



Big Sir's Notes Jim Burk

What a wonderful Ladies Day Christmas Luncheon we enjoyed on December 8. **STEVE DAWKINS** organized a very special event and with the ladies present, the beautiful decorations, and the Monte Vista High School singers performing, all contributed to what was a terrific start to the Holiday Season. We also paid tribute to outgoing **BIG SIR PETE GATES**, and the other officers, directors, and committee chairs who are concluding their current service. A special thank you to these gentlemen who have dedicated themselves to the success of our Branch. It is not too early to think about **RECRUITMENT OF NEW MEMBERS** for 2012. Last year we had 5 guests at our January luncheon. Let's get off to another quick start for the New Year by inviting a guest to our January luncheon on 1/12.

"REMEMBER TO BRING A FRIEND TO LUNCH"

As you may have learned, **JIM MEEHAN**, for personal reasons, has had to forego taking on the Secretary position for 2012. However, we recently have had a wonderful offer from **DICK DEVOE** to pick up this important assignment. Gratefully, I have accepted his offer of help on a temporary basis until such time as we can vote on making it permanent by action of our BEC on January 12th. Dick comes with an extensive background in SIR and will be a terrific addition to our 2012 BEC. We still have a few "Vacant" positions for Administrative Committee Chairs in 2012, so please be open to volunteering to serve, or accepting an appointment when offered.

Any member is always welcome at our **BRANCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (BEC) MEETINGS** that take place in the Lakeview Room at "The Clubhouse" at Boundary Oak prior to our monthly luncheon. In January, the BEC will meet on the 12th, starting at 9:00 a.m. This is 30 minutes earlier than we have started in previous years so as to enable us to finish our business and have important time for socializing with members, new and existing. Come and join us at the meetings as your schedule permits.



Little Sir's Corner Terry Marchione

Following in the footsteps of 2011 Little Sir, **Jim Burk**, will be a tall order. As the 2012 Little Sir I hope to provide speakers on a wide variety of topics. To assist in that quest I have formed a committee consisting of **Jerry Kaplan, Doug Eisner** and **Corrie Oranje**. We have been hard at work and have several speaker commitments. Branch 146 members have provided us with many suggestions and we appreciate that. We have also found (not surprisingly) that the Branch itself has many members who have expertise of interest and we plan to utilize some of this expertise (saving most of it for future Little Sirs).

Our January speaker will be **Deborah Braver**. **Deborah** will be speaking to us on Senior Fraud Prevention. She brings more than 35 years of public policy experience to her role as Education and Outreach manager for the California Department of Corporations. **Deborah** is an accomplished speaker and I'm sure will have lots of useful information for us.

In February, we will call on some in-house expertise as **Alan Elnick** will address us on the topic of the Contra Costa Grand Jury. For the past year **Alan** has served on the Grand Jury. He will explain the inner workings of that group. Should be very interesting for those of us who have not had the opportunity to serve in this important role.

We still have openings for speakers in 2012 so if you have a connection with someone who you think would be interesting please let one of us know and we will follow up.



Luncheon Attendance Bob Mehus



SIR Luncheon is the 2nd Thursday of every month at CourseCo Restaurant at Boundary Oak Golf Club. The price of our luncheons is \$24 with a no-host bar.

Please email nolunchbranch146@gmail.com, or call Bob Mehus at 510-549-2221 by Friday NOON prior to the luncheon if, for any reason, you are unable to attend. If no one answers, leave your name, badge number, phone number and a short message. Please be sure you call!!!

Remember that our luncheon will be called to order at 11:45am, so please allow enough time to arrive on schedule. A check for **\$24.00** made payable to SIR146 is requested for payment of your lunch on Luncheon Day. Thanks.

A member who misses three (3) consecutive meetings without notifying the Attendance Chairman, giving a valid reason or who attends less than five (5) meetings/luncheons within the last twelve (12) months, excluding May and December (Ladies Day Luncheons), shall be notified by the prescribed form, of termination of his membership.

SIR bringing a Guest

Please call by Friday, noon prior to the luncheon and leave your name and badge number and the name of your guest. Please spell the last name of your guest.

