



Big Sir's Notes

Walt Busenius

Where have the dog days of summer gone? Our kids and grandkids are back in school and the football season is upon us. Everyone looked great in their team colors in August. Thank you very much for participating.

We are pleased that two new members joined our branch in August: **John Helgeson** sponsored by **Jim Kohl**, and **Richard Pace** sponsored by **Dick DeVoe**. Welcome aboard new Sirs. Also, **Robert Lyman** transferred back to Branch 146. **Bob**, we are very happy that you came back. There was one new guest, and he has already decided to become a member in September.

It was a joy to award the Branch Certificate of Appreciation to **Al Zamolo** and the 20 Year Branch Anniversary Award to former Big Sir **Bill Hansen**. Coincidentally, Both **Bill** and **Al** are retired, after years of outstanding service, from the Mt. Diablo School District.

As announced at our August luncheon, our Branch received from **State President Donald Dill**, one of the **"President's Certificate for Success Awards"**, in recognition of embracing the RAMP program and building a healthy and active branch.

The slate of our 2017 branch officer and director candidates, as proposed by the nominating committee,

Luncheon – Thursday , September 8th
At the Boundary Oak Clubhouse

Guest Speaker:
Paul Zaentz
Movie Producer

Gathering time - 11:00 am
Starting time - 11:45 am

Bringing a guest or can't attend?
Email: nolunchbranch146@gmail.com
Telephone Message: (925) 979-5146
By Noon Friday, September 2nd

was elected at the August luncheon and shown below.

Finally, we only had one guest at the August luncheon, our lowest number this year. As we enter the remaining months of 2016, we need your help and best effort to invite a friend, a neighbor, or an acquaintance as your guest to a September, October or November luncheon. We are counting on you.

WE ARE SIR – MAKE FRIENDS FOR LIFE

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



2017 Branch Executive Committee (L to R) **Cal Tucker**, **Bill Schultz**, **Steve Sprague**, **Jerry Kaplan**, **Steve Ybarra**, current Big Sir **Walt Busenius**, partially hidden **Bruce Borgman**, current Little Sir **Alan Elnick** , **Brad Hatcher**, and **Roy Hodgkinson**.
(Missing from photo, **Jonathan Korfhage**, **Dave Pierce**, and **Jim Saavedra**)

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

Alan Elnick

It is always an honor to be accepted by your peers and accorded the privilege to serve as Big Sir 2017. I look forward to serving our membership in the coming year and working with our fine slate of officers and directors to

assure the continuing success of our SIR Branch. Thank you for your vote of confidence.

At our next luncheon, Thursday September 8th, 2016, I am pleased to bring us Paul Zaentz. Paul is the nephew of the late Saul Zaentz, who brought us Fantasy Records, a business he began from his love of Jazz. Fantasy, of course, also introduced us to the Credence Clearwater Revival, a rock and roll band with which many of us are familiar. In the 1970's Saul ventured into the making of independent feature films, first with an animated version of The Lord Of The Rings, and then his joint project with Michael Douglas, "One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest." The Saul Zaentz Film Company emerged from those ventures and we were the beneficiaries of such films as, "Amadeus," "The Mosquito Coast," The Unbearable Lightness Of Being," "At Play In The Fields Of The Lord," and "The English Patient." Paul began with his uncle in the late 1970s and played increasingly significant roles in the production of all of these films. More recently he co-produced with Sydney Pollack, "The Talented Mr. Ripley." He was the executive producer of "Goya's Ghosts." Paul has played many roles in these productions from scouting landscapes, managing production costs, and working and negotiating with artistic and directorial talent. He works best in a question and answer environment, so come with your questions. While personally I would like to obtain the phone numbers of Lina Olin and Juliette Binoche, I am reminded by branch policy, to restrain our curiosity about certain areas of artistic expression, or, in other words, be on your best behavior.

Once again, our next luncheon is Thursday, September 8th, 2016, 11:15 am, at the Boundary Oak Golf Course. Please bring a guest to show them the benefits of membership in SIR. Remember, if you are unable to



Membership

Ben Gleason

Branch 146 Statistics

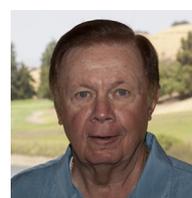
We increased our active membership to 285 in August. We inducted two new members and welcomed back a member who had transferred to another branch. One member resigned and another passed away. We had only one guest at the August luncheon. Even though we are doing well membership-wise, we still need to keep recruiting. Remember to meet and get to know the new guys. They're the ones with the yellow badges. Please make them feel welcome.

Status Changes

New Member Additions in August 2016



John Helgeson



Bob Lyman

Xfer from Br 19



Rich Pace

Active members resigned: **Harry Reiter**

Active members deceased: **Mike Varner**

SIR Call Newsletter Group

Editor

Richard Hockenbrock

Assistant Editors

Jeff Baily & Rob Melrose

Proofreaders

Jeff Baily, Cal Tucker

Internet Posting

Jonathan Korfhage, & Pat Lucia

Ron Plachy

make the luncheon to let us know by the deadline the Friday before, September 2nd. Each no show without notification is a cost to the branch. See you then.

