songs are very melodic, the rhythms and lyrics are a challenge especially for some of our newer members and we will fill out the program with some other well known tunes.

At our last practice we were pleased to welcome **Ray Bland** who was checking us out and may join us on an ongoing basis. We are always happy to welcome any of you who like to sing and join us as we practice and sing at various Senior Centers and Skilled Nursing Facilities in the area. There is never a shortage of places that like to have us come!

(925) 932-3961

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



## Luncheon Chairman

**Rob Melrose**

While we continue to be rained upon just remember all we gave up during the drought. I for one, will take the rain.

### March 14th Luncheon

- Cost: \$26
- Preferred payment method is check
- Opt Out Deadline: March 8<sup>th</sup> before Noon
- Email: [NoLunchBranch146@gmail.com](mailto:NoLunchBranch146@gmail.com)
- If you need to call: (925) 979-5146

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

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

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



## Travel

**Milt Smith**

**NEW! Grand Baltic Small ship Voyage—Denmark, Poland, Sweden, Latvia, Estonia, Russia and Finland.** May or June 2020. Overseas Adventure Travel. (877)-220-2630.

Pre-register Group Code GG23630, deposit is \$500 per person until dates finalized. Already have 10 signed-up, need only 20 for our own group.

**Two great Crystal Cruises: 1) Greece and Italy — Athens to Rome** May 2<sup>nd</sup> - May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019 with seven ports of call. **2) 12 Day Land and Sea Alaska Adventure** August 23<sup>rd</sup>— September 3<sup>rd</sup>. Fly to Anchorage, tour Denali, and cruise to Vancouver, with eight ports of call then fly home. We have several SIR members signed up on each of these trips but would like a few more. These trips are both excellent value on a great cruise line. For more information call Alamo World Travel at (925) 837-8742 or contact me at (925) 285-2897.

**SIR Day at the Races Golden Gate Fields**, March 29<sup>th</sup>. \$41 pp. Includes valet parking, buffet lunch, admission and a racing form... Send your check payable to SIR 146 to Milt Smith, 913 Piute Ct., Walnut Creek CA. 94598.

## 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.



## Photography Group

**Richard Hockenbrock**

At our next planned meeting in March, we are going to discuss the importance of camera setting, namely, ISO, shutter speed, and f-stop. Cameras have become so automated that many of us shoot our photos using the “A” setting which chooses these settings without user input.

We are going to drill down and study how each of these settings in isolation or in tandem affects the final outcome of the picture.

A number of new smartphones and cameras are being released as I write this. We’ll see if we can get some YouTube videos to learn more about these at the meeting.

Of course, we are always interested in having our members show photos or videos of their traveling exploits. Bring your photos on a USB stick for all to enjoy!

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:** Know how to adjust ISO, shutter speed, and f-stop to get the best picture from your camera

**When:** 9 am—Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019



February Greeters **Mark Curtis, Aubrey Moore, and Dick Firth** are staying close to the door as it was a rainy day outside



## Pinochle

**Charlie Kahsen /  
Jeff Morrow**

*We meet on  
the third Wednesday  
of the month at*

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

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

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

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

**Charlie Kahsen**

(925) 943-1750

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

**Jeff Morrow**

(925) 944-7009

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



## Hearts

**Bob West**

We meet on the second Wednesday 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 Branch 146 function with new members welcome.

In January new member **SIR Rich Lyon** had the low score the full game before he finished by running the last hand. He claimed he was just lucky but we are wondering.

Hearts is a game of constantly changing challenges whether playing against someone experienced or new, each hand can be very dynamic. Compared to some other games where someone in the lead bids more conservatively making it hard to catch up, hearts moves very quickly. Most of us have not played in a long time but we still fondly remember the game. If you want to get back into it, please join us.

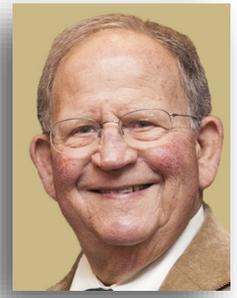
Please contact me at 925-518-8472 or [robtawest@aol.com](mailto:robtawest@aol.com) if you are interested or have any questions.



Henry Thatcher



AT&T Stock Photo



Jim Pope

## SIR 146 Explore & Eat

# Oracle Ballpark Tour

**March 21st at 10:00 am — San Francisco, California**

- **Private Behind the Scenes Tour**

AT&T Park is widely regarded as one of the premier ballparks in all of baseball. On your Behind-the-Scenes Tour of the home of the three-time World Series champion, San Francisco Giants, you will step foot on the Field, you'll go places only the players and coaches go: the Giants' dugout, the Visitors' clubhouse, and experience a brand-new museum space detailing the rich and storied history of the franchise, called the **Giant Vault**.

It's the ballpark where home runs can be "splash hits." The breathtaking Bay view's rival the action on the field. It is where one of baseball's most hallowed franchises plays inside an architectural landmark. (1 hour & 30 minutes.) Lunch will be at **Public House** at the Ballpark following the tour.

