



Big Sir's Notes

Terry Marchione

2014 Dues Are Now Payable:

As mentioned previously in the Big Sir notes and at the monthly luncheon, our branch will be using a dues based approach to funding branch operations. Those attending the September lunch received a handout

detailing the 2014 branch budget and the options for paying your dues to support this budget. We are no longer requesting a "voluntary" contribution. In order to maintain your standing as a branch member you are required to pay the \$15 dues. We are asking for payment by October 1. The Branch Executive Committee and in particular our treasurer **Chuck Campbell** and assistant treasurer **Jerry Kaplan** have worked hard to present a streamlined budget which results in a reduction in the annual fee from \$18 to \$15. Next year is a bit of a challenge with the likely move to another facility. The 2014 budget reflects acknowledgement that there may be expenses not ordinarily incurred.

Little Sir **Doug Eisner** and his team will work hard to minimize these expenses. *Send your check to **Chuck Campbell** at 3330 Whitehaven, Walnut Creek, 94598.*

Volunteerism:

You recently received an email asking for help with two pending open leadership positions. I was truly impressed with the response. Once again our branch members answered the call. Many branches have no such luck. There are many reasons why Branch 146 is one of the most successful in all of SIR but your willingness to step up and help out is certainly the most important. Early next year the nominating committee will be looking for members to fill open positions on the BEC and there are always committees and activities that need help. Don't be afraid to volunteer. It's a great way for you, particularly newer members, to get involved and meet other members.

October Luncheon:

In October we are honored to have the SIR State President visit us. He is **Rich Dettmer**. If you have an opportunity, stop by and say hello to **Rich**. We will also be recognizing the past Big Sirs in October. These gentlemen are largely responsible for the successful branch we have today.

Member Survey:

Many of you will soon be contacted by **Ben Gleason** or someone on his committee. It's time for our member survey and it is your opportunity to give us feedback, positive or negative. We appreciate your participation and use your input in formulating future plans.

The October Luncheon
will feature **Victor Gauthier**
Public Information Officer
San Francisco Oakland Bay Bridge

Gathering time 10:45 - 11:00am

Seating time - 11:45am

Little Sir's Corner

Doug Eisner

Our speaker for the Oct. 10 luncheon will be Victor Gauthier, Public Information Officer for the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge.

Victor's topic will be the safety retrofit of the recently reopened eastern span of the Bay Bridge. Victor manages the Project Tour Program which provides informative presentations and narrated construction site tours to over 6000 people annually, including professional organizations, public officials, educational outlets, and the general public. Victor also monitors and updates the baybridgeinfo.org website.

You might want to mark your calendar for our Nov. 14 luncheon which, as usual, will honor our military service veterans. Plus - our speaker has a special presentation planned which you'll not want to miss! Check out this space in November for more information!



Poker Club 5

Bill Roberts

New firsts for our group... Big Sir **Terry** on his farewell tour made a wonderful donation!

Frank Rockwell & Skip Thomas tied for highest winnings (\$3).

Skip lost the poker chip flip to write this blog.

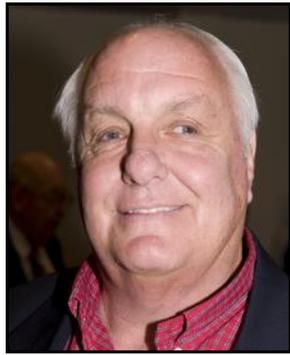
Doug Eisner, guest **Steve Sprague**, **Bob Spellman**, **Ken Richter** and **Charlie Koeber** each won or lost \$1!

Poker Rule 146, "The Dean Merritt Rule", you must ante before you deal, was broken seven times by... who was that masked man?

We missed **Bill Roberts**, our permanent host, who was off playing bocce ball so we had salad and cold sandwiches at **Skip's** home.

For October the group will meet at **Charlie Koeber's** home on Thursday, October 10.

Note the day change.



Membership

Steve Sprague

As of the Executive Committee meeting on September 12th, we have 269 active members (we now have six Honorary Life Members). This is no change from the previous month. We currently have three applicants awaiting BEC approval.

Status Changes:

Inducted: **Bob Finertie**, **Thom Kalkman**, **Dale Lindholm**

Moved to Inactive: **Jim Helmick**, and **Don Martin**.

Deceased: **Charlie Kiser**, a Senior Honorary Life Member, passed away August 23rd.

September Luncheon Attendance: Members: 194 (72% of membership)

Guests: 7

Visitors: 0, Speaker: 1

Total Attendance: 202

Changes to the Inactive Roster:

As noted above, **Jim Helmick** and **Don Martin** have been added. Our inactive roster therefore increases to nineteen members.

Duplicate Bridge

Doug Eisner

Jim Stedman graciously hosted 4 tables of duplicate bridge on Sept. 16. The battle for first place was a close one with **Jim Jackson** and **Doug Eisner** contesting each hand. At the lunch break, **Jim** led by 0.5 pt over **Doug**. After the last hand, **Jim** still led by 0.5 pt and totaled 46.5 pts for first place with **Doug** the runner-up with 46.0 pts. The third place winner was **Bob Yolland** with 41.0 pts while **Carl Johnson** took fourth place with 40.5 pts.

Our next match is scheduled for Oct 21 at **Jim Todhunter's** house.



