



Jeff Baily

Big Sir's Notes

"I'm going to step in and chair the Wine Tasting Group from **Dale Haukland**," who is retiring, said **Bill Holly** during his post-induction briefing with New Member Relations chair **Pete Gates** and me.

Remember this statement was during his post-induction briefing! Now that's stepping up to the bar. (pardon the pun) But energy and enthusiasm are the hallmarks of our new members. New members are our future. All

of us in Branch 146, are working hard to make new members (newbies) feel welcome and they are responding very well.

Let's look at some of the getting-involved newbies (2006 and later inductees): **Vince Rettew** is taking over Social and is a 2009

Branch 146 Director-elect, **Mal Hendry** is growing the Guys Dine Out (ROMEO-Retired Old Men Eating Out) group, **John Pearl** is leading the Explore and Dine group. **Bob Darius** is busy learning software and procedures for preparing the Sircall bulletin so that he can serve as a "backup Editor". **Joe Fuchs** is a 2009 Branch 146

Director-elect. **Terry Marchione** has started the Book Exchange and is a 2009 Branch 146 Director-elect. **Chuck Kistenmacher** is

Chaplain. **Rich Colombo** - Assistant Treasurer, **Tom Thomson**, '07 and '08 BEC and serving as Treasurer. **Ron Binder** on the '08 BEC and is a 2009 Branch 146 Director-elect. **Ron DeGolia**- 2009

Branch 146 Director-elect, **Jim Burk**, 2009 Branch 146 Director-elect, **Jack Hockel**, 2009 Branch 146 Director-elect.

Our advise to all newcomers is try out some groups and activities and see if you enjoy them. We have a combination of some 50

committees and activities to choose from. Go to www.sir146.com and click on "Activities and committees" If you can't find something that flaps your chaps, there is always the option of starting

your own group - say Horseshoes or Hiking. If you do that, Activities Coordinator **Dick DeVoe** is always available to help

launch your own activity.

Newbie **Hugh Ferguson** says " I joined SIR Branch146 the last quarter of 2007. Since joining I have joined the Monday Pool

group and the 9 Hole Golf group. I enjoy both groups in the way they are organized and the friendship I see".

Another self-starter, **Mike Siebert** says "Since becoming a Sir last October, I have joined the Golf Group and have issued tickets for the lunches. I really enjoy the company of some fine people during

golf on Tuesdays. The breadth of experience of the retirees is astounding. I've played with guys who are marine navigation experts, professors, engineers, airline pilots, doctors, and with guys

who have played golf with **Arnie Palmer**, **Jack Nicklaus** and **Gary Player**! I would like to see us get a Doubles Tennis Group going, and I may join the Walking Group."

Here's what Newbie, Sir **Corrie Oranje** wrote in a note to me:

"My first impression with our SIR group is how genuinely welcome everyone, including you, made me feel. Our membership seems to be made up of folks of many walks of life but once together our group seems to jell as one cohesive unit with one goal in mind and that is to enjoy the moment. The feeling I get is how proud every one is to be a member of our particular branch. It didn't take long for me to feel the same way. I truly feel honored to have been asked to be a member of such a fine organization. Thank you."

A note the other day from new member **Dick Woodman**: SIR is an amazing organization with so many available activities to choose from. "I play golf every week and participate in the Traveling Group which is fun, informative and reasonable in cost. More importantly, traveling with a group allows me and my wife to meet many wonderful people in the organization." A note to readers on the web who aren't yet members Branch 146 of the Sons in Retirement organization:

Most of the men you read about here knew very few men in SIR when they joined. Some did not know anybody in SIR. However once they joined SIR they felt the warm welcoming atmosphere which characterizes SIR and they didn't hesitate to become involved in activities or start a group on their own, getting other members to join them, and voila! They were making new friends and merging smoothly into the organization.

New members are the lifeblood of our organization. Remember the early days of SIR, when everybody was new and energy abounded? Growth of the organization was nothing short of explosive through 1992. At Branch 146 we, in a sense, want to replicate that situation on a micro level. The New

Member Relations chair, **Pete Gates** and I meet with each new member inducted immediately after the luncheon at which he

was inducted. We tell him that he and other inductees are the center point of any success that SIR is going to enjoy going

forward. We encourage him to get excited about SIR, get involved and invite his closest friends to a luncheon and

encourage them to join SIR immediately and make this place his place where his friends are. That spirit replicates the spirit

of the old days and SIR Branch 146 is starting to grow young again. It's working. Newbies are getting involved and inviting

their friends to join them. We are inducting many new and young members. Older members don't see the influx of

younger members as a threat. They welcome them.

Update August 13, 2008

Today we learned that, for the first time in Branch 146's history and perhaps for the first time in the history of SIR, a

branch's average age decreased. Our average age went from an all-time high of 76.3 years which we have held steady at for

well over a year now (and that was a first) down to 76.2 years.

[continued next page](#)

continued from page one:

To our leaders on the Branch 146 BEC I say, "Your strategy is working. Keep up the good work for the Branch."