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



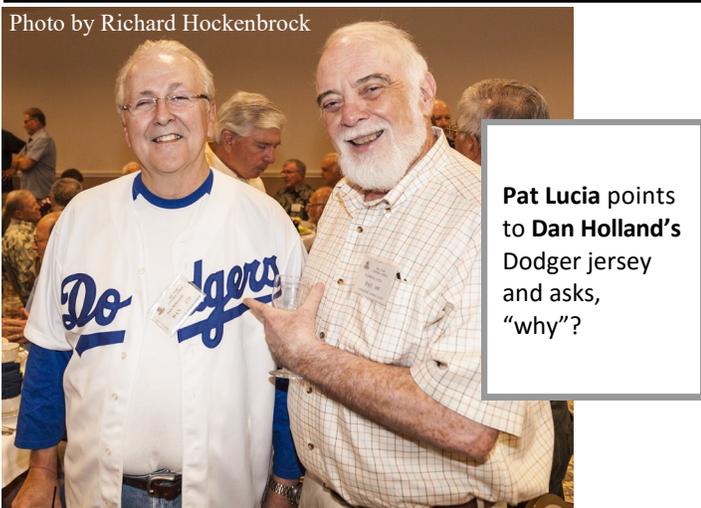
Al Zamolo (center) receiving the Branch Certificate of Appreciation Award at the August luncheon from Honorees Chairman **Doug Eisner** (L) and Big Sir **Walt Busenius** (R)

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



Big Sir **Walt Busenius** presents the 20-Year Membership Award to **Bill Hansen** at the August luncheon

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



Pat Lucia points to **Dan Holland's** Dodger jersey and asks, "why"?



THE CLUBHOUSE

AT BOUNDARY OAK

SIR 146 Luncheon September 2016

Salad

Green Bean Salad

Mixed Greens, Baby Green Beans, Tomatoes
Feta Cheese, Spicy Almonds,
Red Wine Vinaigrette

Entrees

Roast Beef Eye Round

Herb Dijon Marinated Eye Round of Beef,
Brown Gravy, Yukon Gold Mashed Potatoes,
& Roasted Corn

Or

Baked Cod

Lemon Pepper Marinated Alaskan Cod,
Rice Pilaf, Seasonal Vegetables, Tartar Sauce

Dessert

German Chocolate Cake

Whipped Cream
Caramel Sauce

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.



Photo by Carl Tilchen

Acoustic Musicians
Carl Tilchen

You are invited to the next meeting of The Acoustic Musicians Group at 2 pm Monday, September 12th, at 2177 Ward Drive, Walnut Creek. Directions from 680 going North: (I'm sure you can figure this out from other areas) exit Rudgear Rd, continue on South Broadway, Right on Newell, straight to San Miguel Dr., right on Blackwood, slight left, stay on Blackwood, sharp right on Ward. **Alan's** home is on the left. If you get lost, call (925) 864-2641 or (925) 786-7909.

Our Acoustic Musicians Group welcomes all guitar, banjo, mandolin, bass, etc. The objective is to enjoy our music. All levels of musical skill are welcome.

Spouses and singers are also encouraged. Please bring your instrument and any songs you enjoy.

I am a singer/songwriter with an active musical career. I have facilitated many musical groups, and enjoy leading this group. **Alan** and I welcome your suggestions to make our group comfortable and fun for all.

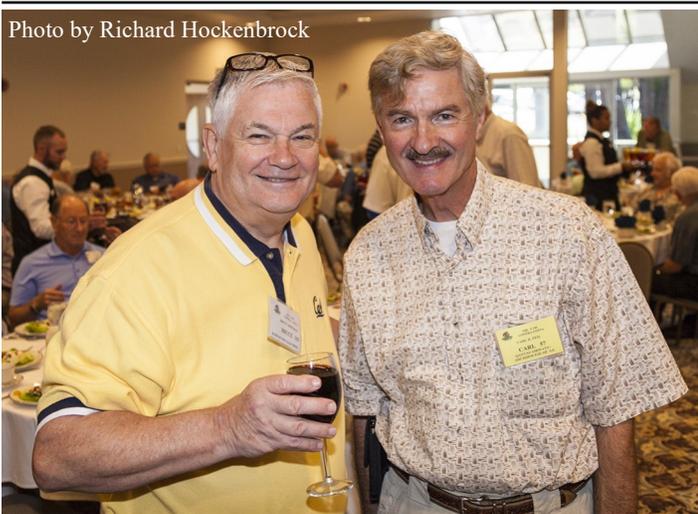


Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Next year's Little Sir **Bruce Borgman** and **Carl Feil** pose for a photo at the August luncheon



Sunshine

John Pearl

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

- **Lynn Freeman**
- **Steve Olsen**
- **Jim Saavedra**
- **Al Twyford**
- **Bob Walton**

It is with deep sadness that we report the death of Sir **Mike Varner** on Friday, August 26th. We send our condolences to **Sharon** and family as we keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

Please try to contact a sick Sir to offer support and encouragement during his illness. A friendly call is usually welcome. Cards and letters are always appreciated. Also, please take a minute to sign the get-well cards that are near the sign-in tables at our monthly meetings.

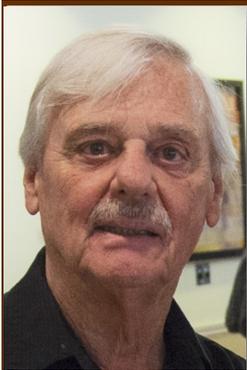
If you are aware of an ill Sir, please let me know by e-mail or phone so that our SIR membership can be advised.

John Pearl, Sunshine Chair
mcpearl@astound.net
 925-934-6920



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Roger Peters and **Mike Whitaker** pose for a photo as August SIR Greeters



SIR 146 Hiking

Rich Ahlf

Bear Creek Trail

On Friday, September 9th, we will be hiking the Bear Creek Trail along Briones Reservoir. This will be about 4 miles long and fairly easy. This is a pleasant hike on EBMUD land and skirts the south and east shores of Briones Reservoir and ends near Briones Overlook staging area.