Poker Club 1

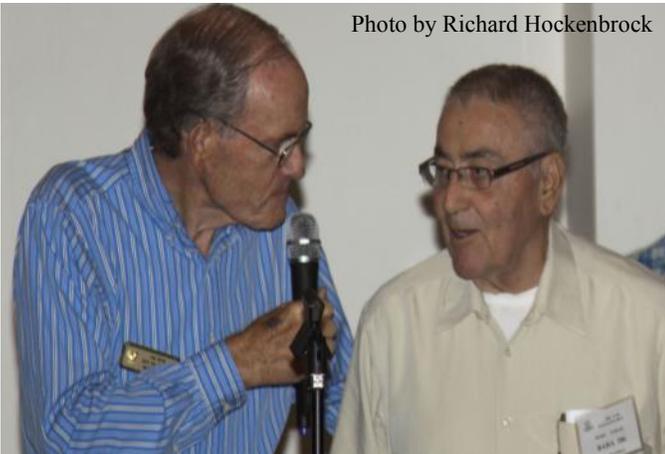
Frank McNamee

Poker Club 1 met on September 11th at the **Dan O'Sullivan** residence. It proved to be a good day for **Bob White**, **John Lewis** and guest **Al Zamolo** who all turned in winning days.

All their happy bucks were the courtesy of such benevolent players as **Bill Cammerer**, **Don Del Bene**, **Frank McNamee** and host **Dan O'Sullivan**. We are looking forward to a chance for revenge on October 9th at **Bob White's** home.



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



Jim Burk introducing **Baha Zarah**, our new Luncheon Attendance Chair, at the Sept. luncheon.

Bocceball

Martin Lyle

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

October will be our last month for regular Bocce Ball this year and we won't be able to play the 2nd Monday which is Oct. 14th. (The courts are closed for tournament play.) So come out for Oct. 28 and we'll have some good games. Ladies are welcome.



Couples Duplicate Bridge

Lo McCarley

Jim Brown and Adrienne Morrison hosted eight couples for a gala evening of duplicate bridge on September 18th. All of us enjoyed their snacks and wines.

I called **Jim and Ruth**

Adams that morning and they agreed to play bridge at the last minute. I'm thankful that they were available. The bridge results: **Bob and Janet Yolland** took first place with 41 points. **Lynn and Dasha Freeman** came in second with 39 points, **Carl and Anne Johnson** took third with 38 points, and **George Zurich and Susi Cherry** with 33 points came in fourth. The scorers, **Bob Yolland and George Zurich**, each won some money. I'll closely watch over them next time. **Lynn and Dasha Freeman** will host the next bridge on October 16th.



Couples Duplicate Bridge 2

Jim Adams

Lynn and Dasha Freeman graciously hosted three tables of Duplicate Bridge 2. **Doug and Pat Eisner** as well as **Lo and Sue McCarley** subbed for two missing couples.

The **Eisners** led the first half 1.5 pts ahead of 2nd place **Terry and Sharon Marchione** and 5 pts ahead of 3rd place **Ken and Elaine Richter**. The **Eisners** finished in 1st place with 28.5 pts while the **Marchiones** and **Richters** tied for 2nd place with 22.5 pts. Next month the group will meet at the home of **Dick and Christy DeVoe**.



Party Bridge

Fred Bolton

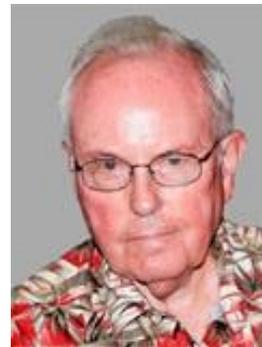
1st Monday at 10 am at various members' homes. Contact Fred Bolton for details. Bring a lunch.



We played three tables of bridge at the home of **Dick DeVoe** on Sept. 2. First place went to **Jim Jackson** with 8240 points, second to **Bob Donahue** with 5390, and third to **Dick DeVoe** with 5370. Our next game will be at the home of **Doug Eisner** on Oct. 7. BN 213 please contact **Jim Burk** or **Chuck Campbell** to claim your free lunch.

Old Money Poker Group 6

Al Twyford



On Wed. Sept. 11th our Old Money Poker Group 6 met at **Al Twyford's** home in Walnut Creek for our first game, and everyone seemed to enjoy 3 hours of poker. **Don Tubb, Frank Lucas, Sid Landman, Brad Hatcher, Rich Ahlf** and group leader **Al Twyford** were in attendance. **Norm Baietti** and **Bob Larson** were out of the country and on vacation. The big winner was the host **Al Twyford** and there was some suspicion that the cards were marked. However since *the* cards and chips were supplied by **Sid**, it must have been beginner's luck. Our next game is scheduled on the 2nd Wed. of October, the 9th. **Frank Lucas** will host the next game at his home in Clayton. We hope to have all seven regular members on board for the next game. **Rich Ahlf** is our alternate and we appreciate his filling in at our first game. **Rich** took pictures, and they will accompany our news article. We look forward to many more poker games and group camaraderie in years to come.