Update August 14, 2008

Today at the monthly Branch 146 meeting, the Leadership on the BEC took a big step forward and eliminated the maximum induction limit of three men per month. Henceforth a qualified applicant will be inducted without delay once he has been introduced and his completed application form has been submitted. Kudos to the BEC.



Little Sir's Corner

Stu Somerville

Our speakers for September will be **Gayle Vassar**, Community Relations Manager for the City of Walnut Creek and Lt. **Mark Covington** of the Walnut Creek Police Department. The topic will be C.E.R.T., Community Emergency Response Team.

Cert training is a six-session course that includes lessons on personal preparedness, fire safety, shutting off utilities, disaster first aid and triage, and other disaster response techniques. More than 700 people from our area have taken this training, since its inception in 2004.



Party Bridge Fred Bolton

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

We played four tables of bridge at the home of **Fred Bolton** on Aug 4. 1st place went to **Fred Kovar** with 6800 pts, 2nd to Jim Brown with 4510, 3rd to **Dick Devoe** & 4th to **Jim Jackson**. Our next game will be delayed one week due to the holiday and be held at **Jim Brown's** home on Sept 8th.



Duplicate Bridge George Zurich

Our match is held each month on the Monday after the SIR Luncheon at various homes. Bring your lunch.

August, **SIR Jim Todhunter** hosted 3 tables of Duplicate Bridge at his home. The results were as follows: **Dick Johnson** was in 1st Place with 27.5 points. There was a three-way tie for 2nd Place with 26.5 points among **Jim Brown**, **Jim Jackson**, and **Carl Johnson**.

The next match will be held on Monday September 15th at **Bob Yolland's** home.

Tres' Gourmet Ron De Golia

The July meeting of Tres' Gourmet was held at **Joe Lamanna's**.

This was **Joe's** menu for this outstanding Italian meal:

ANTIPASTA
SALAMI
VARIETY OF CHEESES
CRACKERS
DIPPING OIL AND VINEGAR
TOSSED GREEN SALAD
BALSAMIC DRESSING
TORTIGLIONI PASTA WITH MARINARA SAUCE
VARIETY OF ITALIAN SAUSAGES
MEAT BALLS
CHICKEN
PIGS FEET
SHORT RIBS
SOUR DOUGH BREAD
BUTTER
SPIMONI ICE CREAM
BISCOTTI
COFFEE

Several bottles of very good wine accompanied our get together and meal. The fellows are learning how to talk about subjects other than golf. More work is needed but a good time was had by all.

The August 21st meeting will be at **Ron De Golia's**.



Couples Duplicate Bridge Lo McCarley

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

Bob and Janet Yolland hosted couples bridge on Aug 20. **Jim Brown** and **Barbara Lundblade** were 1st with 35.5 points, **Carl** and **Anne Johnson** 2nd 34 pts, **Stu** and **Margot Summerville** 3rd 33.5 pts and **Lynn** and **Dasha Freeman** 4th with 33 pts.

Lynn and **Dasha Freeman** will host next month on Wednesday Sept 17th.

Couples Duplicate Bridge Too

Joe Barry

Couples Duplicate Bridge #2 meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm at participants' homes. Couples play as partners.

Couples Duplicate Bridge #2 meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 at participant's homes. Couples play as partners. **Joe and Josie Barry** came in 1st with 26 points, followed closely by **Lynn and Dasha Freeman** with 24 pts. and **Stu and Margot Somerville** with 22 pts. **Joe and Josie Barry** will host the September Bridge. Anyone interested in being a substitute for the group give **Joe** a call at 939-3869.



Cooking

Dave Johnson

1st Monday at various members' homes.

Our August meeting was held at a local restaurant with excellent restroom facilities. The ugly rumor, that it was because we are sick and tired of each other's cooking, is totally untrue. Actually, we were just evaluating the local cuisine. We came to several negative conclusions: 1) there were too many choices on the menu for prompt decisions by some members, 2) social hour was entirely too short, 3) a pitcher of beer is no substitute for three or four bottles of wine and 4) we need hors d'oeuvres. On the positive side, the servers looked much better in tight skirts than most of the members of our group. (**Mandic** says that he also has great legs!). There is a possibility that we will have to reconsider this activity. Next month, we drink wine at **Spellman's**, on the 14th, at 2:00 pm, and may even bottle some.

Area 2 \$ums In Retirement

Dave Munson

4th Wednesday, 8am (breakfast starts at 7am) at the Diablo Creek Golf Course (Legends Grill), North Port Chicago Highway and Highway 4, Concord

The \$ums In Retirement Area 2 Investment Group will hold its meeting on September 24 at the Diablo Creek Golf Course commencing at 8:00am. The speaker will be **John Hutchinson** CFP of Stone & Youngberg LLC, San Francisco. **John** specializes in fixed income securities and he will be giving us an update on the current fixed income market, including municipals, corporate, US Treasuries, GNMA, FNMA and preferreds.

