

## WE ARE SIR – MAKE FRIENDS FOR LIFE

Luncheon – Thursday , September 14<sup>th</sup>  
At the Boundary Oak Clubhouse

Guest Speaker  
Rafat Raie

Traffic Engineer for City of Walnut Creek  
“The Future of Transportation -  
from a Local Perspective”

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

Bringing a guest or can't attend?  
Email: [nolunchbranch146@gmail.com](mailto:nolunchbranch146@gmail.com)  
Telephone Message: (925) 979-5146  
By Noon Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup>

## Big Sir's Notes

Alan Elnick



September is here and it is the month when all our American sports are in action. Baseball churns its way to the World Series, Football, Basketball, and Hockey begin their seasons with the effect of directing our attention temporarily away from many of the world's unpleasant realities. And so at Branch 146, we turn our attention this month to the things we control and that matter such as our luncheon theme, **Team Colors**. Be sure to wear your colors this month, but leave any associated unfriendly rivalry aspects at home.

At our August meeting, we elected our 2018 Officers and Directors. Congratulations to them and to us, as we are assured of another fine year for our Branch of SIR. Thanks goes out to our nominating committee, **Walt Busenius**, Chair, **Bill Holly** and **Doug Eisner** for their diligence in offering us a highly motivated successor board. Our member relations chair, **Steve Sprague** will soon be sending each of us the annual member satisfaction survey. Kindly be sure to look for it, fill it out and return it. It helps us stay on top of what best suits the interests of our members, and continue the success of our branch. Thank you **Steve** and **Brad Hatcher** for their work on the survey. **Bruce** provided us with a first-rate speaker for our luncheon, **Tom Barnidge** (Br-8), who gave us excellent insight regarding the state of journalism today and his experiences as a sports journalist for many years.

In August, we inducted three new members; **Mark Curtis** (sponsored by **Bill Schultz**); **Dave Kingsbury** (sponsored by **Ross Abbott**); and **Ron Lew** (sponsored by **Bruce Borgman**). Let's give them a hearty welcome and make them feel at home in our branch. Remember the SIR theme is "Make Friends for Life." We have three more meetings left this year to bring guests and introduce them to SIR. Our BEC has opted to pay for the lunches of sponsored guests through those three meetings, so it is a

*Continued on page 2*



Photo by Richard Hockenbroek

Guest speaker **Tom Barnidge** (Br 8) talked about his interesting career as a sports journalist at the St. Louis Dispatch, the Sporting News, and later at the Contra Costa Times

My wife's intuition is so highly developed she sometimes knows I'm wrong before I even open my mouth.

## SIR Mission Statement

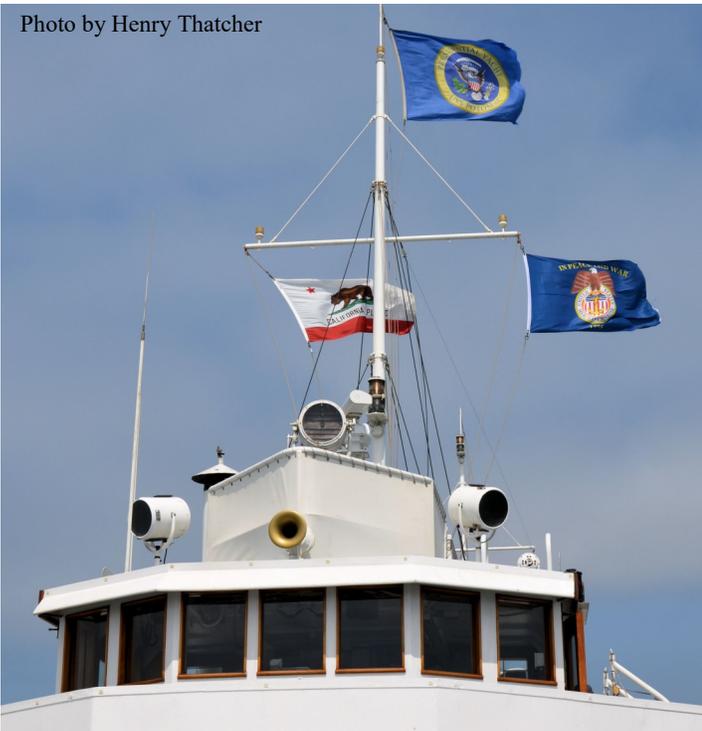
The Mission of SIR is to improve the lives of our members through fun activities and events – while making friends for life.

*Big Sir Notes continued from page 1*

good time to bring a guest or two or three to have a look at our branch. SIR is taking the emphasis off of “Retired” as so many of our peers are working longer careers. That does not mean they have no time or inclination to participate in our activities and our meetings.

Our meeting this month is Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, at Boundary Oak Golf Course. Wear your Team Colors and enjoy the friendly rivalry that sports fans so enjoy. Bring a guest or two or three, their lunch is on us. We are promised another excellent speaker discussing local traffic issues, very relevant as the traffic and parking situation in Walnut Creek is drawing similarity to major urban centers. Your attendance is presumed unless you call or email your inability to attend. Please do so by noon, the Friday before the luncheon. If you simply do not show up, the branch is on the hook for your lunch, and the burden falls upon our luncheon chair (**Rob Melrose**) and our Treasurer (**Roy Hodgkinson**) to balance the books, and our Little Sir to pursue your payment. Everybody is a volunteer, so let’s keep life simple and assure the success of our branch. See you there.

Photo by Henry Thatcher



SIR Explore & Eat Event: Bay Cruise / History Tour on USS Potomac (*More pictures of this exciting cruise & lunch at Scott’s Seafood are spread throughout this issue*)



## Little Sir’s Corner

**Bruce Borgman**

I hope you are happily anticipating the best months of the year in our area – September and October! The days are warm, with a bit of a nip in the evening – perfect for socializing and enjoying friends and family for those evening barbeques. Remember again what Dr. Vella, our neuropsychologist told us – socializing is one of the best ways to keep our brains fit and increase our life span – stay active in SIR!

We had yet another engrossing speaker in August when Tom Barnidge gave us an interesting talk on his career of 46 years in sports and community journalism. And, we have another stimulating speaker in September. We will have the Traffic Engineer from the City of Walnut Creek – Rafat Raie – thanks to **Jerry Kaplan’s** connections in city government! Despite living in one of the most desirable areas in California, one of the more vexing problems in our community is the traffic. Rafat has been the Traffic Engineer for Walnut Creek for a number of years and will be able to tell us how they plan for and manage the traffic in a very challenging environment. His topic will be “The Future of Transportation from a Local Perspective”. I am sure it will be a thought-provoking topic that will interest all of us. Be prepared with your questions – no doubt Rafat will have some great insight into planning for the future not only in transportation but also in civic planning.

The September luncheon is also the one when you get a chance to show your loyalty to your college of professional sports team – wear your most colorful shirt or jacket! As we have said many times – invite a friend or neighbor to one of our luncheons. The number of guests is down so far this year and although we are maintaining our membership totals, we need to add members for those who are not able to be so active anymore. See you in September!