Photo by Bruce Borgman

Residents at the Chateau III, an assisted living facility in Pleasant Hill enjoying being serenaded by SIR Branch 146 Song Sirs (right) Please also see write up on page 13



Photo by Bruce Borgman

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

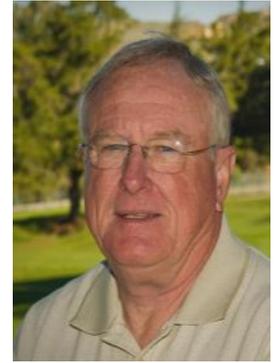


Sue and our Sunshine Chair **Walt Busenius** at Couples Dining Out in September

Couples Golf

John Harrington

Six couples from the SIR 146 Couples Golf group gathered on August 28th to play Tilden Golf Course on a beautiful sunny day. Organizer **Jonathan Korfhage** selected the game of "Net Nine/Secret Partner" which turned out to be a lot of fun for the **Burks, Baldridges, Donnellys, Richmonds, Korfhages and Eichtens!** First prize was shared by **Dick & Judy Richmond. Jim Burk**, (who else?) won with the fewest putts. Strangely, no one won closest to the pin as no one found the green! The good news is that everyone was awarded a prize!



GOLF

Ray Weisz

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

tee times are emailed to each player.

In addition to regular stroke play, we have many Tuesday tournaments specifically set up for our players.

There is a 9-hole group that plays at Diablo Hills. They play every Thursday except the second Thursday of the month, which is the luncheon date. For those with golf playing partners, there is Couples Golf offered on the 4th Wednesday of the month, April through October.

Like playing other courses? On the first Thursday of each month (From May through October) we offer Away Golf. Do you enjoy competing against other SIR players from different branches? We have several different formats throughout the year.

Since we have so much going on, we have found it necessary to publish a weekly Golf email (GEM) outlining upcoming events and results from past events.

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

Did U hear about the fellow whose right side was cut off?...He's all right now! **Vern Laursen**



Book Corner

Ken Richter

The Book Corner will open again at the November SIR Luncheon. This will be the last time this year and will complete three years of the Book Corner's existence.

A large number of books have made their way to SIR homes over the years. As you finish

reading the books, lets get them back to the Book Corner for other Sirs' enjoyment.

When the dentist and the manicurist married they fought tooth and nail! **Vern Laursen**

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



Walt and Bobbie Schmidt at the SIR 146 Couples Dining Out dinner at Massimo's in Walnut Creek

SIR 146 Luncheon
October 10, 2013

Salad

Three Bean and Celery Root Salad
Garbanzo Beans, Green Beans, Butter Beans, Celery
Root with Whole Grain Mustard Vinaigrette

Entrees

Beef and Vegetable Lasagna
Sautéed Spinach, Mushrooms, Cheese
and Marinara Sauce

Or

Pan Roasted Breast of Petaluma Chicken
Potato Gratin, Vegetables, Mushroom Ragout
and Port Wine Sauce

Dessert

Flourless Chocolate Cake

SIR 146 Niners Golf

John Denham

SIR 146 Niner's Golf is played every Thursday except on SIR meeting days. Sign-in is required by 9:15 and those desiring to play must inform the coordinator **John Denham** if they want to ride (\$25) or walk (\$15). First tee time is 9:30 and the last group finishes about noon. Some players stay for lunch at the reserved table. Contact **John** at [925 938 1143](tel:9259381143) or by email at jdenhamone@asond.net to join or for more information.



Luncheon Attendance

Baha Zarah

NEW LUNCHEON CHAIR ON-BOARD Effective immediately, **Baha Zarah** will become the luncheon attendance chair. The procedures by which you make contact with the luncheon attendance chair remain the same:

If you will not be available to attend a luncheon, you should notify **Baha** by e-mailing to nolunchbranch146@gmail.com by noon Friday the week prior to the luncheon (October 4)

If you are not a computer user, you may reach him by telephone at (925) 207-4344

Any message sent to **Baha** will be confirmed with either a return e-mail or telephone call. If no one answers, leave your name, badge number, phone number and a short message. *Cont'd on page 9*



Couples Dining Out

Bruce Borgman

On Tuesday September 17 the Couples Dining Out activity enjoyed a fabulous dinner at Massimo's Restaurant in Walnut Creek – an elegant and popular dining spot. We had a total of 34 diners, and had a private dining room with great ambience and tables of six, which allowed for good conversation while we enjoyed the excellent meal. We started with our usual cocktail hour at 5:30 before dinner. The three course dinner included the choice of soup or salad, and one of three entrees – roast chicken, grilled salmon, or hanger steak; and finished with a choice of desserts. As the cliché goes – a good time was had by all!

Our next Couples Dining Out activity will occur in November, likely the early part of the week of November 18. As we are making the circuit of the various cuisines our wonderful area offers, we will likely try an Asian motif – probably Chinese, Japanese, or Thai, which we have not yet selected in our previous dining experiences. We encourage all of our Branch members and wives or guests to join us in planning for a night out in November!

