



# Branch 146

Contra Costa County CA

December 2022

# Call



### Big Sir's Corner

Richard Lyon

Wow! I hope your Thanksgiving was filled with good memories and cheer. The holidays and New Year's are close, and the branch will be starting a new year. It has been a great experience serving as Big Sir.

Friendships have deepened, and I've made some new friendships along the way. The branch is moving forward due to the diligence, dedication, and integrity of your Branch Executive Committee, Activity, and Committee chairs whose efforts are what make Branch 146 a friendship and activity magnet.

Next year the Branch will finally be operating as it had been before COVID put the brakes on in-person activities. Every SIR member is expected to attend at least 5 regular luncheons a year and they are expected to opt out by emailing the Luncheon Chair ([attendlunchbr146@gmail.com](mailto:attendlunchbr146@gmail.com)) if they cannot attend for some reason. Starting January 2023, if a member fails to opt out, they can be held to repay the Branch for the cost of their lunch. The monthly luncheons are the branch's most well-attended activity and provide an opportunity to greet friends and make new friends. The luncheons are the branch's monthly mixer and feature great food and interesting speakers at a bargain price.

The December Ladies Day Luncheon has a mouth-watering menu and spectacular seasonal entertainment. **Bob Wilkenfeld**, Little Sir, and **Steve Ybarra**, Lady's Day Luncheon Chair, have worked really hard to bring you and your lady a memorable holiday event.

If you have been a member for a few years, enjoy our activities, have made good friends, and haven't been given an opportunity to give back to the branch,

please let me know. There are many ways to give back. Whatever you decide to do, it is practically guaranteed that you will make even more and deeper friendships for life. You'll discover what has made Branch 146 a friendship and activity magnet by giving back to the Branch!

Sincerely and truly yours,  
Rich Lyon, Big Sir 2022  
Branch 146



### Little Sir's Corner

Bob Wilkenfeld

The Times They Are A-Changing  
*Beginning in January 2023, our regular luncheons will be held on an opt-out basis.*

That means we will assume you are attending unless you notify the luncheon coordinators, as described in the monthly meeting announcement. Should you fail to opt out by the monthly deadline and then not attend the luncheon, you will likely have to pay for the meal you missed. This is because our Branch commits to a number of meals each month, based on the feedback we receive from members. Our Branch is also reinstating our existing by-law which requires mem-

**SIR Luncheon**  
**Thursday, December 8th, 2022**  
**Boundary Oak**  
**11:30**  
Scott Foglesong & California Symphony.  
*Music for the Winter Solstice*  
RSVP by December 2nd to attend!

bers to attend at least five of the ten regular luncheons each year and miss no more than three in a row. (Regular luncheons do not include May and December, which are our Ladies Day events.) Exceptions to the attendance by-law require approval by the Branch Executive Committee (BEC) and are only valid for a period of six months. Please contact either the Big Sir, Little Sir or the Membership Committee Chair if you believe you need an exception.

We Are All-Ears

To improve your experience at luncheons, we have been making adjustments to the audio system. As the speakers and mixer are owned by Boundary Oak, we have to adjust the settings and speaker placement each month. Bill Holly has been testing the system each month, before everyone arrives, to optimize the sound, especially for the tables on the sides and back of the room. We hope you have noticed some improvement over the past two months; please let Bill or me know if you have.

Recognizing that even with these changes, the current system may still not be sufficient, we will be enlisting the assistance of a sound engineer. Whether it requires additional speakers, different microphones, or other system updates, your BEC is committed to ensuring that most members in attendance can comfortably hear the proceedings.

Music of the Season

Our December luncheon will feature a speaker and brass ensemble from the California Symphony. Scott Foglesong's presentation is themed *Music for the Winter Solstice*. Scott is a department chair at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music and has taught *Introduction to Music* at UC Berkeley since 1991. He is a pianist, writer, cat-lover, history devotee, and occasional computer geek. Scott serves as a Contributing Writer and Program Annotator for the California Symphony. Members of the California Symphony will entertain us with music of the holiday season.

Don't miss this event, as it promises to be quite enjoyable. And don't forget to bring your *significant other!* Regardless of whether you attend or not, please accept my sincere wishes to you and your family for a safe and joyous holiday season and a very happy, and healthy 2023!

**Bob Wilkenfeld**  
Little Sir, Branch 146

**2022 Branch 146  
Officers and Directors**

Big SIR.....	<b>Richard Lyon</b>
Little SIR.....	<b>Robert Wilkenfeld</b>
Secretary .....	<b>John Kluesener</b>
Assistant Secretary .....	<b>Bob Ford</b>
Treasurer .....	<b>John Alexander</b>
Assistant Treasurer .....	<b>Jim Nelson</b>
Director 2nd Term .....	<b>George Mon</b>
Director 2nd Term .....	<b>Henry Thatcher</b>
Director 2nd Term .....	<b>Robert Lucido</b>
Director 1st Term .....	<b>Larry Kaye</b>
Director 1st Term .....	<b>Edward Brands</b>
Director 1st Term .....	<b>Frank Lucas</b>

RAMP – Chair Members

Recruitment .....	<b>Vacant</b>
Activities .....	<b>Bob Lucido</b>
Member Relations .....	<b>Edwards Brands</b>
Publicity .....	<b>Larry Kaye</b>

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



Congratulations on your Birthday Hat!  
**Don Rhoads.**

## SIR Mission Statement

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



### Membership George Mon

Four new members were approved at the November BEC Meeting. **Ted Ford** lives in Walnut Creek with his wife **Khemphet** and was a car salesman for Cole European. He is sponsored by **Clint Collier**. **Robert**

**“Bob” Lively** lives in Concord with his wife **Caren**. He was involved with sales for Burlingame Engineers. He is sponsored by **Paul Dubow**. **Dave Kittel** also lives in Concord. He is one of our youngest members at 44 years old. He is a sales manager and is sponsored by **John Kendrick**. **Fletcher Tyler** lives in Walnut Creek with his wife **Nancy**. He was a mechanical engineer in heating and air conditioning. His sponsor is **Russ Anderson**. Lastly, **Robert Mijango** lives in Walnut Creek with his wife **Diane**. He was a system administrator for Peoplesoft. He is sponsored by Big Sir **Rich Lyon**.

Sadly, we lost three members in November. SIR members **Tony Shebanek** passed away while driving in his car, **Jeff Baily** a past Big Sir, died from a hemorrhagic stroke. And **Dick Woodman** suffered a heart attack.

Four SIR members decided to resign for various reasons. **Stan Matsumoto** had other interests, **Cliff Sanburn** transferred to another branch, and **Russ Bliese** moved to Ventura. **Fred Bolton** moved into the Viamonte Senior Living facility.

The 2022 membership count is at 274. We ended 2021 with 280 members.

2023 dues letter were sent out during the month of October. Members had an opportunity to update their contact information, including spouse contact information. Also, members could pay for luncheons in advance along with their dues. Dues are \$25 for 2023. This is an increase of \$5 from 2022.

As of 11/9/22, only 64% have responded. There are still 100 members that we have yet to hear from.

The Membership Directory is located on our website and is updated monthly.

It is important that any changes to your contact information, especially to your email, phone, or address, are sent to me in an email ([gckk@comcast.net](mailto:gckk@comcast.net)) so that we can update the directory with the most current information.

### 2023 Branch 146 Officers and Directors

Big SIR.....	<b>Robert Wilkenfeld</b>
Little SIR.....	<b>John Kluesener</b>
Secretary .....	<b>Bob Ford</b>
Assistant Secretary .....	Vacant
Treasurer .....	<b>John Alexander</b>
Assistant Treasurer .....	<b>Jim Nelson</b>
Director 4th Term .....	<b>George Mon</b>
Director 3rd Term .....	<b>Henry Thatcher</b>
Director 3rd Term .....	<b>Robert Lucido</b>
Director 1st Term .....	<b>Larry Kaye</b>
Director 2nd Term .....	<b>Edward Brands</b>
Director 1st Term .....	<b>Randy Graham</b>

#### RAMP – Chair Members

Recruitment .....	<b>Vacant</b>
Activities .....	<b>Bob Lucido</b>
Member Relations .....	<b>Edwards Brands</b>
Publicity .....	<b>Randy Graham</b>

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



**Ladies Day  
Luncheon  
Chairman  
Steve Ybarra**

The Ladies Day Holiday Luncheon will be held on Thursday December 8, 2022. The cost for this event is **\$35** per person. Doors open at 10:30am and SIR members and guests can socialize until 11:30am which is when the luncheon will be called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. Reservations must be made to **Steve Ybarra** and received by December 1, 2022. Please use the reservation form provided in this SIR-Call and make checks payable to SIR Branch 146 in the amount of **\$35.00** per person.



