

SIR Contra Costa Branch 146



Big Sir's Notes

Jonathan Korfhage

"Christmas is a time when you get homesick, even when you're home!"

As I approach the end of my leadership role of four years as your multi-costumed greeter and then four years on the board ending as Big Sir, here are some final observations:

1. This is an outstanding organization of hundreds of accomplished gentlemen many of whom have shared their talents and enthusiasm in the dozens of leadership roles!
2. The key to fully benefiting our membership in SIRs is participation. We all understand that life after retirement is much fuller by being active and socially engaged in constructive activity!
3. The reasons that I have been successful in my SIR leadership and in my career is my father's example as a minister, lobbyist, and public speaker. I have also been blessed to have such great support from the former Big Sir Bruce Borgman (Mister Sir) and the next Big Sir Brad Hatcher (Mister Enthusiasm)!
4. It is startling how time passes so quickly! How fortunate we are to live in such exciting times! I encourage you to enjoy the holidays by sharing with others who are not as fortunate as us!
5. Finally, thank you for your support and look for opportunities to laugh, you'll live longer!

Merry Christmas and stay warm!

WE ARE SIR – MAKE FRIENDS FOR LIFE

Holiday Ladies Day Luncheon

Thursday, December 12th

Boundary Oak Clubhouse

Entertainment By:

Devil Mountain Chorus

Gathering time: 10:45 am

Seating time: 11:45 am

Ladies Luncheon is Sold Out!



Photo by Unknown

The award winning Devil Mountain Chorus will entertain us for the Gala Ladies Day Luncheon



Photo by Henry Thatcher

Veterans Day Speaker Dean McFarren, Chief of Staff, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, offered us a brief history, its mission, outreach, capabilities, & presence in the Bay Area

SIR Mission Statement

The Mission of SIR is to enrich the lives of its members through fun activities, luncheons and events while making friends for life.



Little Sir's Corner

Brad Hatcher

I want to open my comments with a not so gentle reminder. If you are going to miss a luncheon meeting in the new year, it is imperative that you let us know you are not attending.

Email nolunchbranch146@gmail.com or call 925) 979-5146 prior to noon on the Friday before the luncheon. We anticipate you will attend unless you communicate with us. We arrange for a specific number of lunches and those who do not show up without notice cause a loss to the branch. I know we are all busy; however, our recurring luncheon date on the second Thursday of the month should be on your 2020 calendar by now.

Thinking of the luncheon and finance, please be aware the branch will charge \$28 for individual lunches in 2020. Boundary Oak is raising the cost of our lunches; however, the contract covers two years and we will not see an increase until 2022. Annual dues will increase to \$20 for 2020. This annual amount is still a bargain and well below other branches. A SIR branch in Concord charges over \$50 for their annual dues. As has been a recent custom, you may become an Annual Payer if you pay for your dues and 8 lunches in advance (to receive 10 lunches with 2 of them free) by paying \$244 before 1/1/2020. You will receive an invoice from our Treasurer which will detail the above and will request your appropriate payment.

I am delighted to tell you that for the Ladies Day Luncheon in December, our entertainment will be provided by the Devil Mountain Chorus. Their half hour list of holiday songs will be delightful.

Our program for speakers in 2019 was varied. We heard about finance, prevention of falling, the Contra Costa Fire Protection District Fire Chief, De La Salle football, consumer help from Chris Chumura of NBC, a program for helping children in Afghanistan, the National Park Service, and the U.S. Coast Guard. My personal favorite was our October meeting celebrating the 30th anniversary of our branch with many former Big Sirs helping with those festivities.

As I look forward to taking on the responsibilities of Big Sir in 2020, I must first thank **Jonathan Korfhage** for his amazing work, much of it unseen by our members, in



Membership

Ron Lew

BEC inducted two new members for the month of November: **Robert I. McNeill "Pete"** sponsored by **Ron Binder** and **Robert Ford "Bob"** who was sponsored by **Paul Beretz**. They attended the new member training class following the luncheon, which you are also welcome to attend any time for a refresher or to meet our new members. Since we will not have any new members in December, invite a neighbor, family member, a friend, or new acquaintances as a guest in January. SIR 146 needs your help in replacing those who have left this fine organization. Happy holidays and do not eat too much.

November New Member Photo Additions



Robert Ford

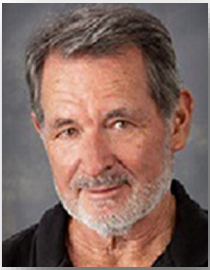


Pete McNeill

One way to find out if you are old is to fall down in front of a lot of people. If they laugh, you are still young. If they panic and start running to you, you are old.

managing the Branch Executive Committee and our branch. He has been very helpful to me in my role and to others on the BEC. **Jonathan's** shoes will be tough for me to fill.

My best to you and yours for the holidays!



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.

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.

- Brian Downie
- Hugh Ferguson
- Jim Gracey
- Joe Hunt
- Sig Kalteis
- Art Mancini
- Martin Lyle
- Barney Meade
- Roland Mailhot
- Jim Saavedra
- Bill Stevenson

Sadly we report the passing of SIR **Myles Ringle** in November.

This will be my last article as your Sunshine Chairman. I am pleased to announce that, as of January 1, 2020, **Brian McCarthy** will be assuming the duties of this Chair. If you become aware of an ill Sir, please let **Brian** know by e-mail: brimacc@comcast.net or phone (925) 324-2463 so that our SIR members can be advised. Also, if you need a ride to our luncheons or know someone who does please notify **Brian**. My thanks to all who assisted me with this job this year.

2019 Branch 146 Officers and Directors

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Big Sir | Jonathan Korfhage |
| Little Sir | Brad Hatcher |
| Secretary | Richard Hockenbrock |
| Assistant Secretary | Jerry Kaplan |
| Treasurer | Ben Gleason |
| Assistant Treasurer | George Mon |
| Director(1 st Term) | Max Hinkle |
| Director(1 st Term) | Brian McCarthy |
| Director(1 st Term) | Ron Lew |
| Director(1 st Term) | Milt Smith |
| Director(2 nd Term) | Pierre Mebane |
| Director(2 nd Term) | Tony Greco |

RAMP – Chair Members

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Recruitment | Paul Beretz |
| Activities | Bob Lucido |
| Member Relations | Pierre Mebane |
| Publicity | Bob Mehus |

Refer to branch directory, accessible under **Members Only** tab heading on our website, for phone numbers & email addresses.

Reservations for Ladies Day Luncheon

Salad Course

Winter Baby Greens Salad

Organic Greens, Blue Cheese, Pears, Sun Dried Cranberries, Pomegranate Vinaigrette

Entrees

Roast Prime Rib

Black Angus Beef, Seasonal Vegetables, Potato Gratin
Rosemary Infused Demi

Or

Scampi Style Prawns

Rice Pilaf, Seasonal Vegetables
Lemon Garlic Cream Sauce

Vegetarian

Roasted Vegetable Napoleon

Layered & Served with Melted Plum Tomatoes & Basil

Dessert

Mocha Cream Cake

Chantilly Cream, Crème Anglaise

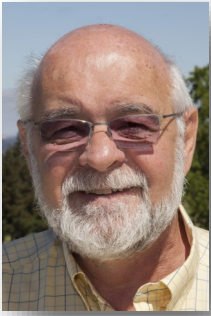
On the form below, type in the name of the person you are reserving for and print this page, or just print this page and have your reservation by hand then cut along the dotted line and mail to: We will check to the address also below.

Thursday, December 12th
 Number of Tickets _____ at \$____ ea.
 Amount Enclosed \$_____

NAME	Entrée Choices	
	Prime Rib	Scampi

"NOTE: If you want Vegetarian, write VEG"

Make checks payable to SIR Branch 146. Mail to: **Steve Ybarra, 142 Leonard Drive, Concord, CA 94518**
*All reservations and payments in full must be received by December 5th. There will be no tickets sold at the door.
 If ordering for a full or partial table, list your names and seating guests. Your guests will be paired with you when their check and form is received or you may pay for them directly on your sheet listing their name & entrée.*



Luncheon Chairman Rob Melrose

Since December's luncheon is one of our Ladies Day Luncheons, you must opt in so I am not going to use this space to tell you about January's luncheon other than the cost will go up to \$28 next year.

