

# SIR CALL

br146sircall@gmail.com

August 2019

Published For Our Members And Friends

## SIR Contra Costa Branch 146



### Big Sir's Notes

Jonathan Korfhage

"Friendship is born at that moment when one person says to another, 'What! You too? I thought I was the only one.'" - C.S. Lewis

Here's a goal for you: MAKE NEW FRIENDS AT SIR! Reach out and introduce yourself! Start up a friendly conversation – the weather, the food, the activities enjoyed, what's new in their lives.... What I have found is that all SIRs are members because they are open to meeting new people! We now have over 300 members and over 50 interesting activities in our branch to check out and meet new friends. Take a moment, take the initiative, say 'hello'.

According to researchers at BYU, having too few friends is the equivalent mortality risk to smoking 15 cigarettes a day and is riskier than obesity. When friendships themselves are healthy, they relieve stress, which is extremely beneficial for health.

If you want to further a friendship, get to know the other party personally. How is he doing? What has he been up to? What's been on his mind lately? Then just let the discussion flow from there. Make sure the discussion is split at least 50/50 between you and your friend. Be mindful when you're talking too much, you may be preventing your new friend from sharing.

"If you go looking for a friend, you're going to find they're very scarce. If you go out to be a friend, you'll find them everywhere." - Zig Ziglar



### WE ARE SIR – MAKE FRIENDS FOR LIFE

Luncheon— Thursday, August 8<sup>th</sup>  
Boundary Oak Clubhouse

#### Guest Speaker:

Virginia Smith CPA

"Fallout from TCJA, is there any solid planning going forward? Update on California conformity"

Gathering time: 11:00 am

Seating 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, August 2<sup>nd</sup>

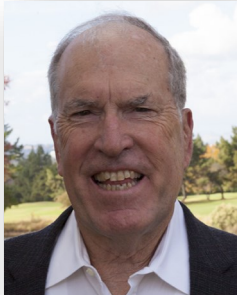


Photo by Henry Thatcher

The July Speaker was Ray Murray from the San Francisco Office of the National Park Service. Ray shared his love for and the bountiful beauty of Park Lands and Monuments in California and the West

## SIR Mission Statement

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



### Little Sir's Corner

**Brad Hatcher**

I hope you enjoyed our July speaker Ray Murray from the San Francisco office of the National Park Service. We are blessed to have the wonderful park system across our country.

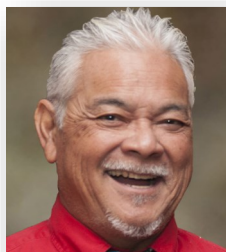
Our August speaker is Virginia Smith, CPA. Her speech title is "Fallout from TCJA, is there any solid planning going forward?, Update on California conformity". She is going to tell us what she has learned as result of her practice and the effects of the recently passed federal tax law. Beside her accounting practice, she has taught accounting at St. Mary's College and holds an MBA and MS in Taxation. I think you will find her remarks helpful in understanding our tax situations. Please know that her comments will be general and she will not be able to answer questions about your specific situation

The names of prospective candidates for the 2020 BEC were printed in the July SIR CALL and were introduced at July's luncheon. There was a change as **Tony Greco** was introduced, replacing **Max Hinkle** for Assistant Secretary. The election will be held at our August luncheon. A current list of candidates is on Page 3.

While the BEC voted to change certain aspects of the Branch 146 attendance regulations in June that follow policy changes implemented at the state level, at its July meeting the BEC sought better clarification on the criteria ("good cause") that would be administered in granting temporary waivers or "exempt" status to allow members in good standing to be excused from luncheon attendance on a temporary basis. **Richard Hockenbrock**, filling in for **Brad Hatcher**, indicated that the Little Sir's input was needed before this regulation could be finalized and published.

A 20 YR SIR Membership Award was awarded to **Joe Lamanna** and **Tony Greco** was recognized for his 5 years of service as Badges Chairman in our Behind the Scenes Recognition Program.

Please bring a guest to the meeting as we always want to expand our membership. When you bring a guest, his lunch is free, and please let our luncheon Chairman **Rob Melrose** know who is coming.



### Membership

**Ron Lew**

We inducted 2 new members at July's Luncheon: **Terry Carlin** sponsored by **Mike Roach** and **Mike Farrar** sponsored by **Chuck Campbell**. Their photos are below.

Please continue inviting guests to our luncheons since we have experienced turnover in recent months. Our membership stands at 300 members.

You are always welcome to join our new member orientation for a refresher or to meet our new members after any monthly luncheon. To keep our branch strong and healthy, we encourage you to keep inviting friends and associates to monthly luncheons to experience the best SIR Branch in California.

### August New Member Photo Additions



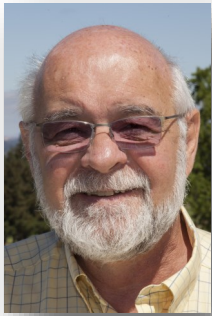
**Terry Carlin**



**Mike Farrar**



Honorees Committee Chair **Doug Eisner** presents **Joe Lamanna** an Award recognizing 20 YRS of Membership and Service to Branch 146. Congratulations!!



## Luncheon Chairman

**Rob Melrose**

I hope you are enjoying this summer. I cannot believe how quickly the year is going by. It seems like yesterday we were complaining about the cold weather.

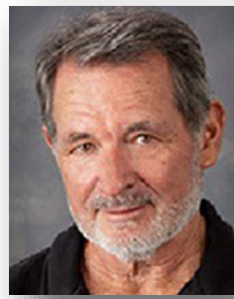
August 8<sup>th</sup> Luncheon

- Cost: \$26
- Preferred payment method is check
- Opt Out Deadline: August 2<sup>nd</sup> at Noon
- Email: [NoLunchBranch146@gmail.com](mailto:NoLunchBranch146@gmail.com)
- If you need to call: (925) 979-5146

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

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

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



## Sunshine

**Max Hinkle**

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

- **Hugh Ferguson**
- **Jim Gracey**
- **Joe Hunt**
- **Bill Klein**
- **Martin Lyle**
- **Howard Nemir**
- **Jim Saavedra**
- **Bill Stevenson**
- **Joe Suta**
- **Al Zamolo**

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

If you are aware of an ill Sir, please let **Max Hinkle** know by e-mail: [hinkle3@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hinkle3@sbcglobal.net) or phone: (925) 408-6004 so that our SIR members can be advised.

**Also, if you need a ride to and from our luncheons or know someone who does please notify me.**

## 2019 Branch 146 Officers and Directors

Big Sir .....	<b>Jonathan Korfhage</b>
Little Sir .....	<b>Brad Hatcher</b>
Secretary .....	<b>Richard Hockenbrock</b>
Assistant Secretary .....	<b>Jerry Kaplan</b>
Treasurer .....	<b>Ben Gleason</b>
Assistant Treasurer .....	<b>George Mon</b>
Director(1 <sup>st</sup> Term) .....	<b>Max Hinkle</b>
Director(1 <sup>st</sup> Term) .....	<b>Frank Pandolfi</b>
Director(1 <sup>st</sup> Term) .....	<b>Ron Lew</b>
Director(1 <sup>st</sup> Term) .....	<b>Milt Smith</b>
Director(2 <sup>nd</sup> Term) .....	<b>Pierre Mebane</b>
Director(2 <sup>nd</sup> Term) .....	<b>Tony Greco</b>

### RAMP – Chair Members

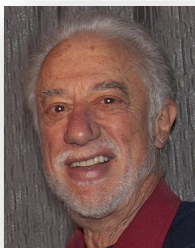
Recruitment .....	<b>Paul Beretz</b>
Activities .....	<b>Jerry Kaplan</b>
Member Relations .....	<b>Pierre Mebane</b>
Publicity .....	<b>Frank Pandolfi</b>

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

### **SIR BR 146 Nominating Committee has proposed the following list of candidates for the 2020 (BEC) Board Executive Committee as follows:**

Big Sir	<b>Brad Hatcher</b>
Little Sir	<b>Richard Hockenbrock</b>
Secretary	<b>Jerry Kaplan</b>
Assistant Secretary	<b>Tony Greco</b>
Treasurer	<b>George Mon</b>
Assistant Treasurer	<b>Ross Abbott</b>
Director 2nd Term	<b>Milton Smith</b>
Director 2nd Term	<b>Frank Pandolfi</b>
Director 2nd Term	<b>Ron Lew</b>
Director 1st Term	<b>Peter Plante</b>
Director 1st Term	<b>Chuck Schreiber</b>
Director 1st Term	<b>Paul Beretz</b>

All the prospective officers were introduced at the July meeting. Election of 2020 officers will be held at our August luncheon. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at that meeting.