**THE CLUBHOUSE**  
AT BOUNDARY OAK

**SIR 146 December Luncheon**  
Thursday December 8th, 2022

**Baby Greens Salad**  
with Feta Cheese, Candied Walnuts,  
Dried Cranberries, & Sherry Vinaigrette

**Entrees**  
Cabernet Braised Beef Short Ribs  
with Thyme infused Au Jus, Mashed Potatoes  
Seasonal Vegetables  
or  
Pan Seared Farm Raised Salmon  
Confetti Rice Pilaf Seasonal Vegetables  
or  
Vegetarian Option available

**Dessert**  
Holiday Cake Whipped Cream



***SIR 146 Ladies Day Holiday Luncheon***

Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Number of Tickets \_\_\_\_\_ at **\$35** ea. Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ We are sitting

*Use this form to list yourselves and the guests at your table (if any) along with their choice of entrée. Check the "Pay?" box if you are paying for them, otherwise they will be assigned to your table when their payment is received.*

*Type in the requested information and print this page, or just print this page and fill your information by hand then cut along the dotted line and send it with your check made payable to SIR Branch 146 to:*

**Steve Ybarra**  
142 Leonard Dr.,

#	F Name, L Name	Braised Short Ribs	Salmon	Vegetarian	Total Paid
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					

*There will be no tickets sold at the door the day of the event!  
Reservations must be received by December 1st.*





## Luncheon Chairman

Ben Gleason

Our 101 Members and three guests who attended our November luncheon honored our military and Merchant Marine veterans. We heard a very informative description of health and medical services available

to veterans from Vickilynn Kimbro and Laura Crawley of U.S. Veterans Affairs Northern California Healthcare Systems.

In December, we will hold our annual Holiday Luncheon which is arranged by **Steve Ybarra**.

Our January 12 meeting will feature Zach Harris from John Muir Health who will discuss the Future of Healthcare.

It is very important to note that starting with the January meeting, we will revert to our pre-pandemic practice of expecting that you will attend each luncheon unless you have been given Exempt status by the BEC or have opted-out by the deadline for that meeting. It is also expected that you will attend at least five regular luncheons in any twelve-month period. Also, note that that, due to inflation, Boundary Oak has increased the cost of our luncheons and they will now cost **\$36**.

The BEC has made the decision to make this change for several reasons. First, with the threat of COVID waning, most of us have been able to return to a somewhat normal lifestyle. Second, it is important for the survival of our Branch that the membership has a sense of belonging to the group and a forum for communication with the BEC. And third, it relieves, what we hope to be the majority of members, from having to Opt-In for the luncheon each month. It will take everyone's cooperation for this to work!

- **Where:** Boundary Oak
- **Cost:** \$36 per person
- **Payment**  
The preferred payment method is by check at the luncheon payable to SIR Branch 146.
- **Opt-Out**
  - \* If You cannot attend, you must Opt-Out by Thursday, January 5 at Noon.
  - \* Ways to Opt-Out
    - ✓ Email: [attendlunchbr146@gmail.com](mailto:attendlunchbr146@gmail.com)

- ✓ If you don't have email access, call: 925.979.5721 and leave a message.
- ✓ All Opt-Outs will be acknowledged
- \* If you find that you will be able to attend after opting out or you find that you are unable to attend after the deadline, please let us know ASAP.

### • Special Requests

You can choose your entrée from the menu at check-in, but if you have dietary restrictions or want a vegetarian meal, please send an email to [attendlunchbr146@gmail.com](mailto:attendlunchbr146@gmail.com) before the deadline.

### • Sponsors

If you are bringing a guest who may wish to join our Branch, please notify the Luncheon Chair with the guest's name at the same email address: [attendlunchbr146@gmail.com](mailto:attendlunchbr146@gmail.com).

### • Questions

If you have any questions, please call please call **Steve Oki** at 925.831.9380 and leave a message with your question or request. **Steve** will return



## THE CLUBHOUSE

AT BOUNDARY OAK

### SIR 146 January Luncheon

Thursday January 12th, 2023

#### Salad

Kale Caesar Salad

Garlic Croutons, Shaved Parmesan Reggiano

#### Entrees

Alaskan True Cod

Honey Roasted Carrot Puree, Broccolini, Chilis,  
Garlic, Romanesco Sauce

Organic Mary's Chicken Breast

Stuffed with Fresh Ricotta, Bloomsdale Spinach,  
Wild Mushrooms, Rosemary Potatoes

#### Vegetarian Option

Wild Mushrooms Risotto

#### Dessert

Chocolate Mousse Cake



## Editor's Ramblings Clint Collier

Activity leaders, does your activity meet late in the month? On or after the cutoff date for the following month's SIR-Call? If so, consider delaying your report on the activity that took place for the following month.

It is, after all, history at that point. Instead, concentrate on promoting a coming activity and the ability of other members joining you.

Lastly, if at all possible, kindly submit your reports as Microsoft Word documents and use the Lato (11) font. Copying and pasting out of emails is obviously possible but does involve extra work for the 2 editors.

The deadline for submissions for the January 2023 issue is **December 23rd**. Give your editors a nice present for Christmas! Have your articles in by this date because they most likely will be with family that weekend!

Don't forget, we encourage member contributions to SIR-Call so, if you have something you would like to say, send it in to [br146SirCall@gmail.com](mailto:br146SirCall@gmail.com), putting "Member Note" in the subject line, and we will try to get it out in the next available issue.

**Clint Collier** –Editor SIR-Call

Cell /Text: 925.457.1489 [br146SIRCall@gmail.com](mailto:br146SIRCall@gmail.com)



## SIR-Call Newsletter Group

Editor  
Assistant Editor  
Photographer  
Proofreaders

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Henry Thatcher  
Ron Polivka,  
Bruce Borgman  
Hank James  
Ron Plachy

Internet Posting



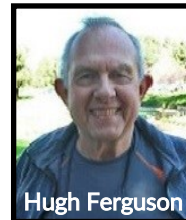
## Sunshine Brian McCarthy



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

Consider contacting a sick SIR member to offer support and encouragement during his illness. A friendly call is usually welcome. Cards and letters are always appreciated. If you become aware of a SIR member who is ill please let me know by email at [brimacc@comcast.net](mailto:brimacc@comcast.net) or by phone 925.324.2463 so that our SIR members can be advised. *Stay Healthy.*

**Brian McCarthy**  
[brimacc@comcast.net](mailto:brimacc@comcast.net)



Hugh Ferguson



Norm Baietti



Norm Baietti  
Jack Baldassari  
James Baldrige  
Randall Becker  
Gary Brown  
Walter Busenius  
Doug Eisner  
John Gray  
Bill Hansen  
Mac Mcallister

George Mon  
Mike Navone  
Donald Nunn  
James Passaglia  
Dick Richmond  
Henry Thatcher  
George Trabert  
Gene Voelkel  
Michael Wolfson  
Dave Kwinter



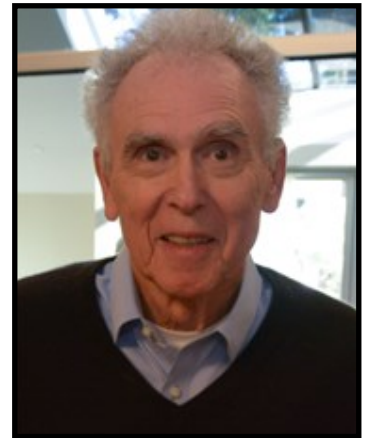
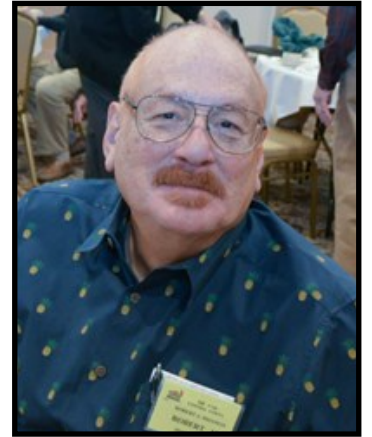
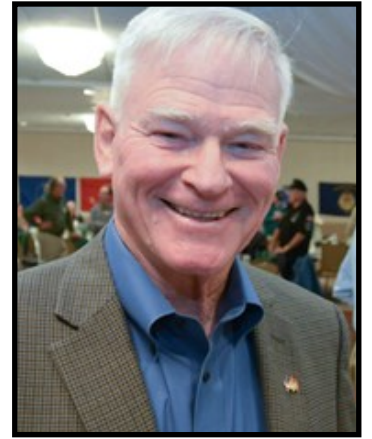


# November Lunch

Photos by Henry Thatcher

















**Our November Speakers  
Vicki Lynn Kimbro (Facility Telehealth Coordinator)  
and  
Laura Crawley (My HealtheVet Coordinator)**



...as always, ending with God Bless America!