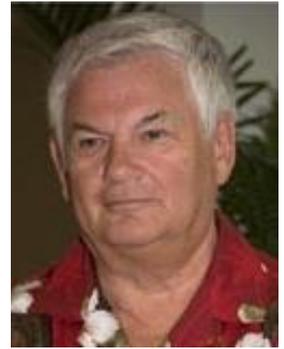


Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



Couples Dining Out organizers **Bruce and Susan Borgman** enjoying the fruits of their labor ... fine dining and a bit of vintage wine



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Ladies Day Luncheon...**Nadine and Verner Laursen**

Fishing Report

Paul Dubow



Corrie Oranje and **Paul Dubow** of Branch 146 joined **Karl Droese, Jack Waddell,** and **Gordon Linebaugh** on a salmon trip on the Sacramento River near Chico and the Branch 146 boys prevailed. The group caught six salmon and **Corrie** and **Paul** caught four of them, including a 20 pounder for each. In addition, **Paul** caught and released a three pound steelhead. **Karl** did get the biggest fish, weighing in at 23 pounds, and **Gordon** caught a 15 pounder. Although **Jack** was skunked, he made up for it one week later when he joined **Chuck Denny** of Branch 146, **Joe Miscione, Pete Hanelt,** and **Barry Rauchle** at the same locale, where the group landed eight salmon. **Joe Karg** tried his luck at salmon fishing in the ocean and did not get any, but he did land a good number of rockfish. **Rich Fiscina** of Branch 146 also came away with a good number of rockfish and ling cod, fishing with **Carl Moyer** and **George Vogt.** **Carl** and his daughter **Leah** ventured out into Suisun Bay on a rare windless day and caught and released several small sturgeon. We also held a joint fish fry with the Branch 8 Sirs in the Kitchen group. There were 40 eager eaters who thoroughly enjoyed this annual food orgy. We have lots of outings planned in the next few months. This includes a salmon trip on the Klamath River, trout fishing at Lake Davis, and the usual local fishing for sturgeon, trout, bass, rockfish, and catfish. Our next meeting will be on Thursday, October 24, at the Legends Sports Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. The meeting begins at 8:30 am, but breakfast is available at 7:30. All, including would be anglers and experienced ones, are welcome. For further information, please contact Big Fish **Pete Gates** (925-937-2035), secretary treasurer **Tom Boltz** (925-825-5695) or branch fishing coordinator **Paul Dubow** (415-495-6504).

A Little Bit of Unknown American Folklore...

Not many people know that Thomas Edison, inventor of the light bulb, was an avid fisherman. He usually included some trout fishing in his infrequent vacations. During one such trip to the West he was befriended by an Indian tribe. They provided free room and board, as well as expert fishing guides for his stay. On his first night he discovered that the only sanitary facility was an old-fashioned outhouse. To make things worse it had no light even though the village had electricity in the homes. As a thank-you gift for their kindness, Edison purchased the necessary materials and personally installed lighting in the Indians' privy. He thus became the first person to wire a head for a reservation.

Lo McCarley,

ROMEIO

(Retired Old Men Eating Out)
Malcolm Hendry



The ROMEIO group meets on the third Thursday at 6:30pm. We select eclectic restaurants in the East Bay recommended by you, as well as those favorably reviewed in the media.

Come join us to experience dining in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere with your fellow Sirs and other male guests.

Rustic Tavern

This restaurant is the concept of three Lark Creek Group alumni who have remodeled the space vacated by Roya's Garlic Garden. The interior with its rustic reclaimed barn siding and wooden tables offers a laid back but stylish vibe. The menu selections are fresh locally sourced seasonal dishes crafted by executive chef Gary Rust, who hails from the Yankee Pier and One Market restaurants. A full bar and wine list that showcases selections from Northern California and beyond. Separate checks for your convenience.

Location: 3576 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette (Street parking and small lot adjacent)

Web site: www.rustictavernlafayette.com (menu, directions and management) Phone: 925-385-0559 Please let me know by Tuesday, October 15 that you will attend. Your recommendation for restaurants is welcomed.

Mal



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Ann and Peter Gates enjoying une bouteille de vin at the September Couples Dining Out event



Photo by Bruce Borgman

The Cooking II gang of SIR 146 fame doing their annual wine bottling at the **Yolland** home. L to R, **Bob Yolland, Bill Cammerer, John Demos, Dennis Hallett, Corrie Oranje, Bruce Borgman** and **Bill Roberts**.

Cooking II

Bob Yolland

Cooking II had its annual wine bottling Monday 9/23 at **Bob and Janet Yolland's** home. This year the wine which incidentally is great, was a 2011 Amador County Sangiovese. **Bill Cammerer**



and **Corrie Oranje** picked up over 25 gallons of wine on Saturday the 21st at La Nebbia Winery in Half Moon Bay. Each of our members, **Bruce Borgman, Bill Cammerer, John Demos, Dennis Hallett, Corrie Oranje, Ken Richter, Bill Roberts** and **Bob Yolland** along with ex-member **Don Nunn** ended up with 14 bottles of wine for under \$5 per bottle. Each member has his own individualized label made by **Don**.

Additionally we have 8 bottles labeled Cooking II that we will check the quality of at most luncheons. Seven of us and our wives had a great afternoon and evening at the event. For dinner following the bottling **Bob** supplied the tri-tip and a starch, **Dennis** and **John** appetizers, **Bill C, Bill R** and **Corrie** salads and **Bruce** the dessert. Of course we did an ample tasting of the Sangiovese. The weather was super and so was the wine bottling.