## Activities

Jerry Kaplan  
and  
Bob Lucido

Larry Brown is interested in starting a new activity. **The name of the game is Bunco**. It's a dice game, but don't worry there's no gambling involved. The game is very easy to learn, if you can count the dice you're in good shape.

If you have any questions, don't call me because I have never heard of the game, but do call Larry at (949) 933-7415.

We are communicating with Larry Lardie, the activity coordinator from branch 59. He is trying to coordinate activities with other SIR branches for **activities such as baseball/football games, travel, bocce, cycling and hiking**. I will keep you updated.

### Activity Tables at August Luncheon :

We will have tables set up next to the bar at the August luncheon with activity chairmen trying to persuade members to join their activities. I suggested they give out free beer, but they declined. They may look lonely, so chat them up about their activity.

*Reported by Bob Lucido*

Jerry Kaplan  
(925) 330 8832  
[mtdana@aol.com](mailto:mtdana@aol.com)

Bob Lucido  
(925) 899-0974  
[bobwendy3@comcast.net](mailto:bobwendy3@comcast.net)



Photo by Henry Thatcher

We caught ( L to R ) HLM Bob Spellman, Joe Barry, and Chaplain Jim Baldrige with their happy faces. Their smiles are contagious



# THE CLUBHOUSE

AT BOUNDARY OAK

## SIR 146 Luncheon

August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019

### Salad

#### **Green Apple Salad**

Butter Lettuce, Baby Greens, Apples,  
Toasted Almonds  
Sesame Seed Vinaigrette

### Entrees

#### **BBQ Beef Brisket**

Slow Braised Beef Brisket, Garlic  
Mashed Potatoes, Sautéed Vegetables

Or

#### **Tilapia**

Herb Marinated Tilapia,  
Fresh Tomato & Avocado Relish,  
Confetti Rice Sautéed Vegetables

### Vegetarian

#### **Stuffed Portobello Mushrooms**

Stuffed with Seasonal Vegetables,  
Dried Chili Tomato Sauce

### Dessert

#### **Chocolate Cake**

Chocolate Truffle Cake with Vanilla  
Whipped Cream, Raspberry Sauce



## Photography Group

**Richard Hockenbrock**

### SPECIAL EVENT

You may recall that **Milt Smith** and his travel group went to Machu Picchu, the Amazon, and Galapagos at the beginning of June. We are inviting all those travelers who took pictures to come to our September meeting and show us their photos from a thumb drive.

We are inviting everyone including wives and partners to come see them. The meeting room can hold 113 people, so let's see how close we can come to filling the room.

Email: [rhock@pacbell.net](mailto:rhock@pacbell.net)

Cell: (925) 324-1713

### Next Meeting

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

**Subject:** SIR Travel pictures from Machu Picchu, the Amazon, and Galapagos



Photo by Henry Thatcher

### BEHIND THE SCENES RECOGNITION PROGRAM:

Above: Big Sir **Jonathan Korfhage** gave **Tony Greco** a special token good for a free drink. **Tony** has managed our luncheon name badges for a number of years.

Below: **Tony** at his station after the meeting putting several hundred badges in their travel holders. Bravo and Thank You **Tony** !



Photo by Jerry Kaplan



Photo by Jerry Kaplan

Behind the Scene Volunteers **Norm Baietti** and **Larry Brown** at July's luncheon helping to check in fellow Sirs

### SIR Call Newsletter Group

Editor  
Co - Editors  
Photographer  
Proofreaders

**Richard Hockenbrock**  
**Walt Busenius, Rob Melrose**  
**Henry Thatcher**  
**Jim Barry, Jonathan Korfhage,**  
**Ron Polivka, and Calvin Tucker**



### 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.*





## Book Group

### Chuck Campbell

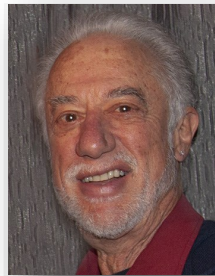
Six of us gathered at the Greenery on Monday morning, July 15<sup>th</sup>. Our first order of business was to finish the discussion of the book *The Path Between the Seas*, the story of the creation of the Panama Canal.

by David McCullough, a well-known and prolific author. Most of us were somewhat disappointed in the space given over to the politics, corruption, and greed of the French era that began this effort. The many French names were also difficult to remember and pronounce. We were hoping for more of an engineering approach to the project itself. While the French did indeed make a strong effort, they failed to understand what all they were up against, especially in the areas of sanitation and disease control, especially Yellow Fever and Malaria.

The second half of the book chronicled the US effort, championed by Teddy Roosevelt. He was able to pretty much put the right people in the right jobs, including the doctor who could take on the health and sanitation issues, based on his earlier experiences in the Caribbean. It took awhile, but he did a good job of mastering these problems. The Americans had a “can-do” attitude, knowing they would persevere and get it done. There were plenty of politics and not the graft and corruption seen in the French effort. Although a long read, the book leaves the reader with a complete understanding of what it took to build the canal.

We then moved on to the *Maltese Falcon*. Note – none of the book was set on Malta. The writer was Dashiell Hammett, a prolific author of detective stories, whose day job, we learned, was as a Pinkerton detective! The entire book is set in San Francisco, where the lead character, a private detective, Sam Spade, maintains an office. The cast is made up of Sam and his partner Miles Archer, the police who are looking for the killers of the various participants in the hunt for the mysterious Maltese Falcon, especially those whose aim was to find the Falcon, and sell it for a lot of money. We never did find out how much it was really worth. The big finale takes place in Sam’s apartment, following which the police catch the bad guys and Sam survives to work again another day. A good and easy read from one of the best mystery writers of his time.

Our next book will be Ron Chernow’s *Hamilton*, which we will tackle on Monday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, at 8:30 am at the Greenery Restaurant.



## RV Wanderers

### Bob Lucido

Our RV trip to Paso Robles is scheduled for September 17<sup>th</sup>, and we will be staying for one week.

We contacted the activity chairmen from SIR Br. 8, 19, 59, 116, & 128 to see if any of their members were interested in participating with us on a trip.

**Jeff Johnson** and his wife from SIR 116 are interested in joining us.

### Bob Lucido

(925) 899-0974

[bobwendy3@comcast.net](mailto:bobwendy3@comcast.net)

Photo by Henry Thatcher



Long time friends **Walt Busenius** and **Russ Anderson** talking about **Russ’s** recent SIR trip to Machu Picchu

Photo by Gary Brown



**Malcolm Harrison, Collin Holland, Ed Brands, Gary Brown, and Dave Steinberg** all celebrating Boundary Oak’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary all dressed in period attire



## Couples Dining Out

**Bruce Borgman**

Since our July Couples Dining Out event is not until the 29<sup>th</sup> – we will miss the Sir Call deadline and I will simply repeat that we expect to have a wonderful summertime dining experience at **Lucille's Smokehouse**

**Bar-b-que** which is located at the north end of Sun Valley Mall. While part of a chain, they claim to have perfected the art of low and slow cooking of the meats that are commonly used in this southern style of cooking. We were able to get a good all inclusive price, which will include a shared appetizer of southern chicken strips with a honey mustard sauce, a Caesar salad, a choice of five entrees, and the best ever chocolate cake. This description will sadly reach you right after we've enjoyed it but fear not – we had reached our capacity for this restaurant and only with some pleading and cajoling were we able to convince the restaurant to accommodate our entire group inside, rather than on the outside patio. We will have 56 diners, a few more than the restaurant said they could manage inside. We'll tell you how it all worked out in next month's Sir Call.