# NOTES

## from Our Members

From **Mark O** via past member Mike Roach.

### SMART ASS ANSWER #5

It was mealtime during an airline flight.

"Would you like dinner?" the flight attendant asked John, seated in front.

"What are my choices?" John asked.

"Yes or no," she replied.

### SMART ASS ANSWER #4

A flight attendant was stationed at the departure gate to check tickets.

As a man approached, she extended her hand for the ticket and he opened his trench coat and flashed her.

Without missing a beat, she said, "Sir, I need to see your ticket, not your stub."

### SMART ASS ANSWER #3

A lady was picking through the frozen turkeys at the grocery store but she couldn't find one big enough for her family.

She asked a stock boy,

"Do these turkeys get any bigger?"

The stock boy replied, "No ma'am, they're dead".

### SMART ASS ANSWER #2

The police officer got out of his car as the kid who was stopped for speeding rolled down his window.

"I've been waiting for you all day," the officer said.

The kid replied, "Yeah, well I got here as fast as I could."

When the cop finally stopped laughing, he sent the kid on his way without a ticket.

### SMART ASS ANSWER #1

A truck driver was driving along on the freeway and noticed a sign that read: Low Bridge Ahead.

Before he knows it, the bridge is right in front of him and his truck gets wedged under it.

Cars are backed up for miles.

Finally, a police car comes up.

The cop gets out of his car and walks to the truck driver, puts his hands on his hips and says, "Got stuck,

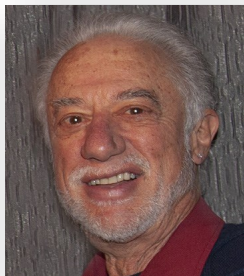
huh? "The truck driver says, "No, I was delivering this bridge and I ran out of gas."







Looking for something to do...



## Activities Coordinator

Bob Lucido

I am updating the activities on the website and the SIR-Call with the help of **Ron Plachy & Clinton Collier**. On the website home page, if you select the icons, it will now give you a fuller description of the activity.

In the SIR-Call under Activities if you select the [name of the activity](#), it will link it to the website and get the information from there. This is a work in progress. The updates take time with rewriting and sending to the chairmen for approval.

Bob Lucido

925.899.0974 [Bobwendy3@comcast.net](mailto:Bobwendy3@comcast.net)

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## SIR Activities!

Here is a list of the activities that are available in Branch 146 and, in some cases, SIR. Click on the link (the activities that are underlined) to retrieve a PDF file explaining the activity and information on who to contact if your are interested in participating.

[Birding](#)

[Bocce Ball](#)

[Book Corner](#)

[Book Group](#)

### Bridge

[Couples Duplicate 1](#)

[Couples Duplicate 2](#)

[Couples Party](#)

[Men's Duplicate 1](#)

[Men's Duplicate 2](#)

[Men's Duplicate 3](#)

[Men's Party](#)

### Cooking

[Cooking II](#)

[Lunch & Wine](#)

[Tres Gourmet](#)

[Cribbage](#)

[Cycling](#)

### Dining Out

[Couples Dining Out](#)

[Explore and Eat](#)

[Sushi no tomodachi](#)

[Golf - 18 Hole](#)

[Golf - 9 Hole](#)

[Hiking](#)

[Hearts](#)

### Mexican Train Dominoes

[Uno](#)

[Dos](#)

[Tres](#)

[Quatro](#)

[Cinco](#)

[Seis](#)

[Siete](#)

[Ocho](#)

[Photography](#)

[Pinochle](#)

### Poker

[Group 1](#)

[Group 2](#)

[Group 3](#)

[Group 4](#)

[Group 6](#)

[RV-ing](#)

[Song SIRs](#)

[Table Pool](#)

[Theatre](#)

[Travel](#)

[Wine Tasting](#)

### Other Branch Activity

[Chess](#)

[Fishing](#)

[Investing](#)

# SIR Branch 146 Activities Calendar

## December 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<a href="#">28</a>	<a href="#">29</a>	<a href="#">30</a>	<a href="#">Dec 1</a>	<a href="#">2</a>
<a href="#">10:00 am...Hiking</a> <a href="#">12:00 pm...Table Pool at Masses</a> <a href="#">1:00 pm...Poker Group #4</a>	<a href="#">9:00 am...Golf</a>		<a href="#">9:30 am...NINE HOLE GOLF-1</a> <a href="#">12:30 pm...Poker Group #6</a>	<a href="#">10:00 am - 2:30 pm... Men's Duplicate Bridge 2</a>
<a href="#">5</a>	<a href="#">6</a>	<a href="#">7</a>	<a href="#">8</a>	<a href="#">9</a>
<a href="#">9:45 am - 3:00 pm... Men's Party Bridge</a> <a href="#">10:00 am...Hiking</a> <a href="#">11:30 am...Cycling Group Lunch Greenery Restaurant, WC</a> <a href="#">12:00 pm...Table Pool at Masses</a>	<a href="#">9:00 am...Golf</a> <a href="#">4:00 pm - 7:00 pm... Couples Party Bridge</a>	<a href="#">6:30 pm - 10:00 pm... Mexican Train Dominoes 8 Ocho</a>	<a href="#">11:30 am - 1:30 pm... LADIES DAY LUNCH-EON</a>	<a href="#">11:30 am...Photography Group Lunch Rocco's Ristorante, WC</a> <a href="#">12:45 pm - 3:30 pm... Hearts Rocco's Italian Restaurant</a>
<a href="#">12</a>	<a href="#">13</a>	<a href="#">14</a>	<a href="#">15</a>	<a href="#">16</a>
<a href="#">10:00 am...Hiking</a> <a href="#">12:00 pm...Table Pool at Masses</a>	<a href="#">9:00 am...Golf</a>	<a href="#">1:00 pm - 3:00 pm... Pinochle Rocco's Italian Restaurant</a> <a href="#">1:00 pm...Poker Group #1</a>	<a href="#">7:30 am - 9:30 am...Area 16 Fishing Group Legends Sports Bar Diablo Creek GC</a> <a href="#">9:30 am...NINE HOLE GOLF-2</a> <a href="#">11:30 am...Sushi no Tomadachi Mikuni, Concord</a> <a href="#">7:00 pm - 10:00 pm... Mexican Train Dominoes 5 Cinco</a>	<a href="#">10:00 am - 3:00 pm... Men's Duplicate Bridge 3</a>
<a href="#">19</a>	<a href="#">20</a>	<a href="#">21</a>	<a href="#">22</a>	<a href="#">23</a>
<a href="#">10:00 am...Hiking</a> <a href="#">12:00 pm...Table Pool at Masses</a>	<a href="#">9:00 am...Golf</a>	<a href="#">7:00 pm - 10:30 pm... Couples Duplicate Bridge 1</a>	<a href="#">9:30 am...NINE HOLE GOLF-3</a>	<a href="#">12:45 pm - 3:30 pm... Hearts Rocco's Italian Restaurant</a>
<a href="#">26</a>	<a href="#">27</a>	<a href="#">28</a>	<a href="#">29</a>	<a href="#">30</a>
<a href="#">10:00 am...Hiking</a> <a href="#">12:00 pm...Table Pool at Masses</a>	<a href="#">9:00 am...Golf</a>	<a href="#">12:30 pm - 3:30 pm... Cribbage Rocco's Italian Restaurant</a> <a href="#">1:00 pm - 3:00 pm... Pinochle Rocco's Italian Restaurant</a>	<a href="#">9:30 am...NINE HOLE GOLF-4</a>	



## 146 Hiking Mark Curtis

Attendance continues to impress! Don Shaw even showed up for this last hike which started from the Proctor trailhead at Lake Chabot Regional Park, in the northwest section of this park. We did a total of 5 miles and very close to 800 feet of climbing, all of which was on wide fire roads.

My game plan is to continue with Monday hikes/walks on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of the month. We are skipping the Monday of Thanksgiving week. We will plan for 2 easy-to-moderate walks and 2 moderate-to-strenuous hikes. I will plan the easy ones, and **Ray Martz** will be the primary organizer of the more difficult ones.

I/we have avoided Black Diamond Mines during the summer, but this venue will be high on my list for the late fall, winter, and spring months. Another venue that is great for cooler weather is Morgan Territory Regional Preserve. **Roger Meyer** also gave me a packet of all the various hikes that he has experienced over the past many years, and I plan on using it as a resource. And in late winter or early-to-mid spring, we will tackle the Falls Loop trail in Mount Diablo State Park. Hayward Regional Shoreline is also on the list in early-to-mid spring for interested bird watchers; this one is a casual stroll on level ground.