### SIR Call Newsletter Group

Editor

**Richard Hockenbrock**

Assistant Editors

**Walt Busenius, Rob Melrose**

Proofreaders **Cal Tucker, Jonathan Korfhage, & Pat Lucia**

Internet Posting

**Ron Plachy**

Photo by Bruce Borgman



SIR Branch 146 Honorees Chairman **Doug Eisner** presented **Richard Hockenbrock** with a Certificate of Appreciation Award at the August luncheon



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**Jim Passaglia, Bob Royster and Ron Plachy** enjoying a drink and conversation prior to the start of the August luncheon



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**Steve Ondeck and Lee Clark** sharing a conversation at the August luncheon

I have never hated a man enough  
to give his diamonds back.  
Zsa Zsa Gabor



## Membership

**Dave Pierce**

In August we inducted three new members: **Mark Curtis, Dave Kingsbury, and Ron Lew**. Welcome! Thank you, sponsors! Regrettably, **Dave Sousa** has resigned which brings our total to 291 active members - exceeding our membership goal for the year but far from our goal of 50 invited guests, so we'd love to have you sponsor some more. We had two in August, for a total of 29 so far, but I'd like to see three or four in each of the next three months, so we at least hit 40.

Remember, there is a How-to-Sponsor sheet on our website or available from me, and I can also provide an Adobe version of the application you can fill in on line. Also, your first guest lunch is on us, if a guest is truly interested in learning about us (not just looking for a free lunch). As a sponsor we rely on your judgment for that determination.

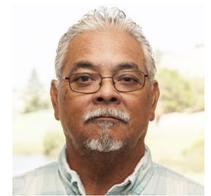
### New Member Photo Additions in August



**Mark Curtis**



**Dave Kingsbury**



**Ron Lew**



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**Dan O'Sullivan** heads for his free lunch check after he won the August birthday drawing



## Sunshine

**Calvin Tucker**

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

- ◆ Frank Ascatigno
- ◆ Ken Donnelly
- ◆ Malcolm Harrison
- ◆ Jim Saavedra
- ◆ Bob Walton

We remember with sadness the death of **Albert "Curley" Kade** on August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017; also **Margaret "Maggie" Masta**, the wife of **Paul Masta**, on July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

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

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

**Cal Tucker**, Sunshine Chair

phone: (925) 389 6070

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

### 2017 Branch 146 Officers and Directors

Big Sir .....	<b>Alan Elnick</b>
Little Sir .....	<b>Bruce Borgman</b>
Secretary .....	<b>Jonathan Korfhage</b>
Assistant Secretary .....	<b>Brad Hatcher</b>
Treasurer .....	<b>Roy Hodgkinson</b>
Assistant Treasurer .....	<b>Steve Ybarra</b>
Director(2 <sup>nd</sup> Term) .....	<b>Jerry Kaplan</b>
Director(2 <sup>nd</sup> Term) .....	<b>Steve Sprague</b>
Director(1 <sup>st</sup> Term) .....	<b>Dave Pierce</b>
Director(1 <sup>st</sup> Term) .....	<b>Bill Schultz</b>
Director(1 <sup>st</sup> Term) .....	<b>Cal Tucker</b>
Director(1 <sup>st</sup> Term) .....	<b>Bob Mehus</b>

### RAMP – Chair Members

Recruitment .....	<b>Bill Schultz</b>
Activities .....	<b>Jerry Kaplan</b>
Member Relations .....	<b>Steve Sprague</b>
Publicity .....	<b>Bob Mehus</b>

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



# THE CLUBHOUSE

AT BOUNDARY OAK

## SIR 146 Luncheon

September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017

### ~Salad Course~

#### *Sunburst Salad*

Butter Lettuce, Seasonal Berries,  
Blue Cheese  
Poppy Seed Balsamic Vinaigrette

### ~Entrees~

#### *Roast Beef Eye Round*

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

Or

#### *Blackened Tilapia*

Dry Rub Marinated Tilapia,  
Rice Pilaf, Seasonal Vegetables,  
Tomato Paprika Butter Sauce

### ~Dessert~

#### *German Chocolate Cake*

Caramel Sauce, Whipped Cream

### 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

The next meeting of SIR Acoustic Musicians is Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, at the Clayton Community Park in Clayton. Meet at the children's playground by the pavilion, at 2:00 pm. Our Acoustic Musicians Group welcomes all guitar, banjo, mandolin, bass, etc. The objective will be to enjoy our music. All levels of musical skill are welcome. Spouses & singers are also encouraged. Please bring your instrument and any songs you enjoy.

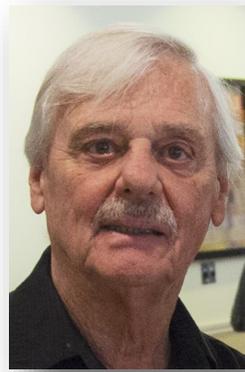
I am a Singer/Songwriter with an active musical career. I have facilitated many musical groups and will be glad to lead this group. **Alan Elnick** and I welcome your suggestions to make our group comfortable and fun for all.



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**Don Del Bene (L) with Jim Hanck** at the August luncheon

My luck is so bad that if I bought a cemetery,  
people would stop dying.  
-Rodney Dangerfield



## SIR 146 Hiking

**Rich Ahlf**

### *New Hike - Great Views*

On Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, we will be hiking in Tilden Regional Park, I did this hike last week and I'd say it has the best views of any hike we have done so far. From the ridge we have views of Briones and San Pablo reservoirs and the San Francisco Bay all the way out to the Golden Gate Bridge. This hike will be around 5 mi with some uphill at the beginning. Total ascent is 785 ft. We will start on the Vollmer Peak Trail up to the Seaview Trail along the ridge to the Lower Springs Trail and back down the Quarry Trail. I did not do the Quarry Trail last week, however this looks like an easier downhill. The Vollmer Trail is well maintained and steep in a few places. Dogs are allowed on this hike.

Take Hwy 24 to Fish Ranch Rd, right onto Grizzly Peak Blvd and right onto South Park Drive. We'll meet at the Big Springs parking area.

If you wish to carpool, meet at the turnoff at St. Stephen's Drive off Hwy 24 at 9:30 am. Turn right and park on El Nino Rd where there is plenty of parking. I have room for two.

Hike starts at 10:00 am

Rain Cancels

**Spouses Always Welcome**

**Rich Ahlf**

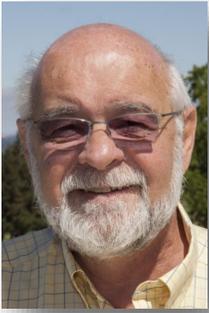
[rahlf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rahlf@sbcglobal.net)

Cell (925) 550-4967



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**Jim Gracey and Stan Matsumoto** pose for a picture at the August luncheon



## Luncheon Chairman

### Rob Melrose

Attendance: We consumed 196 meals at our August luncheon which was slightly less than our guarantee.