Salad

Mixed Green Salad
Roasted Winter Vegetables, Blue Cheese, Citrus Vinaigrette

Entrees

Grilled Marinated Beef Kabobs
Rice Pilaf, Seasonal Vegetables and Chimichurri Sauce
Or
Cumin Crusted Farm Raised Tilapia
Rice Pilaf, Seasonal Vegetables and Chili Butter

Dessert

Chef's Choice
Special Luncheon Requirements

If you require a vegetarian meal or any special meal, please call and make a request. Your request will remain in effect until you cancel it through the Luncheon Chairman. If for medical reasons, you cannot eat lunch, please notify me and your request will remain in effect until you cancel it through your Luncheon Chairman.

New Members and/or Sponsors

There will be a dedicated luncheon table set for any new members and their sponsors who would like to sit together to share their conversations as new members of SIR146. It is voluntary and please do not feel obligated, as a new member, to sit at this table.



Duplicate Bridge Doug Eisner

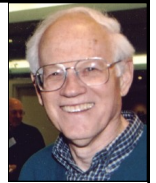


*Our match is held each month on the Monday after the SIR luncheon at various homes.
Bring your lunch*

Rich Ahlf hosted 4 tables of duplicate bridge on Dec 12. Evidently the Christmas spirit of sharing and giving to others affected all the players as this was the closest match in recent memory with a mere 2.0 pts separating the top 4 players. **Carl Johnson** squeezed into first place with 42.0 pts followed closely by **Jim Stedman** with 41.0 pt. **Doug Eisner** took third place with a score of 40.5 pts, barely edging out **Bill Snyder's** 40.0 pts.

Our next game will be hosted by **Fred Bolton** on Monday, Jan 16.

Couples Duplicate Bridge Lo McCarley



*Meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month starting at 7:00 pm at participants' homes.
Couples play as partners.*

Margot Somerville hosted eight couples for a gala evening of duplicate bridge on December 14th – everyone had a great time. The group thanked Rich Ahlf for subbing for Vince Rettew as Margot's partner. Bob and Janet Yolland took first place with 39 points and Carl and Anne Johnson were close behind with 38 points. Lynn and Dasha Freeman took second with 35 points and Lo and Sue McCarley came in fourth with 33 points. Jim and Allison Todhunter will host the next bridge on January 18th. Watch this space to see the future bridge results

New Duplicate Bridge 2 Dick DeVoe

IT'S OFFICIAL! Branch 146 has another bridge group- Mens' Duplicate Bridge 2. The founding event was held at coordinator **Dick DeVoe's** home December 1st with 12 players, 3 tables, and 24 boards. The resident analyst found that bidding outweighed play in the scoring:

Bids- 11 boards were lost by not bidding game or being in the wrong suit, 1 board did well by defensive opponents taking the bid and losing fewer points than others gained, and 1 board had a partnership that bid on nothing and made it while others passed out the board.

Play- 9 boards were won or lost by play (bids were the same or in the same suit, with different trick results), and **Bids and Play-** only 2 boards had apparently both bid and play errors among partnerships.

But, hey- It's a most congenial bunch that cares less about where they end up in the standings, right? For those with more than a humdrum interest in the mundane competitive side of the game: Substitute **Bob Donahue** took the most bragging rights with 29 points, **Dick** got 28-1/2 points as luck would have it, and **Ted Gunn** passed the rest of the gang with 27 points.

The next event is Jan. 26, 10am at **Rich Ahlf's** home. **Rich** is willing to host 4 tables, so we'll need a bunch of subs participating to get to that number. If you're not on the regular or sub list, call **Dick DeVoe** to add your name!

COUPLES PARTY BRIDGE Dave Pierce



Dave and Joan Pierce hosted two tables on December 6th. November's hot cards cooled off considerably as players struggled to find makeable games. The hosts came in second with a measly 1910, and **Terry and Sharon Marchione** scored 2610 to cop the top money. Maybe it's the economy, or an omen of a harsh winter. Hopefully we'll be back to three tables in January to warm things up.

Dave Pierce, 932-3877

Party Bridge Fred Bolton



1st Monday at 10 am at various members' homes. Contact

Fred Bolton for details.

Bring a lunch

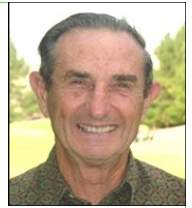
We played four tables of bridge at the home of **Rich Ahlf** on Dec. 5. First place went to **Bob Burley** with 6760 points, second to **Carl Johnson** with 5290, third to **Tommy Thomson** with 4780 and fourth to **Doug Eisner** with 4520. Our January game is cancelled. Our next game will be at the home of **Bob Yolland** on Feb. 6.