Please keep in mind that spouses and/or friends are welcome. Whether or not dogs are allowed depends on the park or section of the park. And given that we are hopefully in the “wet” months, I will keep an eye on the weather and advise as to whether or not we hike on. There are also a few venues that are great for observing the flora and fauna of our local parks.

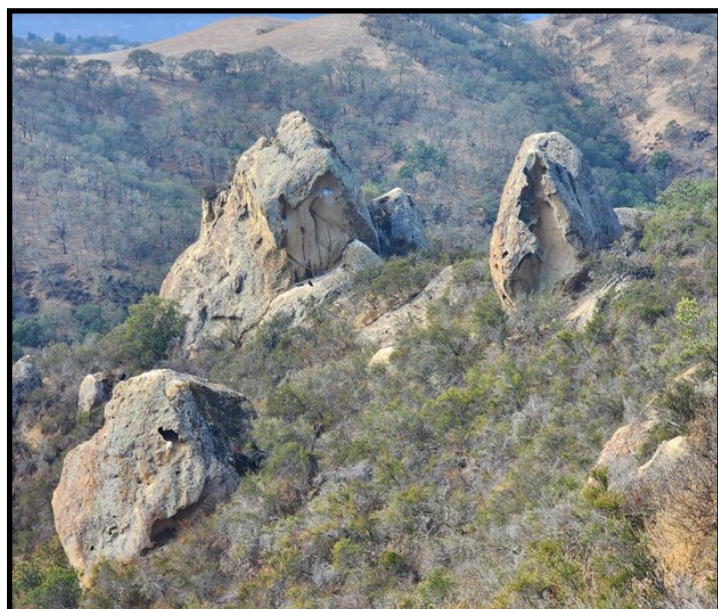
If you have an interest in participating in this hiking activity, please let me know and I will add your email address to my distribution list.

**Mark Curtis**

925.360.3449 [Mocurtis1657@gmail.com](mailto:Mocurtis1657@gmail.com)



Mark Curtis, Ray Martz, Don Shaw, Roger Meyer,  
& Gene Schulting.  
Photo by Earl Bates







## Cycling Group Larry Kaye

October 27<sup>th</sup>: Wonder of wonders. The gang showed up today en masse. Today's ride was a trip to Si Si Caffè in Moraga. We assembled in the cold and took off from Pleasant Hill. It was

cooooool. **Ken Studer** back from a hiatus, **Bob Wilkenfeld** back from home care of his wife, **Roger Meyers**, **Bill Ross**, **Bob Lucido** with his new eye functioning, **Paul Brown**, **Moose Kelly**, all headed west. The trail was busy and full of people exercising. We navigated thru this crowd and eventually got to Moraga. The restroom was a welcome sight as always, and then a quick ride to Si Si's cafe. Java was enjoyed by all. Warmth was wonderful. Finally we re-mounted and were off again. Heading this time towards Orinda. The sun finally enveloped us with the warmth we so missed. Some uphill, some downhill and finally we surfaced in Lafayette. Joining the trail we turned east and eventually lo and behold we arrived at our warm steel vehicles. Yummy. A ride to help those without miles on their butts was a success.

November 4<sup>th</sup>: It was cold. We left on our ride today at 10, hoping to catch some rays. We were wrong. Until we reached the half way mark that is. The weather turned warmer and the sun peeked out. **Roger Meyer**, **Bill Ross**, **Bob Wilkenfeld**, **Bill Holly**, **Moose Kelly** and **Larry Kaye** were today's riders. We covered some old paths and made our way thru Danville and Crow Canyon. It was a ride that had some nasty hills, and some great downhill. We returned to home port: Alamo and grabbed some hot Peet's java. As a group we discussed the gas situation and how the gas companies seemed to screw us all. Other National problems were solved and the Spandex guys headed home. Age has its attributes. Knowledge abounds.

November 15<sup>th</sup>: 10 am start today. It was toooo cold earlier. Took off heading south. The northeast winds would pay back later. **Pat Hoy**, **Jim Nelson**, **Bill Holly**, **Bill Ross** and **Larry Kaye** braved the day. We toured the Danville area. Back streets, side streets, and some trails. The trip was a short but nice way to get some miles on our legs. It was a great day and the late start was wonderful. All turned to crap as we turned north. The winds were in our faces. As we entered Danville town the group grabbed some side streets that were less affected by the winds. Heading north well within the western boundaries of Town, we hid from the

gusts. A stop at the new Alamo historical markers in Hemme park gave some history of Alamo to the guys. Also allowed a rest room break. Ahhhhhh. Back to Peet's for java and the day was complete. Keep moving and do not let father time get in your way.

November 22<sup>th</sup>: November 22<sup>nd</sup>: **Bill Ross**, **Bill Holly**, **Bob Lucido**, **Bob Wilkenfeld** and I rode on a simple leg mover. To Blackhawk and then a pit stop at Danville's Sycamore Park was the route. The return to Peet's in Alamo was fast with the help of a nice tailwind. Java and some discussion ensued. The new rules for meetings and the effect on members was the topic. It became obvious that some folks do not read or open the monthly newsletters. A shame. Facts and important dealings of our SIR group is published in the newsletter. Yet, they go unread. Makes one wonder why some do not attend meetings and have no clue as to the goings on. What a shame. The newsletters are the sole communication device we have to "reach" everyone.

A happy Thanksgiving to all.







## AREA 16 Fishing Report

Paul DuBow

Striper fishing and crabbing have been the hot spots this month, although the striper bite is starting to slow down a bit.

**Stan Wong** caught 96 stripers in five trips to the Delta, releasing all but a few. **Tom Kostik** and **Harry Sherinian** landed 21 stripers, including six keepers, on a Delta outing. A few days later, **Tom** and **Mike Corker** hooked 52 stripers, but only two were keepers. All these fish were caught with lures, with swimbait being the favorite. However, **Ron Lew** of Branch 146 had a good striper day using sardines as bait. He also caught two leopard sharks on the same trip.

In the crab department, a group of six set out on the *Sundance* and netted 80 Dungeness crabs and 25 rock crabs. After the crabbing was done, they fished for rockfish. Although they caught quite a few, most of them were smaller than usual. **Stan Wong** caught 50 Dungeness crabs at a spot about ten miles offshore and within sight of the Farallones.

**Bob Stein** had an unusual experience fishing for rockfish with **Carl Moyer** and **Brion Beetz**. He thought his line was stuck on rocks, which is not unusual while fishing for the well-named rockfish. He gave the rod to **Carl** to free the line. After a while, the line tugged, and **Carl** realized that there was a fish on the other end. **Bob** reeled the line in with great effort and eventually, a 25 lb. ling cod came to the surface. It was a traveler, i.e., it was not hooked but instead was attempting to eat a rockfish that **Bob** had hooked. At that point, **Brion** expertly placed the net under the ling cod, who released its prey and fell into the net. And so, **Bob** had two fish on the same cast!

**Bob Lively** of Branch 146, who is our Big Fish, also had an unusual experience, catching a 10 lb. guitarfish while fishing with **Ron Lew**. He had never seen a guitarfish before. He played it for a long time before landing it. On another trip, **Bob** caught a limit of rockfish plus a ling cod while fishing with **Rich Fiscina** of Branch 146.

Our favorite local trout fishing venue, San Pablo Reservoir, closed for the season on October 31. Before the closing, **Carl Moyer** and **Phil Scimonelli** caught a limit of rainbows. But subsequent trips were not as successful. **Carl** and **Gordon Linebaugh** caught just one fish (by **Gordon**) and then **Mike Browne** and

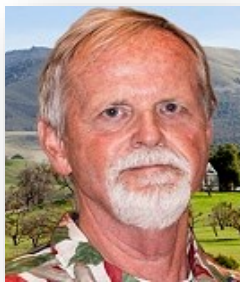
**Phil Scimonelli** were skunked. San Pablo will reopen on February 14.

We also gathered at **Brion Beetz'** home on November 8 to plan our fishing calendar for 2023. Over 100 outings are planned, and we are looking forward to a great year.

All Branch 146 members are welcome to join our fishing outings and attend our monthly meetings. Our next meeting is on Thursday, December 15, at the Legends Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek golf course at 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Please note that this is the third Thursday of the month. We normally meet on the fourth Thursday, but the meeting is on the third Thursday in December, because of the holidays. The meeting begins at 8:30 am, but many of us gather at 7 am or thereafter for breakfast and/or fishing stories and so please join us at that time. You are also welcome, even if you have never fished before, to join us for our regular fishing trips. For further information, feel free to call branch fishing chair



Bob Lively displays the guitarfish, which he played for a long time. Photo taken by Ron Lew



## Photography Group

John "Moose" Kelly & Henry Thatcher

The next SIR Branch 146 photography gathering will be held on Friday, December 9th at 11:30 am at Rocco's Pizzeria in Walnut Creek. Our "meeting" will be a Christmas Luncheon of the group to celebrate the accomplishments of 2022. We hope you can join us for the fun filled event.