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



Diane & Al Munayer at the Couples Dining Out event



Garden Club

Steve Dawkins



Some of my favorite things in the plant world are trees. Trees like the oak at Boundary Oak Golf Course or the giant redwoods along the Avenue of the Giants are amazing. However, a day doesn't go by when I don't ask myself, "what kind of tree is that?". For those of you who have identification issues also, there is a free app on smart phones called Leafsnap that you should download. Take a sample from a tree in your yard, put it on a piece of white paper, take a picture and see if the app can identify the tree. It may give you many choices but at least it gives you a reference point to start. The app also has an alphabetical listing of leaves, seeds and trunks that you can use as a reference for identification.

Speaking of not being able to identify something; ever listen to a song and forget the name of the song or artist? Try Shazam, a cool free app. Place your phone next to your car radio or speaker and the app will instantly identify the song, album and artist.

*A few contributions from Sir **Lo McCarley** from his apparent study of old gravestones.
From a Silver City Nevada cemetery...
Here lays The Kid.
We planted him raw
He was quick on the trigger
But slow on the draw*

Couples Party Bridge

Dave Pierce

Life is unfair, and we saw that in spades (not to mention hearts, clubs and diamonds) when **Doug** and **Patti Eisner** hosted us on Sept. 3rd. We gratefully welcomed gracious subs **Brad** and **Lynne**



Hatcher, and **Bob** and **Janet Yolland**, but then we gave them no cards. Unfair, especially to the **Yollands** who were last minute subs and rescued us. Please don't disdain us down the road. **Doug** and **Patti** were rewarded with 3rd place with 2630 points; **Terry** and **Sharon Marchione** were second with 3130 and **Dave** and **Joan Pierce** had the best cards by far and came in with 3710. Friendly competition continued after the game as to which of **Patti's** delicious cupcakes were whose. Friendly and competitive, that's definitely the hallmark of this group.



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Corrie and Susan Oranje enjoying the dining at Massimo Ristorante in downtown Walnut Creek

Member Relations

Ben Gleason

October is our month to complete the Branch 146 Annual Survey. This year we will send survey forms to the first third (alphabetically) of our membership and will follow up by telephone to those who do not respond promptly. There will be blank forms available at our October luncheon for those who prefer to have a hard copy and for any members outside the first third who wish to participate.

The survey is a very useful tool in our efforts to make Branch 146 best serve its membership and we strongly urge your thoughtful participation.



SIR Call Newsletter Group	
Editor	Jeff Bailly
Proofreaders	Dick DeVoe and Cal Tucker
Assistant Editor	Rich Ahlf
Labeling & Mailing	Bill Cammerer
Internet Posting	Webmaster Jack Hockel

Poker Club 2

Al Zamolo

Al Zamolo hosted our August poker session. We had unusual results with 5 players being small winners and 2 players with losses - a rare occurrence to our Poker Club 2 over the past many years.



Ron Binder will host our September poker session.

Area 2 Sums Investment Group

Allen Espenmiller

The Area 2 Sums Investment Group meeting will be held on Wednesday October 23, 2013 the Diablo Creek golf course – Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Our returning speaker is Peter Karp of Karp Capital in San Francisco. Peter’s presentation “Peace, Prosperity and Headwinds” will share with us Karp Capital’s view of our changing world and how these changes will affect the investment community and our choices for investment opportunities. Before the meeting date, a complete outline of Peter’s presentation will be posted for you to download and read in preparation for the meeting. Peter is one of the Bay Area’s most prominent financial professionals and knowledgeable advisors so you will “want” to attend this meeting.

The Legend’s restaurant opens at 7:00 AM so plan to come and share a breakfast with your colleagues. Bring a potential member to SIR so they see what the Investment Group offers as an activity.

Look forward to seeing you all soon,
Co-Chairmen: **Allen Espenmiller** (Br-174) [925-376-3977](tel:925-376-3977) **George Schulze** (Br-8) [925-429-1756](tel:925-429-1756) **Leary Wong** (Br-8) [925-457-0807](tel:925-457-0807)



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Cindy and Tony Greco at the Couples Dining Out event at Massimo Ristorante



Photo by Bruce Borgman

SIR 146 SongSirs practicing for their upcoming shows around the local area. They have a gig coming up on November second at the Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church.

Travel Opportunities

Bob Spellman

Oct 18, 2013: SIR Day at the Races. It's that time again to enjoy a day at Golden Gate Fields watching the Ponies run. Cost is \$29 pp which includes admission, reserved parking, daily race program, great buffet lunch and tax & tips. Start saving your pennies now so you can make a bet or two. Who knows? You might be a big winner. Contact **Bob Spellman** 934-8428.



Nov 7, 2013: Follow the Seagull- San Francisco 49 Mile Scenic Drive. Meet your tour guide Graig Smith at City Hall. Graig personally designed this tour and is considered the top guide of the City. The 49 mile drive is designed to see all the most important attractions of the City. Cost \$97 pp and includes tour, lunch and motor coach. Contact **Dick Schally** Br 8, 260-5535 for more information.

Jan 9, 2014: Cuba: Music, Culture & the Roots of Revolution. A people to people program that visits Santiago de Cuba, a cultural melting pot of Afro-Cuban tradition - as well as Baracoa, an unspoiled gem on the coast. The Cuban capital of Havana will also be included. The cost of \$5295 includes RT Airfare, all accommodations, 28 meals, Private Motor coach, and English speaking guide. Contact **Russ Aubry**, Br 171, 510-644-2692.