Next Luncheon: Our next regular monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at the Boundary Oak Golf Course Club House in Walnut Creek. The price of the luncheon is still \$26 as it has been for a few years. There will be the usual no-host bar. The assembly will be called to order at 11:45 am. Please allow enough time to check in and make payment. The money guys really prefer checks so you might want to take a minute right now and write out a \$26 check payable to "SIR 146". Put it in your wallet and you are good to go on the day of the luncheon, that is assuming you don't leave home without your wallet.

Opt Out Deadline: Please remember that your deadline to opt out of the luncheon is Noon on Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. We will email at least one reminder of this deadline during the preceding week. Nevertheless, you would do well to mark it on your calendar right now. If you are unable to attend, please send an e-mail to "[nolunchbranch146@gmail.com](mailto:nolunchbranch146@gmail.com)" before Noon on the Opt-Out deadline day. Please provide your badge number in that message. If you do not have convenient access to a computer, please call (925) 979-5146 before the no show deadline and leave a message with your name and badge number. A non-attending member who without good cause fails to meet this deadline is required by our rules to reimburse the Branch for the liability we will incur for his meal, in this case \$26. We appreciate the "Advance Payers" who timely notify us that they cannot attend a luncheon. As noted above, this courtesy results in an economic benefit to our Branch. A REMINDER TO ADVANCE PAYERS: BE CERTAIN TO CHECK IN.

Confirmation of No Show Notices: You should receive an email from me after I have updated the attendance records.

Bringing a Guest or a Visitor: If you intend to bring a Guest or a Visitor please so advise via an e-mail to "[nolunchbranch146@gmail.com](mailto:nolunchbranch146@gmail.com)" on or before the opt out deadline. If you do not have convenient access to a computer, please call the phone number stated above and follow the prompts given there. PLEASE REMEMBER TO SPELL THE FULL NAME OF YOUR GUEST OR VISITOR DURING THAT CALL. If your guest decides to come after the deadline, don't let that stop you. Please advise in the

same way. We will always accommodate a guest, timely advised or not.

Special Requests: If you or your guest desires a vegetarian meal or a special diet or if, for medical reasons, he cannot eat lunch please so advise before the opt out deadline in the manner as described above.

New Members, Guests and Sponsors: There will be a luncheon table or tables with places reserved for new members and their sponsors as well as for guests and their sponsors. New members along with their sponsors will be asked to join our Membership Chair immediately following the luncheon for a brief orientation session in a room to be announced at the luncheon.



## Walking Group

### Frank Ascatigno

*Every Friday at 9:30 am at various locales.*

*Call Frank for current walk.*

*Rain cancels any walk.*

*Ladies Welcome*

Tel: (925) 429-2232



## Pinochle

### Charlie Kahsen / Jeff Morrow

We continue to actively recruit new members. We have



settled into meeting at Rocco's Pizzeria on the first Wednesday of each month at 11 am and play until approximately 2 pm. That means lunch is included as a standard part of the event. If you are interested in joining our group, call one of us or send an email to both our email addresses and one of us will get back to you.

With **Pete McNeill** soon moving to Oregon, the two of us will now be co-chairs. The September meeting is on the 6<sup>th</sup>. If you plan to come, please let us know ahead of time so we can let Rocco's know you plan to have lunch together with the group.

**Charlie Kahsen**

(925) 943-1750

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

**Jeff Morrow**

(925) 944-7009

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

Until I was thirteen, I thought my name was SHUT UP.

-Joe Namath



## Activities Coordinator

**Jerry Kaplan**

Two of the newest Branch activities, **Pickle Ball** and **Pinochle**, are underway! Both chairs are looking for more Sirs that are interested in learning about the activity, or are ready to play, and just

haven't had time to contact the activity chairs. Please do, since the fun is there to be had!

Both activities welcome beginners and are open to spouses and significant others. See other columns in this SIR Call to see who the chairs of these games are and how to contact them. They will be happy to explain how the activity functions, where & when they meet, and other related information.

The **Mexican Train Dominoes** activity has five separate groups playing monthly and everyone seems to be having a fun time. All of the existing groups have spouses playing as well as single Sirs. Several Sirs have contacted me to see how they can learn to play the game (very simple!) and perhaps become a substitute. There appears to be a sufficient number of Sirs that could lead to a new group being formed. My wife, **Susan**, and I are willing to host a night where those that may be ready to learn the game and become part of a new group can get together. Please contact me and I'll suggest some dates (probably in October, we'll be away in September) that may work for everybody.

As I noted in my previous column, there may be more activities that SIR 146 members want to participate in but haven't been started as yet. If you have some ideas, let me know how I can help get it started.

In some cases, we may want to explore attending another branch's activity, or possibly invite members from other branches to attend one of our activities, if that works best. Golf continues to be the most popular branch activity and a great pastime, but there are many other ways to meet and join with fellow SIR members as we all enjoy retirement!

We have all joined this great group of men to meet others that have similar interests, and to Have Fun!

**Jerry Kaplan**

(925) 930-7076

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



## Pickleball

**Jim Burk**

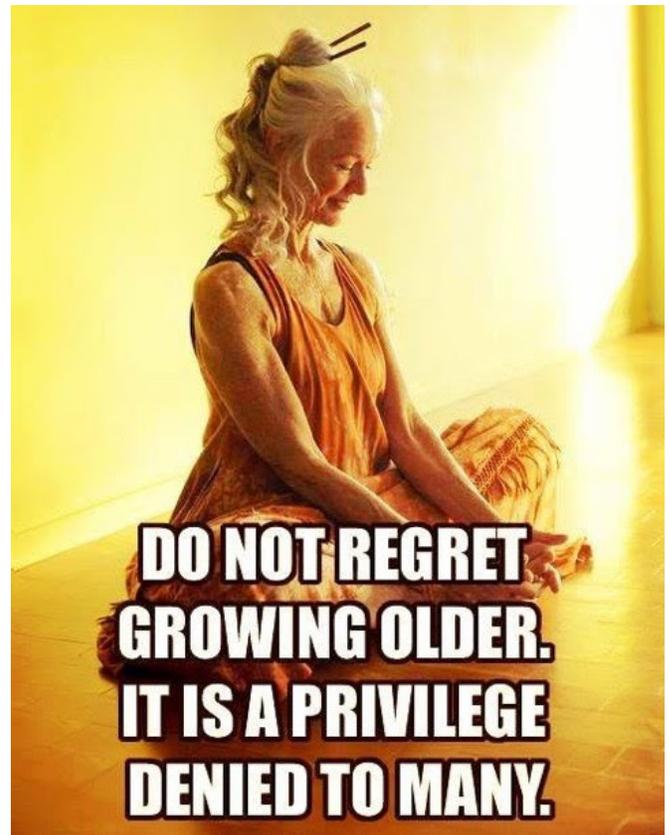
Several Branch 146 Sirs (some with their spouses) are now regularly playing this exciting and active game at the Activity and Recreation Center (ARC) of the San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church. The ARC is located at 902 Danville Boulevard in Alamo and has three beautiful courts for playing Pickle Ball. Everyone is welcome to play there during any of the drop-in times on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday. Hours are currently between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm, and between 1:00 pm and 4:00 pm. Players sign in, pay a \$4.00 fee and can play for the entire time period. Players will work out their own schedules, decide on partners, etc.