If you are not on our email mailing list and would like to join the Photography Group or just want to come to our meeting to see what the club is all about, then please contact **John "Moose" Kelly** or **Henry Thatcher**. We would be happy to send you the agenda.

Be safe, be well and be sure to "Say Cheese"!

John (Moose) Kelly

610.517.0152 [rollingstone911@yahoo.com](mailto:rollingstone911@yahoo.com)

or

Henry Thatcher

925.997.5032 [1henrythatcher@gmail.com](mailto:1henrythatcher@gmail.com)

## Nine Hole Golf

**Group**  
**Bob Ford**

Are you looking for something to do on Thursday mornings? Come out and join us for a round of golf. You can walk or ride. The course is in really good shape and the weather is still cooperating. Our group tees off at 9:30 am at the Diablo Hills Golf Course on every Thursday, except the second Thursday of the month when we go to the SIR luncheon. It is open to all, and you don't need to be a member of the NCGA or have a handicap to play. It takes us about two hours to play, then most of us also have lunch at the Greenery which is the restaurant at the course. If you are interested, let me know and I will put you on my list. On Fridays, I will send out an email asking who is coming for golf and if you plan to walk or ride. On Wednesdays I will send out an email with who signed up for Thursday morning. I hope to see you there!!

**Bob Ford**



**Bocce**  
**John Kendrick**

The 2022 SIR Branch 146 Bocce Ball season is officially closed as the Concord courts are now closed. We have many old and a few new members who enjoyed this great outdoor activity.

The Bocce Ball activity meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays, 8:30 am to 10:00 am, May through October at Bocce Courts in Newhall Park, Concord. The courts are near the corner of Turtle Creek and Ayers Roads in Concord. Ladies are welcome.



Mark in your calendar May 8th as the official start of the 2023 SIR 146 Bocce Ball activity.







## Travel Milt Smith

Where in the world is our Travel Coordinator? Why traveling of course.

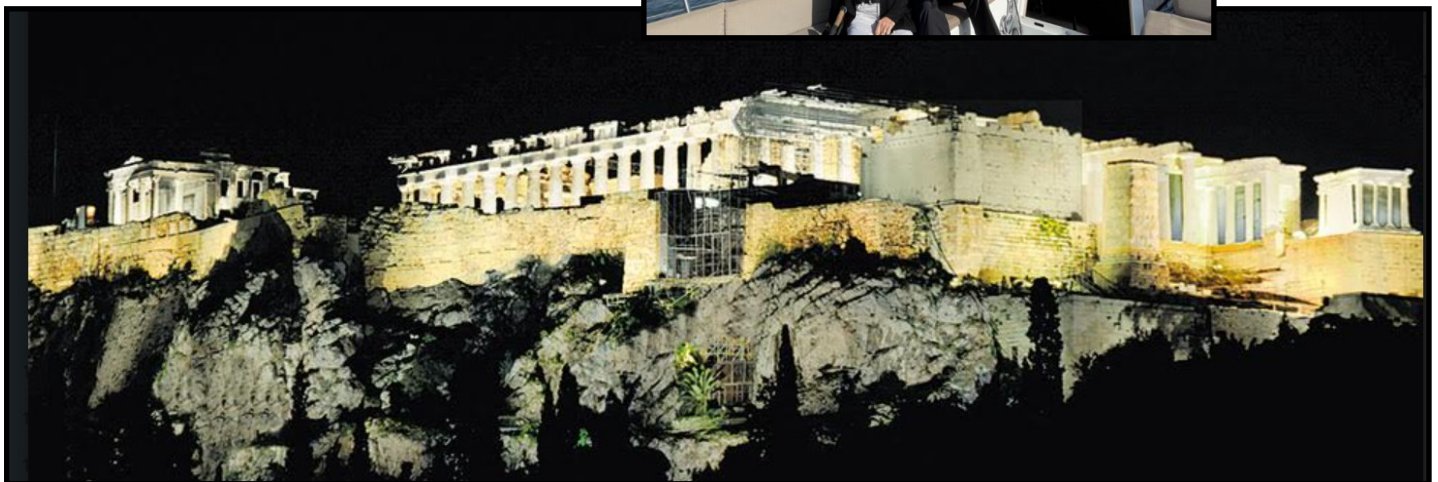
Carolyn and I have been “on the road” now for about 95 days. While we have not been “around the world” in those 80 + days we have been to 9 countries, four in Africa and five here in Europe. We have been enjoying the incredible history, I have lost track of how many UNESCO Sites we’ve visited. The people have been great and it has been so interesting beginning to understand the issues, ideas and lifestyles outside the USA. And food, “Oh the food.”

I still have not received any inquiries from anyone in Branch 146 about putting together a trip or two, which is too bad because there are great deals for group travel and the US dollar is strong.

I check email several times a week so let me know of any interest you may have. It is a good life out here.

For clarification, we were on an excellent “Overseas Adventure Travel” tour from Aug. 19-Sept. 12. (East African Safari.) Since then we’ve been on our own making it up as we go. At this moment we are sitting on an Aegean Air flight from Lisbon, due to land in Athens about two hours from now.

**It's fun out here! Milt Smith**  
925.285.2897 [miltsmith549@gmail.com](mailto:miltsmith549@gmail.com)







**Book Group**  
**John Pearl, Interim Chair**  
[mcpearl@astound.net](mailto:mcpearl@astound.net)

The Book Group for SIR Branch 146 met Monday, November 21. We reviewed two books this month, *Cloud Cuckoo Land*, by Anthony Doerr, and

*The Flag, the Church, and the Station Wagon*, by Bill McKibben.

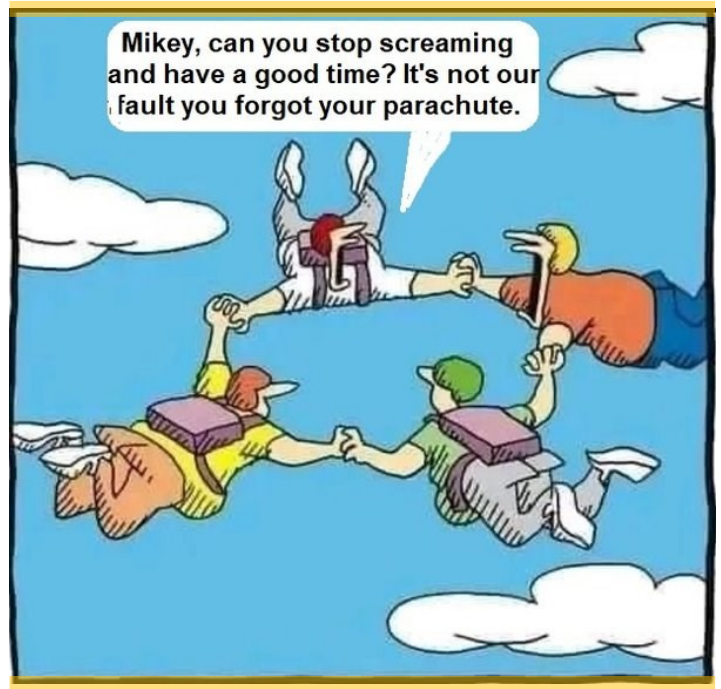
Anthony Doerr is the author of *All the Light We Cannot See*, and Bill McKibben is an environmental activist, a professor at Middlebury College in Vermont, and has written many books on environmental issues.

There was a spirited discussion on both books, sometimes these overlapped!

A discussion of both books will be published in next month's SIR-Call.

Our next meeting will be Monday, December 19th, when we will discuss *The Green Valley* by Mark Sullivan.

John Pearl, Chair



**SongSirs**  
**Peter Plante**

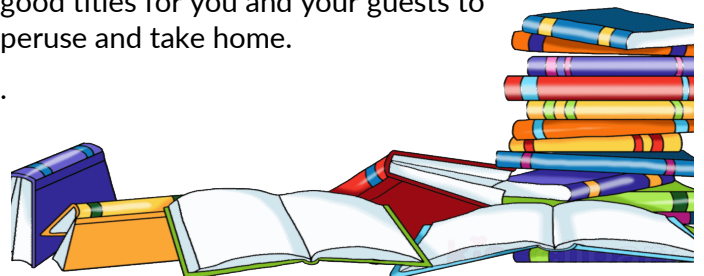
The SongSirs are performing a selection of Christmas music for the residents of Byron Park in Walnut Creek on December 13. We will have rehearsals on November 30 and December 7 to polish up our Christmas carols. New members are always welcome. Come and help us make a joyful noise for the holidays.