This does give me the opportunity to poll you on our proposal for the Couples Dining Out event in September. **Pete** and **Gabriela Bishop**, gourmards in their own right, urged us to try a restaurant in Antioch called **Smith's Landing Seafood Grill** – and we joined them earlier this month by trekking out to the east county. We had earlier demurred about considering this restaurant since it is just a bit further than where we normally have our events. From Walnut Creek it's about a 30-35 minute drive. However, after having a sumptuous dinner with the **Bishops**, we think it is more than worthy of your consideration. Besides some wonderful seafood dishes – we had cioppino, stuffed petrale sole and macadamia crusted sea bass - there were beef and pork dishes that would compare with any of our local steakhouses. So, the question, dear diners, posed to you is whether you would be willing to venture out to the East County in September. The cost would likely be a bit more – maybe \$60 – but you will not be disappointed in the cuisine. The restaurant can easily accommodate 60 or more so this time there is not a limit on your participation. Please let us know over the next few weeks whether you would be willing to join us for this culinary adventure – a bit further away.

Again, if you wish to be added to our mail list, email me at [bgborgman@aol.com](mailto:bgborgman@aol.com).



## Travel

**Milt Smith**

**SIR Branch 146 Grand Baltic Sea Voyage—Small Ship Adventure by Overseas Adventure Travel**

**DEPARTURE DATE:** June 6, 2020 • Denmark: Copenhagen,

Bornholm • **Poland:** Gdansk • **Sweden:** Visby, Stockholm • **Latvia:** Riga • **Estonia:** Tallinn • **Russia:** St. Petersburg • **Finland:** Helsinki. Trip extensions available to Copenhagen and / or Stockholm from \$1,295 each.

As noted, this upcoming great trip to the Baltic departs June 6, 2020 and we have 9 Sirs signed up already, but there is still room for more if you act soon.

14 days from \$8,255 Includes international airfare from Sacramento. 14 days from \$6,695 without international airfare. Single Supplement: \$1,395.

Please mention code **GO-23630** when booking.

Reservations & Information call **1-800-955-1925**

[www.oattravel.com/crb2020](http://www.oattravel.com/crb2020)

**Please Note:** I am looking into other trips for 2020, including the Mediterranean, the Amalthea Coast, and WWII battlefields of France. Very much would like to know your interests before conducting further research.

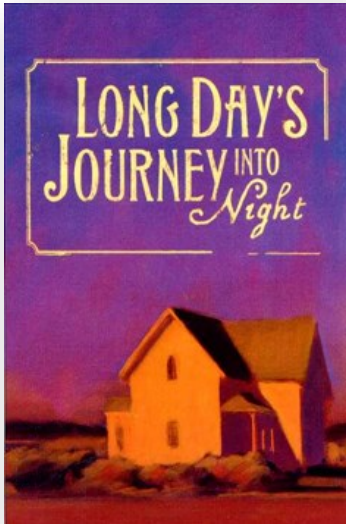
**Milt Smith**

(925) 285-2897

[miltsmith549@gmail.com](mailto:miltsmith549@gmail.com)



The Adventurers to Machu Picchu, Galapagos, and Peru Amazon -- Branch Travel Trip in May/June "2019"



## **Joint Theater Party**

**With SIR Branches 8, 116, 128 & 146**

**Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 pm**

**The Old Barn Theater, Tao House  
at the Eugene O'Neill National  
Historic Site in Danville**

Reservations are sold out for the SIR Joint Theater Party on Thursday, September 19 at 7:30 pm. SIR146 is joining with SIR Branches 8, 116 and 136 for this special presentation of Eugene O'Neill's *Long Days Journey into Night*, The play is to be produced at Tao House in the Danville hills – where the play was written and where O'Neill and his wife lived from 1937-1944. O'Neill is the only American playwright to be honored with the Nobel Prize for Literature.

*Long Day's Journey* is a memorable play about the playwright's family when he was growing up in New London, Connecticut. His father, James O'Neill, was a prominent actor; his mother – a former convent girl addicted to morphine after childbirth; and his carousing brother Jamie. All have dreams, ambitions and secrets that impact younger brother Eugene (named 'Edmund' in the play). *Long Day's Journey into Night* is considered one of America's greatest dramas.

Reservations at \$35.00 per person are no longer available with a check payable to SIR146 and mailed to Sir Gary Schaub, 1400 Canyonwood Ct., #8, Walnut Creek 94595. Deadline is August 16<sup>th</sup>. (Please include your SIR Branch Number & e-mail address so we can confirm your reservation.)

Access to the O'Neill National Historic Site is by National Park Service shuttle departing from the Museum of the San Ramon Valley, 205 Railroad Ave, Danville. (No private car access.) Details for shuttles, beginning at 6:00 pm, will be provided to attendees in advance of performance date.





## AREA 16 Fishing Report

Paul Dubow

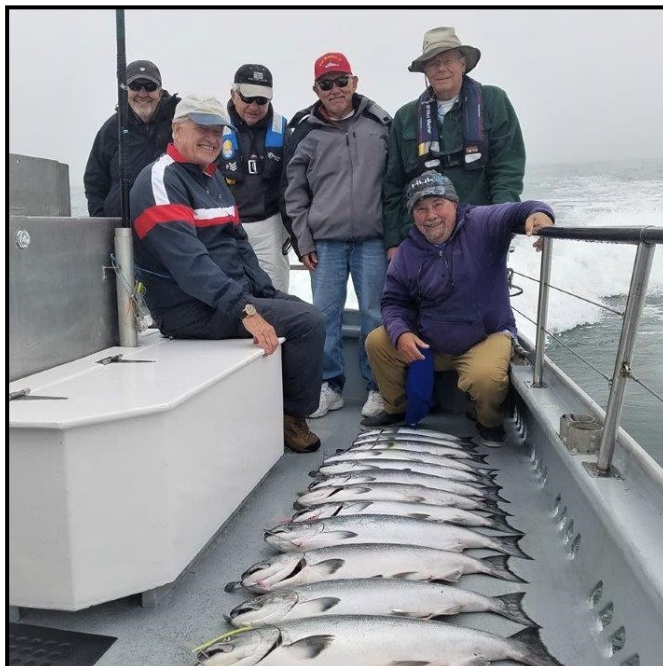
The salmon run for 2019 is living up to its expectations. Two outings on the Sundance resulted in limits for all fishermen and everybody was home in time for lunch. **Gordon Linebaugh, Jack**

**Waddell, Bob Stein, Alex Go, and Brion Beetz** were the participants in the first outing. **Rich Fiscina, Lee Clark, and Paul Dubow** of Branch 146, along with **Pedro Contreras, Karl Droese, and Ken Konzak**, were the fishermen on the second outing.

Alaska was the main source of our halibut fishing this month. **Phil Scimonelli** and **Alex Go** traveled to Sitka and returned with limits. **Chuck Cornell** and **Paul Dubow** of Branch 146, along with **Joe Miscione, Rich Bal, and Ed Dijkman**, plus **Paul's** son and grandson, did even better on a trip to Gustavus, near Glacier Bay. Not only did they limit out, but **Chuck, Joe, and Paul** hooked 100 pounders. **Joe and Paul** (who was actually fishing for rockfish when he hooked his giant) released their fish.

**Ron Lew** of Branch 146, **Brion Beetz, Bob Stein, Carl Moyer, and Stan Wong** caught rockfish in the ocean. **Ron** also caught a ling cod in excess of 20 lbs. for the second year in a row. **Tom Kostik** and **Mike Corker** continued their regular and successful outings in the Delta for stripers and black bass. **Ernie Wong** and **Don Mittlestadt** fly fished for and released many shad in the Yuba and Sacramento Rivers. **Pete Gates** of Branch 146 picked up some nice rainbows on a trip to the Feather River.