Having taken over this position from **Max Hinkle** three years ago, I have decided it is time to pass the baton. First I would like to thank **Max** for his help in getting me started. Next year, you will see the smiling face of **Richard Lyon** in this spot and I hope that you will treat **Richard** as kindly as you have treated me.

At times, it has been challenging to get everything recorded correctly. To those of you who have had to deal with my mistakes, I apologize.

I know that **Richard** will do a wonderful job. Please give him your support by opting out in a timely manner.

Wishing you all a Happy 2020 and beyond.



Photo by Henry Thatcher

Behind the Scenes Recognition: Big Sir **Jonathan Korfhage** recognizes **Max Hinkle** and **Steve Ybarra** as May and December Ladies Day Luncheon Coordinators

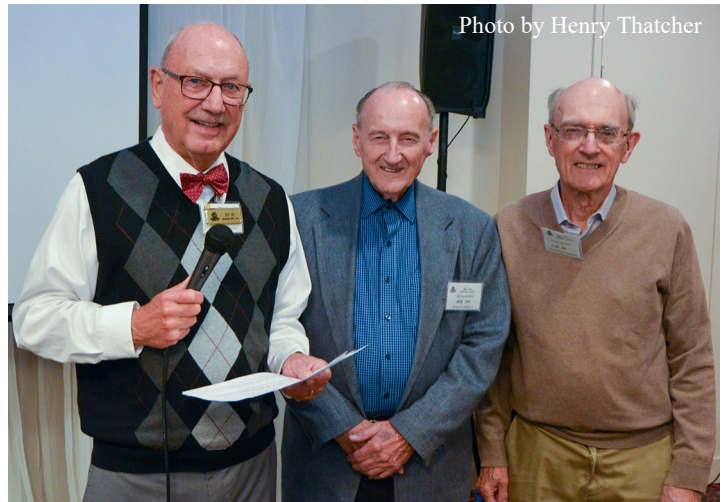


Photo by Henry Thatcher

Behind the Scenes Recognition: Big Sir **Jonathan Korfhage** recognizes **Jim Baldridge** and **Cal Tucker** as Branch Chaplains



Photo by Henry Thatcher

Veteran **Russ Anderson** at the November luncheon

SIR Call Newsletter Group

Editor	Richard Hockenbrock
Co - Editors	Walt Busenius, Rob Melrose & Bob West
Photographer	Henry Thatcher
Proofreaders	Jim Barry, Jonathan Korfhage Ron Polivka, and Calvin Tucker
Internet Posting	Ron Plachy



Photo by Henry Thatcher

Jim Brown accepts the Senior Sir Award for celebrating his 90th birthday in November—Congratulations, Jim



Photography Group

Richard Hockenbrock

At our next meeting, we will explore the new Samsung Note 10 Plus smartphone side by side with the new iPhone 11 Pro from a photography and video perspective.

Bob Wilkenfeld and I will try to take identical pictures from the same locations. Anyone with a smartphone is welcome to join us and compare your photos with ours. It will help you decide if you need to buy a new smartphone.

I plan to put all our pictures on the Branch 146 YouTube channel so join us and watch the show later. Better yet, come to the meeting and see the results first hand.

Email: 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: **Samsung Note 10 Plus** vs the **iPhone 11 Pro** from a photography perspective

When: December 13th, 2019 9am—11am



RV Wanderers

Bob Lucido

Our RV activity is moving right along. At our last meeting in November we made some decisions.

The sites would be full hook up only. The distance traveled would be no more than 4-4/12 hours. The trips will be scheduled quarterly. The first trip will be in February. An email will be sent to members to vote on the top three sites. The site location with the most votes will be our first scheduled trip. We will schedule one potluck dinner per trip.

The chairman will make reservations for the group, pay the bill, and collect checks from all the members who are going on the trip. Some members have rigs up to 40 feet, so we have to choose a spot which will accommodate large units.

To ensure that we get spaces together, the chairman will need to schedule sites a few months in advance, especially in the summer months. A survey will be conducted in December for our February trip.

As always, we're looking for more members.

Bob Lucido

(925) 899-0974

bobwendy3@comcast.net



Air Force Veteran **George Carpenter** hosted our tribute to the many Branch 146 service veterans



Regional Director **Bill Holly** presents retiring Area 16 Governor **Walt Busenius** with a Certificate of Appreciation from State President **Ed Benson**



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.



When you are dead, you don't know you are dead. The pain is only felt by others.

The same thing happens when you are stupid.



Activities

Jerry Kaplan
and
Bob Lucido



The BEC has officially approved the table tennis activity, and we are on the way to adding more activities to our growing list. At this time we are exploring locations to play. I have been working with **Fred Wachowicz**, and **Mike Ward**, activity coordinators for branch 116. They don't have a table tennis activity but are currently surveying their branch to see if there is interest in table tennis.

Fred will also include this on their list as a possible Area Activity.

PLEASE NOTE: **Milt Smith** of the travel group is looking for a member or two to help him with some of the paperwork that goes with setting up trips, insurance issues, etc. If you or someone you know may be interested please have them contact **Milt Smith** at (925) 285-2897 or miltsmith549@gmail.com.

Jerry Kaplan

(925) 330-8832

mtdana@aol.com

Bob Lucido

(925) 899-0974

bobwendy3@comcast.net



Photo by Jerry Kaplan

Standing Room only at November's BEC Meeting. The last one of 2019. Thank you BEC for your hard work and dedication this year

SIR BR 146 2020 (BEC) Board Executive Committee:

Big Sir
Little Sir
Secretary
Assistant Secretary
Treasurer
Assistant Treasurer
Director 2nd Term
Director 2nd Term
Director 2nd Term
Director 1st Term
Director 1st Term
Director 1st Term

Brad Hatcher
Richard Hockenbrock
Jerry Kaplan
Tony Greco
George Mon
Ross Abbott
Milton Smith
Brian McCarthy*
Ron Lew
Paul Beretz
Chuck Schreiber
Peter Plante*

RAMP – Chair Members

Recruitment
Activities
Member Relations
Publicity

Paul Beretz
Bob Lucido
Chuck Schreiber
Peter Plante

* Updated 10/10/2019

Photo by Henry Thatcher



John Aaro
Winner of
November
Birthday
Drawing

Photo by Henry Thatcher



Greeters (L to R): **Jim Whitsett**,
Larry McAllister & **Ron Polivka**

Why does Scrooge love reindeer so much?

Because every single buck is dear to him!

November's Luncheon -- SIR 146 Veterans



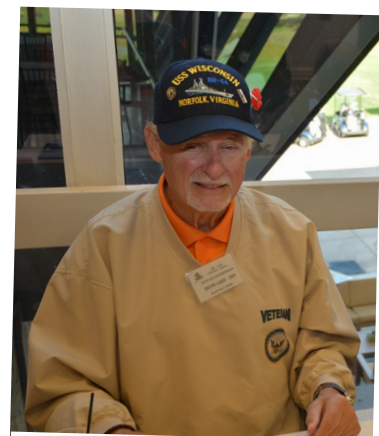
Marine Veteran **Bill Schultz**



Branch Pianist **Steve Dinning**



Veteran **Jim Browning**



Howard Zimmerman



Veteran **Chuck Bates**



WWII Veterans **Dom DiMatteo & Denny O'Loughlin**

All photos by Henry Thatcher



Cycling Group

Larry Kaye

October 31st: The boys in Spandex had their Halloween ride today. We Toured Danville, through Blackhawk. Stopping at a small intimate Cafe in Blackhawk, we indulged in some Java as well as various types of exotic Lattes. It was cool so the hot fluids gave rebirth to our energy needs. The return trip to Alamo was thru Diablo. We passed the signs saying, "No Bicycles". All in unison chuckled to the illegal signage. Back to our steel cars we went. A fun, cool day of exercise was enjoyed by all. In attendance today were **Roger Meyer, Bill Ross, Moose, Bob Wilkenfeld** and **Larry Kaye**.