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

**Jim Burk**

(925) 946-1192

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





## Couples Dining Out

**Bruce Borgman**

Just when we thought we had exhausted dining at all the area restaurants, we were able to find a new one for September! We will be going to MoMo's in Walnut Creek – located on California Blvd, the site where McCovey's used to be. We had dinner there a few weeks ago and were impressed with the entrees. For our Dining Out event we were able to get a good price for an excellent menu, which includes a choice of a wedge salad or clam chowder soup (both excellent!) and a choice of four entrees. The choices are a yummy gumbo – chock full of sausage, chicken, and prawns in a mild spicy sauce; a chicken pot pie; seared beef tenderloin medallions; and a pan seared salmon. Dessert is a raspberry sorbet. Coffee and sodas are included. The total cost is just \$40, inclusive of tax and tip. As of this writing we have 56 diners signed up so we have room for just two more couples - let me know asap if you are interested in joining us. The restaurant has a great happy hour with house wine and beer for just \$5 before 6 pm. For those with adventurous tastes, there are \$1 oysters available before 6 pm as well as some other appetizers.

We will take over most of the restaurant and will have plenty of room. Metered street parking is available or the Leshner public parking garage is just a block away.

We are considering having a “fancy” dinner again in November – and returning to Vic Stewart's in Walnut Creek for an end of year celebration of our good fortunes. You will recall we went there last year for a menu of some wonderful steak entrees. The cost last year was \$70 per person but we sold out with about 45 diners – and we have not yet approached the restaurant for a final price and menu. Please let me know at the Momo's dinner, SIR luncheon or by email if you would like to do this again. We had a great time last year!

See you at MoMo's.



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**MoMo's  
Restaurant  
Walnut Creek**



## Cooking Lunch & Wine

**Pete Gates**

The Lunch and Wine Group, though primarily a monthly hosted “lunch, wine and solving the problems of the world” group, has several functions, usually dinners out, with our spouses and significant others.

In July, we had a real change of pace. **Bob Spellman** was scheduled to host and proposed a trip to World Mark in Angels Camp. He and his wife **Jo** organized the room reservations and such and hosted a delicious grilled sausage dinner with all the fixin's and dessert in their unit on the first night. Everyone brought wine, as is our custom.

On the second day, the group had lunch at the Murphys Hotel followed by a tour of the Ironstone Winery and their spectacular grounds. Then we returned to Murphys for a private tasting at the Frogs Tooth Winery tasting room arranged by **Jim Meehan**. Dinner that night was at Camp's Restaurant at Greenhorn Creek Resort.

The following day, some chose to continue their touring while others headed home after breakfast. The photo below was taken in the cool wine cave at Ironstone. It was a welcome relief from the 100+ degree heat outside.



Photo by Pete Gates

Pictured are: Front row, L to R - **Bob and Jo Spellman, Ann Gates, Janice and Dick Woodman.** Back Row- **Marlys Siegel with Bill Hartman, Phyllis Meehan and Pete Gates.** Cooling off under a shade tree and not shown: **Jim Meehan, Syd and MJ Whalen**



Henry Thatcher

## SIR Explore & Eat Event 2 hour Bay Cruise/History Tour on USS Potomac

52 people joined us for our 3rd SIR 146 Explore & Eat adventure for a 2 hour Bay Cruise/History Tour on the USS Potomac on August 17<sup>th</sup>. The event started with a slide show presentation of the history of the USS Potomac at the USS Potomac's office located across from the boat dock in Jack London Square. At 10:15 we boarded the USS Potomac and departed at 10:30 am.



Jim Pope

While on the USS Potomac we had at least 6 docents on the boat for tours of FDR's bedroom/bathroom/office, the wheel house, engine room and the staterooms below deck for FDR's guests. The weather was great on the Bay as we cruised under the new Bay Bridge Tower Structure, around the east side of Treasure Island by the east side of Alcatraz, over to Angel Island. From Angel Island we went in front of the Golden Gate Bridge, by the west side of Alcatraz and moved to view the San Francisco skyline. We cruised to the west side of Treasure Island and under the west span of the Bay Bridge and back to Jack London Square at 12:30 pm. Following the cruise we had lunch at Scott's Seafood in the Jack London Square. We received a number of positive comments and feedback from the participants about the day, the tour and the arrangements; we thank all of our guests for participating in this event. Numerous Sirs took pictures on the tour. Look for them in this issue and this special events link at [www.sir146.com/uss\\_potomac\\_2017.html](http://www.sir146.com/uss_potomac_2017.html)

The next Explore & Eat adventure is in the planning stage and we will have more information about the final event for 2017 soon.



Photo by Bill Holly

(L to R): Alicia & Jeff Bailly with Jerry & Susan Kaplan enjoying a relaxing time aboard the Potomac



Photo by Henry Thatcher

Waiting to board the Potomac are (L to R): Fran Matthews, Mariwyn McComb and Ron Lewis



Photo by Henry Thatcher

Dining at Scott's Seafood Restaurant after the cruise, (L to R): Dick & Rita Kincaide and Gary & Brynn Brown



Photo by Henry Thatcher

(L to R): Leslie Firth, Jim Stedman, Walt Busenius, Susan Busenius, and Lynette Holly



Photo by Henry Thatcher

L to R around the table: **Leslie Firth, Barbara Thatcher, Renie Pope**, guests **Ann & Bob Fletcher, Jim Pope** and **Dick Firth**



Photo by Henry Thatcher

New member **Dave Kingsbury (L)** with his sponsor, **Ross Abbott** enjoying the Potomac cruise



Photo by Henry Thatcher

From front deck of the Potomac on a beautiful day on the Bay



Photo by Henry Thatcher

L to R: **Mariwyn McComb** and **Darlo Boone** having lunch at Scott's Seafood with **Gayl** and **Joanne Thorne**



Photo by Henry Thatcher

**Jim Barry** and **Dick Kincaide** preparing to board the Potomac

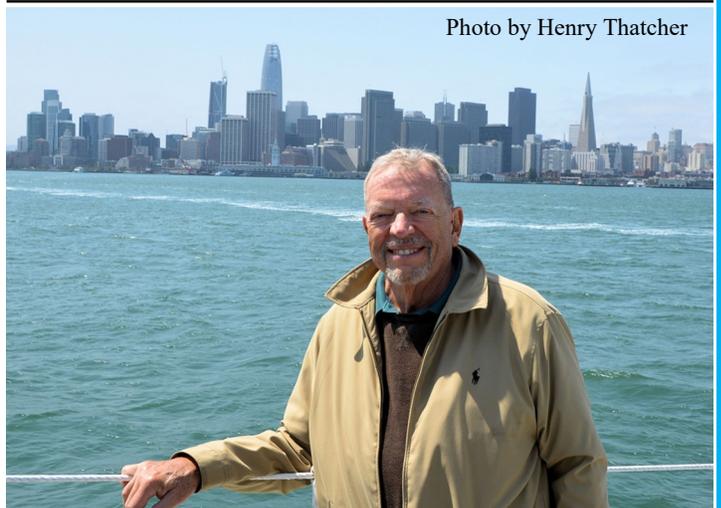


Photo by Henry Thatcher

**Tony Shebanek** poses for a striking picture on the Potomac with the beautiful San Francisco city skyline in the background