**Book Corner**  
**Peter Plante**

The Book Corner will be open at the Ladies Day Luncheon.

It will be in the bar area next to the main dining room for ease of browsing. Lots of good titles for you and your guests to peruse and take home.







**寿司の友達**  
**Sushi no tomodachi**  
 Clint Collier



The December Sushi no Tomadachi group's holiday lunch will be on December 15th at Mikuni, in Concord, 2075 Diamond Blvd, Suite 100 [SW corner of the Veranda shopping center] starting at 11:30. As we did last year, spouses, and significant others are invited to join us.



They offer several good looking sushi platters to choose from [each appears to serve 4 people] and we will order these for the SnT members but you are free to order other items as well. Spouses and guests will be free to join us in these but also have the option of ordering from their regular menu if not that fishy inclined; they have nice bento boxes, vegetarian tempura, teriyaki beef and so on.

Although their sushi bar is open, that venue is not conducive to conversation for a group such as ours and I have arranged for us to have the three tables (if enough people sign up) off of the bar area.

An e-mail will be sent to members of the group requesting an RSVP at the beginning of the month. Non members wishing to join us should contact...

Clint Collier  
[SirClint@the-colliers.org](mailto:SirClint@the-colliers.org)



**Wine Tasting**  
 Brian McCarthy

Good news—bad news. The good news is that the next wine tasting is scheduled for January 24, 2023. Bill Holly and I are looking forward to seeing the wine tasting gang—it's a great group.

The bad news is that we do not have a place to hold the wine tasting. We need someone to volunteer to host. You do not need to have a large home to host since we limit the number of attendees based on the "comfort level" of the host. Please give it some thought. If you have questions, let me know and I will be glad to set your mind at ease. The host gets to choose the type of red and white wine for the tasting.

We need a host by December 20 so we can get that information in the January SIR-Call.

Thank you in advance.

**Brian McCarthy**  
 925-324.2463

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Husband: " Scientists have found that men say about 10,000 words a day while women say about 20,000".

Wife (shouts from the kitchen): "it is because we have to repeat everything twice to you blockheads!"

Husband: "What?"

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## Cooking II Steve Ybarra

Dennis Hallett hosted the group for lunch on November 14th. He began with appetizers including prosciutto and salami wrapped cheese. Smoked gouda, colby & pepper

jack cheese. Various crackers, stuffed olives, pickles and grapes. The entree was a delicious chicken and cauliflower rice soup. A harvest spring salad with cranberries, chopped walnuts and special dressing accompanied the soup. Dennis completed the meal serving a triple mouse cake. Richard Hockenbrock will host our next lunch on December 12, 2022.



Dennis Hallett, Richard Hockenbrock, Bruce Borgman, Steve Ybarra, Ken Richter and Corrie Oranje.  
Photo by Bob Yolland.



## Six great Confusions still Unresolved.

1. At a movie theatre, which arm rest is yours?
2. In the word scent, is "S" is silent or "C"?
3. If people evolve from monkeys, why are monkeys still around?
4. Why is there a 'D' in fridge, but not in refrigerator?
5. Who knew what time it was when the first clock was made.





## Couples Dining Out Bruce Borgman

For the end of the year event for our Couples Dining Out activity, in November we returned to one of Walnut Creek's oldest and best-known restaurants, Massimo's on Locust Street.

Max Wolfe has led this culinary destination since 1955 and continues to feature an excellent northern Italian cuisine. Our Dining Out group has been there three times, and it was one of the first restaurants we enjoyed back in 2013 when we started this activity.

The banquet room upstairs holds about 50 diners, and we decided to publicize the event with an email blast to give the entire membership a chance to participate. We reached our maximum in a little over 24 hours and before long had 20 on the waiting list. We returned to the restaurant and arranged to set up a few tables in the rear of the main floor of the place. So, we were able to accommodate all on our waiting list. Handling the logistics of our group in two locations was a bit of a challenge since we had a number of diners who preferred the downstairs seating. All in all, it worked out fine. The upstairs banquet room was particularly pleasant with its warm wood paneling and romantic sconce lighting and the tables of six diners were conducive to good conversation. We started with a mixed salad and our diners had a choice of three entrees — a chicken piccata, a seared salmon filet or a penne pasta with a pomodoro sauce. Dessert was to have been a choice of a tiramisu cake or a Tuscan apple tart, but the restaurant ran out of the tart — quite a disappointment.

We did have a bit of a scare when halfway through the dessert we were alerted to that one of our downstairs diners was experiencing a syncopal episode and was effectively unresponsive. One of our spouses hurried down and tried to revive the diner and someone quickly called 911. The ambulance arrived within a few minutes, and our affected diner was quickly taken by the capable EMT's into the ambulance. There, he perked up and was alert but was taken to Kaiser nevertheless. It was a scary episode though, but all was well as our SIR returned home the next day and is fine as of this writing.

We raised a glass at this celebration with dear friends, good food and fine wine to those who recently passed so unexpectedly. All of them — **Steve Siljestrom, Jeff**

**Baily, Tony Shebanek and Dick Woodman** were frequent participants at our Dining Out activity we will miss their smiling faces, good humor and valued friendship. They will surely be missed.

It was a memorable end to another year of searching out a fine restaurant in our East Bay culinary scene for our Couples Dining Out activity. You will be able to see many of our diners in the accompanying pictures of the event.

In these days of increasing costs it is ever more a challenge to find a restaurant for a three course dinner for a reasonable cost. We may have to be prepared to pay a bit more, since most of our diners appreciate a good meal to be enjoyed with our SIR friends and spouses. We look forward to seeing all of you in the new year as we plan for the next Couples Dining Out event, probably on January 16, or 23 in 2023. We wish all of you Happy Holidays!!!

### Bruce Borgman and Sue Sheldon Dining Out Hosts



# MEXICAN TRAIN Dominoes

Group Uno 1



## Mexican Train Dominoes "Uno" Corrie Oranje

Eight players for Mexican Train Uno met in November, our group a bit smaller with the passing of SIR member **Jeff Baily**.

**Jeff** and **Alicia** were original members in Mexican Train Uno that was started in 2014!

We all tapped in his honor!

Our evening was hosted by **Peter** and **Martha Plante**.

Sue Oranje for Corrie Oranje  
[corrieoranje@gmail.com](mailto:corrieoranje@gmail.com)



First place, **Sue Oranje**  
Second place **Peter Plante**  
Tie for third, **Virginia Tygart** and **Martha Plante**

## ADULT

A person who has stopped growing at both ends and is now growing in the middle.

Group Tres 3



## Mexican Train Dominoes "Tres" Walt Busenius

In November, the ole choo choo train is resting in the roundhouse and enjoying Thanksgiving turkey with

dressings and pumpkin pie.

Our next night of MTD will be on December 30th at the home of **Joyce Wells** and **Jim Barry**. All Aboard...

Happy Thanksgiving to all SIR members and their families and friends!

Walt Busenius  
925.457.7428 [walterbusenius@gmail.com](mailto:walterbusenius@gmail.com)

Group Quatro



## Mexican Train Dominoes "Quatro" Jim Pope

As is our past practice for the November/December Holiday Season, we combine the MTD games to one date,

December 9th. We'll all gather to celebrate the Holidays and play MTD on that Friday evening.

Happy Holidays  
Jim Pope



Sue Sheldon, Bruce Borgman, Virginia Tygart, Peter Plante, Richard Hockenbrock, Sue Oranje, Martha Plante and Jim Stedman



Group Cinco



### Mexican Train Dominoes "Cinco" Dave Pierce

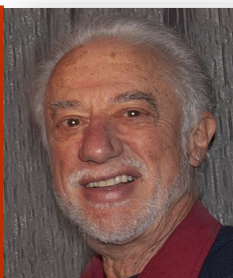
Bummer! Our hosts, Dennis and Ann Hallett, were all set to go, but on the morning of our scheduled event, they discovered a flood in the garage, and then Ann tested positive for COVID. Game cancelled. We are so sorry for the Hallett's misfortune, but we are thankful that we have had such an enjoyable year with our friends in MTD Cinco.

Dave Pierce

925.932.3877 [dvp@astound.net](mailto:dvp@astound.net)



Group Siete 7



### Mexican Train Dominoes "Siete" Bob Lucido

Many thanks to Brian and Mary McCarthy for hosting this month's MTD 7.

Congrats to the Dalgaard 's. Dale Dalgaard won the low score of 9.43 and his wife Mary Ellen Dalgaard had the highest score.