A wide variety of trees, shrubs and flowers makes this an ideal nature-study trip. We will be shuttling back to our staging area unless you want to walk back to the parking lot and make it an 8 mile hike. (I will be hiking 8 miles)

To reach the staging area from Hwy 24, take the Orinda exit and turn toward Richmond/El Sobrante at the bottom of the ramp onto Camino Pablo. Follow Camino Pablo thru Orinda for a few miles and you will reach a stoplight at Bear Creek Road (on the right). Turn right onto Bear Creek Road and follow it about 4.2 miles to EBMUD's Bear Creek staging area, left, just past the junction with Happy Valley Road. The trailhead is at the southwest corner of parking lot.

If you wish to carpool meet at the turnoff at St Stevens Rd off Hwy 24 at 9:30 am. Turn right and park on El Nino Rd where there is plenty of parking. Please let me know if you're coming and also if you would like to carpool.

Rain Cancels

Spouses Always Welcome

Hike starts at 10:00 am

September 9th, 2016

E-mail rahlf@sbcglobal.net Cell (925) 550-4967



Dave Sousa & Loren DeLaurenti sporting their respective college attire "wear your team colors"



Photography Group

Richard Hockenbrock

We had a very informative meeting on Friday, August 26th with guest photographer, **Rich Ahlf**. We learned he has been involved with sailboat racing for more than twenty years and has used his association with the sport and photography to capture some outstanding pictures of sail boating throughout the Bay area. He brought several of his famed and framed pictures to the meeting.



Photo by Rich Ahlf



Photo by Rich Ahlf

If you are new to SIR and interested in photography or want to take better photos with your smartphone, come to our next meeting and perhaps take away some new ideas.

Richard Hockenbrock

Email: rhock@pacbell.net

Cell: (925) 324-1713

Home Phone: (925) 935-7464

Next Meeting

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

Subjects: TBD

When: October 28th at 9:00 am



Fishing Report

Paul Dubow

Lee Clark of Branch 146 went on a cruise to Alaska last month but he took time out from the journey to catch quite a few pink salmon in Ketchikan. **Karl Droese** also traveled far to catch some big fish. He and three friends flew to Baja California for lots of marlin catching, including some giants.

Closer to home, we also had some good results. Our super shad fisherman, **Ernie Wong**, finished the year by catching and releasing 59 of the fighters on two trips. **Ernie** also joined **Carl Moyer** and **Stan Wong** on a successful rockfish venture in the ocean. **Mike Corker** caught black bass in the Delta and was joined by **Pete Gates** of Branch 146, **Terry Miller**, **Joe Miscione**, **Harry Sherinian**, and **Tom Kostik** on other Delta trips, catching mostly small stripers.

Our plans for the coming months include catfish at San Pablo Reservoir, black bass, sturgeon, and stripers in the Delta, trout in the various local lakes as well as Lake Davis and Lake Almanor, salmon in the ocean and the Sacramento River, and halibut, ling cod, and rockfish in the ocean. For further information, contact Big Fish **Paul Dubow** at (415) 495-6504.

Photo by Malcolm Harrison



Jim Solomon and **Malcolm Harrison** enjoying the opportunity to play golf at Blue Rock Springs



SongSirs

Bruce Borgman

The SongSirs performed to a most enthusiastic audience on Friday, August 19th at the Walnut Creek Senior Center. It was one of the most energetic groups we have ever sung for! We had about 50 people in attendance and we sang a group of songs, which we have been practicing for the last few months. This included “It’s a Good Day”, “All The Way”, “You make me Feel So Young”, “Jeepers Creepers”, “Almost Like Being in Love”, “It Had To Be You”, and “I’ve Grown Accustomed to Her Face” and others. We included two solo portions, one by our director, **Pete Miller**, and one by our “singing fireman” **Jim Bogue**. We looked pretty sharp – and we had about 14 singers who sang their hearts out! The audience was so into our performance that they sang along with many of the songs. Yours truly came up with a narrative to accompany the songs, which gave a bit of history about each of the tunes. Our pianist, **Steve Dinning**, also gave a great performance and played for the senior group while they were having lunch, prior to our performance.

While we will bask in the glow of a successful performance for a while, we are preparing a new set of songs in September. We encourage any of you to come join us – we practice every first and third Wednesday at the Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church. We will definitely prepare for the Sir luncheon in November when we honor our veterans with our service song medley. Then, we might sing at the Veteran’s Hospital in Martinez with some additional patriotic tunes.

Photo by Bruce Borgman



SongSirs getting ready to sing at the Walnut Creek Senior Center on August 19th



Cooking II

Bob Yolland

Cooking II enjoyed a wonderful event at **Bill Roberts'** house on August 8th. Though missing a few of our regular members, we were pleased to have **Charlie Kroeber** join us. On the patio, while busy sipping wine, and enjoying **Bill's** appetizers of salami, crackers, cheese and nuts, **Charlie** was hard at work tending the barbecue. The weather was perfect and we caught up on recent travels and activities. **Bill** summoned us to the table where we were treated to a delicious bean and corn salad accompanied by **Bill's** perfectly cooked barbecued pork tenderloin. The conversation covered various topics, even politics and, as always, the recollections of several of the group who grew up in San Francisco. For dessert **Bill** was heard pounding away at some Heath Bars - which were the final touch to a scrumptious dessert, called an ice cream bar dessert (a concoction of ice cream, whipped cream with layers of chocolate fudge, and caramel sauce covered with the crumbled Heath Bars). Truly a wonderful finish to a great meal.

Our next lunch will be on September 12th at **Ken Richter's** house. Thank you **Bruce Borgman** for putting this report together.



Table Pool

Bill Weinberg

We meet every Monday at 11:30 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 day 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 2 are welcome.



Book Group

Chuck Campbell

Ten members of our Book Group met at the Greenery Restaurant August 15th to discuss *Tribe* by Sebastian Junger. The nonfiction book was about attractive attributes of early American native tribe cultures and how some of these attributes might help in today's modern cultures. We all felt that the book started out with some interesting histories of native cultures and interfaces with early European settlers. However, the book seemed to transition into a series of modern day social case studies with some tie-ins to tribal culture experiences. We felt that these later discussions were a bit repetitive and less interesting. Our group gave the book a C+ rating.