November 4th: Today with fantastic weather we rode from Alamo thru Blackhawk, into San Ramon then spun through Danville and Crow Canyon Country Club. We enjoyed a smooth ride all the way into Alamo. The guys then stopped at a Creekside coffee spot where we enjoyed some libations and pastries. Back to our steel cars and the end of today's trip. Riding today was **Bob Wilkenfeld, Roger Meyer, Moose,** and **Larry Kaye**.

November 12th: Taking advantage of this great weather the boys in Spandex left Lafayette this AM heading through the Briones & Alhambra valleys. We climbed a near unsurmountable hill on Reliez Valley road. The training and sheer fortitude of our group won out. Ouch.

Through the valley we went heading into Martinez to enjoy a cup of coffee from **Rogers'** favorite roaster. Yummy. Washed down some fantastic homemade treats too and, after thinking about the return trip, we agreed to NOT do the hilly route. So, to Pleasant Hill and Walnut Creek we rolled. No hills but lots of traffic. The smarter way back would have been over those nasty never ending climbs.

Eventually, we reached our steel chariots and with some hugs and kisses bid farewell to **Roger Meyer, Moose, Jim Nelson** and **Larry Kaye**

November 12th: With the great weather still with us, the boys in Black Spandex headed South today. Passing through Alamo, Danville, San Ramon and finally into Dublin. We dined at Deneca's Cafe on Great Java and some super pastries. The trip home was flat, smooth and, after awhile, the wind on our backs. We traversed the Bishop Ranch park and enjoyed a quiet flat return to Alamo. With us today were **Roger Meyer, Moose, Ken** (finally back) **Studer** and **Larry Kaye**. A great way to enjoy friends. Spandex Forever!!!



SIR 146 Hiking

Mark Curtis

We will be hiking one of the Lime Ridge Loop trails starting at 10:00 am on Friday, December 13th. We will meet at the parking at Ygnacio/Cowell lot for staging by 9:45 or so. There are some interesting views that we don't normally see from the top of the ridge of Clayton, Concord, and Walnut Creek.

This hike is moderate with about 700 feet elevation change to the top of the ridge and is about 4.5 miles in length. I managed to do this hike in less than 3 hours with some side excursions. This is a loop hike starting with the Paradise Valley, Manzanita, and Ohlones trails.

At the December time of year, weather is likely to be cool, so dress appropriately. Bring some water and snacks. This is a very local hike to residents of Walnut Creek, Concord, and even me in Pittsburg. Spouses always welcome.

Rain Cancels

Dogs not Allowed

Mark Curtis

Cell (925) 360-3449

mocurtis1657@gmail.com



November hike to Wildcat Peak in Tilden Regional Park (L to R): **Mark Curtis, Rich Ahlf, Pete Gates, Ismini** and **Larry Gray**

Laure: Why do mummies like the holidays so much?

Benny: Why?

Laure: They're into all the wrapping.



SIR 146

Explore & Eat

USS Hornet Aircraft Carrier Tour

November 6th, 2019 In Alameda



Henry Thatcher

Jim Pope

Forty SIR 146 Explore & Eat explorers met at 10 AM to have a 2 hour docent led tour of the **USS Hornet** in Alameda. We were taken to the flight deck where we were divided into two groups. One group toured the bridge and the other the flight deck, then we switched. After both of these tours, we moved down to the hangar deck where we observed, close up, the **APOLLO 11 SPACE CAPSULE**, decontamination **TRAILER**, **APOLLO 11 AND 12 RESCUE HELICOPTERS** and **SEVERAL VINTAGE JET PLANES**. The group of 40 were: **Larry and Linda Brown, Loren and Marlene DeLaurenti, Rich and Ismini Ahlf, Carl Feil, Dennis Dale, John Foster and Sandi Foster, Tony and Cindy Greco, Dennis and Ann Hallett, Brad and Mary Lynne Hatcher, Bill and Lynette Holly, Jerry and Susan Kaplan, Ron Louis and Fran Matthews, Ron and Wendy Lucido, Jim and Renie Pope, Don Seaton, Gary Ellinger, Steve and Linda Siljestrom, Ken Studer, Henry and Barbara Thatcher, Lee Thomas, Jim and Sally Whitsett, Bob and Judy Wilkenfeld, and Michael and Gail Wolfson. (See group picture below)**

After the tour we went to the **PIER 29 RESTAURANT** for a delightful lunch with great conversation and a spectacular view across the bay of the **USS HORNET** and the **SAN FRANCISCO SKYLINE**. A great time was had by all!

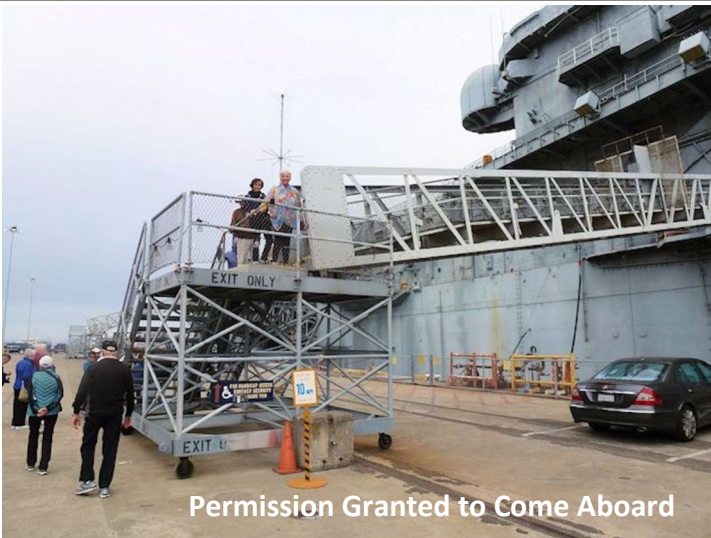
(All photos here and on next page by **Henry Thatcher, Bill Holly, or Jim Pope**)