With the equity markets in such a state of flux the bond market is, perhaps, a better place for your money at the moment. Here is your chance to ask your questions and discuss with an expert.

Dave Munson, Chairman Area 2, \$ums In Retirement Investment Group.



Garden Club

Chuck Bobinecz

1st Thursday at 9:30 am at the Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church, 1801 Lacassie Ave., in the Multipurpose Room, unless otherwise announced.

We have a full bus for our trip to Copia and Castello di Amorosa. We leave on September 4th from the Mitchell Dr. parking lot in Walnut Creek. Please meet at 8:15am and we will leave at 8:30am and return about 4:30pm. Wear your walking shoes.

Sir **Jack Calloway** has arranged for a speaker for our regular October meeting. **Nicole Hackett** will speak on perennials and California natives. She recently gave a talk on ornamental grasses. An excellent speaker.

Garden tip of the month: You don't have to tear up when cutting onions. Chill them in the freezer for 15 minutes or in the refrigerator for a half hour.



Chuck Bobinecz, Georgia Cook, Jack Calloway and Lew Thompson



Table Pool

Bill Weinberg

*1st and 3rd Monday at 11:30 am.
(at Masse's 2721 N. Main, Walnut Creek)*

The Table Pool Club met and had a great turn-out with 5 tables playing.

The quality of play has been improving all the time and it makes for good competition. Hope you can make one of our meetings.

Bowling

Larry Mitchell



Two tournaments are scheduled for September. Both are close enough to drive to without spending too much for gas, which is a major consideration these days. The first is at Earl Anthony's Bowl in Dublin on Sept. 15th and 18th. The second is in Fremont at the Cloverleaf Bowl on Sept. 28th and 29th. Both events will be Singles Doubles and All Events. For more information or entry forms please call me at 925-798-5440.



Poker Club #1 Frank McNamee

Poker Club #1 met at the residence of **John Lewis** on Wednesday August 13th and as I mentioned in last month's Sir Call that the three losers from last month were out for revenge. Well I'm happy to report that **Bill Cammerer** and **Frank McNamee** did their part and **Dan O'Sullivan** came up just short by losing about the price of a discount candy bar. We felt it was about time that **Bob Frankland**, **Howard Harvey**, **John Lewis**, and **Bob White** ended up holding the second best hands for a change. The next contest will be at **Frank McNamee's** home Wednesday September



Sunshine Otto Wilson

Phone: 825-1943
E-mail: ottowilson@astound.net



Sir Walt Barabash is back in the hospital.

Sir Al Bond is home after a stay in the hospital due to a fall he had.

Jill Root, wife of **Sir Bill** is home ill.



Poker Club #4 Chuck Bobinecz

Sir **Pete Gates** will host our August 25th game. Please contact **Pete** by August 18th if you cannot attend so that he can arrange for a sub.

If you are interested in being a sub in the Poker #4 group, give me a call.

Chuck Bobinecz (925) 939-8740

At any time during a betting round, if one player bets and no opponent choose to "call" (match) the bet and instead

EXTRA "PUMP BOY" TICKETS AVAILABLE

Several extra seats are available for the September 11 performance of the rollicking musical "**Pump Boys and Dinettes**" at the Campbell Theatre in Martinez. Curtain time is 7:30 pm. These are seats from SIR members who previously reserved but now cannot attend on that date. Seats are \$19.00 each. If interested, call or send e-mail to Gary Schaub at (925) 938-5454 or artzar@aol.com

Gary F. Schaub
SIR 146

1758 Candelero Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

e-mail: artzar@aol.com
Phone: (925) 938-5454 Fax: (925) 934-5456

Poker Club #6 erts

Bill Roberts

Our August game was held as scheduled (the 1st Wednesday of the month) at **Bill Robert's** place (our permanent host). **Charlie Koeber** returned to the game after missing last month and picked up where he left off. The other players are encouraging **Charlie** to take more vacations. **Skip Thomas** warded off his golf induced injuries and wound up the big winner. **Skip** spent a good part of the evening standing up which, according to him, relieved the pain in his leg. However the rest of us suspected it gave **Skip** a better view of our cards. Once again, **Bill Roberts** provided us with a great meal.

Our regular players are **Bill Roberts** (permanent host), **Terry Marchione**, **Ken Richter**, **Skip Thomas**, **Bob Spellman**, **Dean Merritt**, **Charlie Koeber**, and **Stu Somerville**.

Wide World of Books Terry Marchione



This month I'm recommending a book which will definitely appeal to the golfers in our group but non-golfers should enjoy it as well since it is as much a story about life as it is about golf. Since I purchased this book on my Kindle, the Book Exchange does not have a copy (as far as I know). However, I know that at least one member of our group has a copy.

Regarding the Kindle, I have had some fellow SIRs' mentioned they have read reviews of the device which pointed out some shortcomings. Trust me—the positives far outweigh the negatives. Mostly it has to do with the placement of the controls on the device. I suspect the next generation of the device will address these issues but there is no need to wait.