Bob Lucido

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

Group Ocho 8



### Mexican Train Dominoes Group "Ocho" Richard Hockenbrock

PI, Walnut Creek.

Richard Hockenbrock

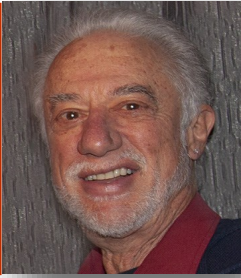
[RLHock@outlook.com](mailto:RLHock@outlook.com).925).324.1713



Mexican Train Dominoes OCHO met on Wednesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> with 17 members and guests in attendance. The three lowest scores were (L) Pam McAllister in 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Steve Dinning, in 1<sup>st</sup> place, substitute player (R), Laurie Hoban in 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

Our final meeting of the year will be Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> and I will be hosting the food this month. The games this evening will determine the overall low scoring player for the past six months. The pot has built up to just shy of \$100 so the winners will take home approximately \$60 for 1<sup>st</sup> place, \$30 for 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and \$10 for 3<sup>rd</sup> place. This is in addition to the amount that our regular December game play winners will receive. Even our subs are in on the action as 3 out of 6 of our substitutes are currently in the running for prize money. We'll start all over again on January 4<sup>th</sup> so if you would like to get started by becoming a substitute, send me an email. All games are played at the home of Richard Hockenbrock, 3616 Winchester





### Mexican Train Dominoes "Nueve" Bob Lucido

Many thanks to Dale and Mary Ellen for hosting this month's MTD 9.

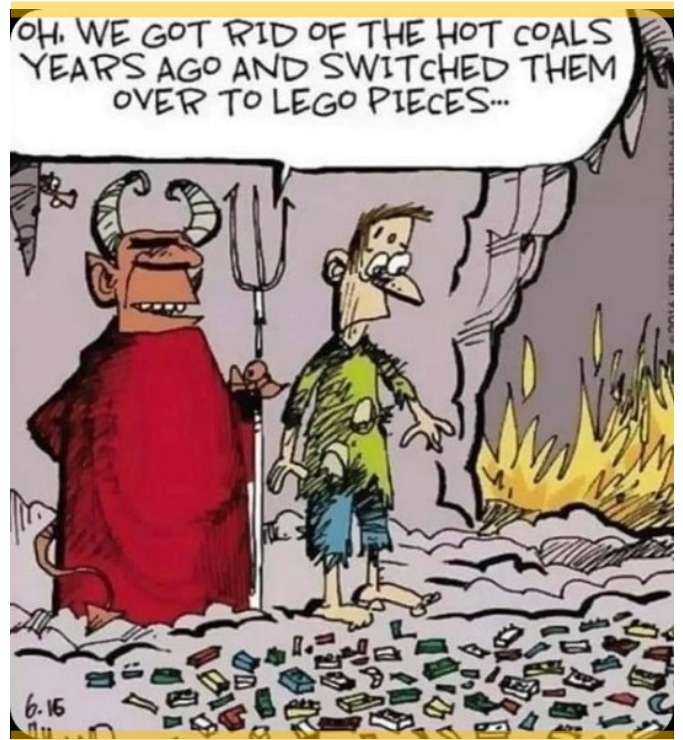
Congrats to Mary McCarthy for winning with a low score of 10.33. She who shall not be named had the highest score.

Bob Lucido

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



Mary McCarthy on the Left and behind the flowers she who shall not be named on the right







# CARD GAMES

...we play



## Men's Hearts Bob West

Since the November SIR-Call submission, we met on October 28th and November 11th. The big winner for those matches was **Bob West** with 3 wins, **Steve Ybarra** led with 5 seconds. The lowest average score was **Bob West** with 55 and **Steve Ybarra** with 77.

YTD: **Bill Vizza** is the leader with 17 games but gaining quickly is Brian McCarthy with 15.5 and **Frank Lucas** has 10. **Steve Ybarra** leads YTD seconds with 16 followed by **Ron Polivka** with 15 and **Brian McCarthy** with 13.5. **Brian McCarthy** is the most improved over 2021 with a winning percent of 39% which is 274% higher than his 2021 performance. **Bill Vizza** is 2nd with his 43% win rate which is 145% over 2021. **Bob Finlayson** and **Bill Vizza** are tied for has the highest winning percentage of 43%.

Future Meetings: We play 3 games at Rocco's on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays, at noon, with an optional lunch at 11:15am. We will be meeting only once in December due to holidays on December 9th.

Please call or email me if you have any questions or are interested in playing.

**Bob West**

925.518.8472 [robrtawest@aol.com](mailto:robrtawest@aol.com)

My brother took going to jail really badly. He refused food, drinks. He spat and swore at anyone who came near him and started throwing things everywhere.

After that we NEVER played monopoly with him again.



## Men's Duplicate Bridge 2 Dick DeVoe

Our latest Duplicate Bridge 2 Event was nicely hosted by **Joe Fuchs** and **Steve Dining** at Boundary Oak on November 4. **Steve** gave us an introduction to the agreed plan for a brief overview of a different convention each time before we begin. In this way, everyone will better understand and (attempt to) play them in the same manner. Results:

### FIRST HALF

1st Place- **Bud Pearce**- 16.0 points.  
2nd Place- **Max Hinkle**- 15.0.  
3rd Place- **Dave Steinberg**-14.5.  
4th Place- **Ed Marlovits**- 13.0.

### SECOND HALF

1st Place- **Dick DeVoe**- 18.5.  
2nd Place- **Ed Marlovits**-16.0.  
3rd Place (tie) **Tony Greco** and **Bob Yolland**- 15.5.

### FINAL

1st Place- **Bud Pearce**- 30.5.  
2nd Place- **Dick DeVoe**- 29.5.  
3rd Place- **Ed Marlovits**- 29.0.  
4th Place- **Bob Yolland**- 27.5.

### BEST PARTNERSHIPS (5-6 pts.)

Boards 10-12: **Bud Pearce/Max Hinkle** 5.5 pts. and **Dave Steinberg/Ed Marlovits**- 5.5 pts.

Boards 19-21: **Bud Pearce/Dick DeVoe** 5.5 pts.

Boards 22-24: **Dick DeVoe/Ed Marlovits** 5.0 pts. and **Ray Spears/Bob Yolland** 5.0 pts.

### MOST TWO'S

**Dick DeVoe** and **Bud Pearce**- 9 each.

### LEAST ZEROS

**Mike Whitaker** and **Bud Pearce**- 3 each.



## Couples Duplicate Bridge 1

**John Kluesener**

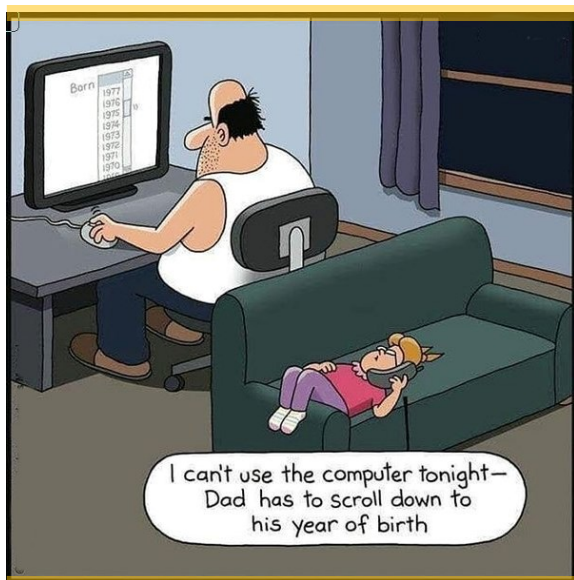
The Couples Duplicate Bridge 1 group met on Wednesday, November 17 at the home of **Margot Somerville**. Fine wines, nibbles and delicious brownie bites helped kick off the evening's festivities with some good pre-holiday cheer! Games were very competitive with final scores ranging from 19.5 to 23 for the six teams. As usual **Christy** and **Dick DeVoe** managed to play their way to a first place finish with 23 point, based largely on the insightful play of **Christy**. A tie for second place with 22.5 points between the teams of **Margot** and partner **Marilyn** and **Janet** and **Bob Yolland** demonstrates how tight the competition actually was for the evening. The nights festivities ended with a chorus of Happy Thanksgiving to all!!

**John Kluesener**

[john@klueseners.com](mailto:john@klueseners.com)



Margot and Marilyn, Dick and Christy DeVoe and Janet and Bob Yolland



## Cribbage Ron Afdal

Three handed cribbage was played during the November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday meeting at the Walnut Creek Rocco's Pizzeria. **John Pearle** easily bested **Ron Afdal** and **Kirk McVean** who were a distant 2nd and 3rd place. As the ante is split 3 ways, all went home winners! The next meeting will be Wednesday, December 28, 2022, 12:30 to 3:30 at Rocco's. If you play cribbage, want to renew you past cribbage skills or would like to learn to play; please plan to join us.