SIR 146 -- Explore & Eat

USS Hornet Aircraft Carrier Tour

November 6, 2019 In Alameda



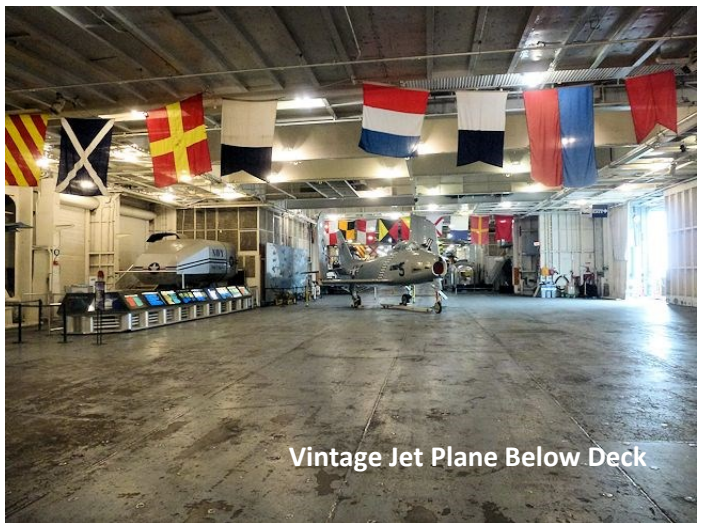
Permission Granted to Come Aboard



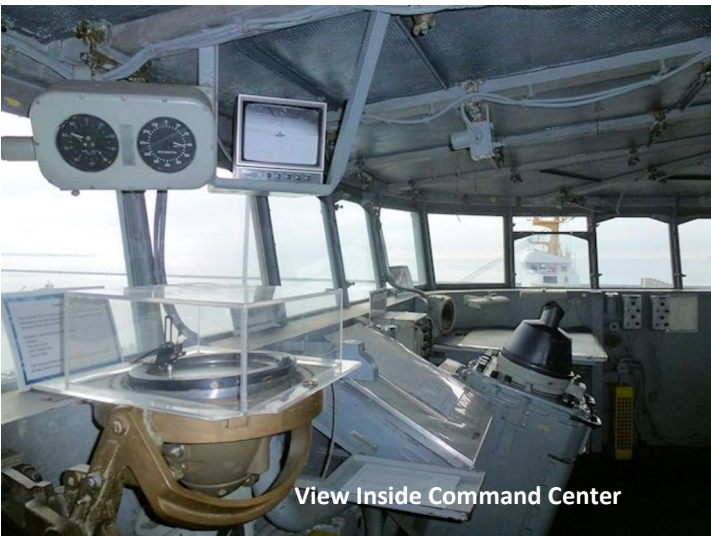
Apollo 11 Space Capsule



Apollo Mission Decontamination Chamber



Vintage Jet Plane Below Deck



View Inside Command Center



USS Hornet Flight Deck



Couples Dining Out

Bruce Borgman

Our November Dining Out event on Monday, November 18, was more successful than we had anticipated. Even though this was one of our more expensive events at \$60 per person, we wound up with 71 diners at Wence’s Restaurant in Pleasant Hill. We had two couples cancel late because of illness and we were thus able to accommodate the two couples on our waiting list.

We were able to select either a lobster soup or a Caesar salad and there were lots of compliments particularly of the lobster soup. The entrees were similarly well received – the ribeye steak nearly overflowed the plate and the 14 oz. White Marble Pork Chop was also more than most of our diners could manage in one sitting. So, there were lots of doggie bags with leftovers! But the favorite entrée seemed to be the seared Sea Bass with prawns, clams, mussels and chorizo – all in a saffron shallot broth – very tasty.

You will be able to see our diners enjoying this dining experience in the pictures **Richard Hockenbrock** took.

With this large crowd, it is almost inevitable to have some problems – it took a bit longer to get our cocktails and some of the entrees were delayed as well. But all was taken in stride and everyone enjoyed the company of their fellow Sirs and their spouses. This was the last Dining Out event of the year – and we will be looking forward to a new year of discovery of the many established or new restaurants in our area. We are fortunate to have lots to choose from.

We have received some recommendations already for our January event – it will likely be on Monday, January 20.

SEE EVENT PICTURES ON PAGES 12 AND 13.

Killian: Knock, knock.
Gary: Who’s there?
Killian: Pizza.
Gary: Pizza, who?
Killian: Pizza on earth, good will toward men!



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 **(800)-955-1925**

www.oattravel.com/crb2020

California Highway Patrol Academy Tour – May 13th in Sacramento Mark your calendar for a day trip departing 10am and home by 5:45 pm. Lunch at the Academy cafeteria followed by a guided tour and time for the museum. Tour cost between \$67 and \$97 depending on number of Sirs we sign up...more to come

Please Note: We are currently looking into trips to the eastern Mediterranean to Egypt and Norway... will need to narrow it down. Also, I am trying to gauge interest in a trip to the WWII battlefields in France. Let me know of interest in these or any other trips.

Milt Smith

(925) 285-2897

miltsmith549@gmail.com

Santa: Knock, knock.
Elf: Who’s there?
Santa: Olive.
Elf: Olive, who?
Santa: Olive the other reindeer.



November's Couples Dining Out Wence's Restaurant, Pleasant Hill



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

L to R: Elaine Richter, Dana Ybarra, Karen and Steve Dinning, Walt and Bobbie Schmidt, Steve Ybarra and Ken Richter



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

The Couples Dining Out Chair **Bruce Borgman** with the Owners **Sandra** and Chef **Geraldo** of Wence's, who came out to an appreciative applause for a very delicious end of year dinner



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

L to R: Lewis Chapmen, Jane West, Pete Bishop, Max Hinkle (hidden), Bill Cammerer, Anne and Ron Plachy, Bernice Cammerer, Ardith Hinkle, Gabriela Bishop, Bob West, and Kittie Rae Chapman



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

L to R: Diana Rose, Jean Shebanek, Lynette and Bill Holly, Jim Barry, Tony Shebanek and Michael Rose



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

L to R: Sandy Schlatter, Sally and Jim Whitsett, Sue and Walt Busenius, Joanne Haukland and Dan Schlatter



November's Couples Dining Out Wence's Restaurant, Pleasant Hill



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

L to R: **Barbara Rhoads, Barbara Korfhage, Barbara Elenteny, Don Rhoads, Jonathan Korfhage and Lee Thomas**



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

L to R: **Bruce Borgman, Dick DeVoe, Ron Lewis, Chuck & Mary Denny, Christy DeVoe, Fran Matthew, and Sue Sheldon.**



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

L to R: **Joe Stengel, Rob Melrose, Richard and Sherry Hockenbrock, Carmen Schiavone, and Barbara Stengel**



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

L to R: **Laurie and Bill Hoban, Chris and Joe Flannigan**



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

L to R: **Tony Greco, Nancy Pearl, Linda Boyan, Al Munayer, Ann Gates, Ann and Larry Kaye, Pete Gates, John Pearl, John Boyan, Diane Munayer, and Cindy Greco**



Photo by Richard Hockenbrock

L to R: **Ron Plachy, Bernice Cammerer, Gabriela Bishop, Bill Cammerer, and Anne Plachy**



***Dolly Parton Musical
9 to 5
is SIR Theatre Party
for April 24th***

Based on the 1980 movie, the stage musical 9 to 5 features music and lyrics by Dolly Parton. Produced by Contra Costa Musical Theater, 9 to 5 is the SIR Theater Party that will take place at the Leshar Center in Walnut Creek on Friday, April 24, 2020.

This rollicking musical centers on the trials and tribulations of downtrodden working gals, presided over by a sexist, lecherous and pompous boss. After determining “we’re not going to take it anymore,” the trio unites to make changes and let their boss know that “times have changed.”

The musical had a successful run after opening in Los Angeles in 2008, and moving to Broadway in April 2009.

A limited number of reserved discount tickets for **9 to 5** are available for SIR members and guests at \$45.00 per person. Due to the popularity of this production, the deadline for ordering is March 27th, or until our allocation of discount tickets is committed. Tickets will be distributed in the Leshar Center lower lobby beginning at 7:30 p.m. on April 24th.

Reservations – your check for \$45.00 per person, payable to SIR 146 – will be sent to SIR Gary Schaub, 1400 Canyonwood Ct., #8, Walnut Creek 94595. Deadline is March 27th. The most convenient parking is in city garage adjacent to Leshar Center on Locust Street.

9 to 5 theater tickets make “Great Holiday Gifts”



SongSirs Bruce Borgman

The SongSirs had a very satisfying performance at Sunrise Senior Living on Ygnacio Valley Road on November 8th. We sang the service hymns, several other patriotic songs, and a number of other popular songs. We had a good number of singers, and in our winter uniforms with white shirts, red bow ties, and navy vests, we looked pretty good! See the picture of our group performing below.

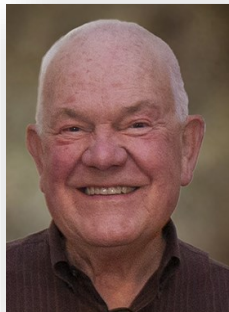
This performance was much appreciated by these mostly homebound residents and they showed their enthusiasm by often singing along, or clapping in rhythm with the music. Many of the staff also took time from their duties to enjoy our performance – several of them dancing and clapping with the songs. Adding to the performance was the narration of each of the songs by **Paul Beretz**. All in all, it was a most enjoyable place to sing, especially since we were obviously appreciated.

We will now be preparing for our performance for the VIP group at the Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church on January 8. At our recent practice we went through a large number (18!) of songs and will be selecting from these a repertoire for this group. We were pleased to have **Bill Hoban** join us and we had a very productive rehearsal.