Our next meeting will be on August 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Legends Bar and Grill, Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. The meeting starts at 8:30 am, but you are welcome to join us for breakfast beginning at 7:30 am. For further information, please contact branch fishing chair **Paul Dubow** at (415) 495-6504.



**Karl Droese, Lee Clark, Paul Dubow, Pedro Contreras, Ken Konzak, and Rich Fiscina** display their salmon limit.



**Chuck Cornell** shows off his 100 lb.+ halibut.



**Ron Lew** holds his 20 lb. ling cod.

My face in the mirror isn't wrinkled or drawn.  
My house isn't dirty. The cobwebs are gone.  
My garden looks lovely and so does my lawn.  
I think I might never put my glasses back on.



**SIR 146 Explore & Eat**

# **Leshor Center for the Arts**

**Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30 am ~ Walnut Creek, CA**

**Private Behind the Scenes Backstage Tour**



Curious what goes on behind the curtain? Want to see all three theatres, the Green Room, backstage and the other many nooks and crannies of the Leshor Center for the Arts? Then sign up and join us on this SIR 146 Explore & Eat event. Following the tour, we will walk one block to Broderick Roadhouse Restaurant for lunch at the corner of Locust and Bonanza Streets.

There are only 40 spaces available and 6 spaces left on this Private Tour so now is the time to sign up. Once we reach 40 signups, a waiting list will be created in case there are last minute cancellations. The cost for the Backstage Tour is just \$5.00 per person and the cost will be collected by the Leshor Theater staff at the time of the tour.

This event is open to all SIR 146 members and their guests. Make your reservation by emailing your name and the name of you guest(s) to Jim Pope at [jpoppe24@comcast.net](mailto:jpoppe24@comcast.net).

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

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

# SIR 146 Explore & Eat

## John Muir Home - July Overflow Tour



Photo by Henry Thatcher

We had 10 participate in July for The John Muir Home Overflow Tour after 27 attended the June Tour. Those in attendance were: **Jeff Baily, Loren and Marlene DeLaurenti, Bob and Wendy Lucido, Rich and Kim Pace, Charlie and Diane Walker and Jim Pope.** The smaller group toured the Adobe House (John Muir's first house) and the grounds after the John Muir Home tour.

We watched a wonderful film on John Muir's life outlining his career as a farmer, his rise to national environmentalist, lobbyist and friend to Teddy Roosevelt. He was a family man with his wife, two daughters; a writer (12 books) and founder of the Sierra Club. Following the film, we toured the "Big House" (all three floors) which

is a 17-room wood frame mansion of the late Victorian period (Italianate style) built on a knoll with a commanding view of Alhambra Valley. It is a two-story structure with a full basement and attic, a cupola on the peak of the roof, 12-foot high ceilings in the rooms, and over 10,000 square feet of floor space. The house has remained largely unaltered structurally since Muir's time. We then toured the surrounding grounds and other buildings.

After the tour we all proceeded to lunch at the Front Room Restaurant in downtown Martinez for lunch.  
*Reported by Jim Pope*



Photo by Jim Pope



Photo by Jim Pope

The Group feeling Karma from John Muir's statue:  
 L to R: **Bob & Wendy Lucido, Loren & Marlene DeLaurenti, Jeff Baily, Kim & Rich Pace, and Diane & Charlie Walker**

Muir House Grounds - N.P.S Historical Monument:  
 L to R: **Rich & Kim Pace, Charlie & Diane Walker, Marlene & Loren DeLaurenti, Jeff Baily, Wendy & Bob Lucido**



Photo by Henry Thatcher

L to R: **Steve Siljestrom, Dan Holland** and **Roger Rivers** looking great before lunch. **Roger** is in pure bliss.



## Pinochle

**Charlie Kahsen /  
Jeff Morrow**



*We meet on  
the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday of the*

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

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

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

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

**Charlie Kahsen**

(925) 943-1750

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

**Jeff Morrow**

(925) 944-7009

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



## Pickleball

**Jim Burk**

*Branch 146 Sirs (some with their spouses) are now regularly playing this exciting and active game at the Activity and Recreation Center (ARC) of the San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church. The ARC is located at 902 Danville*

*Boulevard in Alamo and has three beautiful courts for playing Pickle Ball. Everyone is welcome to play there during any of the drop-in times on Monday thru Friday between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm. A player will pay \$5 per session. Each player will be allowed to get in as many games as the number of players that day allows using the traditional player wait list approach.*

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

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

**Jim Burk**

(925) 946-1192

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



## SongSirs

**Bruce Borgman**

You may have noticed that we had a particularly rousing rendition at our July Luncheon of the SongSirs introduction of "Stout hearted Men" followed by our traditional "God Bless America". We were pleased to have our singers join in at this time since many had returned from vacations and other obligations. We are hopeful that we will get a good group back into rehearsals and perhaps a gig later in the summer.

We skipped our mid July rehearsal because many of us were not available due to various trips and other activities. We will practice again in early August with a good repertoire. We have heard that some of our recent new Sirs are interested in singing so we urge you to come join us in practice.

In August we will practice on August 7<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 pm, and on August 14<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm at the Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church Multipurpose Room. You will enjoy the great songs we have been singing!

(925) 932-3961

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



## Bocce

Stan U'Ren /  
Jim Whitsett

**Attention all Bocce players!** Our 2019 season is well underway! We are

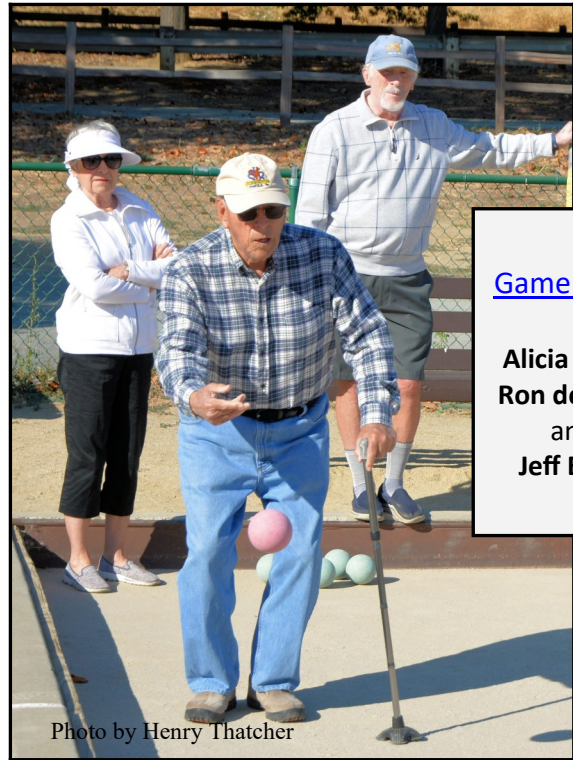
in need of more players. If you are new to the game, come out and see how quickly you can pick it up!

Our August games will be held on **Monday, August 12<sup>th</sup> and Monday, August 26<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am**. Please mark your calendars!

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

Rain Cancels Play  
Ladies are welcome.  
Come and join us

**Jim Whitsett** (925) 689-5493  
[AFRES056789@gmail.com](mailto:AFRES056789@gmail.com)



Game Time:  
**Alicia Baily,  
Ron deGolia,  
and  
Jeff Baily**

Photo by Henry Thatcher



Photo by Henry Thatcher

Bocce July 8<sup>th</sup>: L to R: **Doug Timmel, Tony Greco, Ron DeGolia, Jeff Baily, Alicia Baily, John Kendrick, Larry Brown, Ray Waletzko, Jim Whitsett, and Peter Plante**

# Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 1 (UNO)

Jerry Kaplan

The Group One players met on July 13<sup>th</sup> at the recently painted Walnut Creek home of **SIR Peter Plante** and his wife, **Martha**.

("Recently," in this case, means that the paint crew left two hours before the Game Night players began to arrive!) Delicious snacks out on the cool patio were provided by the hosts, including a wide choice of ice cream treats at the break. With only one or two people missing, **SIR Jeff Baily** and his wife, **Alicia**, joined the Game Night.