**There are only 30 spaces available on this Private Tour so sign up early. Please make your check for \$18 per person payable to Jim Pope and send your checks to: 385 Bryan Drive, Alamo, CA 94507.** Please send your name and name of your guest with your check. No cancellation refunds after March 15<sup>th</sup>. Rather than drive, take BART and Muni Light Rail to the Ballpark. *Please get your checks in ASAP.*

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

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



## Activities Coordinator

**Jerry Kaplan**

We have 47 different activities that you as a member of Branch 147 can participate in. Some of the activities such as **Poker, Bridge and Mexican Train Dominoes** have several different groups that are active in that particular activity.

Some may not have room currently for a member to participate in a specific group because all "seats" are taken, but most every group has a substitute list that is used to call someone to fill in when a regular member is not available. If you are interested in joining in one of these activities, feel free to call the chair. His name, email address, and phone number are listed on the branch's web site. If you want help in starting a new group in one of the above activities, or a brand new activity not available in Branch 146, please call either me or Bob Lucido, the assistant activity coordinator, and we will be happy to help you get started.

Many of the Branch's activities are open to member's wives or significant others and if you haven't come to one of these yet, you may be missing out on a fun social outing! Every other month, there are **Dining Out** opportunities at nearby restaurants. These outings have all inclusive pricing (tax and tip included) and are led by **SIR Bruce Borgman**. There is an **Explore and Eat** group led by **SIRs Jim Pope** and **Henry Thatcher** that explore interesting sites in the Bay Area and are followed by a nice lunch at a nearby restaurant. **Wine Tasting** (led by **SIR Rob Melrose**), **Theatre Outings** (led by **SIR Gary Schaub**), and a **Photography** group (led by **SIR Richard Hockenbrock**) all welcome wives. There are many others that will be highlighted in a later SIR Call.

In addition to **Poker** and **Bridge**, Branch 146 also has groups playing interesting table and card games, such as **Cribbage, Chess, Pinochle**, and **Hearts** (a newer activity just starting). Refer to the SIR Call and the Branch Calendar (at the end of every newsletter) for more information on these fun activities. And don't forget, there are SIR Area wide activities where members from several nearby branches participate. There will be more information on these in future columns.

**Jerry Kaplan**

925 330-8832

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



## Pickleball

**Jim Burk**

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

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

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

**Jim Burk**

(925) 946-1192

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



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Branch 146 member and State Treasurer **Roy Hodgkinson** likely talking finances with current BEC Treasurer **Ben Gleason**



## Couples Dining Out Bruce Borgman

Our March Dining Out event will be at Aung MayLiKa, a Burmese restaurant, as we mentioned in the last newsletter. This cuisine is quite unique, but you will notice influences from Vietnamese, Chinese, and other Southeast Asia cuisines. We have negotiated a menu that will feature a variety of dishes, including a lettuce wrap chicken dish as appetizer followed by the signature Tea Leaf salad. For entrees we will be able to sample mango chicken, tender pork, honey walnut shrimp, beef curry and stir-fried string beans, along with spicy noodles with chicken and tofu. There is also a variety of four kinds of rice. The total all inclusive cost is only \$33 per person, a most reasonable price.

As expected, our email list of regular diners jumped on this opportunity quickly, and as of this date we have 82 diners signed up. The restaurant can accommodate 60, and we have therefore arranged for a second evening. The first one is on Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, and the second one will be the following evening, Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>. We are encouraging our group to even up the numbers of each evening so that we will have more elbow room and less time to wait for your drinks during the cocktail hour. We will start at 5:30 pm on both evenings, with dinner at 6:15 pm.

The restaurant is located at 1050 Contra Costa Blvd, at the intersection with Taylor and Sun Valley Blvd. Parking at the restaurant is limited and you may find space at the nearby strip mall, or at Sun Valley across the street.

You will no doubt want to return on your own – we have already been there three times! Since we now have the two evenings reserved, there is room on the Tuesday evening – send me an email to be added, then send in your check payable to SIR 146 to confirm.



Photo by Carl Tilchen

## Acoustic Musicians

Carl Tilchen

The SIR Music Group will meet Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 pm at Vinnie's Bar, 2045 Mt. Diablo St. Concord. Vinnie's Bar has an enthusiastic audience, a band, excellent food & drinks. It also includes an Open Mike. Each performer may sing 3 songs. All musicians with acoustic or electric instruments are welcome. Listeners who enjoy music are welcome too and there is No Cover Charge. Please write your name on the list to play.



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Michael Rose, Tony Shebanek, and Jim Pfohl at the luncheon



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Bill Cammerer pauses for a photo while getting his drink



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

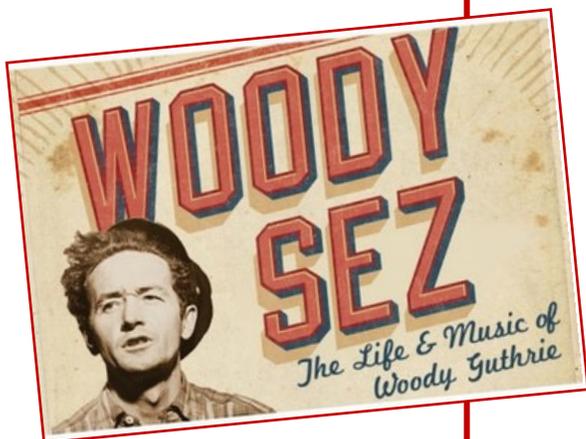
Volunteers Joe Stengel and Ron Afdal at the check-in table.