The Match:

In 1956, millionaires **Eddie Lowery** and **George Coleman** made an off-the-cuff bet on a golf match and inadvertently set up one of the sport's most climactic duels; this one casual game has become the sport's great suburban legend. Frost (*The Greatest Game Ever Played*) diligently covers the two pros slightly past their prime, **Ben Hogan** and **Byron Nelson**, who squared off against two top amateurs, **Harvie Ward** and **Ken Venturi**. It happened in the last hours of **Hogan's** playing career, and ten years after **Byron** had left the stage, but at the near pinnacle of the amateurs', whose personalities couldn't have been more diametrically opposed (**Venturi** the classic up-and-comer, and **Ward** the inveterate playboy who performed hung over on two hours' sleep). The match itself, scrupulously teased out by **Frost** for maximum drama, is less interesting than the people involved and the historical backdrop. The match happened near the sport's great cusp, as it transitioned from something for amateurs to a professional career, from a pastime for wastrel aristocrats and entertainers (and **Bing Crosby**, with his annual booze-soaked Clambake charity matches) to a mainstream suburban obsession. **Frost** has a penchant toward the florid, but as he writes, because he was **Ben Hogan**, and it was just past twilight, and his like would never pass this way again, he captures an elusive magic in this improbable matchup and what it meant for those who played and witnessed it.

ROMEO

(Retired Old Men Eating Out)
Malcolm Hendry



The ROMEO group meets on the third Thursday of the month at 6:30pm at select restaurants in the East Bay. Come join your fellow SIR members for delicious dining in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere.

On September 18th, we will be dining at "Saroor" a Indian Cuisine restaurant which has a wide and varied menu along with a full service bar. This restaurant has been serving in Walnut Creek for over four years and has been listed by "Time Out Dining" as one of the top 10 new East Bay restaurants. This is your chance, for many of you, to step out of the ordinary and experience specialties and delicacies prepared in the India/Pakistan traditions. And if you are in the mood for buffet, you have the option.

Location: 2580 North Main Street, Walnut Creek, Ca (easy parking)

Web Site: www.saroorindiancuisine.com

Phone: 925-937-2031

Please let me know by Tuesday, September 16th that you will attend.

If you would like us to try your favorite restaurant, or a restaurant that you think appropriate, please let me know. See you in September.



Martin Lyle, Ron Ragno & Rollin Nordeen

Travel Opportunities Bob Spellman



Oct 6-19, 2008 Danube Dream. Glide past fairy-tale castles and medieval villages aboard the ms Switzerland II riverboat traveling the second longest river in Europe. Take in views of the Czech Republic, Germany, Austria, Slovakia and Hungary. Enjoy a 2 night stay in Budapest followed by a 7 night cruise on the Danube and 3 night stay in Prague. Cost: \$3415 to \$3660. Sponsored by Branch 8. Call **Bob Hagler** for more information. 934-7620

Oct 10, 2008 Day at the Races. Here's an opportunity for a fun day of watching the horse's race at Golden Gate Fields. Cost is \$23. pp, includes admission, reserved seating, race program, fancy buffet meal, and valet parking. Tickets are available from **Bob Spellman**. 3524 Perada Dr. Walnut Creek, CA 945698. Make your check payable to SIR Branch #146. We will need all checks no later than Sept 3rd.

Oct 28-30, SIR 50th Anniversary in Reno. Enjoy two nights at the beautiful and luxurious Grand Sierra Resort & Casino plus an exclusive SIR 50th anniversary reception and dinner followed by a performance by world famous comedian **Yakov Smirnoff**. The tour features: Deluxe motor coach transportation, two night's accommodations, SIR welcome reception, exclusive anniversary dinner and tickets to **Yakov Smirnoff** performance, baggage handling, gratuities and taxes. Cost: \$291 pp.do. \$ 45 single supplement. Contact **Bob Spellman** 934-8428 for more information.

Nov 3-15, 2008 Vietnam & Thailand Gateway to South East Asia. 13 day adventure that will take us from Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) Vietnam to Hanoi, Ha Long Bay, Chiang Mai and on to exotic Bangkok, Thailand. Trip includes round trip airfare, motor coach transportation, hotel accommodations, and all tips for guides and drivers, daily breakfast, nine hosted lunches and dinner daily. Cost: \$3885 per person. Contact **Bob Spellman** 934-8428.

Jan 26-30 2009 New York Theatre Tour. The tour includes round trip airline transportation to New York, four night's accommodation at the Edison Hotel, Times Square Dinner at Tavern on the Green and Langan's plus full American breakfast daily. Three Orchestra/Front Mezzanine Broadway Shows (one matinee). 90 minute interactive Camp Broadway session with an actor. All taxes, gratuities and baggage also covered. Cost: \$2565.pp. Contact **Gary Schaub** @ 938-5454.



Theater Gary Schaub

BRIGHTEN UP YOUR JANUARY IN NEW YORK CITY



For a great SIR getaway in January, join us for the "Bright Lights on Broadway" theatre tour, January 26 – 30, 2009. Those who went with us in 2005 had a great time, so we're doing it again.