May13, 2014: Hidden Gems of the Dalmatian Coast & Greece. A 16 day cruise aboard a privately owned Grand Circle small ship with a maximum of 50 passengers. Ports of Call include Zagreb, Split, Hvar, Korcula, Dubrovnik, Montenegro, Butrint, Albania, Corfu, Delphi and Athens. Prices range from approximately \$4595 to \$6170 depending on accommodations and airfare. Trip also includes 37 meals, 12 exclusive tours with personal headsets, home hosted dinners, and resident Grand Circle Program Director. Contact **Ken Richter**, 689-6217.



Jeff Baily

Note from the Editor

Just a note of thanks to our assistant editor **Rich Ahlf** for getting out the July, August and September issues. Nice job as usual **Rich**.
On another note, if you have any suggestions on how we might improve our newsletter, please let us know by sending an email to br146sircall@gmail.com
All suggestions are read and acknowledged.

Thanks

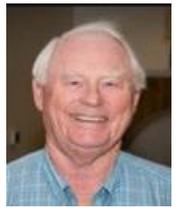
Jeff Baily SIR Call Editor

Genealogy

Verner Laursen

New

We had our first meeting in August at the Concord Family History Center in Concord and there were 10 people in attendance. Our next meeting will be on October 23rd. All of our meetings are at the Concord Family History Center in Concord and the address is 3700 Concord Blvd. The History Center entrance is on the back-side of the building. We meet from 1:30pm to 3:30pm. Beginners are welcome and our experts will get you started. There will be no meetings in November and December because the 4th Wednesday falls too close to Thanksgiving and Christmas.



The name of this group is the Old Money Poker Group
Left to right; **Sid Landman, Brad Hatcher, Frank Lucas, Don Tubb** and **Al Twyford**.
Missing from the picture is **Rich Ahlf**

Luncheon Attendance *Cont'd from page 5*

Our SIR Luncheon is the 2nd Thursday of every month at "The Clubhouse" restaurant at Boundary Oak Golf Course. The next luncheon will be October 10th. The price of our regular luncheon is \$25 with a no-host bar. Special requests: If you require a vegetarian meal or any special meal, please make that request to Baha. New members, guests, and sponsors: There will be a dedicated luncheon table set for any new members and their sponsors as well as guests and sponsors with place cards prepared so that you will be assured of a seat. New members along with their sponsors will be asked to join our Membership Chair in the Lakeview Room after the luncheon for a brief orientation session that is both informative and helpful to your acclimation to the Branch.



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Phyllis and Jim Meehan ready to order a scrumptious dish served up by Massimo's in Walnut Creek

Mac User Group (MUG)



Max Burchett



Verner Laursen

We will continue to meet the first Monday of the month at the Thurman Casey Library on Oak Grove. We are there to help you with your Mac software. (Apple does not have hardware problems.) In the next several meetings we will be looking at the new IOS 7 for the iPads and the iPhone. Before the end of the year we will have installed the new operating system (Maverick) and we will be covering the new features. If there are any PC users who have an iPhone and need help, they are welcome to come.



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Nancy and John Pearl relaxing at the September Couples Dining Out dinner

Duplicate Bridge 2

Dick DeVoe

Max Hinkle hosted us in his beautifully remodeled home on Sept. 6th. At halftime there was a tight pack at the top led by **John Boyan** at 15, **Tony Greco** at 14½ and three players tied for third at 14.

One of them was **John Demos**, who was the only one to bid and make 7 NT on board 22. Unfortunately he was playing with **John Boyan** so he didn't gain on him. At the end, **John B** was first (29), **John D** second (28), and **Harry Reiter** and **Dave Steinberg** were tied for third (26.5). **Tony** and **Bob Yolland** (26) tied for 5th barely mi\$\$ing the money. Our host was most improved, garnering four more match points in the second half than in the first half. Do we need a third half?



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

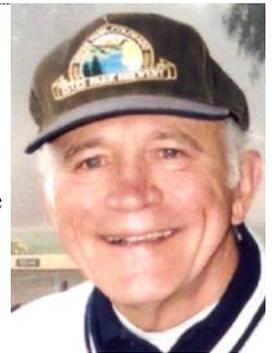
Lynn and Sally Shafer enjoying a relaxing time at the September Couples Dining Out event

Poker Club 4

Chuck Bobinecz

Well, since we have all made our quarterly estimated federal and state tax payments, there might be a little amount left for our next poker session. **Sir Garth Cummings** will be our host on September 23rd.

We play different poker games. The favorite lately seems to be Omaha. We try not to get to wild. We haven't played baseball yet. However, **Sir Bob Mehus** usually introduces a game we have not played before.



A lawyer's epitaph in England: Sir John Strange. Here lies an honest lawyer and that is Strange

Rogers & Hammerstein's



**-SIR 146 Theatre Party-
December 4th**



An evening with all your Rogers and Hammerstein favorites is on tap as SIR 146's Theatre Party in December. As a special holiday treat Diablo Theatre Company is presenting the Broadway hit "A Grand Night for Singing" for a limited run at the Leshar Center for the Arts, and SIR 146 has a block of seats for this entertaining evening.