## **MUSIC OF WOODY GUTHRIE**

# **HIGHLIGHTS**

**SIR THEATER PARTY**

**JUNE 6 TH**



Woody Guthrie – America’s greatest troubadour – along with his music, will be featured in *Woody Sez*, the SIR 146 Theater Party planned for Thursday, June 6 at the Lesher Center for the Arts in downtown Walnut Creek, presented by Center REP.

In this joyous musical portrait you’ll be transported through Guthrie’s fascinating life with moving ballads and energetic foot-stompers like “THUS LAND IS YOUR LAND,” “THIS TRAIN IS BOUND FOR GLORY,” and “SO LONG, IT’S BEEN TO KNOW YOU.”

*Woody Sez* made it debut at the Edinburgh Festival over a dozen years ago. It is a wonderful tribute to the granddaddy of American troubadours with messages of love, friendship, freedom and equality. It was a rousing success in its New York production at the Irish Repertory Theater. Originally created by David M. Lutken, who will appear in the Walnut Creek production, along with Darcie Deaville, David Finch and Megan Loomis. Over forty rousing songs will make up the show.

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

Tickets for *Woody Sez* will be distributed in the lower lobby of the Lesher Center on June 6th at 7:30 p.m. Parking is available in the city parking garage adjacent to Lesher Center.

# Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 1 (UNO)

The Group One players met on February 15 for our second Game Night of 2019 at the very nice facility at Rossmoor where **SIR Jim Stedman** resides. Jim reserved a well apportioned and comfortable Game

Room to play our games. There were delicious snacks and pastries ordered by Jim that were enjoyed by everyone; some even remained and were taken home by some players at the conclusion of the evening.

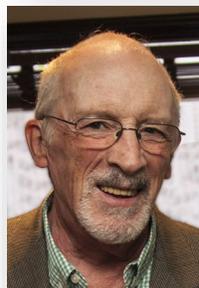
We had almost a full complement of 17 players - Sir **John Moose Kelly** joined the group's regular players. Everyone at the three tables tried their luck at choosing the winning tiles. As usual, some did better than others!

**Sue Sheldon**, wife of Sir **Bruce Borgman**, ran off with the top prize of \$20.00 with a low average of 16.8 points after playing 12 games. Sir **Peter Plante** had a score of 17.5, enough to win the second place prize of \$10. Third place was grabbed by **Moose Kelly** with a score of 18.9. For the first time, lottery scratchers were awarded to the two players who amassed the most points during the evening. **Carmen Schiavone**, wife of **SIR Rob Melrose**, and **Marie Ascatigno**, wife of **SIR Frank Ascatigno**, were each handed a ticket they hoped would pay for a trip to Hawaii.

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



MTD UNO Winners: **Peter Plante**, 2nd Place; **Sue Sheldon**, 1st place; and **John Kelly**, 3rd Place



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 3 (TRES)

**Jeff Baily**

Wow! **Corrie and Susan Oranje** hosted a fun evening of Mexican Train Dominoes highlighted by a delicious array of snacks and desserts fit for Royalty.

Our Queen of Dominoes title went to **Joyce Wells** at the blue table where she went out 3 of the nine games played. Her Royal Highness scored an impressive 14.8 average.

**Carla Thompson** earned the title of Princess at the white table going out 3 of the 9 games played and scoring an average of 18.3. **Princess Carla** earned 2<sup>nd</sup> place for the night.

Closely following his Princess was **Prince Lewis**. Third prize went to **Lew Thompson** at the blue table who went out twice in 9 games played and scored an average of 20 for the evening. **Prince Lewis** and **Princess Carla** were the subs for the evening.

A Royal salute goes to **Lynn Shafer** who shared a large bag of oranges from his tree with the Mexican Train Dominoes Group 3. Thank you **Lynn**.



MTD 3 Third place, Prince **Lewis Thompson**, second place, Princess **Carla Thompson** and Her Majesty, Queen **Joyce Wells** hold up their evening's winnings

# Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 4 (El Quattro)

Jim Pope

The El Quattro Mexican Train Dominos group met on February 22<sup>nd</sup> with a Red Valentine theme, Red Roses and Red Table cloth. Due to several vacancies we had a hearty group of ten(10) in attendance; **Henry & Barbara Thatcher, Don & June Seaton, Bill Weinberg** and **Yvonne Killips, Dick & Christy DeVoe, and Jim & Renie Pope** (See domino table pictures). Having ten (10) players allowed for two (2) tables of five (5) each, so the games moved fast and furiously.

The two table winners were **Christy DeVoe** and **Don Seaton** (See picture) and each winner received five(5) California Lottery tickets with the maximum prize value of \$500. The sweets and savories provided by several women in the group were lovely and delicious. The wine and refreshments flowed abundantly. The group will meet next on March 15<sup>th</sup> with a "Green" St. Patrick's Day theme and plenty of "Blarney".



Photo by Renie Pope

Table 1 players included **Christy DeVoe, June Seaton, Henry Thatcher, Yvonne Killip, and Jim Pope**



Photo by Renie Pope

MTD 4 winners were **Christy DeVoe** and **Don Seaton**



Photo by Renie Pope

Table 2 players included **Renie Pope, Bill Weinberg, Dick DeVoe, Barbara Thatcher, and Don Seaton**



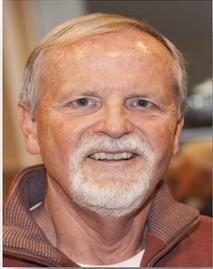
## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 5 (CINCO)

Chuck Campbell

A reduced number of MTD Group 5 players gathered at **Patti and Doug Eisner's** house on February 21<sup>st</sup>. Even though the numbers were few, the social hour conversation was enlightening and the wines delicious.