We promise Orchestra/Mezzanine seats for three fun-filled Broadway shows, accommodations at a top Times Square area hotel, two dinners (including the famous Tavern on the Green), and air transportation from Bay Area to JFK, with transfers to our hotel, all taxes & gratuities, plus some additional attractions that will make this a memorable getaway.

In your free time, you can shop at Bloomingdale's or skate at Rockefeller Center. There's always lots to do in New York, and joining your SIR friends will make it even more fun.

Package cost is \$2,565 per person/double occupancy (\$690 single supplement). A \$200 deposit holds your reservation.

Pick up a flyer at the entry desk or contact Sir **Gary Schaub** for a copy.

1758 Candelero Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94598
e-mail: artzar@aol.com
Phone: (925) 938-5454

Luncheon Attendance

Glen Renk



SIR Luncheon is the 2nd Thursday of every month at the Sunrise at Boundary Oak Restaurant

Call me by Friday noon prior to the Luncheon at 672-7860 if, for any reason, you are unable to attend. If I am not home, leave your name, badge number and phone number. Be sure you call!

Waiting List:

If you are going to attend, you must call by Friday prior to the Thursday Luncheon.

Sir bringing a guest:

Call by Friday prior to the Thursday Luncheon and leave your name and the name of your guest.

Regular members missing 3 consecutive meetings without notifying their attendance chairman, giving a valid reason, or attending less than 6 meetings in the last 12 months shall be notified by letter of their pending membership termination.

Certification of another Branch meeting will be considered as credit to attendance record.

Luncheon Menu

Waldorf Salad
Braised Pork Ribs with Natural Jus or
Cashew Crusted Catfish
With Tomato Basil Cream
Roasted Garlic Mashed Potatoes
Pan Seared Summer Squash
Berry Cobbler

Special Luncheon Requirements

If you need a vegetarian lunch, please call and make a request.

Your request will stay in effect until you cancel it.

If for medical reasons you cannot eat lunch, please notify me. Your request will stay in effect until you cancel it, however, you will be required to pay a \$1 fee for club dues.

Membership

Jim Jackson



Branch 146 Statistics:

Members 255, HLMs 4, Waiting List 8, Inactive 9.

August Attendance:

Members 197, HLMs 1, Waiting List 2, Guests 3, Excused 49, Unexcused 9.

Total August Attendance: 203.

Status Changes:

Inducted: **Donald Fitzgerald, Siegfried Kalteis, Ron Ragno**

Added to Waiting List: **None**

Inactive: **Willard Thorbrogger**

Resigned: **Don Merchant**

Current Waiting List (prioritized): **Ronald Louis, Walter Busenius, David Pierce, Bruce Gilbert, Dale Hertweck, Kirby Narcisse, Paul Yee and Charles Campbell.**



Travel Chair
Bob Spellman
in Formal Attire ?

Area 2 Computers and Technology Group

PHIL GOFF, Chairman, 831-3692, philgoff@yahoo.com
DICK CURRY, Asst. Chairman, 376-5541,
racorinda@pacbell.net

Meetings of the Area 2 Computer and Technology Group are held the 3rd Thursday of each month (except June and December) from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Drive (just off South Main.)

Thursday, September 18, **Derek Southern** will present "All About Blogging" and **Phil Goff** will demonstrate the new Firefox 3.0 Browser.

More and more organizations and individuals are creating their own Blogs. Why? Have you ever wanted to post your own political views, boast about the grandchildren, or just show off your pictures from a wonderful vacation? Find out how to blog, then decide if you want to! Two free programs will be presented (Blogger and WordPress) and a blog will be created "live" to show how easy it can be to post text, pictures and even a photo-album.

Firefox is a web browser similar to Internet Explorer. However, it has features that Internet Explorer doesn't have and it is the fastest growing browser available. Best of all its free! Come and hear why you may want to start using Firefox 3.0.

Following the two presentations, **Dick Curry** will lead an informative Computer Q&A session.

Whether you are a beginner or a seasoned user, we try to offer something for everyone. We serve coffee and pastries and all SIR members and their guests are welcome



Cribbage Al Tufo

Whoa, Whoa the Jockey was yelling into the ear of the Italian Stallion as he was thundering down the stretch to the finish line fifty yards ahead of all the other players. **Dan Meckfessel** tried to keep up, but to no avail, and came in second. After a brief cooling down, it was time for the second race to begin. The trainer had a bag of oats delivered to the I.S. There was no stopping him after that. Down the stretch he came never looking back, crossed the finish going away. The Dublin Kid **Larry Reilly** placed second. Next month Cribbage will be hosted by **Barney Meade** at 11:30 am.
CIAO TUFO

Fishing

Sal Costanza



4th Thursday at 8:30 am. at Diablo Creek Golf Course (Legends Grill). North Port Chicago Hwy

All SIR members and guests are welcome and, indeed, encouraged to participate in fishing trips as well as attend the monthly meetings.