For our next book we chose *American Heiress* by Jeffery Toobin. We will meet at the Greenery Restaurant Monday, September 19th to discuss Patty Hearst and her travails.

2016 Branch 146 Officers and Directors

Big Sir	Walt Busenius
Little Sir	Alan Elnick
Secretary	Bruce Borgman
Assistant Secretary	Jonathan Korfhage
Treasurer	Jim Barry
Assistant Treasurer	Roy Hodgkinson
Director(2 nd Term)	Brad Hatcher
Director(2 nd Term)	Richard Hockenbrock
Director(2 nd Term)	Corrie Oranje
Director(2 nd Term)	Bob Spellman
Director(1 ST Term)	Jerry Kaplan
Director(1 ST Term)	Steve Sprague

RAMP – Chair Members

Recruitment	Corrie Oranje
Activities	Jerry Kaplan
Member Relations	Brad Hatcher
Publicity	Al Munayer

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

Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 1 (UNO)

Jerry Kaplan

The Mexican Train Group One's most recent game night was held on August 12th at the lovely Martinez home of Sir **Rob Melrose** and his wife **Carmen Schiavone**.

Sixteen members of the group were in attendance and a great time was had by all! As usual, a few players had great nights while others wished they had called in sick.

Sir **Frank Ascatigno** was one of the players that had a really good night, playing 10 games and scoring only 105 points (average of 10.5). It could have even better if Frank was not left with the double zero in one of the games; then he would have had a total of only 65 for 10 games, an average of 6.5!

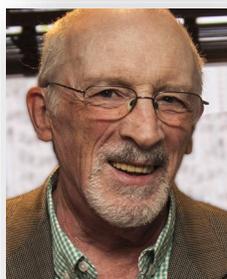
Frank obviously won the first prize for the evening (\$19) and was followed by **Sherry Hockenbrock** (Sir **Richard's** wife) with an average of 15.5, with **Susan Kaplan** (Jerry's wife) right behind **Sherry** at 15.6



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 2 (DOS)

Dick Woodman

The August 26th game night report will appear in the October SIR CALL issue.



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 3 (TRES)

Jeff Baily

We gathered at the home of **Walt & Sue Busenius** on Friday, August 26th. At table 2, **Jim Stedman** came in with the top winning score of 6.0, followed by **Linda Brown**, in 2nd place, with a score of 10.4, followed by **Sue Oranje**, in 3rd place with a score of 17.3.

This makes the competition for the 2nd half, July through December, a real race to the end. During our meeting we received the news that **Mike Varner**, a valued member of our group, had passed away. Our condolences and prayers to the family.

Next we gather on September 23rd at the home of **Dick & Judy Richmond**.



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock & Corrie Oranje

MTD Group 1 poses for a group picture after game play August 12th. (Front row L-R) **Susan Kaplan, Sue Sheldon, Martha Plante, Marie Ascatigno, Sue Oranje** and **Carmen Schiavone**. (Second row L-R) **Corrie Oranje, Richard Hockenbrock, Sig Kalteis, Jim Stedman, Jerry Kaplan, Rob Melrose, Sherry Hockenbrock, Frank Ascatigno, Bruce Borgman, and Peter Plante**



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 4 (El Quattro)

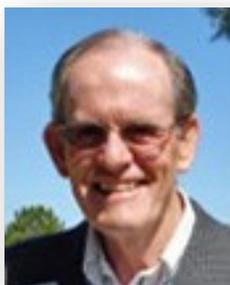
Jim Pope

The El Quattro Mexican Train dominos group met August 19th with 14 players in attendance.

We had **Lo & Sue McCarley, Ron Louis & Fran Matthews, Dick & Leslie Firth, Darlo Boone & Mariwyn McComb, Dick & Christy DeVoe, Bill Weinberg & Yvonne Killips, and Jim & Renie Pope**. We had 2 tables of 7 of very competitive MTD. Fabulous goodies were provided by the ladies and enjoyed by all.

Next meeting for the El Quattro Mexican Train Dominos group is Friday, September 16th.

Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 5 (CINCO)

Jim Burk

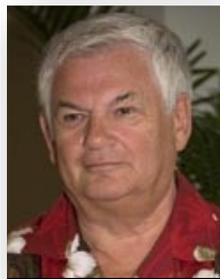
On August 18th we met at **Dennis** and **Ann Hallett's** home. To prove that Mexican Train Dominoes has become more than just a game, I can report there was so much

friendly and animated discussion, that we were a little slow in getting to the main attraction. However, we weren't distracted to the degree that we did not get to our treat for the evening. **Ann** made a very delicious cake dessert and only our personal discretion and politeness kept us from all having seconds. It was "muy bueno."

The results for the evening had **Jan Ondeck** in first with three out of six games in which she went out. **Dennis Hallett** was not a good host as he took second, and **Patti Eisner** came in a very close third. Those of us who were less successful, have committed to trying harder at our next session. That will be September 15th at the **Eisner's** home.

Mexican Train Dominoes note:

*All five of the Mexican Train Dominoes groups have a substitute list so people can fill in when some of the regular members cannot play. Each of the 5 chairs is asking their current substitute list if they are interested in subbing in another group if they are available. This will allow more Sirs to meet other branch members and play more often. If there is sufficient interest in forming a Sixth Mexican Train Dominoes group, **Jerry Kaplan** will be happy to help get it organized.*

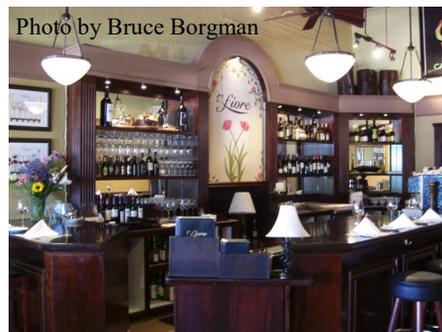


Couples Dining Out

Bruce Borgman

As announced at the August luncheon, we have selected a wonderful restaurant for our September dining experience. We will be going to Fiore Ristorante in Concord on Monday, September 19th.