**Ron Afdal**

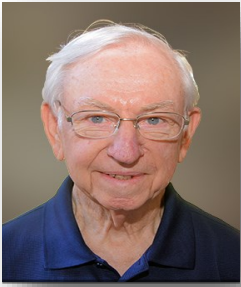
[ronafdal@comcast.net](mailto:ronafdal@comcast.net)



## Couples Duplicate Bridge 2 Dave Pierce

**Brad** and **Lynne Hatcher** graciously hosted us on Election Day. We perhaps had more surprises than Bay Area voters, as some names who regularly appear in this column are missing this time. When the votes were in, **Joan and Dave Pierce** had a better evening (70%) than Governor Newsom (58%) and had only one bottom (unusual for **Dave**). **Tony and Cindy Greco** were second (54%). We are very grateful to **Bob and Janet Yolland** for subbing, and they were rewarded with third (51%). We can't wait to see what Santa stuffs our stockings with in December.





**Party Bridge**  
**Jim Pope & Jim Stedman**

For the abundance of caution, we cancelled Party Bridge for November due to a Covid exposure at a Duplicate Bridge game on the Friday before our Party Bridge date on the following Monday. We'll be back playing Party Bridge in on December 5th.

Co-Directors  
[Jim Stedman](#) or [Jim Pope.](#)

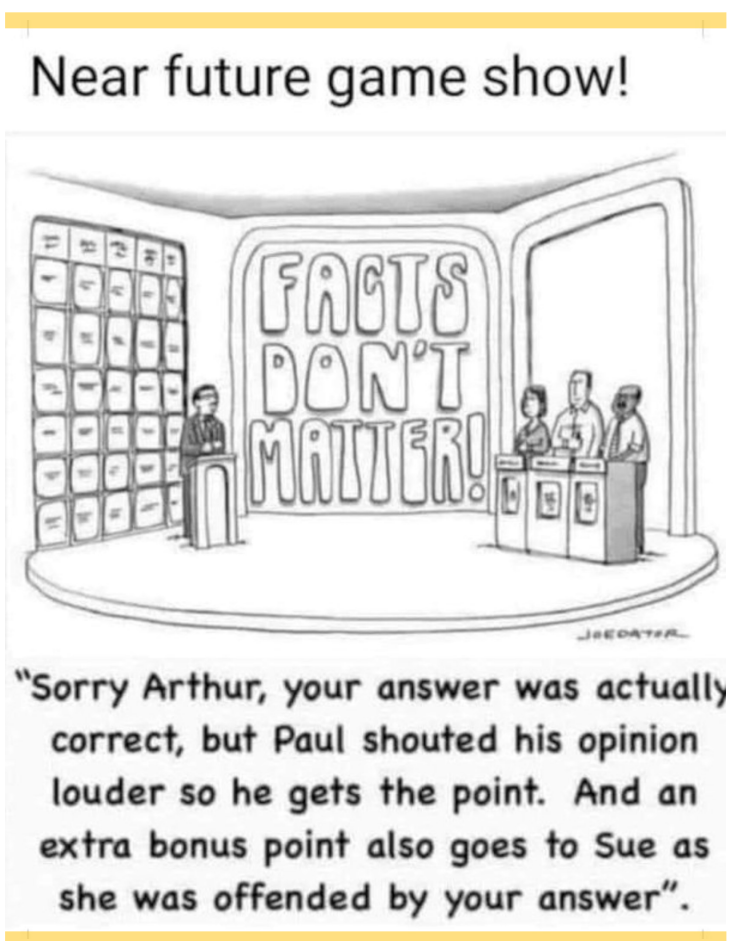


**Old Money Poker**  
**Group 6**  
**Brad Hatcher**

Five members of Poker Group 6 met on November 3rd (our usual first Thursday of the month).

Thanks to **Steve Ybarra** for hosting us with generous pours of wine and other goodies. Two of our players managed a 30% return on their original deposit to the pot. We look forward to our December 1 game at **Paul Dubow's** home. We anticipate six players will try for success during our game.

**Brad Hatcher**  
[bhatcher1942@gmail.com](mailto:bhatcher1942@gmail.com)



# Area 16 Activities



## MUG Mac User Group

**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.

Please note that **Max** and **Verner** are here to help Mac users with problems, that don't exist, and solutions and there are not formal meetings. They will inform members of new items of interest.

If you are a Mac user and want to be included, please let **Verner** know.

Verner Laursen [Vern.laursen@gmail.com](mailto:Vern.laursen@gmail.com)  
Max Burchett [Meburchett@astound.net](mailto:Meburchett@astound.net)

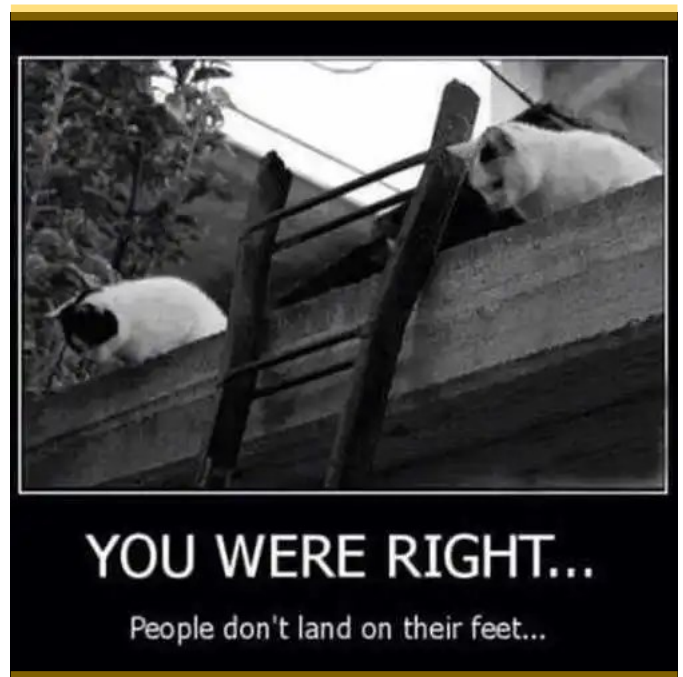
## Area 16 \$UMS Investment Group

We will again join Branch 128's (San Ramon) Investment Group Zoom meeting. Due to the holidays, there will only be one meeting for Nov / Dec: Wed December 7 at 1:30 pm. Topic will be real estate.

. Email Dave Sutton to be included.

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

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



## SIR State Information

<https://sirinc.org/>

This is the state SIR web page. is a wealth of information about SIR, SIR training, and SIR merchandise you can purchase. [The current state newsletter can be found by clicking here.](#)

There are also copies of the many forms SIR uses; in



# Parting Shot

The good old days  
in 1922...

- The average life expectancy for men was 47 years.
- Fuel for cars was sold in drug stores only.
- Only 14 percent of homes had a bathtub.
- Only 8 percent of homes had a telephone.
- The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.
- The tallest structure in the world was the Eiffel Tower.
- The average US wage in 1922 was 22 cents per hour.
  - The average US worker made between \$200 and \$400 per year.
  - A competent accountant could expect to earn \$2,000 per year.
  - A dentist earned \$2,500 per year.
  - A veterinarian between \$1,500 and 4,000 per year.
  - And, a mechanical engineer about \$5,000 per year.
- More than 95 percent of all births took place at home.
- Ninety percent of all Doctors had NO COLLEGE EDUCATION! Instead, they attended so-called medical schools, many of which were condemned in the press AND in the government as "substandard."
- Sugar cost four cents a pound.
- Eggs were fourteen cents a dozen.
- Coffee was fifteen cents a pound.
- Most women washed their hair once a month and used Borax or egg yolks for shampoo.
- The Five leading causes of death were:
  - Pneumonia and influenza.
  - Tuberculosis
  - Diarrhea
  - Heart disease.
  - Stroke.
- The American flag had 45 stars.
- The population of Las Vegas Nevada was only 30.
- Crossword puzzles, canned beer, and iced tea hadn't been invented yet.
- There was neither a Mother's Day nor Father's Day.
- Two out of every 10 adults couldn't read or write and, only 6 percent of all Americans had graduated from high school.
- Marijuana, heroin, and morphine were available over the counter at local drugstores.
- Back then pharmacists said: "Heroin clears the complexion, gives buoyancy to the mind, regulates the stomach, bowels, and is a perfect guardian of health!"
- Eighteen percent of households had at least one full-time servant or domestic help.
- There were about 230 reported murders in the ENTIRE U.S.A.

## Happy Holi-daze Folks!