When the games started we quickly realized it was game on as the competitive juices began to flow. At the end of the evening, the guys salvaged a bit of their pride as **Jim Burk** took home first place with 69 pts. followed by **Dave Pierce's** 85 pt. **Marti Campbell** led the ladies and took third place overall with 102 pt. *Reported by Doug Eisner*  
**Jim and Anne Burk** will host our March 21<sup>st</sup> game.

# Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



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

Don and Etta Dotson welcomed the MTD 6 "gang" into their home with a huge spread of food and refreshments. Thanks for their outstanding hospitality. The competition was fierce for the jackpot as well as the treasured "Year of the Pig" scratchers for high point booby prize. The low score winners were **Sherry Hockenbrock** (1<sup>st</sup>), **Susan Sheldon** (2<sup>nd</sup>), and **Don Dotson** (3<sup>rd</sup>). The group encountered a perhaps a once in a lifetime event in the world of Mexican Train Dominos where **Mary Schmidt** and **Rob Melrose** tied for the second highest point score at 35.6. Unlucky **Moose Kelly** surpassed everyone with the highest score ever recorded at 49.2 to win a scratcher that yielded NOTHING!

CONGRATULATIONS to the lucky and not so lucky winners. Our next event will be at **Brian and Mary McCarthy's** home on Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>. More details to follow. Thanks everyone for a lively evening.



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

Rich Ahlf and Ismini MacLean put on a great game night to start out the year. We had lots of goodies and plenty of time to socialize and enjoy them.

The competition was good as well. The tables' productivity varied with the number of games per table being 8, 10, and 13. The scoring was quite different, ranging from 15 to almost 43 average points per game. Note that those two factors have no relation to each other since we are dealing with averages but they show an interesting range for each.

The low score of the evening belongs to **Ismini** with 15.0 average number of games. Second place goes to **Bill Holly** with a score of 18.0 and **Janice Woodman** wins third place with a score of 20.3.

Congratulations to all of our winners!

As we run a month behind in our reporting, our next game night, which was held on February 22<sup>nd</sup> at **Chuck and Mary Denney's**, will be reported in the April Sir Call.



**MTD (SEIS):** The Low Score or Winners of the Greenbacks (L to R) were **Sherry Hockenbrock** (1<sup>st</sup>), **Don Dotson** (3<sup>rd</sup>) and **Susan Sheldon** (2<sup>nd</sup>).



**MTD (SEIS):** The High Point Winners were (L to R) **Moose Kelly, Mary Schmidt** and **Rob Melrose**. How were those "Year of the Pig" scratchers?



## Cooking II Bob Yolland

Cooking II had a wonderful Valentine's dinner out with our wives on Thursday February 21<sup>st</sup>. Thanks to **Bill Roberts** who put the meal and evening together where we enjoyed an excellent meal in a private room at Jack's restaurant in Pleasant Hill. We started off with Crispy Fried Calamari, Spanakopita and Jack's original Flatbread. Our salad course gave us a choice of mixed baby green salad or Caesar salad. For the entrees, we chose between Chicken Piccata, Grilled New York Steak or Grilled Salmon. All were really good. For dessert we had a choice of either a huge piece of Chocolate Tuxedo Cake or Galaktoboureko, a cream filled filo roll with an apricot sauce. All our members and wives really enjoyed the dinner. Thank you again **Bill** for setting it up. Our next event will be Monday March 11<sup>th</sup> hosted by **Ken Richter**.



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**Dom DiMatteo & Frank O'Loughlin**



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**Mike Whitaker & George Mon**



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**Sig Kalteis & Larry Brown**



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**Lo McCarley Don Seaton Ron Ragno & Bob Burley**



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**Bill Hoban, new member Joe Flannigan, and Bill Laws**



## AREA 16 Fishing Report

Paul Dubow

The rain and wind let up just enough for a few of us to try our luck at trout fishing. The main venue was San Pablo Reservoir. **Carl Moyer** was the champ. He landed a seven and one half pound rainbow on one of several days that he fished at San Pablo. **Brion Beetz** of Branch 146, as well as **Stan Wong**, **Phil Scimonelli**, and **Bob Stein** also tried San Pablo with good results. On the other hand, **Carl** did not do well fishing from shore at Lafayette Reservoir, coming home empty handed. **Phil** did better. He rented a boat at the reservoir and caught several nice rainbows.

**Rich Fiscina** of Branch 146 continued to fish for sturgeon in the Delta and was rewarded with his second keeper of the season.

We have lots of outings planned for the balance of the year and we hope that some of you can join us. You can learn about these trips at our next meeting, which is scheduled for March 28<sup>th</sup> at the Legends Bar and Grill, located at Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. The meeting begins at 8:30 am, but please join us for breakfast at 7:30 am or thereafter. The March meeting is also the annual auction of fishing gear and so there will be lots of bargains for those of you who are looking for some nice rods, reels, lures, and other fishing gear. For further information, please contact branch fishing chair **Paul Dubow** at (415) 495-6504.