The restaurant prides itself as the best Italian food in Concord. We were able to negotiate a great menu, which includes an olive pesto dip as appetizer, a spinach salad, and



a choice of five (count 'em, five!) entrees. This includes a sautéed shrimp dish, a penne pasta with chicken, a wonderful mushroom ravioli dish, and two of their signature braised meat dishes – an Osso Buco and a lamb shank. We finish with a crème brulee for dessert and coffee. The total cost is \$45. The capacity of the restaurant is about 45 – and we have, as of this writing gotten 59 people signed up. So why, you say, are you telling us this when we're already oversold!

Welllll, drum roll here... we have decided to add an extra evening! We will also have the dinner on Tuesday, September 20th with the same menu. This will allow us to reduce the number on Monday to 40 and give us a bit more elbow room. The restaurant is not large, so by having a smaller number on both Monday and Tuesday night, we will have plenty of room to socialize for our cocktail hour which will start at 5:30 pm for both nights followed by dinner at 6:15 pm. The restaurant is located at 5100 Clayton Road in Concord, in the Vineyard Shopping area so there is plenty of parking. Important: please select your entrée with your confirmation!

If you have not already signed up, you can come on the Tuesday night – email **Bruce** at bgborgman@aol.com to indicate your interest and confirm with a check to nail down your attendance. If you can only come on the Monday, we can switch people around. Send your check, payable to Branch 146, to **Bruce** at 3611 Winchester Place, Walnut Creek. Call 932-3961 if any questions. This will be a fun experience for our Dining Out activity – sign up if you haven't ever attended.



Travel Opportunities

Milt Smith

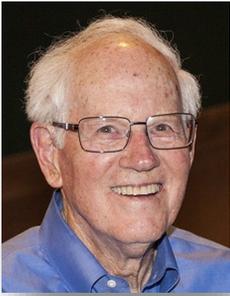
Local Trips

FLEET WEEK WITH BLUE ANGELS
OCTOBER 8TH

Sold Out!

Longer Trips

Check back next month for new travel opportunities. Contact **Milt Smith** (Br 146) at (925) 280-0328 or email miltsmith549@gmail.com



Couples Duplicate

Bridge 1

Lo McCarley

Bill and Margaret Rees hosted six couples for a gala evening of duplicate bridge on August 17th with three tables. Everyone enjoyed playing bridge along with **Margaret's**

snacks and dessert and **Bill's** wines. As for the bridge results, **Bob and Janet Yolland** came in first with 23 points. **Bill and Margaret Rees** took second with 22 points. In third place were **Jim Brown and Adrienne Morrison** with 21 points. **Bob and Janet Yolland** will host the next couples duplicate bridge on September 21st.



Men's Duplicate

Bridge 1

Doug Eisner

Jim Jackson hosted 3 tables of duplicate bridge on August 15th. It was a very unusual game as the 3 players leading the pack at the noon break were also the 3 players who ended the day in the money – although not in the same order. In the morning session, **Bill Schultz** jumped out to an early lead over **Bob Yolland**, scoring 16.0 pts vs 15.0 pts. **Dave Steinberg's** score of 13.5 pts was good enough for third place at that time. In the afternoon session, **Dave Steinberg** had lots of help from his partners and broke away early to nearly lap the field finishing in first place with 31.0 pts. Way back in a second place tie were **Bill Schultz** and **Bob Yolland** at 26.0 pts. All the rest of the pretenders were even further back. **Bill Rees** will host our September 19th game.



Couples Duplicate

Bridge 2

Dave Pierce

On August 9th we gathered at **Lynn and Dasha's** home for the last time, as they have had to resign from our group. They have been

capable competitors, bountiful hosts, and good friends for many years, and we are sad to lose them.

Competition continued, nonetheless, with **Cindy and Tony Greco** placing third (50% game). **Dick and Christy DeVoe** tied for first with **Joan and Dave Pierce** (60%). **Lynn and Dasha**, we love you and we will miss seeing you across the bridge table.



Men's Duplicate

Bridge 2

Dick DeVoe

The August 5th Duplicate Bridge 2 event was nicely hosted by **Steve Dawkins**. Our three tables remained intact due to four subs who made themselves available when sorely needed- **Jim Jackson, Fred Kovar, Jim Stedman, and Jim Todhunter**. Thanks, guys!

Overall Score Spread: This tourney's score spread was the second best this year, with only 12 pts. difference between 1st and 12th place. The highest has been 18 (June), and the lowest was 9 last month (July).

1st Place: **Tony Greco** earned his third 1st place finish this year (!), with 31.0 pts. and strong consistency from the outset (2nd place in the 1st half and 1st place in the 2nd half). Congratulations, **Tony**.

2nd Place: **Dave Steinberg** coupled 4th with 1st (3-way tie) subtotals to grab 2nd place overall (29.5 pts). He is no stranger to the Top 3 - in April he earned 1st place overall AND our highest score ever (34 pts). Nice going, **Dave**.

3rd Place: **Jim Stedman** was the fourth sub this year to be in the Top 3, scoring 27 pts. and earning 3rd place due in large part to a winning 17 pts. in 1st half. Good work, **Jim**.