**SIR Bruce Borgman** had a very good evening taking first place and \$21 home by going out first in five of the ten games he played; he averaged a low 12.2 points per game. His wife, **Sue Sheldon**, made it a household sweep of the first two places, and averaged 15.0, good for second place worth \$11. Third place went to **SIR Jeff Baily** (20.8), worth \$4.

Lottery scratchers were awarded to the two players who totaled the most points during the evening. (No scores here are EVER mentioned.) **SIR Frank's** wife **Marie Ascatigno**, and **SIR Richard Hockenbrock** were each handed a lottery ticket they hoped would pay for at least a trip on BART.

Mexican Train Dominoes is an easy game to learn and a great number of SIRs, many with their partners, have been playing for several years. Single SIRs are always welcome.

By clicking here ([mexicantrainrulesandstrategies.com](http://mexicantrainrulesandstrategies.com)), someone can see how to play and the set of rules that the seven groups in Branch 146 are following. If someone is interested in joining a group, call the chair (listed in the Branch website) to see if there may be space to become a regular or a substitute.



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**MTD GROUP 1 WINNERS:** **Sue Sheldon**, 2<sup>nd</sup> place; **Bruce Borgman**, 1<sup>st</sup> place; and super sub **Jeff Baily** garnered 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Love those pants **Bruce**.



Photo by Jerry Kaplan

**MTD 1 HIGH SCORERS**, Happy **Richard Hockenbrock** and **Marie Ascatigno** holding their CA lottery tickets. Perhaps, they think it's bitcoin.

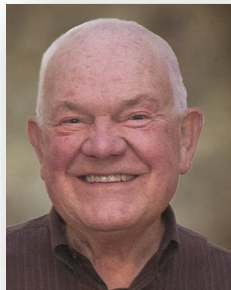
A frustrated wife told me the other day her definition of retirement:

"Twice as much husband on half as much pay."

Nurse came in and said "Doc, there's a man in the waiting room who thinks he's invisible. What should I tell him?"

The Doctor said "Tell him I can't see him today."

# Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



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

Ron and Anne Plachy hosted our June game night and did a great job of it. Snacks included meatballs, pigs in a blanket, cheese, crackers, dips, etc, etc. More temptations than some of us needed.

We had some very competitive scores: Nancy Pearl took third place with an average game score of 15.5 winning \$4. Rich Ahlf stepped up to second place with a 13.9 score winning \$11 and Phyllis Meehan took first place with a great score of 12.2. Phyllis won \$21 for first place. Congratulations to all of our winners! Our next game night is at John and Nancy Pearl's on July 26<sup>th</sup>.



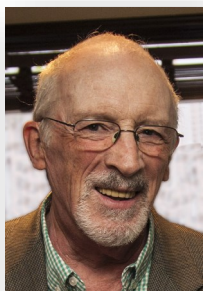
## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 4 (El Quattro)

Jim Pope

Friday night, July 19<sup>th</sup>, the El Quattro Mexican Train Dominos group met at the home of Renie and Jim Pope. We had 12 in attendance with 2 tables of 6 each: Bill Weinberg and Yvonne Killips, Ron Louis and Fran Matthews, Darlo Boone and Mariwyn McComb, Dick and Christy DeVoe, Rich and Kim Pace, and Jim and Renie Pope. With only 6 at each table, the dominos action was "fast & furious".

The low score winners of each table received 6 California Lottery tickets each with a chance to win \$1000. The winners were: Fran Matthews and Christy DeVoe (See photo below)

Absolutely lovely sweets and savories were provided by the women's snack team and several bottles of tasty wine provided by the men in the group, all which made for a very festive evening.



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 3 (TRES) Jeff Baily

We awarded the 6-month prizes soon after the June games—The grand winner was Judy Richmond with an average score of 17.8. for a prize of \$47. Next winner in 2<sup>nd</sup> place was Alicia Baily with a score of 20.6 and she took home \$28. Joyce Wells and Walt Busenius tied at 22.8 and split the 3<sup>rd</sup> place prize of \$19 or \$9.50 each. Congratulations to all!

The July games were held at the home of Larry and Linda Brown. The hostess, Linda Brown went out 6 of 9 games to win 1<sup>st</sup> place for the night with an average of 15.11. Jeff Baily went out a mere 3 times in 12 games played but otherwise kept his scores fairly low for a score of 15.25 and 2<sup>nd</sup> place. Judy Richmond who went out only twice but managed to keep her scores very low to average only 18.5 took 3<sup>rd</sup> place for the evening.

The hosts' delicious treats were appreciated by all and it was nice to see subs, Laurie and Bill Hoban who got to play for the first time in quite a while. Altogether it was a delightful night.

<See picture on next page>



El Quattro MTD Winners: Fran Matthews and Christy DeVoe

It was mealtime during an airline flight. "Would you like dinner?" The flight attendant asked John, seated in the front row of economy. "What are my choices?" John asked. "Yes or No", she replied!

# Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



## Additional MTD 4 (EL Quattro) Pictures



Photo by Jim Pope

MTD 4 (L to R): Fran Matthews, Dick DeVoe, Kim Pace, Darlo Boone, Yvonne Killips, and Jim Pope



Photo by Jim Pope

MTD 4 (L to R): Christy DeVoe, Bill Weinberg, Ron Louis, Mariwyn McComb, Rich Pace, and Renie Pope

## Additional MTD 3 (TRES) Picture



Photo by Alicia Bailly

MTD 3 winners (L-R) 1st place hostess Linda Brown, 2nd Jeff Bailly, and 3rd Judy Richmond



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 5 (CINCO) Chuck Campbell

The 'Domin-ators' at Mexican Train Cinco's July gathering at the Campbell's home are pictured waving their massive winnings. The ladies were forced to yield their prior month's majority of wins to the gents this month, with **Dennis Hallett** taking 1st and **Steve Sprague**, 3rd. **Joan Pierce** powered up the ladies' table by capturing 2nd place. All enjoyed the lemon cake topped with berries and ice cream which commenced the evening, a change of routine we all agreed was better for our health AND waistlines.

Next month's meeting will be at **Jim and Anne Burk's** on August 15<sup>th</sup>.



Photo by Chuck Campbell

MTD 5 CINCO July winners (R to L): **Dennis Hallett** 1st, **Joan Pierce** 2nd, and **Steve Sprague** 3rd.



Photo by Jim Barry

SIR Monday Table Pool at Masses Sports Bar & Grill



# Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 6 (SEIS)

**John "Moose" Kelly**

Our July game night was hosted by **Bruce Borgman, Sue Sheldon**, and of course, Lexi and Ziggy. **Sue** was hard at work making desserts for the MTD 6 posse. The lemon bars were just outstanding!! My thanks to the dynamic foursome for making the evening event a very enjoyable one...INDEED!!

The competition for the lowest score was incredibly close with **Martha Plante** (1st) coming out of retirement to rain havoc on her competitors. The ever consistent **Sherry Hockenbrock** (2nd) was a half a point behind with **Bob West** (3rd) in close pursuit. **Carmen Schiavone** and **Sue Sheldon** were the high point winners with the "Beginner's Luck" scratchers. Congratulations to all the winners!



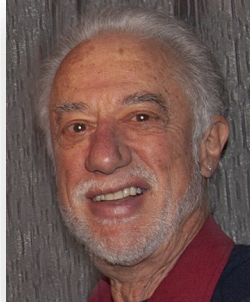
MTD 6 winners  
**Martha Plante**  
1st, **Sherry Hockenbrock**  
2nd, and **Bob West** 3rd

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



MTD 6  
Scratchers  
**Carmen Schiavone**  
& **Sue Sheldon**

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



## Mexican Train Dominoes Group 7 (Siete)

**Bob Lucido**

On July 21<sup>st</sup>, **Bob** and **Jane West** hosted Dominoes. **Bob** has an open gas fire pit which we all sat around at the break. **Bob** did not provide marshmallows to roast so I was disappointed.

**Mary McCarthy** was the winner with an impressive 11.5 average. **Mary Ellen Dalgaard**, with an average of 40, won a scratcher lotto ticket for high score. She has not yet disclosed her big winnings. I tried to be the big loser, but she beat me by 4 points. We will limit the total members to 14, so there is still an opening for a couple more players.