## Cribbage

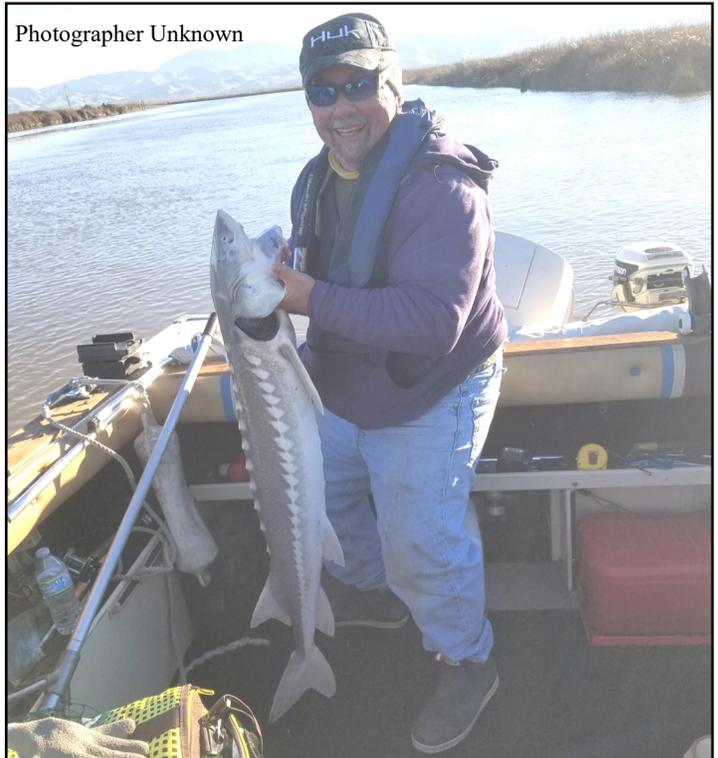
John Pearl

Six of us were hosted at **Senior Sir Barney Meade's** home on Wednesday afternoon, February 27<sup>th</sup>. One of our group was **Ron Afdal's** friend Paul from his Ping Pong club.

By the time we had all played each other, it was very obvious that **Barney** still has what it takes, as he won all five of his games, with two "skunks!" Very impressive. **Jim Pope** came in second, and **Ron's** friend Paul showed he knew how to play coming in third. Yes, a good time was had by all.

We play again in March, on Wednesday the 27<sup>th</sup>.

**John Pearl**, Chair  
[mcpearl@astound.net](mailto:mcpearl@astound.net)



Photographer Unknown

**Rich Fiscina** shows off his second keeper sturgeon of the season

Photo by Carl Moyer



**Phil Scimonelli** and **Brion Beetz** holding their big catch of rainbow trout at the San Pablo Reservoir



### Men's Duplicate Bridge 1 Doug Eisner

We celebrated President's Day with three tables hosted by **Tony Greco**. We cannot tell a lie: **Mark Curtis** actually had a 75% game in the morning, followed by **Ed Marlovits** (67%). **Tony** and **Max Hinkle** tied for 3rd (58%).

After lunch, **Dave Pierce** came to life (63%); **Mark** stayed strong (58%) and **Tony** maintained his consistent good play (56%). Overall, no contest: **Mark** (67%) had 32 match points, 4½ more than anyone else. **Tony** (57%) was second; **Ed, Max** and **Dave** (54%) all tied for third. **Rich Ahlf** and **Tony** were the only successful slam bidders. Congratulations to **Mark** and **Tony** for two fine halves (a rare event in our group).

*Reported by Dave Pierce*



### Men's Duplicate Bridge 2 Bill Schultz

Our February Duplicate Bridge 2 event was nicely hosted by **Tony Greco**.

1st Place: **Ed Marlovits** with 36.0, by 6.5 points(!) vs. 2nd Place.

Ed now holds the highest 3-table score since our inception in 2015, wresting it from **Dave Steinberg** (34- April 2016) and **Bob Yolland** (34- April 2017). Wow!

2nd Place: **Dave Pierce** with 29.5, and the highest 1st half since inception (19.5), formerly held by **Jim Jackson** (18- June 2016).

3rd Place: **Mark Curtis** with 29.0.

Best Partnerships (maximum 6 pts. for 3 Boards): **Mark Curtis/Mike Whitaker** (Bds. 7-9), **Dave Pierce/Mike Whitaker** (Bds. 10-12), **Dick DeVoe/Mark Curtis** (Bds. 15-18).

Most Two's- **Mark Curtis** with 12.

Least Zeros- **Ed Marlovits** with 1.

Comeback Kid: **Dick DeVoe**, scoring 6.0 pts. higher in the 2nd half (17.5) vs. 1st half (11.5).

I am pleased to announce that **Bill Schultz** has agreed to replace me as Duplicate Bridge 2 Chairman.

*Reported by Dick DeVoe*



### Men's Duplicate Bridge 3 Sid Landman

**Mark Curtis** hosted our Duplicate Bridge 3 group on Friday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at his new home in Pittsburg.