Couples Party Bridge

Dave Pierce

George and Pam Rammell

warmly and graciously hosted us on August 2nd. They were not rewarded with any cards; overall, cards were suffering from the dog days of August and scores were unusually

low. **Doug and Patti Eisner** were 3rd (2100), **Dick and Christy DeVoe** were 2nd (2610), and **Brad and Lynne Hatcher** were 1st (3100). Most nights these scores wouldn't be in the money. Fortunately, we all enjoyed **George's** wines and paintings, and **Pam's** snacks and dessert. Let us hope for more exciting cards next month.



Men's Duplicate Bridge 3

Sid Landman

The Duplicate Bridge 3 group's most recent game was held on Friday, August 19th hosted by **Jim Pope**. As usual the competition was intense but one player led the field almost from the start. **Steve Dawkins** came in first in the starting first half and then solidified his gains in the second ending up with 32.5 points or 68%, one of the highest scores ever achieved in SIR Duplicate Bridge. Congratulations to **Steve**.

In second place was **Harvey Oxman** with a score of 29.5 or 62% while **Tony Greco** came in third with a score of 27 or 56%. Congratulations to **Steve, Harvey** and **Tony** and please be careful not to spend all the prize money in one place.

Attention

Men's Duplicate Bridge 3 group is looking for more duplicate bridge players to fill it's ranks. We especially want to invite any new member or members who have not been playing and would like to do so.

The group plays on the third Friday of each month at a host home which rotates among the members. We have three tables of duplicate bridge and 12 players each month. You will have a lot of fun.

Anyone who has any questions or is interested should contact me, **Sid Landman** as chair of the group. You can call me at (925) 673-8817 or email sidlandman@aol.com.



Party Bridge

Fred Bolton

We played two tables of bridge at the home of **Jim Brown** on August 1st. Jim had a fantastic run, scoring 7000 points for first place. Second place went to **Bill Reese** with 5960 and third place to **Bill Snyder** with 5220. Our next game is scheduled for Labor Day, September 5th and will be played at the home of **Bob Burley**.



Tanc Agius, Bill Cammerer, Doug Cook, George Carpenter, and Ed Banks at Boundary Oak August 9th



Men's Duplicate Bridge 3 (nearest table clockwise starting at 8 o'clock): **Steve Dawkins, Jim Brown, Harvey Oxman, Jerry Milano (Br 8), and Tony Greco**



Men's Duplicate Bridge 3 (far table): **Dick DeVoe, Mike Whitaker, Brad Hatcher, Sid Landman & Fred Kovar**



Poker Group 1

Dan O'Sullivan

Poker Group 1 met August 10th at **Dan O'Sullivan's** home. The big winners were our guest **Doug Cook** along with **Al Zamolo** and **John Lewis**. As always a good time was had by all. Our next meeting will be at **Pete McNeill's** home on September 14th.



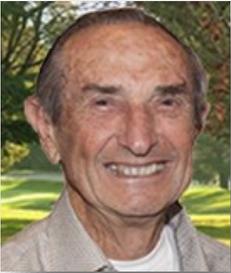
Poker Group 5

Bill Roberts

*Poker Group 5 meets the Wednesday prior to the SIR luncheon. **Bill Roberts** is the permanent host for our event. The regular players going forward are **Bill Roberts, Bob Spellman, Charlie Koeber, Doug Eisner, Ken Richter,***

Frank Rockwell, and Paul Dubow.

Subs are sometimes needed due to travel and the like. Play begins at 4 pm and ends around 8 pm with time out for dinner.



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 4 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 Club 4

Chuck Bobinecz

Our next session is on September 26th. It will be hosted by Sir **Frank Rockwell** and will meet at the home of Sir **Chuck Bobinecz**.

Chuck was the big winner at the July session but knows that lady luck does not have a home.



Old Money Poker Group 6

Al Twyford

Poker Group 6 met Thursday August 4th at the host house of **Brad Hatcher**. Players were **Norm Baietti, Bob Larson, Howard Charlop, Al Twyford, Rich Ahlf,** and host **Brad**

Hatcher. It was our usual lively game, and no crazy games since **Harvey Oxman** was on vacation. **Frank Lucas** was also on vacation. Less wine was consumed, as **Al** can't drink any more. Only 2.5 bottles of good red wine were consumed. Big winner was **Rich** at (\$11) and **Brad** coming in at (\$2). Losers were **Norm** (\$6) **Bob** (\$4) **Howard** (\$3) and **Al** (\$ 1). Our next game is scheduled on Thursday, September 1st at **Norm Baietti's** home in Walnut Creek. Hopefully I will be able to play as Chemo is usually on Wednesdays



Book Nook

Hank James

Books, books, books, we got books! And they are FREE. The Book Nook will be open in September. You can browse and select the books you will enjoy while relaxing in your easy chair. You can also share the books on your shelves that you have already read. Bring those idle books to the September meeting.

TEACHER: Glenn, how do you spell 'crocodile?'

GLENN: K-R-O-K-O-D-I-A-L'

TEACHER: No, that's wrong

GLENN: Maybe it is wrong, but you asked me how I spell it.

TEACHER: John, why are you doing your math multiplication on the floor?

JOHN: You told me to do it without using tables.

TEACHER: Glen, why do you always get so dirty?

GLENN: Well, I'm a lot closer to the ground than you are.



Cooking Lunch and Wine

Frank Rockwell

The LAW cooking group meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at a different member's home with one member responsible for preparing the menu for the rest of the group.

We gather at 11 am for good conversation, appetizers and wine followed by lunch.



Couples Golf

Paul Masta

The SIR Couples Golf Group play at local courses on the 4th Wednesday of each month April thru October. Monthly Tournaments are planned by volunteer coordinator couples who schedule the golf course and choose the tournament format. Emphasis is on fun contests involving both players' contributions. We enjoy the awards session and socializing after every tournament.