We do need some more new singers, so if you have an interest in singing, come by one of our practices at the Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church – normally at 2:30 pm on the first Wednesday of the month, and at 1:30 pm on the third Wednesday. Auditions not required, just an interest and love of singing!

bgborgman@aol.com
(925) 932-3961

Three cowboys were hanging out in the bunkhouse. “I know that smart aleck Tex,” said the first. “He’s going to start bragging about that new car he bought as soon as he gets back.” “Not Tex,” the second cowboy replied. “He will always be just a good ol boy. When he walks in, I’m sure all he will say is, hello.” “I know Tex better than either of you,” said the third. “He’s so smart, he’ll figure out a way to do both. Here he comes now.” Tex swung open the bunkhouse door and shouted, “Audi, partners!”



Cooking Lunch & Wine Dick Woodman

September is one of the months that the LAW Group goes out to dinner with our spouses as a group. It is always a good time and September was no exception. We went to Metro Lafayette with a predetermined set of entrées that were very tasty. They have a great patio area but it was a bit cool on the 18th so we had a fairly private area next to windows overlooking the patio. It was a wonderful evening enjoyed by all.

October’s regular luncheon was delayed into November because of illness. Normally, we have a vacation from luncheons during November and December so it was very unusual to meet in November. The luncheon was at **Dick Woodman’s** home and was attended by all the regular members. It appeared that everyone enjoyed the Mexican Chicken entrée followed by some rich tasty brownies. We lived up to our wine portion of the group’s name as usual and solved many of the world’s problems.

There will be no meeting in December. The articles will continue next year. Have a great holiday season! Our tradition is to rotate the management of the Lunch and Wine Group on an annual basis and 2020 will be no exception.

As we progress into 2020, our eleventh year, **Paul Dubow** will be the chairman and will write the articles describing our activities throughout the New Year.



The SongSirs getting ready for a performance at the Sunrise Senior Living Center in Walnut Creek



AREA 16 Fishing Report

Paul Dubow

The last month of 2019 fishing was a potpourri.

The sport fishing crab season opened in early November, four weeks before crab fishing became available to commercial fishermen. We took advantage of our edge with several crab and rockfish combo outings. **Stan Wong, Brion Beetz, Mario Moratorio, Bob Stein, and Carl Moyer** took part in the outings and they all came home with the tasty crustaceans and fish.

Trout fishing improved vastly this month with trips to Shadow Cliffs and Lafayette Reservoirs. The successful fishermen were **Phil Scimonelli, Ed Barney, Carl Moyer, and Bob Hillaker**.

Finally, striper fishing in the Delta continued to be strong. **Tom Kostik and Mike Corker**, the duo who fish for stripers in the Delta nearly every week, continued to have excellent results and they were joined this month by **Ron Lew and Tom Boltz** of Branch 146, along with **Phil Scimonelli, Mario Moratorio, and Harry Sherinian**.

We also enjoyed our semi-annual fish fry at **Carl Moyer's** home. **Phil Scimonelli** and **Paul Dubow** cooked the rockfish and ling cod that were prepared by **Carl**. His wife prepared the potato salad and baked delicious brownies for dessert. And, we can't forget the smoked salmon appetizers contributed by **Tom Boltz**.

On November 12th, we held our annual calendar meeting and we scheduled tons of outings for 2020. We will be fishing for salmon, sturgeon, stripers, rockfish, ling cod, halibut, rainbow and cutthroat trout, shark, sea bass and crab in many different venues. In fact, the calendar consists of fifteen pages! There will be plenty of room for branch members who haven't ever fished or haven't fished for awhile on quite a few of the outings.

Our next meeting will be on December 19th at the Legends Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway, in Concord. We normally meet on the fourth Thursday of each month, but we hold the December meeting on the third Thursday because of the Christmas holidays. The meeting begins at 8:30 am but join us before then for breakfast!

For further information, please contact branch fishing chair **Paul Dubow** at (415) 495-6504.



Cooking II

Bob Yolland

Corrie Oranje hosted a super fall lunch on November 11th for all our Cooking II members. He put out a great array of appetizers that included aged Dutch gouda chunk and sliced cheese with crackers, a smoked meat platter of peppered salami, Italian salami and two types of prosciutto, several different kinds of green and black olives, great Dutch marinated herring, cheese sticks wrapped with prosciutto and mixed nuts. We all enjoyed the starters with an ample offering of drinks, wine and lots of conversation. For the main entree **Corrie** served a great wedge salad followed by tasty home made chili topped with cheese, sour cream and crushed wheat tortilla chips. He finished the meal with pumpkin pie topped with whipped cream and a choice of excellent liquors. Thank you **Corrie** for such a delicious lunch.

With the holidays coming in December our group decided to schedule our next event on Monday, January 13th, hosted by **Steve Ybarra**.



Jerry Kaplan looks out of the world on his USS Hornet Tour



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. Advance reservations are needed. The cost of instruction is \$15 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 their one and one half hour 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 per hour and one half of instruction is available).

Call or email 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



Pinochle

**Charlie Kahsen /
Jeff Morrow**

We meet on the 2nd & 4th 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

Jeff Morrow

(925) 944-7009

jeffrey.morrow@gmail.com



Table Pool



Bill Weinberg / Jim Barry

Bill Weinberg made the 8 ball on the break! This is the second time this year it has occurred! (**Larry Brown** did it on June 24th.) The odds of this happening for professional players is about 1 in 20 and for amateurs, only about 1 in 1000. Congratulations, **Bill!**

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



Shari & George Carpenter flanking the winning jockey at SIR Day at the Races

Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 1 (UNO)

Jerry Kaplan

The Group One players met on Friday, November 15th at the friendly Martinez home of **Sir Rob Melrose** and his wife, **Carmen**

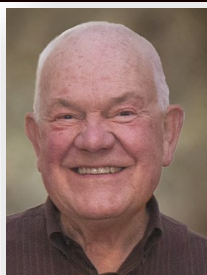
Schiavone. Enjoyable snacks were available throughout the Game Night including a special champagne toast that celebrated over four years of Group One's get togethers as well as concluding Game Nights during 2019.

All of the regulars were there to test their skills. As has occurred several times during the year, women had all the low scores once again! **Susan Kaplan**, wife of **Sir Jerry Kaplan** won \$20 with an overall low average score of 16.0. Second place (\$10) went to **Nancy Kalteis**, wife of **Sir Sig**, with a score of 16.4. Third place, worth \$4, went to **Sue Sheldon**, wife of **Sir Bruce Borgman**, averaging 17.3.

High scores winning a scratcher (worth a possible \$5,000 – Good Luck!!) went to **Sirs Corrie Oranje** and **Peter Plante**. One more time, no magic money appeared on the ticket.

At the end of the second half of the year, money is awarded to the three players with the lowest average scores, assuming they have played in at least a certain percentage of the games played during the six months. Three women won all of these awards too! First place (\$52) was won by **Carmen Schiavone**, wife of **Sir Rob Melrose**, followed by **Sue Sheldon (\$26)**, wife of **Sir Bruce Borgman**, and then **Sherry Hockenbrock (\$9)**, wife of **Sir Richard**.

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 mexicantrainrulesandstrategies.com you can see how to play. New groups can be started!



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 2 (DOS)

Dick Woodman

Bill and **Bernice Cammerer** hosted our November game night. There was a great spread of goodies including pumpkin cheesecake, all of which was delicious. Their home was beautifully decorated for Christmas. We all had a great night.

After five years, I am turning over the chair for the MTD2 group to **Ron Plachy**. He is doing a great job of managing the meetings and calculating the results. As of next year he will also be scheduling the meetings and writing the Sir Call articles for your enjoyment.

The November results show **Rich Ahlf** coming in first place with an average game score of 14.0 points, winning **Rich** \$21. **Nancy Pearl** won second place with a score of 15.3 winning her \$11. **Anne Plachy** took third with 15.5 and winning \$4.

November is the final night for the June-November Pot which is always exciting. **Rich Ahlf** came in first place with an average game score of 13.561. For that awesome score, **Rich** won \$62. **Nancy Pearl** and **Ismini MacLean's** score had to be carried out to three decimal places to determine that **Nancy** was the second place winner with a score of 20.017 winning \$31. **Ismini** won third place with 20.0458, for which she won \$10. Congratulations to all our winners!