## Travel Opportunities

**Milt Smith**

Blue Angels October 7<sup>th</sup> The crown jewel of the SF Bay. The best vantage point to see the Blue Angels is directly from under the planes. Indulge in a hosted buffet lunch as you sip on free - flowing champagne and enjoy background music from the onboard DJ. Then, step onto the outer deck to relax in the sunshine and watch jaw-dropping precision of the famous Blue Angels. Depart Walnut Creek (Mitchell Dr. Park & Ride) at 11:30 am and return approximately 6:30 pm. The cost is \$144 per person and includes: Roundtrip deluxe motor coach transportation, cruise on the S.F. Belle, reserved seats, hosted Hot Buffet Luncheon, viewing of the Blue Angels and Driver Gratuity.

SIR Day at the Races October 20<sup>th</sup> We have a special discount of \$41 per person. The Turf Package includes: Valet Parking, admission and reserved seating, daily racing form, Turf Club Buffet, taxes and tips. This is a great day at Golden Gate Fields for fun, camaraderie wagers and side wagers if you like. Buffet begins around 11 am.

Sign up now for each or either of these events by emailing your intentions to [miltsmith549@gmail.com](mailto:miltsmith549@gmail.com) , then drop a check in the mail to: **Milt Smith**, 913 Piute Ct. Walnut Creek, CA. 94598. *Be sure the check is made out to SIR 146 and put the event in the memo line.* Also include a note with the name of your companion(s) if you are paying for more than yourself. You can also call my cell at (925) 285-2897.

Ultimate Africa May 23<sup>rd</sup> 2018 We had a couple cancel for this trip so we now have room for two, traveling/ rooming together, for this great trip. Botswana, Zambia & Zimbabwe Safari, includes a trip to Victoria Falls. Add-on available to Cape Town and the Cape of Good Hope. We have 14 SIR on this trip now, room for two more... we will have our own guides for our group. The current price of \$7,895pp includes airfare from San Francisco. The Cape Town / Cape of Good Hope add-on is an additional \$1,295pp. If you are interested contact me right away at [miltsmith549@gmail.com](mailto:miltsmith549@gmail.com) or (925) 285-2897.



Stock Photo



Stock Photo



Stock Photo

# Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 1 (UNO)

Jerry Kaplan

The August Mexican Train Game Night was held on the 14<sup>th</sup> at the inviting home of Sir **Corrie Oranje** and his wife, **Sue**. All three tables were almost full for the evening's game playing. Guests included Sir **Jeff Baily** and wife **Alicia**.

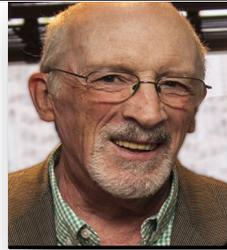
The first place winner for the August Game Night, winning by a hair was **Sherry Hockenbrock**, wife of Sir **Richard**, with an average score of 18.20, followed by **Sue Sheldon**, wife of Sir **Brue Borgman**, right behind at 18.22. Third place was won by Sir **Sig Kalteis**, who averaged 21.0 over the 10 games he played.

While no one else was able to average less than 20 points during the August Game Night, there are a total of six players who have averages less than 22 points over the first three months of play and will be gunning for sharing the possible pot of \$100 among the top three finishers come November.

Group One is always looking for other Sirs who may be interested in playing occasionally as a substitute. Mexican Train Dominoes is fun to play and easy to learn. Several individuals who had never played before have come to our Game Night and after just one open hand, were right in the midst of the fun. Please contact **Jerry** if you want to join a fun night out! Single Sirs as well as a SIR member and his Significant Other are always welcome.



MTD Group 1 table that hatched two winners out of three in August: (L to R): **Sig Kalteis**, **Jim Stedman**, **Sherry Hockenbrock**, **Sue Oranje**, and **Martha Plante**



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 3 (TRES)

Jeff Baily

Prevailing and conflicting Mexican Train Dominoes theories have it that playing fewer games can facilitate higher scores or that playing more games can result in the same outcome. The players of MTD III tested both theories this night at the **Stedmans'** home. The red poker chip table played only 7 games and the fierce competition between **Alicia Baily** who went out 3 times but kept her in-between-outs scores low placed second for the night with a low average of 15.1 and **Larry Brown**, going out twice and finishing with a respectful average of 15.7 placed third. But the blue poker chip table result supported the theory that playing the most games will produce the winner. **Jim Stedman** proved, once again that regardless of the number of games played he's probably going to be among the winners and tonight was no exception. **Jim's** table played 12 games with him going out 4 times and posting the low average of 12.3 for the night. Totally smashing any theories to smithereens, the blue table (that produced the winners, **Alicia Baily** and **Larry Brown**) also produced the high scorer for the evening! That player has decided to remain anonymous.

The white poker chip table winner was **Walt Busenius** whose average of 20.6 wasn't good enough to get into the top 3 for the evening. That table's ho hum scores fell between **Walt's** 20.6 and 33.4. Oh well next time things will be different. One of the enjoyable features of Mexican Train Dominoes is that losing has no bearing on what you'll do subsequently.

A special note about the host; **Jim** handled the evening very nicely – with a full house playing, we all enjoyed his “desserts”, ice cream and other assorted goodies.



Winners of the August Group 1 MTD were (C) **Sherry Hockenbrock**, (L) **Sue Sheldon**, and (R) **Sig Kalteis**



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 4 (El Quattro)

Jim Pope

We had a rousing 16 show up to play Dominos, drink wine and eat wonderful sweets and savories. The group included: **Henry & Barbara Thatcher, Don & June Seaton, Lo & Sue McCarley, Dick & Leslie Firth, Darlo Boone & Mariwyn McComb, Dick & Christy DeVoe, Rich & Kim Pace and Jim & Renie Pope.**

We had three tables and 4 winners along with a dead heat tie for the low score at one of our tables. Fun was had by all and we'll be back together again next month on September 22<sup>nd</sup>.



Photo by Jim Pope

(L to R): **Marilyn McComb, Darlo Boone, Tim Pace, Barbara Thatcher, Christy DeVoe, and June Seaton,** enjoying the sweets and savories



Photo by Jim Pope

This month's 3 table winners **Christy DeVoe, Barbara Thatcher** and dead heat-tie **Dick DeVoe & Leslie Firth** at the 3rd table



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 2 (DOS)

Dick Woodman

**Jim and Phyllis Meehan** did their usual outstanding presentation of food and goodies, good company, and fun Mexican Train. A great night for all.

**Rich Ahlf** took first place with an outstanding score of 11.7 average points per game. **Dick Woodman** won second place with a score of 14.1 and **Ismini MacLean** won third place. Her score was 14.3 average points per game.