We have scheduled our games on the second Wednesday of the month.

**Bob Lucido**

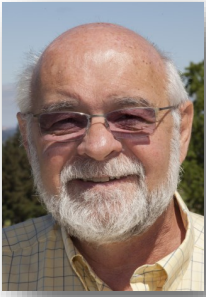
(925) 899-0974

[Bobwendy3@comcast.net](mailto:Bobwendy3@comcast.net)



Photo by Bob Lucido

MTD 7 (Siete) (L-R) **Mary McCarthy**, the happy winner and **Mary Ellen Dalgaard** with Lotto Ticket



## Wine Tasting

**Rob Melrose**

July 24<sup>th</sup> found 27 wine tasters at the beautiful Lucido Gardens in Walnut Creek. We tasted a variety of sparkling white wines and red wines from the Beaujolais region of France.

As usual, a good time was had by all. Our lucky winners were **Dave and Claire Kingsbury** in the red category. White wine winners were **Joe and Barbara Stengel** who brought a wine that is produced in Barbara's hometown in Germany.

Our next event is October 23<sup>rd</sup> at the home of **Bob and Jane West**. As we get closer to the event, I will send out an email with the details. If you are interested in a fun afternoon of socializing, please send me an email.

Rob Melrose

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



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

Our charming hosts **Wendy and Bob Lucido**



Photo by Bill Holly

**Ross Abbott, Tony Shebanek and Joe Stengel** solving the problems of the world.



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**Rob Melrose** presenting **Dave Kingsbury** with his gift for brining the best red wine.



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

**Joe and Barbara Stengel** holding with winning white wine.



Photo by Bill Holly



## Cribbage

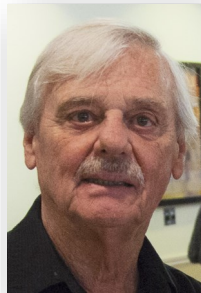
**John Pearl**

Eight of us gathered on Wednesday, July 24<sup>th</sup>, to both play cribbage and to help celebrate our host's 91<sup>st</sup> birthday!

After a rousing six games, the match prize money went to **Peter Plante** in first place, second place money to **Kirk McVean** (Branch 8), **Ron Afdal** picked up third place \$\$\$, and **Jim Pope** won his ante back with fourth.

We'll try again in August on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

**John Pearl**, Chair



## SIR 146 Hiking

**Rich Ahlf**

On Friday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, we will be doing an easy 4 mile hike on the northeast side of Mt Diablo. This is an easy hike with views of Clayton and the Delta. We will meet at the Regency Gate at 9:00 am (early start to beat the heat). Our ascent will be about 700ft. and hiking time about 3 hrs. If you are thinking of joining our group, this would be a good starter hike. After the hike we will get together at Ed's Mudville Grill for a light lunch.

**Directions**—Drive NE on Ygnacio Valley Road, turn right on Clayton Road, go about 5 miles, then turn right on Regency Drive to drive to staging area. Walk down the hill to the gate.

Spouses always welcome  
Rain Cancels  
Dogs not Allowed

**Rich Ahlf**

Cell (925) 550-4967

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



Left to right are **Jim Pope**, **Roger Rivers**, **Peter Plante**, **Kirk McVean** (Branch 8), **Birthday Barney**, **Ron Afdal**, **Dennis Hallett**, and **John Pearl**



## Table Pool

**Bill Weinberg / Jim Barry**

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

*Reported by **Jim Barry***



## Couples Duplicate

### Bridge 2

**Dave Pierce**

The Couples Duplicate Bridge 2 group with 3 tables was hosted by **Dick** and **Christy DeVoe** on Tuesday, July 10<sup>th</sup>. **Max Hinkle** and **Joan Pierce** teamed up and rode easily into 1st Place with 26.5 points. (**Dave Pierce** will probably now find **Joan** expecting a much higher standard of play from him-yikes!)

**Dick** and **Christy** were a full 5 points behind, feeling like they'd been ridden hard and put away wet by the 1<sup>st</sup> Place team. **Rich Ahlf** and **Ismini MacLean** slipped into 3rd with 20 points.

*Reported by **Dick DeVoe***

**Dave Pierce**

(925) 932-3877

[dwpi@astound.net](mailto:dwpi@astound.net)



## Men's Duplicate Bridge 1 Doug Eisner

The Duplicate Bridge 1 event was astutely hosted by **Bill Snyder** on Monday, July 15<sup>th</sup>.

- **1ST PLACE: Tony Greco** with a fine showing of 31.5 points. He must be getting his mojo back after being out of the limelight for awhile, placing 2nd in both halves. **Tony** had a great 10 vs. 2 ratio of Most Twos vs. Least Zeros.
- **2ND PLACE: Jim Stedman** made it look easy with 28.5 pts., placing a respectable 3rd in both halves.
- **3RD PLACE: Joe Fuchs** earned 3rd Place in a rather challenging way. His first half garnered him a lowly 10th Place with 10.5 pts, but he roared back with 16 pts. in the 2nd half.
- **MAXIMUM SCORE FOR 3 BOARDS: Fred Bolton/Tony Greco** had a maximum 6 points for Boards 4-6. **Fred** used those points to help earn 1st Place in the 1st half with 16 pts.
- **COMEBACK KID: Dick DeVoe** took this questionable award by scoring a current world record low of 5 pts. (!) in the 1st half, and then jumping 8 pts. to (a pedestrian) 13 pts. What a way to get his name in the article.

*Reported by Dick DeVoe*



## Men's Duplicate Bridge 2 Bill Schultz

**Jim Brown** hosted three tables of Duplicate Bridge at his new home at the Oakmont of Montecito. Eleven of us voted to have **Jim** be the permanent host for our group but **Jim's** vote counted more than ours; we will continue to rotate the hosting responsibilities.

In the morning, **Fred Bolton** was the leader followed closely by **David Steinberg** in second. **John Boyan** and **Bill Schultz** tied for third with only one point separating the first four players. Actually there were only three points between the first eleven players.

**David Pierce** came roaring back in the afternoon with 17 points, a 71% gain. **Bill Schultz** was second and **Ed Marlovits** and **Jim Brown** tied for third. **Jim Brown** had five 2's and **David Steinberg** had zero 0's.

When the dust settled it was **Bill Schultz** in first place followed by **Dave Steinberg** and **Dave Pierce** tied for second place. For the day **Jim Brown** had nine 2's and **Bill Schultz** had only three 0's. Partners **Mark Curtis** and **David Pierce** scored a perfect six on boards 19 thru 21 and **Steve Dinning** and **Jim Brown** scored 5.5 points on the same three boards.

Our next game will be hosted by **Mike Whitaker** in Moraga on Friday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>.



Photo from Bill Schultz

**MDB 2 Winners:** **Bill Schultz**, first place, **Dave Steinberg** and **Dave Pierce**, tied for second place. display their massive winnings and bright smiles.

Favorite childhood memory: My back not hurting.



## Couples Duplicate Bridge 1 Bob Yolland

Couples Duplicate Bridge 1 had a fun evening of bridge at **John** and **Kathy Kluesener's** beautiful home with the fabulous view. Thank you

**John** and **Kathy** for hosting, all the goodies and the nice wines.

Regarding bridge results, we had a close game with a three way tie for third place at 20 points between **John** and **Kathy Kluesener**, **Rich Ahlf** and **Ismeni**, and **Jim Stedman** and **Max Hinkle**. In second place only one half point ahead were **Bob** and **Janet Yolland** with 20 1/2 points. Leading the way in first place were **Dick** and **Christy DeVoe** with 23 1/2 points. Five of the six couples ended up with five 2's for the evening. Congratulations to all the winners.

Our next event will be hosted by **Dick** and **Christy DeVoe** Wednesday, August 13<sup>th</sup>.