Big winner of the day was **Dick DeVoe** with 30.5 points, **Bill Schultz** was second with 29 points and **Jim Brown** and substitute **Steve Dinning** tied for third place with 27 points each. There were four perfect score partnerships where each team scored the maximum of 2 points per hand for a total of 6 points....a very unusual occurrence:

**Dick DeVoe/Steve Dinning** boards 1-3

**Jim Brown/Joe Fuchs** boards 4-6

**Dick DeVoe/Mark Curtis** boards 13-15

**Max Hinkle/Jim Brown** boards 16-18



Latest MDB 3 Winners: 3rd place **Steve Dinning** and **Jim Brown**, 2nd place **Bill Schultz** and 1st place **Dick DeVoe**

Conor, the barber, was hearing complaints from his present trimmee about the price of barbers' services. "I tell you, Conor, these New York barbers gotta stranglehold on the citizens. I was in London just last week, and you charge me half again what they charge there." "That may be true, Sir," said the Irishman, "but think of the airfare."

How can you tell if an Irishman is having a good time?  
He's Dublin over with laughter!



## Couples Duplicate Bridge 1 Bob Yolland

Couples Duplicate Bridge 1 had a very enjoyable evening of bridge 2/20/19 hosted by **Dick and Christy DeVoe**. Thank you **Christy** for hosting and all your excellent goodies. We greatly appreciate our two sub couples for the evening **Dave and Joan Pierce** who also did the scoring plus **John and Kathy Kluesener**. For results, **Dave and Joan Pierce** were first with 26 points (65%) followed by **Rich Ahlf and Ismini Maclean** with 24 points (60%) and **Margot Somerville and Daphne Merritt** with 20.5 points (51%). Congratulations to all the winners.

Our next event will be Wednesday, March 20th hosted by **Margot Somerville**.



## Couples Party Bridge Tony Greco

**Brad & Lynne Hatcher** hosted our first event of the year on February 5<sup>th</sup>. We kicked off munching on assorted snacks of crackers & cheese dip, nuts, and chocolates while we sipped wine. At the end of play we gathered around the dining room table and enjoyed ice cream cake and coffee as we shared "What's New?" in our lives and solved many current world problems.

A thank you goes out to **John & Kathy Kluesener** for subbing for **Jerry & Christine Benoit** and especially to **Dave & Joan Pierce** who subbed at the last minute when **Rich Ahlf & Ismini MacLean** called in sick that day .

It was an evening of some very distributional hands with long suits coupled with voids and singletons. There was an abundance of hands with 7 or 8 card suits and one hand with 9 hearts. Several of these hands had slam potential that weren't pursued or realized based on high card point count alone.

Our top three finishers are as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> PLACE with 3680 points – **Dave and Joan Pierce**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> PLACE with 3390 points – **Dick & Christy DeVoe**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> PLACE with 2390 points – **Tony & Cindy Greco**

Next month's event will be held on March 7<sup>th</sup> and hosted by **Larry & Linda Brown**. We hope their smoke alarms are in good working order. Lol.



## Couples Duplicate Bridge 2 Dave Pierce

**Larry and Linda Brown** hosted us on Lincoln's Birthday. **Ken and Elaine Richter**, in town between trips, were third (53%). **Linda and Larry** were rewarded for their warm and gracious hosting on a wet and chilly evening with second place (55%). **Joan and Dave Pierce** were hot all night (72%) until they were cooled off by the Browns on the last four boards. Many thanks to **Max Hinkle and Jim Brown** for subbing and saving the evening for us.

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



## Party Bridge Byron Nelson

The Party Bridge players met on February 4<sup>th</sup> at the home of **Max Hinkle**. We had two last minute subs and they did very well. First Place went to **Ray Spears** with 5100 points; Second Place was **Bill Rees** with 4780 points; and Third Place was **Steve Dinning** with 4670 points. Those were very high winning scores and we congratulate **Ray** and **Steve** for their strong play.

If any SIR would like to join the first Monday Party Bridge Group please contact **Byron Nelson** - Chairman at 415-860-4585 or [byronnelson1@aol.com](mailto:byronnelson1@aol.com) and he will put you in the game.

Two Irish drunks are walking home after a little too much celebration on St Patrick's Day. As they stumbled up the country road in the dark, Paddy says, "Bejeeesus, Mick, we've stumbled into the graveyard and here's the stone of a man lived to the age of 103!"

Mick replies, "Glory be, Paddy and was it anybody we knew?"

Paddy says, "No, it was someone called 'Miles from Dublin'.



## Poker Group 1

**Dan O'Sullivan**

Poker Group #1 met at the home of **Don DelBene** on Feb. 13th. As always a good time was had by all, and no names, a couple of "BIG WINNERS". Our next outing will be at the home of **Bill Cammerer** on

March 13th.



## Old Money Poker Group 6

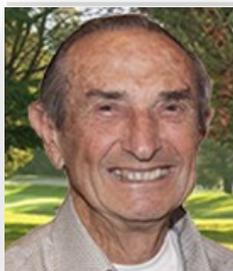
**Brad Hatcher**

The best laid plans of men.... We were set to play at host Rich Ahlf's home. However, with two days to go, Rich called to tell us he had cold/flu and it was not possible to hold the game.

We will try diligently to hold our game on the first Thursday in March – fingers crossed.