*We are actively seeking new members, so please contact **Paul Masta** if you are interested in joining the group at (925) 933- 3612 or pamasta03@yahoo.com.*



GOLF

Ed Marlovits

Bill Cammerer has done it again! In August he shot his age for the 11th time. That's pretty impressive, especially for someone who plays once a week.

Golf is a very popular branch activity with over 100 registered golfers. We play Tuesdays at Boundary Oak; players are randomly paired and scheduled. Guests are welcome so feel free to check us out! We will pair you with a member of the golf committee. Our members have handicaps ranging from 8 to 40 so you will fit right in.

On first Thursdays from May through October we schedule "away golf" at nearby courses. This year we will have played Deer Ridge, Chardonnay, Blue Rock and Paradise Valley. Next year we will add Eagle Vines to the mix.

Each spring you can join the Branch 146 "Monterey Mashers" for a couple of days of golf, socializing and dining in the Monterey and Carmel area. This is a great event for couples.

SIR members can also participate in fun events sponsored by State SIR Golf at interesting courses from Reno to Solvang and points in between. These events allow you to bring your spouse and other guests.

State SIR Golf sponsors two competitive championship events in which every Sir with a golf handicap index is eligible to participate. A team championship event is held in early August at Poppy Ridge.

The 2016 State Individual Championship event will be held on October 17th & 18th at Laguna Seca. Ten Branch 146 members participated in the Championship Qualifier tournament at the Elkhorn Golf Club in Stockton on August 24th. We had six members who were in the money. **Gary Brown** was first in his flight and may play in the State Championship event at Laguna Seca.



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. The exceptions are the 2nd 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

TEACHER: George Washington not only chopped down his father's cherry tree, but also admitted it.

Now, Louie, do you know why his father didn't punish him?

LOUIE: Because George still had the axe in his hand.

Do you realize that in about 40 years, we'll have thousands of old ladies running around with tattoos?

If you would like to participate in Branch 146 golf, contact us at sir146golf@gmail.com. If you are curious, we will add you to the distribution of our weekly golf email.



Photo by Bill Schultz

Chuck Campbell, Gary Brown, Paul Fama, Joe Starkey, and Pat Lucia at Boundary Oak on August 9th



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Dick Kincaide, Ed Marlovits, Bob Yolland, and Jim Pope at the August luncheon



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

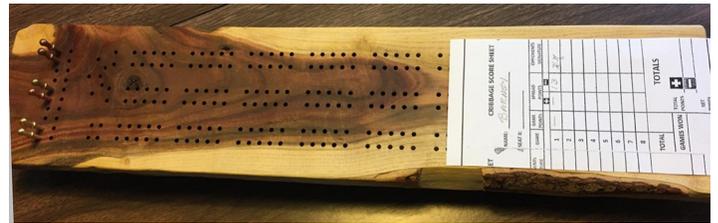
August SIR Greeters **John Gray & Bill Hoban**

Sign in a Non-smoking Area:
 "If we see smoke, we will assume you are on fire and take appropriate action."



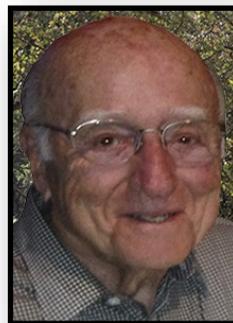
Cribbage John Pearl

Eight of our group gathered at **Barney Meade's** home on Wednesday afternoon, August 24th, for our monthly money exchange and trash talking session. We welcomed new member **Jim Pope** to our group. He claimed that he has not played in years, but it was quickly apparent that he had not forgotten the in's and out's of the game. We also admired **Barney's** beautiful new redwood cribbage board, a real stunner.



First place money was taken home by **John George**, while **Howard Nemir** was a very close second. **Kirk McVean**, of Branch 8 was third, while the chair, **John Pearl**, was a close fourth.

More fun and games on September 28th!



Bocce Ball Martin Lyle

Just two more months to go in the 2016 Bocce Season. Come and join us for some spirited play as the weather moderates. We are always looking for new players in this easy to learn game.

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

Rain Cancels Play and Ladies are always welcome.

Walking Group John Lewis

Every Friday at 9:30 am at various locales.

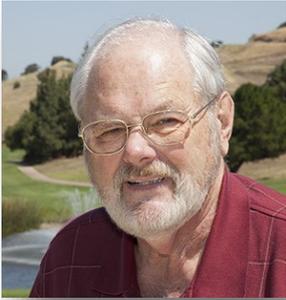
*Call **John** for current walk.*

Rain cancels any walk.

Ladies Welcome

Tel: (925) 825-3561





Theatre Gary Schaub

If you are a fan of Arthur Conan Doyle and Sherlock Holmes, and you like a laugh-hearty evening in the theatre, then *Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery* is for

you.

The stage comedy is the SIR 146 theater party for November 16 performed by Center REP at Leshar Center for the Arts in Walnut Creek. Curtain time is 8 pm.

This new play by comic playwright Ken Ludwig will encourage you to get your deerstalker caps on and be ready for a madcap evening in the theater. Ludwig's previous plays, including *Lend Me A Tenor* and *Moon Over Buffalo*, have had wide audience appeal.