Our group will start up again in January.



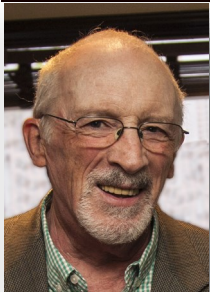
MTD #1 Winners: (L to R) **Sue Sheldon**, **Nancy Kalteis** and **Susan Kaplan**

Amanda: What's the difference between Santa's reindeer and a knight?

Robert: What?

Amanda: One slays the dragon, and the other's draggin' the sleigh.

Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 3 (TRES)

Jeff Baily

Mexican Train Group 3 held their November game night at the home of **Corrie and Susan Oranje** on Friday the 22nd. The **Oranjes** offered a host of delicious desserts and goodies.

At the White table **Linda Siljestrom** went out twice in ten games to bring home first position at the table and win overall for the night with an average of 16.80.

At the Blue table there was some interesting action, **Larry Brown** and **Judy Richmond** fought point for point for the 11 games played only to tie for winning the table and tying for second place with overall scores of 17.64. This was the first time in the MTD 3 history that a tie score has happened! Second and third place prizes were combined and split between **Larry** and **Judy**.

It was nice to have substitutes **Lew** and **Carla Thompson** play with us.

Our next scheduled game night is on December 31st, New Years Eve at the home of **Jim Barry** and **Joyce Wells**.



Even though this Jeep probably has 4-wheel drive, you can just tell that it is not happy with the snow either!



MTD 3 winners: (L to R) **Judy Richmond** and **Larry Brown** tied for 2nd place, and **Linda Siljestrom** in 1st place.

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

Why is it that when you transport something by car, it's called shipment but when you transport something by ship it's called cargo?

Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 6 (SEIS) John "Moose" Kelly

Our November game night was hosted by **Moose Kelly** and his lovely wife, **Mary Schmidt** at the Pleasant Hill Community Center. **Mary** did an outstanding job of providing great sparkling wines and an array of food to satisfy the palate. My thanks to her for the extra effort in making the evening quite enjoyable for one and all. I also want to thank the MTD 6 "crew" for assisting **Mary** and me in vacating the Community Center in record time. You guys ROCK!

A momentous occasion was noted by toasting **SIR Richard Hockenbrock** for his 30th plus birthday. Congratulations, **Richard**, and best wishes for many more!

The triple pot (that is correct!) competition for the lowest score was very fierce with the usual suspects fighting for top honors. The all-female winners, (a consistent pattern over the last several months may I add) were **Sherry Hockenbrock** (1), **Alicia Bailey** (2) and **Etta Dotson** (3). **Sherry Hockenbrock** had the lowest score ever recorded at 6.5. Now that is a **WOW!** **Moose Kelly** and **Jeff Bailly** were the high point winners with the triple Holiday Scratchers. Congratulations to all the winners!

I happened to go back to the summary document that I wrote in October 2019 for the MTD 6 evening results. All the names remain the same with the exception of my name being added to the high point winners. Coincidence or "Stranger Things" are happening?!

There will be no MTD 6 event for December. Our next gathering will be on Tuesday, January 28th at the home of **Jim Barry** and **Joyce Wells**. Details will follow early next year.

Mary and I want to thank each and every one of you in making the 2019 Mexican Train Dominoes 6 group such a success. We look forward to continued fun, competition, and friendship in 2020.

Happy Holidays!!



Photo by Moose Kelly

MTD 6: **Bob West, Jeff Bailly, and Bruce Borgman** sharing champagne with **Richard Hockenbrock** on his birthday



Photo by Moose Kelly

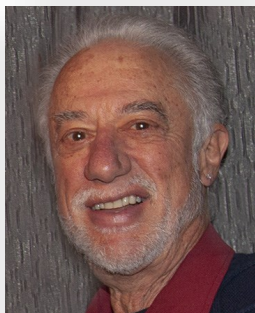
MTD 6: **Brian McCarthy** looks over his wife **Mary's** tiles



Photo by Moose Kelly

MTD 6: **Bob West** standing to get a better look at the tiles while **Jim Barry, Jeff Bailly, Carol Lane, Sherry Hockenbrock & Don Dotson** look on

Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 7 (Siete) Bob Lucido

Bob & Judy Wilkenfeld hosted MTD Group 7 for November.

Our winner was **Richard Hockenbrock**, with an average score of 8.5. Our Scratcher was awarded with a split decision between **Bob West & Bob Wilkenfeld**. They tied for last place and split the winnings from the losing lotto ticket.

The year-end tally, which was the lowest average of four scores for the year went to **Mary McCarthy** with an average of 20.7. **Mary** will be awarded \$40, if she can find me.

Bob Lucido

(925) 899-0974

Bobwendy3@comcast.net

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



MTD 6 Winners (L to R): , Alicia Baily 2nd, Sherry Hockenbrock 1st, Etta Dotson 3rd

Photo by Richard Hockenbrock



MTD 6 Scratchers: John (Moose) Kelly and Jeff Baily

Photo by Bob Wilkenfeld



MTD#7: (L to R) **Bob Wilkenfeld & Bob West** with their Scratchers alongside overall low score winner **Richard Hockenbrock**.

When asked about his job, Frosty always replies, "There's no business like snow business."



Photo by Moose Kelly

MTD 6: Martha Plante, Brian McCarthy, Etta and Don Dotson toasting **Richard Hockenbrock's** Birthday



Couples Party Bridge

Tony Greco

Jerry & Christine Benoit hosted our November 5th event. Once again all the regulars attended which I interpret to mean that we enjoy the event and, possibly, that

I'm doing a fabulous job as chairperson. Lol. Anyway, I arrived early to set up the bridge related stuff and was able to watch **Christine** prepare her delicious snacks, the most unusual of which was a layering of a slice of persimmon with cheese and fig jam on top on a cracker. She also offered fresh out of the oven homemade crab wontons. Both were delicious. Limoncello Chocolate Almonds were also served which is one of **Cindy's** favorite chocolate & nut snacks. **Jerry** uncorked several wines complimenting the snacks. For dessert, Christine made date nut cookies which were served with vanilla ice cream and coffee in her inviting dining room.

Jerry & Christine Benoit got off to a fast start with good cards. They maintained the lead after four rounds of play but their cards betrayed them in the final two rounds which resulted in an excellent 2nd Place finish. On the other hand, **Dick & Christy DeVoe** got off to a poor start with bad cards and were way back in 4th Place after three rounds of play. But then they came on strong in the 4th round with 1510 points (nearly half of their total points) to surge into 2nd Place. They maintained their momentum in the 5th and final round and stole 1ST Place from the **Benoits** by 200 points. Who said bridge isn't exciting! Lol.

The official results are as follows:

- 1st PLACE with 3210 points - **Dick & Christy DeVoe**
- 2nd PLACE with 3010 points - **Jerry & Christine Benoit**
- 3rd PLACE with 2890 points - **Rich Ahlf & Ismini MacLean**

Next month's event will be held on December 3rd and will be hosted by **Dick & Christy DeVoe**. We are all looking forward to their Christmas decorations and Nutcracker displays. Hope you all had a Happy Thanksgiving with family and friends and that you have a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2020 New Year.



Photo by Tony Greco

SIR Couples Party Bridge: Smiling Partners **Dick & Christy DeVoe** and **Rich Ahlf & Ismini MacLean** were two of the top 3 winners



Photo by Tony Greco

SIR Couples Party Bridge: Partners **Brad & Lynne Hatcher** and **Larry & Linda Brown** were showing thumbs down after a night of bad cards



Photo by Tony Greco

SIR Couples Party Bridge: Enjoying dessert in the Inviting **Benoit** Dining Room (clockwise) **Rich Ahlf, Larry Brown, Jerry Benoit, Christine Benoit, Brad Hatcher, Lynne Hatcher, Cindy Greco, Linda Brown, Dick DeVoe, Christy DeVoe, Ismini MacLean** and **Tony Greco** (behind the iPhone, lol)

Do steam rollers really roll steam?