Tel: (925) 935-1571

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



## Poker Group 2

**Al Zamolo**

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



## Poker Club 3

**Sig Kalteis**

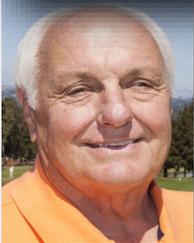
*Poker Club 3 meets on the fourth Monday of the month. We usually play at my house. Contact **Sig Kalteis** if you would like to be on the list as a substitute.*



## Poker Group 4

**Rich Hanford**

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



## Poker Group 5

**Bill Roberts**

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



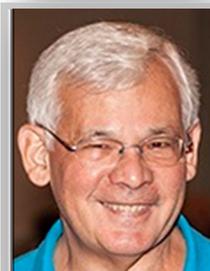
## Cooking Lunch & Wine

**Dick Woodman**

2019 has started with a thud for the Lunch and Wine Group, which we call the LAW Group. January's host was **Syd Whalen** and he and his wife, **MJ**, were ill on the day he was to host so it got canceled. February was to be hosted by **Frank Rockwell**. On the day he was to host both **Frank** and his wife, **Carol**, were ill so they had to cancel. Six of us did gather on February 20<sup>th</sup> to have lunch together at the Back Forty BBQ (**Bob Spellman**, **Bill Hartman**, **Syd Whalen**, **Dick Woodman**, **Joe Barry** and **Vince Rettew**).

You may have noticed that the LAW Group has a rotating chairmanship. This group was formed in 2010 at a bar in Bangkok, Thailand. We were all on a Sirs trip lead by **Bob Spellman**. We were discussing the various activities we participated in and that lead to the formation of the LAW Group. The first year I was the leader and the group was set up to rotate to a different person each year. After the eight members had served, and the two replacement members also served, it has rotated back to me.

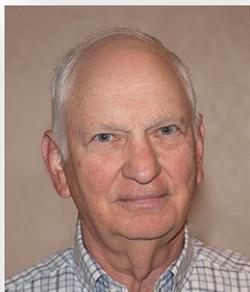
All of the Sirs groups have been very rewarding and this group is very special to us. March will be one of the two months per year that we go out with our wives for dinner rather than having lunch at someone's home. It is always fun and I'll share the outing with you in the April Sir Call.



## Book Corner

**Peter Plante**

**The Book Corner is open in March.** Stop by on your way to the bar and pick up some prime reading material. We have some great fiction and non fiction in both paperback and hardcover selections. Donations from your personal libraries are gratefully accepted. See you before and after the luncheon.



## GOLF

### Ed Marlovits

You would think that being starter on days when we had low turnout would be a breeze. However, play on February 19<sup>th</sup> really served to demonstrate the need for a starter. We had a significant frost delay, and about half of us opted out so the final pairings looked nothing like the pairings sent out on Sunday. **Cal Tucker** made it all work for those of us who decided to play.

It was ultimately a lovely day for golf, but it was cart path only. As a rider I took a look at my iPhone Health App after the round. It showed 12,687 steps for 6.1 miles and 11 flights climbed. I don't know how the app would know whether I was walking or riding, but I did not feel the need to go to the health club afterwards.

At the February luncheon we saw significant ponding on the 18th green. But on Tuesday the greens were in perfect condition.

We require a minimum number of players to finish a round in order to have a payout. As of February 19<sup>th</sup> we have had only two days this year where we have had enough players to meet that minimum. But better days are on the horizon.

The lack of play in the winter will be made up by several more opportunities to play later this year. The February golf committee meeting was unusual in the number of golf events discussed. There will be another Discovery Bay invitational on April 15<sup>th</sup>. This conflicts with the State Sir Springtime in Napa event on April 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. Both are great events so take your pick.

We have taken up **Mike Roach's** suggestion that we play Green Valley Country Club in late July. We are limited to 23 for that event and will arrange for sign-ups later this spring.

Also new on the agenda is a series of four formatted competitions with other local branches at Franklin Canyon in April, May, June and July. This will have individual stroke play as well as two man best ball competitions.



## 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)



## Table Pool

### Bill Weinberg

*We meet every Monday at 11:00 am at Masses, 2721 North Main in Walnut Creek. No advance notice is necessary. Just show up and play. Cost is \$5 for as long as you want to play. This is a special rate that Masses gives SIR members. You can also play at other times during the week for the same \$5. Just tell them you are a member of SIR. We play mostly two man teams of eight ball, or a unique three-player game, called "Crazy Eights", depending on the number of participants. We usually play about 2 hours but not everyone stays for the final curtain. All Sirs in Area 16 are welcome.*

Paddy walked into a bar on St. Patrick's Day and started ordering martini after martini.

With each drink, he removed the olives and put them in a jar.

When the jar was filled with olives and he'd finished all the drinks, Paddy started to leave.

As he did so, a curious customer asked him, "Excuse me, but what was that all about?"

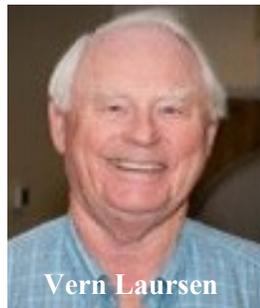
"Nothing really," replied Paddy, "My wife just sent me out for a jar of olives."

Why can't you borrow money from a leprechaun?

Because they're always a little short.