From 1943 until the mid-1960's, Rogers and Hammerstein ruled the Broadway musical stage with such hits as Oklahoma, South Pacific, The King and I, and The Sound of Music. This musical revue brings all the hits together in one evening's entertainment. Also, you'll see stage productions of songs from State Fair, Carousel and Flower Drum Song, among others.

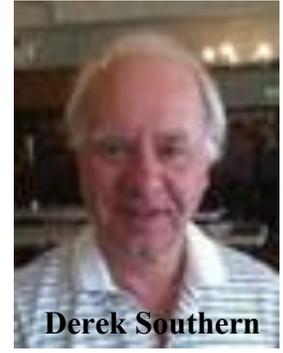
The show debuted on Broadway in 1994, and earned a Tony nomination for Best Musical. It's a perfect lead up to the holidays!

A limited number of reserved seats have been set aside for SIR 146 members and guests for the December 4 performance at 7:30 p.m. at the Leshar Arts Center in downtown Walnut Creek. Tickets are \$40 each, and may be reserved by sending a check, payable to SIR 146, to Sir Gary Schaub, 1758 Candelerio Court, Walnut Creek 94598. Questions? Call (925) 938-5454.

Tickets will be distributed in the Leshar Center lower lobby at 7:00 p.m. on performance night. Parking is available in the city garage adjacent to Leshar Center on Locust Street.



Phil Goff



Derek Southern

Area 2 Computers and Technology Group

Phil Goff and Derek Southern Co-chairs

Do you have a Smartphone or Tablet computer? If you don't you should get one! They are changing our daily lives in many positive ways. At the October CAT Meeting we are going to demonstrate the best smartphone & tablet apps. (apps are the programs that run on these devices.)

Since there are literally thousands of apps available for download, we are collecting a list of the favorite ones used by fellow SIR members. Whether you are interested in shopping for bargains, checking the weather, reading magazines and books, etc., we have some recommended apps for you. If you already have some favorite apps, you can share them with the group.

We will try to have several different smartphones and tablets available for demonstration. This will include iPhone, Android and the new Windows phone systems. See which you like best.

Time permitting, we may have some ideas for technology Christmas presents.

The Area 2 Computer and Technology Group advises all Sirs and their guests that our next meeting will be at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge on Thursday, October 17th at 9:30am. Whether you are a beginner or a seasoned user, we try to offer something for everyone. We always have free coffee and cookies and time for lots of socializing. From time to time we collect a voluntary donation of \$5 to cover our ongoing costs. Please plan to join us.

It's always fun to learn something new.



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Eleanor and Doug Harris enjoying the Couples Dining Out event.

Poker Club 3

Siegfried Kalteis

We had our monthly game Monday, Sept. 23. **Jim Passaglia, Ron Plachy, Bob Weiden, Bill Baltazore, Jim Meehan, Bob Lyman** and myself were in attendance. **Jim Meehan** had just about the best day ever. He just could not lose and was stuffing away green in all available pockets. You know a guy

has a good day when he has a pat hand in draw poker! But no worry, we will get him next time!



Wine Tasting

Bill Holly

Our next wine tasting will be on Wednesday, October 23rd from 2:30pm to 5:00pm at the home of **Al and Diane Munayer**, 3455 Stone Valley Rd. Alamo, CA 94507.

Directions: Take Highway 680 South from Walnut Creek to Alamo and exit at the Stone Valley Road East exit. Go East/Southeast on Stone Valley Road past Green Valley Road. Continue North on Stone Valley Road and proceed to 3455 Stone Valley Road (approximately 4 miles from Highway 680).



Red: Argentinean Red



White: Argentinean White

Please bring a single bottle of either the red or the white wine (under \$20) in a brown paper bag. Put information about the wine on a piece of paper inside the bag. Also, please bring an appetizer to share.

Spouses are always invited to attend.

Sorry The October Wine Tasting event is full

Note: I will be out-of-town from September 10th through October 4th and I'm not sure if I will have email available.

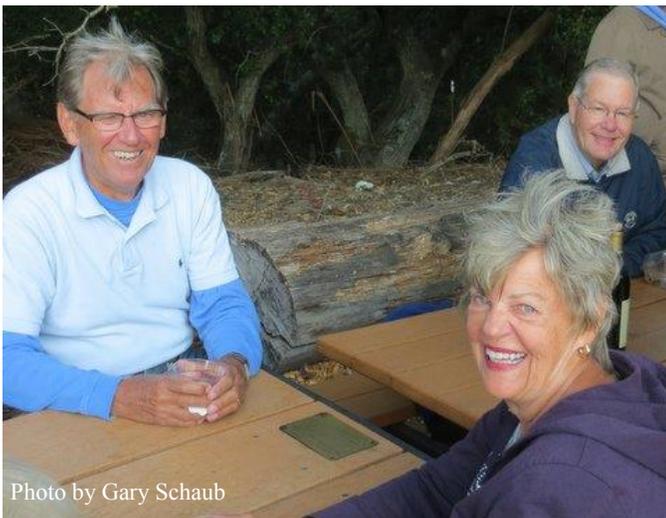
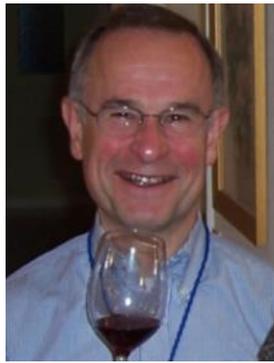


Photo by Gary Schaub

Ken and Elaine Richter joined **Walt Busenius** before the SIR 146 Theatre Party at California Shakespeare Theatre.