Our next gathering is August 25<sup>th</sup> at **Don and Etta Dotson's.**



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 5 (CINCO)

Jim Burk

*Dateline: The Burk residence in WC WOMEN TAKE 4 OF TOP 5 PLACES.*

- **Patty Eisner**— Number 1
- **Ann Hallett**— Number 2
- **Marty Campbell**— Number 3
- **Sally Sprague**— Number 4

Only **Dave Pierce** kept it from being a complete sweep by the women of MTD Group Cinco! It is thought that one of the gentlemen who will go nameless started this landslide when he braggadociosly stated "Watch this play!" It seemed it was downhill from there. Game after game went to the female contingent. It was that same male player who later was heard to say, "Is it time for dessert yet?"

Speaking of dessert, our salivary glands were treated to **Anne Burk's** pineapple cheese chiffon pie. It was a big hit to say the least.



Photo by Jim Pope

(L to R): **Rich Pace, Lo McCarley, Don Seaton, Dick Firth, Henry Thatcher, Sue McCarley, Renie Pope and Leslie Firth**



## Fishing Report

**Paul Dubow**

This has been the best year for salmon fishing in the ocean in a long while. **Bob Stein, Carl Moyer, Raleigh Davis, Phil Scimonelli, Bob Feiber,** and **Gordon Linebaugh** all had the red fish for dinner. For the first time in years, party boats going

out the Gate for salmon have been fully booked for as much as five days in advance for weekdays, longer for weekends. If you want to join this bonanza, book early. Ocean fishing was not limited to salmon as **Bob Stein** and **Carl Moyer** caught some rockfish and ling cod on another adventure.

The salmon run has not extended to the rivers though. **Tom Kostik** traveled to the Klamath River but no salmon were to be found there yet. However, **Tom** and **Mike Corker** picked up quite a few black bass in the Delta. **Paul Dubow**, with one of his sons and two grandkids, limited out on mackinaw in Lake Tahoe and then landed ten kokanee. They caught the mackinaw by jigging, while boats around them trolled and came up empty. **Ernie Wong** fished Crowley Lake in the eastern Sierra with his fly rod and caught some large trout.

The wind has kept us off our normal summer inland fishing for catfish and sturgeon, but we have high hopes for a calm future.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, at the Legends Sports Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. All veteran fishermen and duffers are welcome. The meeting starts at 8:30 am but come at 7:30 am and join us for breakfast. If you have any questions, contact Big Fish **Paul Dubow** at (415) 495-6504.



## Photography Group

**Richard Hockenbrock**

Our guest presenter at the August 25<sup>th</sup> meeting was **Bruce Borgman** who showed pictures from his recent trip to Egypt. In addition, photography members showed their pictures of the recent field trip we took to Martinez earlier in the week.



Photo by Bruce Borgman

One of many Egyptian pictures **Bruce Borgman** showed in his presentation

We also squeezed in another segment from the *Great Courses on Photography* series, this one explaining how to take pictures when you are surrounding is brightly lit.

**Jim Barry** has volunteered to organize our next field trip before our next meeting. These field trips are informative and you can learn insights on your picture taking and be able to see later on a side by side basis your results compared to the group's. SIR members and significant others are always welcome!

**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

**Subject:** Field trip presentations

**When:** November 3rd at 9:00 am—11:00 am  
Field trip in October to be announced via email





## SongSirs

### Bruce Borgman

The SongSirs continue our regular practices on the first and third Wednesday of the month. We are currently working on our patriotic song set in anticipation of singing these at our luncheon in November and perhaps at another venue. We are trying to introduce harmony in some songs we like, particularly "America The Beautiful". We are also keeping up with our romantic song list – anticipating that we may sing that set again at another place soon.

Turnout has been good for our practices, but we miss a few of our ailing members – particularly **Frank Ascatigno** and **Ken Donnelly**. We wish them well as they are recuperating from health problems, not an uncommon issue as we are all getting older. We were happy to welcome our pianist **Steve Dinning** back after a well-deserved vacation.

We always welcome new members – no audition necessary!



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

### SongSirs closing the August SIR Branch 146 luncheon

(L to R) **Joe Starkey, Bob Yolland, Fred Kovar, Peter Plante, Lo McCarley, Ron Lew, Bill Rees, Ken Kratz, Frank Lucas, Corrie Oranje,** and **Bruce Borgman** directing with his back turned



## Book Corner

### Peter Plante

The Book Corner will be open for our September meeting. Please come by and find some new reading material. We have novels, biographies, books on golf for sharpening up your games and good cook books to help salve your wounds after a tough golf game. All exchanges are welcome. See you at the luncheon.

Sons in Retirement 146  
**AUTUMN DINNER DANCE**  
Featuring a five-piece dance band



Saturday Evening October 21<sup>st</sup> 2017, 6:00 – 10:00 pm  
At Zio Fraedo's Italian & Continental Restaurant,  
611 Gregory Lane in Pleasant Hill - \$110 per couple  
Entre Choices: steak, fish, or pasta  
AND appetizers & door prizes

Register with **Don Rhoads** at 2274 Gladwin Drive, Walnut Creek 94596

[Pinky1938@comcast.net](mailto:Pinky1938@comcast.net) (925) 934-7122

NOTE: Include you food choices!!!

**RSVP BY OCTOBER 7<sup>th</sup>**



## Cooking II

### Bob Yolland

**Ken Richter** hosted a great lunch for Cooking II on Monday August 14<sup>th</sup>. Since it was a bit windy we had wine and appetizers in his beautiful back yard and lunch indoors in the dining room.

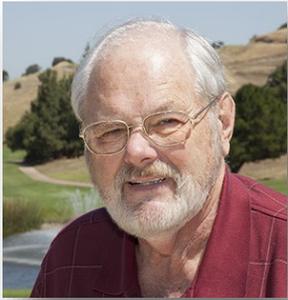
Ken started with an outstanding goat cheese stuffed hot red cherry peppers and an excellent artichoke dip with a variety of crackers. For the main course he served a Shrimp Louis Pasta salad which was truly delicious. With ample wine and lots of good conversation it was a most enjoyable afternoon.

Our next event will be at **Bob Yolland's** on September 11<sup>th</sup>.

I don't feel old. I don't feel anything until noon.

Then it's time for my nap.

-Bob Hope



## Theatre Gary Schaub

Gary reports that our limited number of reserved seats on October 5<sup>th</sup> for "Million Dollar Quartet" at Leshar Center is "SOLD OUT."



## Book Club Chuck Campbell

On August 28<sup>th</sup>, eight Sirs met to discuss Al Franken's *Giant of the Senate*. Franken is currently a U.S. Senator from Minnesota. In the past Franken was one of the comic writers for the television show *Saturday Night Live* and he couldn't resist inserting his humor into his discussions regarding his experiences as a Senator.

Casting aside personal political persuasions, all of us found the book to be an interesting presentation of the duties and interactions of Senators. We noted that while Franken reported how hard he was working as a Senator, he still had time to write this book.