## Couples Party Bridge

**Tony Greco**

**Rich Ahlf & Ismini MacLean** hosted our July 2nd event. To start the evening, **Ismini MacLean** provided an assortment of appetizers including cheeses and crackers, apple slices, salami slices, mixed nuts and more. Complementing the appetizers were an abundant variety of red and white wines uncorked by **Rich Ahlf**. At the end of the evening, **Ismini MacLean** served us a tasty chocolate birthday cake with all the trimmings and candles as we sang Happy Birthday to **Christy DeVoe**. **Christy** was very proud to wear her Happy Birthday Tiara all evening. We all got the feeling this was one of **Christy's** best birthdays ever!!! Surprisingly, all of our regulars attended this July event even though it was in close proximity to the July 4<sup>th</sup> Holiday. Last year our July event had to be cancelled due to lack of availability of players. I'm guessing that nobody wanted to miss out on **Christy DeVoe's** birthday this year!

Once again quite a few potential slam opportunities were missed that would have changed the outcome. That being said, after four rounds of play, **Larry & Linda Brown** were in 1<sup>st</sup> PLACE by 90 points but were passed by **Tony & Cindy Greco** in the final fifth round of play. The official results are as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> PLACE with 3890 points - **Tony & Cindy Greco**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> PLACE with 3700 points - **Larry & Linda Brown**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> PLACE with 3110 points – **Brad & Lynne Hatcher**

Next month's event will be held on August 6<sup>th</sup> and hosted by **Brad & Lynne Hatcher**.

Photo by Tony Greco



## Cooking Lunch & Wine

**Dick Woodman**

**Bob Spellman** welcomed the group to his home for our July get together. We gathered in his beautiful backyard and had wine and tasty snacks and plenty of discussion about the issues of the day.

Lunch was served in the dining room and was highlighted by a wonderful entrée topped with layers of filo crust. That is not a very good description of this meal but it was all extremely good and was topped by a great dessert. We solved the rest of the worldly problems before the visit concluded.

Our next gathering is at **Bill Hartman's** home on August 21<sup>st</sup>.



## Cooking II

**Bob Yolland**

Our next special event will be the A's game August 1<sup>st</sup> arranged by **Steve Ybarra**.

Our next lunch will be held Monday, August 12<sup>th</sup> hosted by **Bruce**

**Borgman.**



Photo by Tony Greco

### Happy Birthday Christy!!

ABOVE: Partners **Linda & Larry Brown**, and **Christy** (in her Birthday Tiara) & **Dick DeVoe** are still smiling after **Dick's** classic 2 spades opener.

LEFT: The ladies - **Lynne Hatcher, Christy Benoit, Linda Brown, Cindy Greco, Ismini MacLean, Christy DeVoe**, and why are you in this photo **Dick**?



## Cycling Group

Larry Kaye

**July 8<sup>th</sup>** — DIY Workshop. Seven members as well as one wife attended. We donned rubber gloves and over 2 hours got dirty. We learned how to tune, fit, fix-a-flat, and how to repair our bikes on a road trip. We shared oiling, greasing and getting dirty. We adjusted seats, brakes, and removed the glaze from brake pads. The discussions covered air pressure, gas cylinders, tire sizes, various lubes and pedals. All said, a great cycling group get together.

**July 17<sup>th</sup>** — Today the men in Spandex (mostly) rode 17 great miles. We covered the old Southern Pacific train tracks, "The Lafayette Moraga trail," through Moraga into Orinda. Stopped for Peets coffee and a rest. We then funneled thru the trail alongside the 24 Freeway into Lafayette. We experienced our first flat today. It served as a refresher to the DIY workshop as well as a reminder to always carry an extra tube.

We had to abandon our team member as he had no spare and his flat was a multiple puncture. His lovely wife picked him up on the roadway.

Returning to Lafayette and our cars we shared the joy we had by just riding with some great brothers. Present on our trip were: **Roger Meyer**, **Big Bob Lucido**, back from his RV trip, **Bob Wilkenfeld**, who hails from the original Niagara Falls, **John "Moose" Kelly**, the course marshal from the Tour De California, **Ken Studer** happy as ever, **Bill Ross** (new guy), and **Larry Kaye**

**July 29<sup>th</sup>** will be our venture into the country to experience what Danville looked like 100 years ago. Hope to see more of the gang.

(925) 698 4030

[larrykaye2@comcast.net](mailto:larrykaye2@comcast.net)



## Hearts

Bob West

We meet on the third Thursday of each month at Rocco's Italian Restaurant, located at 2909 Ygnacio Valley Rd. in Walnut Creek. We play from 12:45-3:15 pm with an optional lunch at noon. This is a Men's SIR 146 function with new members welcome. Our next meeting is August 15<sup>th</sup>.

At our July 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, Sir **Rich Lyon** won with a score of 50, Sir **Jim Nelson** was second with a score of 76. The game was nip and tuck with 7 lead changes in the first nine hands, but Sir **Rich Lyon** was able to beat off all challengers in the last three hands. Sir **Jim Nelson**, had 74 through 8 hands, but only took 2 points in the next 4 hands to soundly place second. This game lasted nearly 1.5 hours, so we only played one game this time.

On a YTD basis, the leaders in games won, are Sir **Rich Lyon** with 4 games, Sir **Bob Finlayson** 3 and Sir **Joe Fuchs** 3. Sir **Ray Bland** is still leading in having "Shot the Moon" 3 times.

Hearts is a game of constantly changing challenges whether playing against someone experienced or new, each hand can be very dynamic. Most of us had not played in a long time but still fondly remembered the game. If you want to get back into it, please join us. Even if you only have a warm interest, I can add you to the email list, with the hope that your interest will increase in the future.

Please contact me at (925) 518-8472 or [robtawest@aol.com](mailto:robtawest@aol.com) if you have any questions or would like to be added to our group's email list.



Photo by John Kelly

It's a flat! Hey,  
Let's use our DIY  
Workshop Training.



Photo by John Kelly

Cycling Group- July 17<sup>th</sup> The Men in Spandex

L to R: **Larry Kaye**, **Ken Studer**, **Bob Lucido**,  
**Bob Wilkenfeld**, and **Roger Meyer**



**Poker Group 1**  
**Dan O'Sullivan**

Poker Group 1 met at the home of **Bill Cammerer** on July 10<sup>th</sup>. As always, a good time was had by all. We had 2 guests who joined us, and one was a big winner (I don't know if we will

invite him back).

Our next outing will be at the home **Don Del Bene** on Aug. 14<sup>th</sup>.



**Old Money Poker**  
**Group 6**  
**Brad Hatcher**

As the first Thursday in July was the 4<sup>th</sup>, we cancelled the meeting to celebrate the fireworks. Our next gathering will be August 1<sup>st</sup>.

Tel: (925) 935-1571

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



**Poker Group 2**  
**Al Zamolo**

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



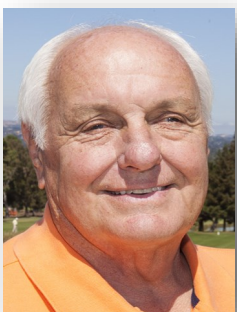
**Poker Club 3**  
**Sig Kalteis**

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



**Poker Group 4**  
**Rich Hanford**

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



**Poker Group 5**  
**Bill Roberts**

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



**Poker Group 7**  
**Bob Lucido**

Our poker group meets on the third Monday of the month at 6:30 pm and we play until 9:00 pm or when everyone falls asleep, which ever comes first.

We play various types of poker games, some that confuse everyone except the dealer.

We would like to have more substitutes, so if you would like to participate, please contact me.

**Bob Lucido**

(925) 899-0974

[bobwendy3@comcast.net](mailto:bobwendy3@comcast.net)

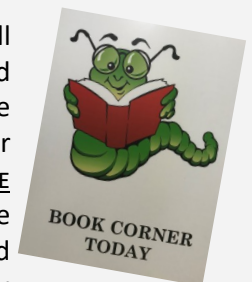
The dinosaurs didn't drink coffee and we all know how that turned out.