## Area 16 Events

### Mac User Group (MUG)



*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.*

### Area 2 \$ums Investment Group

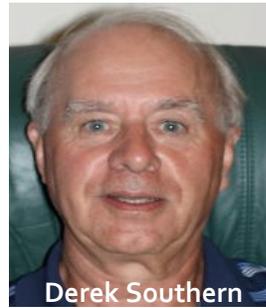
\$UMS in Retirement meets again on Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> at 8 am at the Legends Restaurant at the Diablo Creek Golf Course on Port Chicago Highway, Concord, just north of Hwy 4.

Our speaker will be Rich Knowles, President of the CCC Grand Jury Association. He will be talking about waste, fraud and abuse in localities and how the Grand Jury fights these problems. Poor money management oversight has led to unsustainable pension liabilities for local governments.

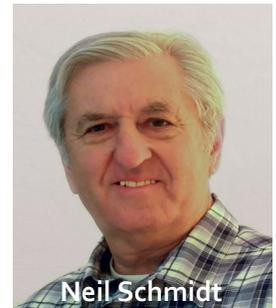
The Legends opens at 7 am. Come early and have a leisurely breakfast with your colleagues prior to the meeting. Ladies are welcome.

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

### Computers and Technology



PCs



The next meeting of the SIR Area 16 Computer and Technology Group will be at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge on Thursday, March 21, 2018 starting at 9:30 am. SIR from all branches and their guests, including spouses, are welcome and invited to attend. Plan to come a little early for coffee, goodies and chat.

The topic for the March meeting will be "Windows 10 Applications". We will be discussing several interesting and useful Windows 10 applications that have been identified by our members or have been presented in some recent Windows 10 tech articles. Many of these applications are free.

Past presentation notes are available on the CAT Web page ([a2cat.sirinc2.org](http://a2cat.sirinc2.org)). Note we ask for a \$5.00 donation to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and cookies. We look forward to seeing you on March 21<sup>st</sup>.

It's St. Patrick's Day and a pub in London has a ventriloquist act on who is telling Irish jokes.

Suddenly a drunk, angry Irishman stands up shouting, "You're making out we're all dumb and stupid. I should punch you in the nose."

The ventriloquist says, "I'm sorry, sir, I..."

"Not you," says the Irishman, "I'm talking to that little fella on your knee."

# 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

## March 2019

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>25</b> 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Poker #3 1:00 PM Poker Group #2 1:00 PM Poker Group #4 8:30 PM Acoustic Musicians Vinnie's Bar & Grill 2045 Mt. Diablo St., Concord	<b>26</b> 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 8:45 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Group Seis	<b>27</b> 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM Sums in Retirement 10:00 AM Bowling 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM Cribbage 2:30 PM - 5:00 PM Wine Tasting	<b>28</b> 9:00 AM Area 16 Fishing Breakfast Meeting Diablo Creek CC	<b>Mar 1</b> 8:00 AM - 11:15 AM Activity Chair Appreciation Breakfast Boundary Oak 9:30 AM - 2:00 PM Men's Duplicate Bridge 2 9:30 AM Walkers
<b>4</b> 10:00 AM Party Bridge 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Mac User Group (MUG)	<b>5</b> 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	<b>6</b> 10:00 AM Bowling 1:30 PM Song Sirs 1st	<b>7</b> 9:30 AM NINE HOLE GOLF-1 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Poker Group #6	<b>8</b> 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Photography Group Thurman G. Casey Ygnacio Valley Library 9:30 AM Walkers 10:00 AM Hiking Moderate 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM Chess Pleasant Hill Senior Center 8:45 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Group 1 (UNO)
<b>11</b> 8:30 AM Book Group Greenery Restaurant 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses 12:00 PM Cooking II	<b>12</b> 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	<b>13</b> 10:00 AM Bowling 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM Poker Group #6 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Hearts Rocco's Italian Restaurant 1:00 PM Poker Group #1 4:15 PM Poker #5	<b>14</b> 9:00 AM - 10:45 AM BEC Meeting 11:45 AM - 1:30 PM SIR LUNCHEON	<b>15</b> 9:30 AM Walkers 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM Men's Duplicate Bridge 3 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes - El Quattro
<b>18</b> 10:00 AM Men's Duplicate Bridge #1 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses 5:30 PM Couples Dining Out Aung Maylika 1050 Contra Costa Blvd.	<b>19</b> 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	<b>20</b> 10:00 AM Bowling 11:00 AM Cooking Lunch and Wine (LAW) 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Pinocle Rocco's Italian Restaurant 1:30 PM Song Sirs 2nd 7:00 PM Bridge - Couples	<b>21</b> 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM Computers And Technology (CAT) 9:30 AM NINE HOLE GOLF-2 10:00 AM Oracle Ballpark Tour 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Tres Gourmet 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Group 5 (Cinco)	<b>22</b> 9:30 AM Walkers 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM Chess Pleasant Hill Senior Center 6:30 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Dos 8:45 PM - 10:15 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Group 3 (Tres)
<b>25</b> 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Poker #3 1:00 PM Poker Group #2 1:00 PM Poker Group #4	<b>26</b> 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 8:45 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Group Seis	<b>27</b> 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM Sums in Retirement 10:00 AM Bowling 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM Cribbage	<b>28</b> 9:00 AM Area 16 Fishing Breakfast Meeting Diablo Creek CC	<b>29</b> 9:30 AM Walkers 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM SIR Day at the Races Golden Gate Fields

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