Poker Club #1
Frank McNamee



Poker Club #2
Al Zamolo



Poker Club #1 met on December 7th at the Moraga residence of **Don Martin**. **Frank McNamee** got back to the winning side with **Bill Cammerer** and **Dan O'Sullivan** as the 4 other players came up a little short at the end of the day. We decided to keep it going for another year so we will meet where it all started at **Frank McNamee's** home on Jan, 11th, 2012.

Our November session hosted by **Ron Binder** was a record setting day. **Bob Royster** was the biggest winner ever in our group. **Al Zamolo** drew 8 cards in 20 and a half. We all set a record for the largest number senior moments. What a Day. **Jim Brown** will host our Dec. meeting hopefully without some new records.

SIR LOGO HATS AVAILABLE AT JANUARY 12th LUNCHEON
\$10.00 (Limited Supply)-Cash accepted/checks preferred
Make checks payable to SIR 146





Travel Opportunities

Bob Spellman



Mar 6, 2012 Reno Snow Train. Have a fun ride on the Reno Snow Train. Price is \$265.00 pp and includes a round trip train ride from Martinez to Reno with two night's double occupancy hotel accommodation at Harrah's. Contact **Harry Reiter** Branch 19, 925-709-2820 for more information.

May 19-Jun 3, 2012 Romance of the Rhine & Mosel. Cruise aboard a private Grand Circle river ship starting in Basel, Switzerland ending in Antwerp, Belgium. The ship will make stops at Strasbourg, France, Speyer, Baden-Baden, Boppard, Koblenz, Cochem, Bernkastel, Trier, Bonn, Germany, Nijmegen, Kinderdijk and Antwerp. The price starts at \$3895 to \$5295 plus air. The trip includes, 12 exclusive guided sightseeing tours plus personal headsets, Captains welcome dinner, 42 meals with complimentary wine with dinner. Contact **Ken Richter**, 689-6217. Pre and post trips are also available to Lucerne, Switzerland and Bruges, Belgium. Rooms will be available on a first come first serve basis.

Oct 26- Nov 11, 2012 Canada & New England aboard NCL Norwegian Dawn. Beautiful scenery is always on display when cruising down the east coast during the peak weeks of autumn. Along the way visit an exciting array of east coast ports including Quebec City, Portland, Boston, New York, Key West and Tampa. Package price includes RT airfare, transfers, driver and stevedore tips, gov't fees, and taxes, all meals. Prices start at \$2335 to \$3475. Contact **Jim Lunn** Branch 8 @ 925-551-3329 for more information.

Membership Steve Sprague



Branch 146 Statistics:

Active Members: 271 including seven Honorary Life Members.

Applicant List: One.

Inactive Members: Eight.

December Luncheon Attendance:

A total of 245 members and guests enjoyed our Ladies Day Luncheon.

Status Changes:

Inducted: The BEC approved two men for membership at the December meeting. **Jeff Davis** and **Ahmad Ghoreishi** will be introduced in January.

Reinstated to Active Membership from Inactive Status: **Joe Himsl**, #279

Resigned or Transferred: **Welby Bigelow**, #7, has resigned.

Changes to the Inactive Roster:

George "Buddy" James has resigned. Our inactive roster has decreased by two to eight members.



Table Pool

Bill Weinberg

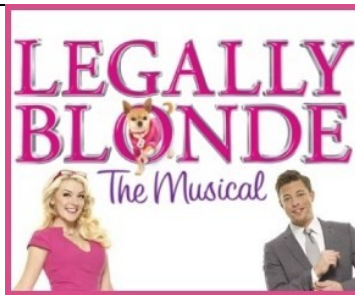
*1st and 3rd Monday at 11:30 am.
(at Masse's 2721 N. Main, Walnut Creek)*



We usually have three or four pool games going when we meet on the 1st & 3rd Mondays at 11:30am at Masse's - 2721 North Main in Walnut Creek. The cost is \$5.00 for as long as you want to play. We also have SIR members from other branches joining us and we usually play about 2 hours but not everyone stays for the final curtain. Haven't played in years? Come join us. All SIRs in our area are welcome.

**COMING!
FEBRUARY 23**

**SIR 146
THEATRE
PARTY**



Sunshine

Walt Busenius
945-0715

Busenius@astound.net



We keep the Sirs listed below in our thoughts and prayers. We extend our very best wishes for continued healing and look forward to their recovery to good health:

Sir Reggie Fromm
Sir Joe Schild
Sir Bob Frankland
Sir Rod Sharretts
Sir Rob Van Luchene
Sir Ron Pascoe
Sir Lee Vincent
Sir Ed Malboeuf
Sir Jack Hockel
Sir Jack Calloway

Please try to contact a Sir in this report to offer support and encouragement during their illness. They will truly be glad to hear from you.