Harry Sherinian led a shore fishing expedition of SIR's to the Alameda Rockwall. Joining **Harry** were **Tom Boltz**, **Dick Thomson**, **Joe Miscione**, **Joe Karg**, **Bob Olsen**, **Terry Miller**, and **Carl Moyer**. No aquatic species were injured. **Rich Bal** organized a trip to the Skeena River in British Columbia for many king and silver salmon to 50 pounds, and a few halibut. **Ed Djikman**, **Jack Waddell**, **Roger Miller**, and **Paul Dubow** were the happy anglers. **Carl Moyer**, **Joe Karg**, **Karl Droese**, and **Tom Boltz** hired a guide to fish Lake Berryessa for kokanee salmon. Only 3 kokanee, a king salmon, and a smallmouth bass were caught. **Craig Walton** and **Kent Cremolini** fished the lake the same day in **Craig's** boat, and **Craig** caught 2 trout and a kokanee. **Pete Gates**, **Tom Boltz**, and **Steve Laughlin** ventured north all the way to Whaler's Cove, in Angoon, Alaska, where they caught a few salmon, halibut to 50 lbs, and many rockfish. **Carl Moyer** and **Terry Miller** joined a friend of **Carl's** drift fishing the bay for 6 lovely and tasty halibut. **Karl Droese** led two forays for mackinaw trout in Lake Tahoe, for a nice mackinaw each caught by **Terry Miller**, **Al Brunner**, and **Dave Carlson**. **Joe Karg** went out the Golden Gate on a party boat for a limit of rock fish and a big 8 lb cabazone. **Carl Moyer** caught limits of rockfish and lingcod on several voyages in the ocean. **Don Mittlestaedt** fished Lake Crowley with tiny midge flies for some big trout including a 28 inch monster brown trout. **Dick Thomson** hosted the annual Fishing Club barbecues where 33 Sirs, their spouses, friends and relatives enjoyed a wonderful afternoon and evening sing along. All attendees had great praise for the affair.

We will be very busy in the future with trout fishing in the Eastern Sierras; halibut and salmon fishing in Alaska; tuna and bill fish in Mexico; striped bass and halibut in the bay; trolling and fly fishing for trout at Lake Davis; crab and sand dab or rock cod and delta fishing for striped bass and sturgeon. If you haven't been fishing in a while, but might like to test drive an adventure, come on down to our next meeting.

Next meeting will be Thursday, September 25th at the Legend Sports Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course at 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Meeting starts at 8:30 am. For further information, please contact **Craig Walton** (Big Fish) (925-937-4876); **Carl Moyer** (Branch 8 Coordinator) (925-685-5243); or **Joe Peterson** (Treasurer/Secretary)(916-777-5363.)

SIR 146 Computer Classes

Jeff Baily

Photoshop Elements 6 Program



Class dates for 2008: Every Wednesday in October (1, 8, 15, 22, 29) from 9am to 11am. Place: Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church, upstairs. Please mark your calendar now. Below is a brief description of the course content... To a beginner, Photoshop Elements is a relatively complex digital photography program and learning it can be daunting. **Rich Ahlf** is now teaching only aspects of PE 6 that SIR students want to learn. He has gone from teaching the whole program to breaking it into modules that SIR students have asked him about. For example, how do you get pictures from your camera or a CD onto your computer so that you can do things to them with the Photoshop Elements 6 program? How do you send pictures via email? How do you get rid of red eye? How do you enhance the color? How about changing the background of a picture and so on? Think about the things you'd like to change on pictures you have and then bring any questions to the Photoshop Elements class. You can even email **Rich** a photo and he'll demonstrate how to change it in class. This way you can attend a class no matter how far along it is in the program and still come away having learned something valuable.

Non-Responsibility Declaration:

Rule 345: All activities arranged for or by, Sons In Retirement, Inc., and its Branches, are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their guests who desire to participate. Sons In Retirement, Inc., and its Branches do not assume any responsibility for the well being or safety of the participants or their property, in any matters pertaining to said activities.

SIR HAPPENINGS

SIR Happenings is the statewide SIR Newsletter. Just go to www.sirinc.org and click on SIR Happenings to read the current issue. You may enjoy reading about the activities of other SIR Branches.

Explore and Dine John Pearl



Our July outing was to the home of **John Muir** in Martinez, which is now a National Historic Site. After a short film about **John Muir's** life, we had a ranger-lead tour of the home, where we also learned a lot about **John Muir**, his family, and his farm. This farm was once a large commercial fruit operation, with it's own railroad stop for shipping the crops to market. We had a great lunch nearby at Mangia Bene'.

We're taking a break in September, but plan to resume again on October 28th, with a trip to Bencia, visiting the former State Capital (from 1853 to 1854), and possibly the adjoining **Fischer - Hanlon** historical home. There are also several interesting glass-blowing "factories" with shops in the area.

John Pearl
mcppearl@astound.net
934-6920



Explore & Dine Group at
John Muir House

Bocce Ball Bob Frankland

2nd and 4th Mondays at 9 am, April through November, at Concord Bocce Courts in Newhall Park, Concord, near the corner of Turtle Creek and Ayers Roads.