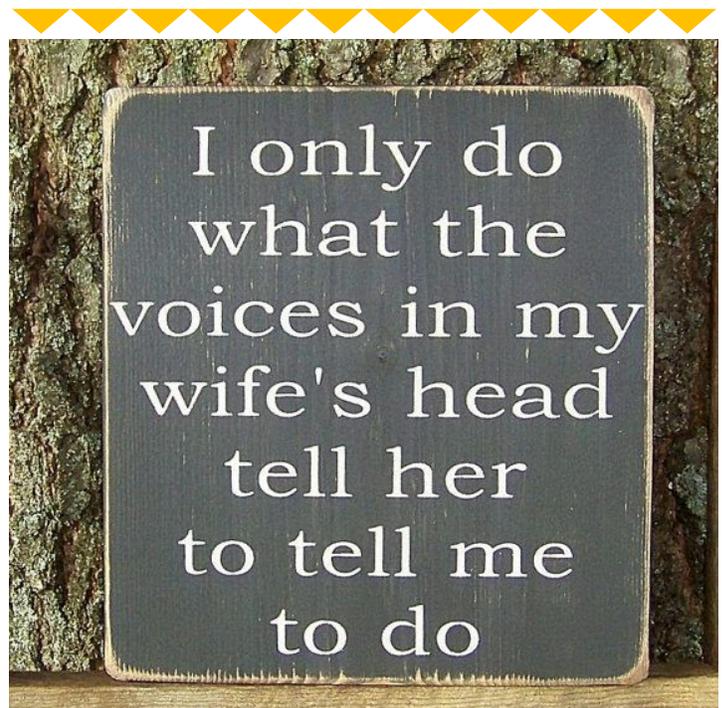
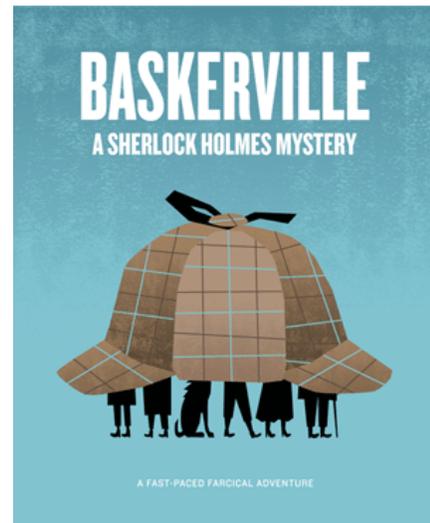
While loosely based on Conan Doyle's 1902 novel, this Baskerville has five actors portraying nearly forty roles in a fast-paced comedy about everybody's favorite detective solving one of his most notorious cases – before a family curse dooms its newest heir!

A limited number of reduced-price tickets have been set aside for SIR members and guests. Deadline for ordering is October 20th.

Tickets for *Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery* are \$25.00 each, and may be reserved with a check payable to SIR 146, and mailed to Sir **Gary Schaub**, 1400 Canyonwood Court, #8, Walnut Creek 94595. If you have questions, call **Gary** at (925) 938-5454.

Tickets will be distributed at Leshar Center for the Arts, 1600 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek at 7:30 pm on November 16th. Parking is available on the street or in the City garage adjacent to Leshar Center.

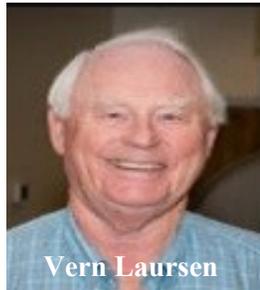
**A fast-paced
comedy-mystery is
SIR 146 Theater
Party for
November 16**



Everyday thousands of innocent plants are killed
by vegetarians.
Help end the violence:
EAT BACON

Area Two Events

Mac User Group (MUG)



The Mac Users Group (MUG) meets the first Monday of each month from 12 noon until 2 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

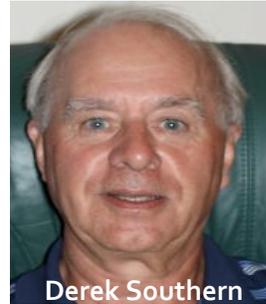
\$ums, the investment group of Sons-In-Retirement, Area 2 is restarting its meetings on Wednesday mornings on September 28th. The location remains the Diablo Creek Country Club on Port Chicago Hwy. just North of Hwy 4. The time remains 8 am to 9:30 am.

This month we will have a video presentation of Warren Buffett on his investment methods. We will follow the presentation with a discussion of "value-investing" and how his methods can be used by smaller investors who wish to own individual company equities and not mutual funds.

The Area 2 \$ums Investment Group meets at 8 am on the fourth Wednesday of the month at Legends Restaurant at Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway, Concord. Legends Restaurant opens at 7 am, so come early and have a leisurely breakfast with your colleagues prior to the meeting.

Co-Chairmen: Tom Henry (Br-174) (925) 284-5724
David Sutton (Br-8) (925) 686-0158

Computers and Technology



PCs



The Area 2 Computer and Technology Group next meeting will be at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge on Thursday, September 15th at 9:30 am. SIR members from all branches and their guests are welcome and invited to attend.

Glen Coleman will be discussing "How to use computer based notebook... The power of One Note, EverNote and other computer based notebook tools." Glen is the owner and founder of Coleman IT Group, based in Walnut Creek, which provides IT support and management services to individual and small professional bay area businesses. Check out their web site at: <http://colemanitg.com/>

Arrive early to chat with friends and enjoy the coffee and cookies Thursday, September 15th at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Drive. We ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and cookies -- but some months are free, so come and see if this meeting is another one of those! All Sirs and their guests (spouses included!) are welcome to attend. See you there.



George Carpenter & Stan Stricherz enjoying a laugh at the August luncheon



Photo by Jerry Kaplan

Pete Gates and Richard Hockenbrock sporting their alma mater college colors



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Pierre Mebane with Bruce Jones and Larry Mitchell at the August luncheon



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Roger Peters and Joe Starkey display "wear your team colors" for the August luncheon



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Pete Gates and Jerry Kaplan showing their team colors



Wife: What are you doing today?
Husband: Nothing.
Wife: You did that yesterday.
Husband: I wasn't finished.

Just read that 4,153,237 people got married last year, not to cause any trouble but shouldn't that be an even number?



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Steve Sprague with Bill Klein at the August luncheon