Sunshine

Walt Busenius
945-0715

Busenius@astound.net

We are deeply saddened with the passing of **Sir Charlie Kiser** on August 23rd. We offer our condolences to his family.

Charlie was a charter member of our branch and a Senior Honorary Life Member.

We offer our condolences to **Sir Bill Hartman** and family on the passing of his wife **Pat** at home on September 15th.

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

Art Ainscough
Mike Cavallo
Ed Malboeuf
Chuck Bobinecz
Elmer Kaprielian
Dominic DiMatteo
Guy Rudberg
Bob Van Luchene
Ron Pascoe
Lynn Miller
Frank McNamee
Joe Barry
Bob Walton
Ron DeGolia

Please try to contact a sick Sir to offer support and encouragement during his illness. A friendly call is always welcomed.

If you are aware of a sick Sir, please let me know by phone or e-mail, as shown above, so that our Sir membership can be advised.

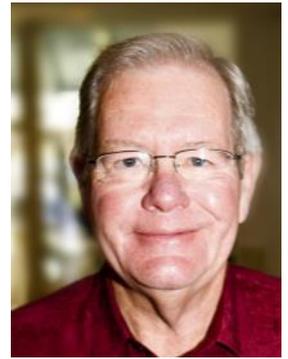


Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Couples Dining Out comaradarie with L to R, **Lo and Sue McCarley, Joanne Thorne, Susan Oranje and Gayl Thorne.** Gayl, a member-to-be, and his wife **Joanne** were guests of the **Borgmans**.



Walkers

John Lewis



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

October Walks

October walks planned by **Lo McCarley**

Oct 4 Hidden Lakes: Pleasant Hill
Meet: At Hidden Lakes Park at Morello and Chilpancingo
Walk: From the end of parking, take trail following Morello clockwise
Partly paved Not level some shade
Coffee: Panera Bread Willows Shopping Center

Oct 11 Walden Park East: Walnut Creek
Meet: At Walden Park parking
Walk: East along Contra Costa Canal
Coffee: Panera Bread Countrywood Center on Bancroft Rd.

Oct 18 Lime Ridge Open Space: Treat Blvd. Concord
Meet: At Parking. North side of Treat Blvd.
Walk: Clockwise on the trail loop around the mountain
Coffee: Panera Bread Countrywood Center on Bancroft Rd.

Oct 25 San Leandro Reservoir: Moraga Rd. Moraga
Meet: At Moraga Safeway. We could carpool or drive together to the staging area. Take Canyon Rd west one mile to the staging area parking
Walk: South along reservoir with East Bay MUD permission
Coffee: Terzetto Cuisine, Moraga



Photo by Gary Schaub

Lo & Sue McCarley and Bruce Borgman during intermission at "Lady Windermere's Fan" at a chilly California Shakespeare play theatre

*Here lies the body of Anna Lauder
Who died while taking Sedlitz Powder
It was prescribed along with rest
But she overdosed and effervesced*

SongSirs

Bruce Borgman

In September the SongSirs were busy rehearsing for the planned performance at the Assisted Living Facility Chateau III in Pleasant Hill. We all wear a white polo, khaki pants, and a blue vest which enhances our appearance! Our efforts were rewarded with an enthusiastic welcome when we performed on Thursday September 19. Under the direction of **Pete Miller** we sang a series of popular tunes including September in the Rain, Are You Lonesome Tonight, As Time Goes By, Someone to Watch Over Me, I'll be Seeing You and others. Several of the songs featured solos by **Lynn Shafer**, **Corrie Oranje**, and **Jim Bogue**. Also performed was the somewhat frivolous and fun tune Lydia, the Tattooed Lady, which includes solos by several of our group. Our pianist, **Dave Obera** also adds his solo renditions to the tunes. **Harry Tutton's** humorous introductions are always well received. After we were done, we were called back for an encore and sang a rousing rendition of God Bless America. We will be performing this program again for the Senior Center at the Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church on October 2. We invite all SIRs who enjoy singing to join us during our regular rehearsals at the Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church; every first and third Wednesday at 2:30pm. Please contact the coordinator of our group, **Don Tubb** if you are interested or have questions!

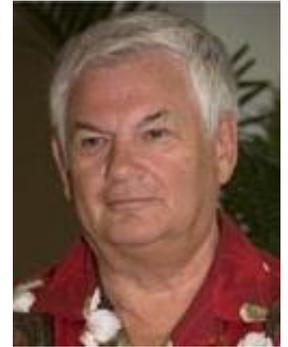


Photo by Bruce Borgman

SIR Branch 146 SongSirs practicing for their upcoming shows around the local area.

*On a grave from the 1880's in Nantucket, Mass.
Under the sod and under the trees,
Lies the body of Jonathan Pease
He is not here. There's only the pod
Pease shelled out and went up to God*

SIR CALL *Newsletter*

Sons In Retirement, Inc.
br146sircall@gmail.com