Weather's been great. We've been having some great games. Come join us at the courts. We will be playing much of the fall until the rains come. October usually is our last month. So join us, there's still plenty of time left to play.



The event planned for September is the Solvang Tournament. This is a 4 man two best ball tournament for the men and a four person scramble format for the women. It will be held September 14-17, 2008. We will stay at the Santa Ynez Valley Marriott Inn 555 Mc Murray Road Buelton. The price is \$393 per golfer (double occupancy) or \$530 for a single golfer. The price includes: Four days/three nights at the hotel, two days of golf; Monday at Ranch San Marcos Golf Course and Tuesday at Alisal River Course/Solvang. Wine and beer reception Sunday and Monday evening. Three breakfasts (Mon-Wed), Awards Banquet (Tuesday), prizes (paid to approx 30% of the field). Closest to the Hole prize for Men and Women each day and a \$200 prize for a hole in one. This event will be hosted by **Dave Betts**, **Dave Nielsen** and **Don Hansen** of our State Golf Committee. **Dave** can be reached at 599-434-1468. The town of Solvang is a replica of a Danish village with lots of shops. There is also Casino nearby for those interested in games of chance. Entry forms are on sirinc.org or are available from **Jim Baldrige** or **Dick Richmond**.

SIR Br 45, Yuba City is also organizing their 2nd Annual Fall Fling Scramble. It will be held October 22 & 23rd, 2008. This event is open to SIRs and ladies with NCGA handicaps. The cost is \$125. The fee includes: buy in for daily prizes, two days of golf w/cart, range balls, tee prizes, two \$5 chips valid for food or pro-shop. Free overnight RV parking is available or special overnight room rates are available at the Colusa Casino. This event is hosted by **Mel Verzi**. **Mel's** address is P.O. Box 1479 Chico CA 95927; phone is 530-345-2933 cell 530-518-4693. For entry forms see **Jim Baldrige** or **Dick Richmond**.

The popularity of our monthly Nine Hole group at Diablo Hills continues. **Dick Richmond** has set up several tee times for August 21. This is a casual/fun/practice day. You don't even have to keep score if you don't want to. Come out and tune up your short game.

Notice to all golfers: **Jim Baldrige** is looking for an Alternate to assist with Away Golf. This job requires no experience, doesn't take much time and is a lot of fun. You'll learn a lot about golf courses, get to meet pro's and tournament directors and help fellow Br 146 SIRs experience different courses during the year.

Questions: **Jim Baldrige** 925-689-9232 e-mail jimjudy39@aol.com or **Dick Richmond** 925-947-1167 e-mail drichmon@pacbell.net

Latest Tournament Results

May 13: First Flight: **RUSS BLIESE (66)**, **ED WOJNAR**, **JACK CALLOWAY**. Second Flight: **DICK WOODMAN (68)**, **SAL COSTANZA**, **JIM BROWN**. Closest to the pin **STEVE DAWKINS # 2**, **DICK RICHMOND # 12**.

May 20: First Flight: **BOB ROYSTER (69)**, **GENE DIANA**, **LARRY SHEERIN**. Second Flight: **TOM GORMAN (70)**, **DOUG COOK**, **STU SOMERVILLE**. Closest to the pin **GENE DIANA # 2**, **JOSEPH FUCHS #12**.

May 27: First Flight: **GENE DIANA (66)**, **JOHN HARRINGTON**, **FRANK ROCKWELL**. Second Flight: **DICK RICHMOND (66)**, **DAN O'SULLIVAN**, **BILL BOYD**. Closest to the pin **ALBERT ZAMOLO # 2**, **DICK RICHMOND # 12**.

June 2: First Flight: **RAY SPEARS (65)**, **BOB ROYSTER**, **RON PLACHY**. Second Flight: **JOHN DEMOS (69)**, **RAY KAN**, **BOB SPELLMAN**. Closest to the pin **RUSS BLIESE # 2**, **ALBERT ZAMOLO # 12**.

June 10: First Flight: **GENE DIANA (66)**, **RICH HANFORD**, **RUSS BLIESE**. Second Flight: **OLOF JOHANSSON (68)**, **BOB SPELLMAN**, **ERNIE DICKSON**. Closest to the pin **JOHN HARRINGTON #12**.

June 17: First Flight: **BOB YOLLAND (63)**, **GENE DIANA**, **BOB LYMAN**. Second Flight: **JOHN DEMOS (69)**, **BILL WEINBERG**, **DON TUBB**. Closest to the pin **JEFF BAILY # 2**, **ALBERT ZAMOLO # 12**.

June 24: First Flight: **RON PLACHY (63)**, **BOB YOLLAND**, **JACK CALLOWAY**. Second Flight: **STU SOMERVILLE (64)**, **MITCH MITCHELL**, **DICK RICHMOND**. Closest to the pin **LARRY SHEERIN # 2**, **BILL HANSEN # 12**.