**Men's Duplicate
Bridge 3
Mike Whitaker**

Duplicate Bridge III held its November game on Friday, November 15th, at the home of **Jim Pope** in Alamo. Eleven regulars and substitute **Ray Spears** (soon to be a new regular member) played 24 hands of duplicate bridge.

At the end of the first half, it was **Dick DeVoe** with a slight lead over **Bob Yolland** and **Brad Hatcher**. Lurking a little further back in 5th place was **Bill Schultz**. After lunch and a scrumptious dessert made by **Renie Pope**, it was **Schultz** taking command and finishing 1st overall. **Dick DeVoe** held on for 2nd place and there was a three-way tie for third (**Yolland, Hatcher** and **Whitaker**) followed closely with a four-way tie for the next position (**Jerry Benoit, Tony Greco, Ray Spears** and **Ray Bland**). Our next gathering will be on December 20th at the **DeVoe's** Holiday Boutique.

Interested in joining? Contact Fearless Leader **Mikey** at (925) 708-8213.



**Couples Duplicate
Bridge 1
Bob Yolland**

Couples Duplicate Bridge 1 was hosted by **Bob** and **Janet Yolland** on Wednesday evening, November 20th. **Janet** put out lots of goodies including a variety of cheeses and two different homemade cookies which were enjoyed by all. We appreciate our subs, **Brad** and **Lynne Hatcher** plus **Jerry** and **Chris Benoit**. Some of the hands were very interesting.

For results, **Brad** and **Lynne Hatcher** came in third with 20 points. **Rich Ahlf** and **Ismini Maclean** came in second with 23 1/2 points. In first place with a relatively high 25 1/2 points, nearly a 64% game, were **Margot Somerville** and **Daphne Merritt**. Congratulations to all the winners.

Our next game will be hosted by **Rich Ahlf** and **Ismini Maclean** Wednesday evening December 18th.

For more information please contact **Bob Yolland** at (bobyolland@att.net) or call (925) 932-4758.



Men's Duplicate Bridge 3: Playing a hand going around table are **Tony Greco, Jim Stedman**, host **Jim Pope** and **Mike Whitaker** who is displaying his arm



**Couples Duplicate
Bridge 2
Dave Pierce**

Tony and **Cindy Greco** hosted us on November 12th. **Cindy** is a master quilter so we enjoyed her seasonal quilts for the Thanksgiving holidays (not to mention her pumpkin cobbler for dessert). Giving thanks for above average performances were **Jerry** and **Chris Benoit** (54%), **Dave** and **Joan Pierce** (58%), and **Dick** and **Christy DeVoe** with a remarkable 69%. Congratulations to all.

Dave Pierce
(925) 932-3877
dwp@astound.net



Men's Duplicate Bridge 3: Winners displaying their greenbacks are **Dick DeVoe**, second place, **Bill Schultz**, First place, and sharing third place were **Bob Yolland, Mike Whitaker** and **Brad Hatcher**



Men's Duplicate Bridge 1 Doug Eisner

Dave Pierce hosted 3 tables of Men's Duplicate Bridge 1 on November 18th. The morning session started off competitively but ended with **Rich Ahlf** holding a commanding lead with a 64.6% session, followed by **Mark Curtis** with a 58.3% session. **Dick DeVoe** and **Jim Stedman** tied for third place with 56.3%.

The afternoon session saw **Dave Pierce** break away from the also-rans and make a serious run for the money. No doubt with lots of help from his partners, **Dave** finished in first place overall with a 58.3% game. **Rich Ahlf** held on for second place with 57.3% with **Jim Stedman** closely behind at 56.3%. Well done, guys – don't spend your winnings all in one place.

Dick DeVoe will host our December 16th game.



Men's Duplicate Bridge 2 Bill Schultz

Mike Whitaker hosted three tables of duplicate bridge on the first day of November and got us into the holiday spirit by serving pumpkin pie and ice cream for dessert. Thanks to **Ray Spears** for substituting at the 11th hour.

Ed Marlovits started out strong leading the pack in the morning session followed closely by **Max Hinkle**, **David Steinberg** and **Bob Yolland**. In the afternoon **Dick DeVoe** lead the pack with a 71% game for those 12 boards. He was followed by **Ray Spears**, **Ed Marlovits** and **John Boyan**. When the dust settled it was Ed Marlovits the winner for the day followed by **Dick DeVoe** in second place and **John Boyan** coming in third.

Dave Steinberg and **Ed Marlovits** had a perfect 6 point partnership and **Dick DeVoe** and **David Pierce** had a 5.5 point partnership.

Our next game will be hosted by **Dick DeVoe** on December 6.



Men's Duplicate Bridge 1: Winners are **Jim Stedman**, third place; **Dave Pierce**-host, first place and **Rich Ahlf**, third place



Men's Duplicate Bridge 2 winners: **Ed Marlovits** 1st, **Dick DeVoe** 2nd, and host **Mike Whitaker** accepting **John Boyan's** winnings for 3rd as **John** had to make an early exit



Men's Duplicate Bridge 1: **Jim Pope**, **Dick DeVoe**, **Tony Greco** and **Jim Stedman** enjoying lunch between the morning and afternoon sessions



Men's Duplicate Bridge 2. In Action: (L to R.) **Mike Whitaker**, **Ed Marlovits**, **Dick DeVoe** & **Dave Steinberg**



Party Bridge

**Jim Pope &
Jim Stedman**



On Monday, November 4th, 12 spirited players

gathered at SIR **Rich Ahlf's** home for party bridge. Rich provided ample goodies, including donuts in the morning and ice cream bars after lunch.

Brad Hatcher and **Ray Bland** finished first and second after they started the first round of the day as partners with an impressive 1710 points each. They finished the day with 4600 and 4180 points respectively. **Rich Ahlf** was third with 3660 points.

Our next game is Tuesday, December 3rd at the home of **Brad Hatcher**. Please call **Jim Pope** at 925-699-6447 if you would like to join our party bridge group.



GOLF

Ed Marlovits

Thirty-two players took part in our four-club tournament Tuesday event on November 19. It was a perfect day for golf with somewhat mediocre turnout. However, we did surprisingly well.

Of the thirty-two golfers, eleven of us shot a net par or better. The low for the day was a net 66. While one might be accused of extrapolating from one data point for saying this, it appears many of us have ten unnecessary clubs in our bags.

In our Sir Call article last month, we commented on new pace for play rule proposals which were mentioned at our fall golf meeting. Alas, these will not come to pass. At its most recent meeting the golf committee struggled to find an acceptable, equitable, and enforceable policy. The best we can do is encourage ready-golf and to keep ball hunting to a minimum.

Another somewhat surprising addition to our rules will be the elimination of conceded putts. Now that we are leaving the pin in as we putt, we will not add a lot of time to a round but we will make the competition more equitable and help us hone our putting skills.

One final observation: Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve are on Tuesdays.



Sir 146 MEN'S 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 December 19th.

At our November 21 meeting, in game 1, Sir **Bob West** was leading most of the way and won with 67 points. **Brian McCarthy** came in second at 76 points.

In another game, **Frank Lucas** was leading almost all the way. **Brian McCarthy** caught up and was ahead after hand 6. Starting with hand 7 **Frank** retook the lead. In the 9th hand **Bob West** was close to going out with 86 points, but he shot the moon on a hold hand thereby prolonging the game. Eventually, **Frank Lucas** was able to hold him off and won with 58 points. **Bob West** came in second with 64 points.

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



Teacher: When do astronauts eat?

Pupil: At launch time!



Hearts winners (L to R) : **Frank Lucas** and **Bob West** winners of 11/21/19 hearts activity.



Poker Group 1

Dan O' Sullivan

Poker Group #1 met on November 13th at the home of **Dan O'Sullivan**. There were no big winners or losers, and as always, a good time was had by all. Our next outing will be at the home of **Ray Bland** on December 12th. Happy Holidays to all.