The book is an easy read and presents a good overview of the activities of the Senate and Senators. The book is recommended for political junkies.

For our next book we chose *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr. We will meet again at the Black Bear restaurant on October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 8:30 am.



Gary F. Schaub  
1400 Canyonwood Ct, #8  
Walnut Creek, CA 94595  
[\(925\) 938-5454](tel:9259385454)  
[gschaub1@gmail.com](mailto:gschaub1@gmail.com)



## Cribbage John Pearl

Eight of the branch's finest cribbage players gathered at the home of **Barney Meade** on Wednesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Our Co-Chair, **Ron Afdal** was the day's top winner. **Kirk McVean**, joining us this month from Branch 116, came in a close second, He matched **Ron** in winning five of six games. Third place was taken by our chair, **John Pearl**, while winning his ante back, was **Jim Pope**. A rocking good time was definitely had by all this month.

Our next scheduled event is Wednesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>.



## 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.





## Couples Duplicate Bridge 1 Bob Yolland

Six couples met at **Bill and Margaret Rees's** home in Moraga on Wednesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, for an excellent evening of duplicate bridge.

Winners this month were our host and hostess, **Bill & Margaret Rees** in first place with 23 points. A tie emerged for second and third places between **Dave & Nancy Steinberg** and **Bob & Janet Yolland**, with 21 points. Congratulations to the winners.

Thank you **Bill and Margaret** for hosting and all the wonderful goodies, and thank you to our subs for playing. Our September event will be on September 20<sup>th</sup> hosted by Margot Somerville.



## Couples Party Bridge Dave Pierce

**Larry and Linda Brown** were super hosts on August 1<sup>st</sup>, volunteering at virtually the last minute to host when our regular hosts fell ill. **Bob & Janet Yolland**

were super subs, also volunteering at the last minute. But no good deed goes unpunished, and neither couple held enough cards to come into the money. Our other subs, **Rich Ahlf & Ismini MacLean**, were third (2170); **Tony & Cindy Greco** were second (3500), and **Dick & Christy DeVoe** were first (3770). Notwithstanding who got points, everyone had a great time. Everyone enjoyed the **Brown's** marvelous hospitality (and their drinks, appetizers, and dessert), and everyone applauded the **Browns** and the subs (not to mention **Tony**, who pulled it all together under the gun) because they all came through and we didn't have to cancel! The group welcomed former super subs **Jerry & Chris Benoit** as regular members.

The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning  
and a good ending;  
and to have the two as close together as possible.  
- George Burns



## Men's Duplicate Bridge 3 Sid Landman

Our Duplicate Bridge 3 event was pleasantly hosted by **Jim Pope** on August 18<sup>th</sup>.

1st Place- **Mark Curtis** amassed a most respectable 31.5 points and easily took 1st Place. His first half's 1st Place score of 19 greatly assisted him, as well as 11 of 24 boards with highest scores.

2nd Place- **Tony Greco's** 27.5 pts took 2nd Place. He increased his 2nd half score by 4.5 pts, earning him the 2nd half's second-highest score with 16 pts.

3rd Place (Tie)- **Dick DeVoe** and **Roger Peters** scored 27 pts each for a 3rd Place tie.

Most Twos- **Mark Curtis** had 11.

Least Zeros- **Mark Curtis, Tony Greco, and Brad Hatcher** had 4.

Comeback Kid- **Jim Stedman** brought his "A" game in the second half to easily lead it with 17.5 pts. This score was 9 pts higher than his first half.

*Reported by Dick DeVoe*



Photo by Bill Schultz

08/18/2017

Dup III bridge players **Jim Brown, Jim Stedman, Bob Yolland, Brad Hatcher, Tony Greco, Jim Pope, Mark Curtis, Ed Marlovits and Roger Peters**



Photo by Bill Schultz

08/18/2017

Dup III bridge players **Dick DeVoe, Bill Schultz, Tony Greco, Jim Brown, Bob Yolland, Jim Stedman, Ed Marlovits, Jim Pope, Brad Hatcher, Mike Whitaker, Mark Curtis, and Roger Peters**



## Men's Duplicate Bridge 1

Doug Eisner

**Bob Yolland** hosted four tables of Duplicate Bridge 1 on August 21<sup>st</sup>. The game started later than usual in order to allow the players to watch the eclipse live outdoors or televised indoors. However, the later start did not deter **Mike Whittaker** from jumping out to a big lead during the morning session. **Mike** tallied 15.0 pt, well ahead of **Ed Marlovits'** 13.5 pt and **Dave Steinberg** and **Dick DeVoe's** 12.5 pt each. However, the afternoon session was not as kind to **Mike** – or did **Janet Yolland's** delicious carrot cake take his mind off his bridge? In any event, in the afternoon session, poor **Mike** was eclipsed by a number of players and fell out of the money. Host **Bob Yolland** took first place with 43.5 pt, narrowly edging out **Rich Ahlf's** 2<sup>nd</sup> place score of 43.0 pt. **Roger Peters** and **Dave Pierce** captured 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> places with 41.5 pt and 40.5 pt, respectively.

Our September 18<sup>th</sup> game will be three tables and hosted by **Max Hinkle**.



## Couples Duplicate Bridge 2

Dave Pierce

The Couples Duplicate Bridge 2 three-table event was graciously hosted by **Larry & Linda Brown** on Tuesday, August 8<sup>th</sup>. Normally the group settles down quickly and makes it a great horse race. But THIS time?

**1st Place** was easily won by **Tony & Cindy Greco**, who came out of the starting gate in the lead and never looked back. They not only stayed ahead while taking the rail early, but poured it on down the backstretch before cantering in with a 26 point win.

The **2nd Place tie** couples [**Rich Ahlf / Ismini MacLean** and **Dick / Christy DeVoe** with 20.5 pts.] each kept their horses under wraps for the entire race, apparently waiting for the next half-furlong that never came.

Everyone else felt exactly like their horses did- ridden hard and put away wet. But the good news is that there's always another horse race! Fortunately Amazon had a super sale, "Bridge for Horse Race Dummies", the next day...!

*Reported by Dick DeVoe*



## Men's Duplicate Bridge 2

Dick DeVoe

The Duplicate Bridge 2 event on August 4<sup>th</sup> was cordially hosted by **Dave Steinberg**. We are particularly grateful for our four subs filling in: **Jerry Benoit**, **Mark Curtis**, **Jim Jackson**, and **Bill Rees**.

**1st Place:** **Tony Greco** brought his A game from start to finish. He tied for 1st Place in the first half with 15.5 points, won 1st Place outright in the second half with 17 pts, thereby taking 1st Place overall with 33 pts.

**\*FYI:** There have only been two 34 pointers (**Dave Steinberg** and **Bob Yolland**) and one other 33 pointer (**Tony Greco**) in the past 32 months within our group.

**2nd Place (Tie):** **Rich Ahlf** and **Jerry Benoit** won 2nd Place overall with 29 pts. Rich did so by increasing his second half point count by four (16.5) vs. his first half (12.5). Jerry was the most consistent today with 14.5 pts. for both halves.