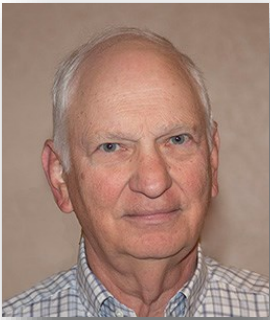


**Book Corner**

**Peter Plante**

Thanks to all who came in and took out more books for their summertime reading. WE WILL BE BACK IN SEPTEMBER, so that's the time to trade in what you borrowed and to get some more of your favorite authors.





## GOLF

### Ed Marlovits

The SIR Area Team Qualifier event was held June 27<sup>th</sup> at Deer Ridge GC. We just learned that the team of **Joe Fuchs, George Mon, Dan Holland and Sal Costanza** qualified for the state finals. That competition will be held at Rancho Solano on August 12<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations and best of luck, gentlemen!

We need to thank **Mike Roach** and **Mark Curtis** for their efforts in arranging our Diablo Creek and Green Valley outings. We have filled our 23-player allotment for play at Green Valley Country Club on July 25<sup>th</sup>. Hopefully, someone will have remembered to bring a camera.

The Sir Call deadline for July was also the deadline for our commitments for the replacement Tuesday outing at Diablo Creek GC on July 30<sup>th</sup> so we don't yet know the size of the group for golf and lunch at this venue.



## Nine Hole Golf Group

### Verner Laursen

*The SIR 146 golf group tees off at 9:30 am at the Diablo Hills Golf Course on most Thursdays. Exception is the second Thursday when we normally go to the SIR luncheon.*

*If you are interested, let me know and I will put you on my list. On Mondays, I will send out an email asking who is coming for golf, who is walking and who plans to stay for lunch. On Wednesdays I will send out an email setting forth the pairings for Thursday morning. Thursday morning there may be adjustments based on who did or did not show up. Most of the time the lunch is better than our golf game.*

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

GOLF



Photo by Bill Schultz

**Colin Holland and George Carpenter** practicing before the Tournament



Photo by Bill Schultz

**TUESDAY RYDER CUP TOURNAMENT: Jeff Baily and Max Hinkle** exchanging monopoly money



Photo by Bill Schultz

**LARGE GROUP AT THE POPULAR TAPHOUSE: (L to R) Paul Masta, Dan Holland, Dave Steinberg, Bill Laws, Gary Brown, John Hammond, Ben Smith, and Terry Carlin**



Photo by Bill Schultz

The old big tree behind # 15 Green has been a major project



## Area 16 Events

### Mac User Group (MUG)

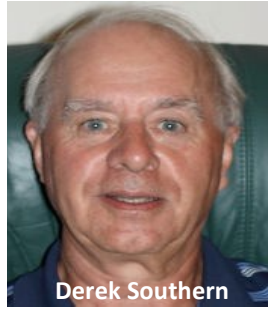


Max Burchett

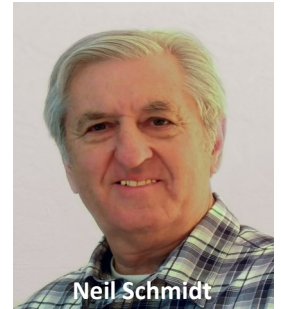


Vern Laursen

### SIR Area 16 Computers & Technology (PCs)



Derek Southern



Neil Schmidt

***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.

The next meeting of the SIR Area 16 Computer and Technology Group will be on **Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup>** at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge (1475 Creekside Dr., WC) starting at 9:30 am. SIR from all branches and their guests, including spouses, are welcome and invited to attend. Plan to come a little early for coffee, goodies and to chat.

The presentation topic for the August meeting will be "**CUTTING THE CORD FOR BETTER TELEVISION VIEWING**" by Phil Goff. Streaming services are growing rapidly and more and more people find that they offer better content than the traditional cable and satellite providers. New services such as Hulu, YouTube, Disney & T-Mobile Vision are disrupting the way we normally view television. Phil will give an overview of the streaming services available and show you how and why you may want to use them. It's a topic of interest to everyone who watches television.

This presentation and past presentation notes are available on the CAT Web page ([a2cat.sirinc2.org](http://a2cat.sirinc2.org)). Note that we ask for a \$5 donation to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and cookies. We look forward to your participation.

### Area 16 \$ums Investment Group

\$UMS in Retirement meets next on Wednesday, August 28<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am at the Legends Restaurant, Diablo Creek Golf Course, Port Chicago Highway, Concord, just north of Hwy 4.

The presenter will be Mike Frazier of Bedell, Frazier Investment Counselors in Walnut Creek. Mike will talk on the conflicting signals from the bond market about a possible recession.

The Legends opens at 7:00 am. Come early and have a leisurely breakfast with your colleagues prior to the meeting. Ladies are always welcome.

Chair - **Tom Henry** - Br 174 [tomhenry925@gmail.com](mailto:tomhenry925@gmail.com)

Co-chair **Dave Sutton** - Br 8 - [davesutn@comcast.net](mailto:davesutn@comcast.net)

What do you call a person that is happy on Monday?  
Retired!



Photo by Bill Schultz

**GOOD CHEER AND FRIES AFTER TOURNAMENT: (L to R) Bill Dastic, Jeff Baily, Mark Curtis and George Mon**

# SIR 146 Activities Calendar

To add new or one time special events for the calendar, contact Bill Holly

2018    Jan    Feb    Mar    Apr    May    Jun    Jul    Aug    Sep    Oct    Nov    Dec    2020

## August 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Jul 28	29	30	31	Aug 1	2
	8:30 AM Bike Ride email Larry Kaye larrykaye2@comcast.net 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses	9:00 AM Golf 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church	10:00 AM Bowling	9:30 AM NINE HOLE GOLF-1 8:00 PM - 7:00 PM Poker Group #8	9:30 AM - 2:00 PM Men's Duplicate Bridge 2
4	5	6	7	8	9
	10:00 AM Party Bridge 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM Mac User Group (MUG)	9:00 AM Golf 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 7:00 PM Couples Party Bridge	8:30 AM Bike Ride email Larry Kaye larrykaye2@comcast.net 10:00 AM Bowling 1:30 PM Song Sirs 1st	9:00 AM - 10:45 AM BEC Meeting 11:45 AM - 1:30 PM SIR LUNCHEON	10:00 AM Hiking Moderate 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM Chess Pleasant Hill Senior Center 6:45 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Group 1 (UNO)
11	12	13	14	15	16
	8:30 AM Boogie Ball 8:30 AM Book Group The Greenery Restaurant, WC 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses 12:00 PM Cooking II	9:00 AM Golf 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 7:00 PM Couples Duplicate Bridge 2	10:00 AM Bowling 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM Poker Group #8 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Pinochle Rocco's Italian Restaurant 1:00 PM Poker Group #1 4:15 PM Poker #5	9:30 AM - 11:30 AM Computers And Technology (CAT) 9:30 AM NINE HOLE GOLF-2 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Tres Gourmet 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Hearts Rocco's Italian Restaurant 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Group 5 (Cinco)	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM Men's Duplicate Bridge 3 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes - El Quattro
18	19	20	21	22	23
	8:30 AM Bike Ride email Larry Kaye larrykaye2@comcast.net 10:00 AM Men's Duplicate Bridge #1 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses	9:00 AM Golf 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church	10:00 AM Bowling 11:00 AM Cooking Lunch and Wine (LAW) 1:30 PM Song Sirs 2nd 7:00 PM Bridge - Couples	9:00 AM Area 18 Fishing Breakfast Meeting Diablo Creek CC	Alaskan Adventure 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM Chess Pleasant Hill Senior Center 6:30 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Dos 6:45 PM - 10:15 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Group 3 (Tres)
25	26	27	28	29	30
1:00 PM Oakland A's vs S.F. Giants Oakland Coliseum	8:30 AM Boogie Ball 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Poker #3 1:00 PM Poker Group #2 1:00 PM Poker Group #4	9:00 AM Golf 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church 6:45 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Group Seis	10:00 AM Bowling 12:30 PM - 3:30 PM Cribbage 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Pinochle Rocco's Italian Restaurant		