Old Money Poker

Group 6

Brad Hatcher

Our November game was not played as the four players made the journey to Fairfield for a wine tasting at G V Cellars. Several players, who had been doing arm lifts with a wine glass prior to the event, were successful in raising their glasses to toast the day.

We will resume card play on the first Thursday in December at **Rich Ahlf's** home. We are looking for substitutes and potential new members for our group. Please contact **Brad Hatcher** if interested in joining our game.

Tel: (925) 935-1571

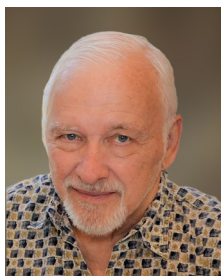
bhatcher1942@gmail.com



Poker Group 2

Bob Royster

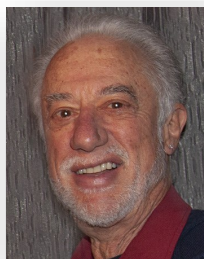
*Poker Group 2 meets on the fourth Monday of the month at various members' homes. Contact **Bob Royster** if you would like to join our group as a member or substitute.*



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 7

Bob Lucido

Mike Roach was the big winner at our Poker game, with \$2 in winnings. Don't spend it all in one place, **Mike**.

We meet on the 3rd Monday of the month at 6:30 PM

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

(925) 899-0974

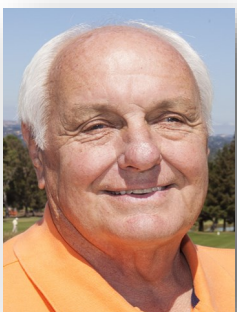
bobwendy3@comcast.net



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

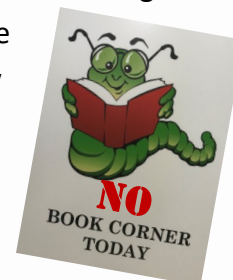
*Poker Group 5 meets the Wednesday prior to the SIR luncheon. **Bill Roberts** is the permanent host for our event.*



Book Corner

Peter Plante

Thank you to all who came by in November for more great reading. We are back in January with more books to take home.



Area 16 Events

Mac User Group (MUG)

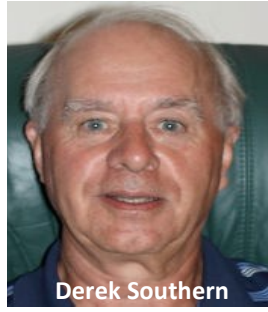


Max Burchett

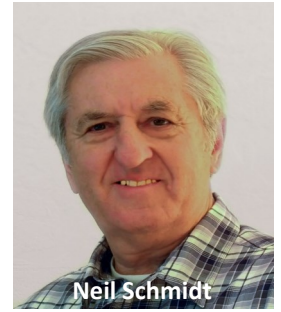


Vern Laursen

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 Area 16 Computer and Technology Group meetings are fun and informative where we discuss applications for computers and technology. At each meeting we have a presentation on a topic covering everything from antivirus programs, ways to back up your data, digital photography, genealogy research, artificial intelligence, smart phones and many other topics. It's a great way to learn about new technology and to also get answers to your technology related questions or problems. For more info, check out our website at:

<https://sirinc2.org/a16cat/>

The Computer Group meets on the 3rd Thursday of every month except in December and June. The next meeting will be on January 16, 2020. If you would like to get on our email list or if you have a suggestion for a potential topic, send your request to: sirarea2cat@gmail.com.

Area 16 \$ums Investment Group

We will have December off. The next meeting is January 22nd -- back to our usual 4th Wednesdays.

The presenter will be Andrew Parrott of Edward Jones. He will be giving us his firm's outlook on investing in the election year.

Chair - **Tom Henry** - Br 174 tomhenry925@gmail.com

Co-chair **Dave Sutton** - Br 8 - davesutn@comcast.net

Andrew: What did the pepper say on its holiday card?

Luke: I don't know.

Andrew: "Season's greetings."



"I'm running behind. Can you take half the list and deliver the toys?"

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

December 2019

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2	3	4	5	6
<p>8:30 AM Book Group The Greenery Restaurant, WC</p> <p>10:00 AM Party Bridge</p> <p>11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:30 PM Mac User Group (MUG)</p>	<p>9:00 AM Golf</p> <p>9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) Drop-in \$5 San Ramon Valley United Methodist</p> <p>1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Pickleball (T-Th) Instruction \$20 (Reservation Required) San Ramon Valley United Methodist</p> <p>7:00 PM Couples Party Bridge</p>	<p>10:00 AM Bowling</p> <p>1:30 PM Song Sirs 1st</p>	<p>9:30 AM NINE HOLE GOLF-1</p> <p>6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Poker Group #8</p>	<p>9:30 AM - 2:00 PM Men's Duplicate Bridge 2</p>
9	10	11	12	13
<p>11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses</p> <p>12:00 PM Cooking II</p>	<p>9:00 AM Golf</p> <p>9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) Drop-in \$5 San Ramon Valley United Methodist</p> <p>1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Pickleball (T-Th) Instruction \$20 (Reservation Required) San Ramon Valley United Methodist</p> <p>7:00 PM Couples Duplicate Bridge 2</p>	<p>10:00 AM Bowling</p> <p>12:30 PM - 3:30 PM Poker Group #8</p> <p>1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Pinochle Rocco's Italian Restaurant</p> <p>1:00 PM Poker Group #1</p> <p>4:15 PM Poker #5</p>	<p>11:45 AM - 1:30 PM LADIES DAY LUNCHEON</p>	<p>9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Photography Group Ygnacio Valley Library 2861 Oak Grove Rd, W.C.</p> <p>10:00 AM Hiking Moderate</p> <p>12:30 PM - 2:30 PM Chess Pleasant Hill Senior Center</p> <p>6:45 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Group 1 (UNO)</p>
16	17	18	19	20
<p>10:00 AM Men's Duplicate Bridge #1</p> <p>11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses</p>	<p>9:00 AM Golf</p> <p>9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) Drop-in \$5 San Ramon Valley United Methodist</p> <p>1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Pickleball (T-Th) Instruction \$20 (Reservation Required) San Ramon Valley United Methodist</p>	<p>10:00 AM Bowling</p> <p>11:00 AM Cooking Lunch and Wine (LAW)</p> <p>12:30 PM - 3:30 PM Cribbage</p> <p>1:30 PM Song Sirs 2nd</p> <p>7:00 PM Bridge - Couples</p>	<p>9:30 AM NINE HOLE GOLF-2</p> <p>1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Hearts Rocco's Italian Restaurant</p> <p>7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Group 5 (Cinco)</p>	<p>10:00 AM - 2:00 PM Men's Duplicate Bridge 3</p> <p>7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Dominoes - El Quattro</p>
23	24	25	26	27
<p>11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses</p> <p>1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Poker #3</p> <p>1:00 PM Poker Group #2</p> <p>1:00 PM Poker Group #4</p>	<p>9:00 AM Golf</p> <p>9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) Drop-in \$5 San Ramon Valley United Methodist</p> <p>1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Pickleball (T-Th) Instruction \$20 (Reservation Required) San Ramon Valley United Methodist</p>	<p>10:00 AM Bowling</p>		
30	31	Jan 1	2	3
<p>11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Table Pool at Masses</p>	<p>9:00 AM Golf</p> <p>9:00 AM - 1:00 PM Pickleball (MTWThF) Drop-in \$5 San Ramon Valley United Methodist</p> <p>1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Pickleball (T-Th) Instruction \$20 (Reservation Required) San Ramon Valley United Methodist</p> <p>6:45 PM - 10:15 PM Mexican Train Dominoes Group 3 (Tres)</p> <p>6:45 PM - 10:00 PM Mexican Train Group Seis</p>	<p>NEW YEAR'S DAY</p> <p>10:00 AM Bowling</p> <p>1:30 PM Song Sirs 1st</p>	<p>9:30 AM NINE HOLE GOLF-1</p> <p>6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Poker Group #8</p>	<p>9:30 AM - 2:00 PM Men's Duplicate Bridge 2</p>