**4th Place:** **Dick DeVoe** tied for 1st Place with 15.5 pts. in the first half, lost a lot of his mojo with 10 pts/9th Place in the second half, yet finished in 4th Place overall with 25.5 pts overall.

**Most Twos:** **Tony Greco** had 10, which was one more than his winning 9 from July.

**Least Zeros:** **Rich Ahlf**, **Jerry Benoit**, and **Tony Greco** each had 3.



## Party Bridge Fred Bolton

We played three tables of bridge at the home of **Bob Burley** on August 7<sup>th</sup>. First place went to **Bill Snyder** with 5220 points, second to **Bill Rees** with 4500 and third to **Jim Jackson** with 4290.

Our next game will be on September 4<sup>th</sup> at the home of **Jim Brown**.

## Attention

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

Contact **Sid Landman** at (925) 673-8817 or email [sidlandman@aol.com](mailto:sidlandman@aol.com).



## Poker Group 1

**Dan O'Sullivan**

Poker Group 1 met at the home of **John Lewis** on August 9th. As always a good time was had by all.

Our next outing will be at the home of **Frank McNamee** on September 13<sup>th</sup>.



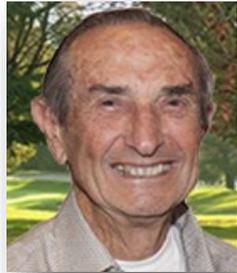
## Bocce Ball

**Martin Lyle**

We have reached the mid-point of this year's Bocce play, and are enjoying some good turnouts from our regular players. However, some of the new players in our group are showing up the experienced ones, which always keeps things lively.

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  
Ladies are welcome



## Poker Group 2

**Al Zamolo**

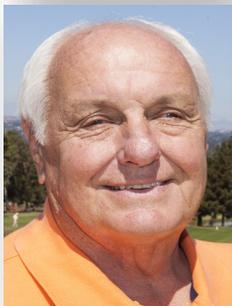
*Poker Group 2 meets on the fourth Monday of the month at various members' homes. Contact **Al Zamolo** if you would like to be on the list as a substitute.*



## Poker Club 3

**Sig Kalteis**

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



## Poker Group 5

**Bill Roberts**

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



## Old Money Poker Group 6

**Brad Hatcher**

**Rich Alf, Bob Larson, Norm Baietti, and Howard Charlop** met at **Frank Lucas'** house for another fun afternoon. Not much money changed hands, as **Rich Alf** was the

high winner with a plus \$3.00. *(Filling his inside straight to get a natural probably had something to do with it.)* We meet next at **Rich Alf's**, and if you want to join us, we are holding auditions. If interested, call **Brad Hatcher** at (925) 935-1571.  
*Reported by **Frank Lucas***



Photo by Henry Thatcher

**Paul and Jane Beretz** at Scott's Seafood Restaurant after the Potomac cruise of Explore & Eat



Photo by Bill Holly

Our intrepid Explore and Eat hosts  
**Jim Pope & Henry Thatcher**



## GOLF

### Ed Marlovits

The most noteworthy item of the past month was the nine-hole match play held on August 1<sup>st</sup>. Feedback on the event was very positive as a nice change of pace from normal stroke play. We had many close matches adding to the excitement.

We have held normal 18-hole match play competitions in the past and if there is interest we can try to find a way to make that work as well.

Our next Away Golf expedition will be on September 7<sup>th</sup> at the popular and convenient Blue Rock West in Vallejo.

Away golf in October will be held on the first Tuesday of the month instead of the first Thursday. Boundary Oak will be closed for aerating and sanding the greens that day and some members may need their Tuesday golf fix. We will be playing at Eagle Vines in Napa, a fine course where State SIR holds its very popular Spring Time in Napa Tournament each April.

Congratulations to the Branch 146 teams that qualified for the State Team Championships: **John Harrington, Guy Rudberg, Jim Baldridge, Jim Passaglia, Dick DeVoe, Colin Holland, Bill Cammerer & Ray Weisz.** They didn't bring home any trophies, but it was a significant accomplishment for them to qualify.

Golf is one of the most popular Branch 146 activities. With over 100 signed up, its a great way for you to get acquainted with many of your fellow Sirs. We play Tuesday mornings at Boundary Oak and would be pleased to have you join us. Get in touch with us either through a SIR golfer or simply email us at [sir146golf@gmail.com](mailto:sir146golf@gmail.com).



SIR now has a promotional license plate frame as magnified. If you would like one, contact **Alan Elnick** or **Bruce Borgman**



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

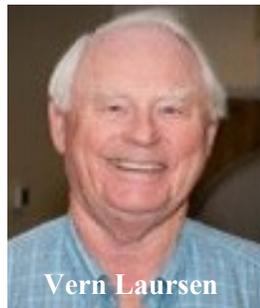


Photo by Bill Schultz

**Joe Fuchs** (R) shows potential new member **Bob Best** (L) how to improve his score by effectively using his pencil eraser coming in on our 18 hole course

## Area 16 Events

### Mac User Group (MUG)

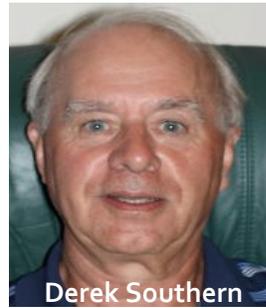


The Mac Users Group (MUG) meets the first Monday of each month from 12 noon until 2:00 pm at the Thurman G. Casey Ygnacio Valley Library, 2661 Oak Grove Road, Walnut Creek, CA 94598.

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

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

### Computers and Technology



PCs



The Area 2 Computer and Technology Group announces that there will be no meeting in September. This means our next meeting will be on Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Drive. Arrive earlier to chat with friends and enjoy the coffee and cookies. 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 SIR members and their guests (spouses included!) are welcome to attend. See you there. The presentation topic will be announced in the October newsletter, so watch this space.

Neil Schmidt, Chairman

### Area 2 \$ums Investment Group

Our next meeting is Wednesday, September 27<sup>th</sup> 8 am at the Legends Restaurant in the Diablo Creek Country Club - Port Chicago Highway, 1/4 mile north of Highway 4 in Concord.

Our speaker will be Kyle Shealer of QST Capital in San Francisco. QST has developed a series of algorithms to predict the probability of a market shift. They follow these to raise or lower a client's cash / equity levels.

Legends opens at 7 am so come early and have a leisurely breakfast with your colleagues prior to the meeting.

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

After 10 years, the wife starts to think their kid looks kind of strange so she decides to do a DNA test. She finds out that the kid is actually from completely different parents.

Wife: Honey, I have something very serious to tell you.

Husband: What's up?

Wife: According to DNA test results, this is not our kid.

Husband: Well, you don't remember, do you?? When we were leaving the hospital, we noticed that our baby had pooped. Then you said: Please go change the baby, I'll wait for you here. So I went inside, got a clean one and left the dirty one there.

Moral: Never let a man do a new job unsupervised.

I was married by a judge. I should have asked for a jury.  
- Groucho Marx