July 1: First Flight: **MIKE SIEBERT (66)**, **VINCE RETTEW**, **LARRY SHEERIN**. Second Flight: **DICK RICHMOND (65)**, **PABLO CHAVEZ**, **JOHN DEMOS**. Closest to the pin **PABLO CHAVEZ # 2**, **FRANK ROCKWELL #12**.

July 8: First flight: **JACK CALLOWAY (63)**, **GENE DIANA**, **RICH HANFORD**. Second Flight: **BOB SPELLMAN (70)**, **STEPHEN SPRAGUE**, **DICK RICHMOND**. Closest to the pin **DICK DEVOE #2**, **MIKE SIEBERT # 12**.

July 15: First Flight: **LEW THOMPSON (63)**, **JOE SUTA**, **MYLES RINGLE**. Second Flight: **ERNIE DICKSON (68)**, **JOHN DEMOS**, **DICK RICHMOND**. Closest to the pin **DICK WOODMAN # 2**, **LEW THOMPSON # 12**.

July 22: First Flight: **GENE DIANA (64)**, **RON PLACHY**, **BOB YOLLAND**. Second Flight: **BILL WEINBERG (69)**, **BILL KNAPP**, **TOM GORMAN**. Closest to the pin **ERNIE DICKSON #12**.

July 29: First Flight: **RUSS BLIESE (69)**, **STEVE DAWKINS**, **JACK CALLOWAY**. Second Flight: **JOHN DEMOS (68)**, **ERNIE DICKSON**, **TOM GORMAN**. Closest to the pin: **JOE FITZSIMMONS # 2**, **STEVE DAWKINS # 12**.

20th Anniversary Party and Dinner Dance

"Come out in your casual duds and dance"

Come on and celebrate our 20 years at Branch 146 SIR

When: Wednesday, October 1, 2008 -- 6PM to 10pm

How Much: All inclusive price of \$55.00 per person

Your dollar buys: Hosted Cocktails, Hors d'oeuvres, Salad, Beef/Chicken combo dinner, dessert and wine.

Dancing to the five piece band plus a vocalist.

Make up your tables of ten if desired and send your check (s)

Payable to SIR Branch 146

To: Sir **Vincent Rettew**, 290 Dover Drive, Walnut Creek CA 94598

Sir Name _____

Evening "Date" _____

Table mates _____

We will require _____ Vegetarian dinner(s)

The dance location will be at:

The Shadlands Art Center Ygnacio Valley Road at
N. Wiget Lane,
Walnut Creek



Walkers

John Lewis



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

September Walks planned
by **Bob Madge**

Sept 5 Redwood Park Stream Trail Redwood Rd Oakland

Meet: At Moraga Safeway for car pooling then west on Canyon Rd, left on Pinehurst Rd, right on Redwood Rd, right at Redwood Park sign to parking.

Walk: Trail through woods
Not Paved Level Shade
Bring picnic lunch

Sept 12 Paraiso Trail South, Arbolado Dr. Walnut Creek

Meet: At Arbolado parking lot
Walk: East end of Park, Cross Arbolado Dr. to South on Paraiso Trail
Not Paved Level Some Shade
Coffee and Donuts at Arbolado Park

Sept 19 Alamo Plaza North, Danville Blvd & Stone Valley Rd Alamo

Meet: at Alamo Pl. parking by Yellowwood
Walk: West on Stone Valley Rd. to north on Iron Horse Trail
Paved Not Level Some Shade
Coffee: Yellowwood Alamo Plaza

Sept 26 Lafayette Reservoir Mt Diablo Blvd Lafayette

Meet: At reservoir parking. Bring quarters for parking
Walk: around reservoir
Paved Not level Some shade
Bring picnic lunch

FALL CANDY SALES

It is time to order your See's candy. The price is \$11.60 for a one pound box certificate. Retail price is \$15.00 a pound so you are saving \$3.40 a pound. You can pick any type of candy you like. Soft centers, nuts and chewies etc. There is no limit to the amount you can order. Make your check payable to "Sir Branch 146" and send it to **Mitch Mitchell**, 5350 Lightwood Drive, Concord, CA 94521. Please include a stamped self addressed #10 envelope (this is the long envelope).

The deadline for me to receive this is November 15, 2008
Your certificates will be mailed to you shortly thereafter.

Name _____

Address _____

City and Zip _____

Enclosed is my check for \$_____ to cover the cost of _____ one pound certificates.

Thanks to **Bill Cammerer**, **Don Del Bene**, and **Larry Sheerin** for folding and labeling, to **Rich Ahlf** for photography, to **Bill Cammerer** for mailing, and to **Jeff Baily** for proofreading.

SIR CALL

Newsletter

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<http://www.sir146.com>

Non Profit Org
US Postage Paid
Permit No 364
Concord CA

Time Value Mail
Please deliver as
soon as possible.

Welcome



New Members

Ron Ragno Introduced by Martin Lyle



Siegfried Kalteis introduced by Jim Stedman



Don Fitzgerald introduced by Chuck Eichten