If you are aware of a sick Sir, please let me know by phone or e-mail, as shown above, so that the Sir membership is advised.

A lively musical that earned seven Tony Award nominations in 2007 is on tap as the first SIR 146 Theatre Party event of the New Year. *Legally Blonde* is planned for Thursday, February 23 at 8:00 p.m. at the Leshar Center for the Arts in Walnut Creek. Many remember the hit movie of the same name with Reese Witherspoon.

Produced by Diablo Theatre Company, *Legally Blonde* is sure to be a crowd pleaser, and a tonic the holiday blues.

A limited number of seats have been reserved for SIR 146 members and friends for the February 23 performance. An early response is suggested.

Send check for \$29.00 per ticket, payable to "SIR 146" to SIR Gary Schaub, 1758 Candelero Court, Walnut Creek 94598. Deadline for reservations is January 13, although only a few seats remain as of December 12.

Tickets will be distributed in the lobby of Leshar Center, 1601 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek at 7:30 p.m. on February 23. Paid parking is available in the adjacent city garage.

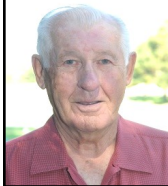
BOOK CORNER KEN RICHTER-

Jan Mar May July Sept Nov

The first year of the BOOK CORNER has been a complete success. The BOOK CORNER will be continued next year. Starting in January the Corner will be open every other month.



Tuesday Golf Ray Weisz



The Weekly Winners are:

November 22, 2011

Two Man Best Ball

First Flight: 1st **Steve Conte & Steve Siljestrom**, 2nd **Dale Hertweck & John Harrington**. Second Flight: 1st **Ken Kratz & Bill Schultz**, 2nd **Jeff Baily & Walt Busenius**. Third Flight: 1st **Pat Meehan & John Demos**, 2nd **Corrie Oranje & Jim Passaglia**. Fourth Flight: 1st **Doug Eisner & Ernie Dickson**, 2nd **Ralph Fowler & John Alexander**. Closest to the pin Hole # 2 **John Harrington**, Hole #12 **Russ Bliese**.

November 29, 2011

First Flight: 1st **Ron Binder 70**, 2nd **Ray Spears 70**. 3rd **John Harrington 71**. Gold Tee Flight 1: 1st **Bob Royster 68**, **Rich Hanford 68**. Gold Tee Flight 2: 1st **Ed Mariovits 66**, 2nd **John Demos 66**. Gold Tee Flight 3: 1st **Doug Cook 67**, 2nd **Bob Spellman 70**. Closest to the pin Hole # 2 **Al Zamolo**, Hole # 12 **John Harrington**.

December 6, 2011

First Flight: 1st **Bill Schultz 70**, 2nd **Dale Hertweck 71**. Second Flight: **Steve Sprague 70**, 2nd **Bob Spellman 75**. Gold Tee Flight 1: 1st **Bob Yolland 64**, 2nd **Walt Busenius 70**. Gold Tee Flight 2: 1st **Al Zamolo 71**, 2nd **Jim Brown 72**. Closest to the pin Hole # 2 **Jeff Baily**, Hole #12 **Steve Siljestrom**.

December 13, 2011

December (Christmas)

Trifecta

First Place Team: **Ron Binder, Bill Cammerer, Bill Hansen & Bob Spellman 204**. Second Place Team: **Lew Thompson, Bob Mehus, Sal Costanza & Fred Bolton 204**. Third Place Team: **Pet McNeill, Bob Yolland, & Jim Brown 207**. Fourth Place Team: **Dave Steinberg, Bill Schultz, Al Zamolo & Ben Gleason 209**. Closest to the pin Hole # 2 **Mike Stephenson**, Hole # 12 **Pet McNeill**.

2011 was a great year for Sir Golf. The Committee would like to thank all the members for their participation. Your participation has made branch 146 Golf the largest activity with over 100 members.

Hope you had a happy Holiday.

NINE HOLE GOLF GROUP John Denham

Sir **Bob Wheaton** finished his two year tour Thursday 15 December as Chairman of the 9 Hole Group that plays at Diablo Hills Public Golf Course on the 1st and 3rd Thursday each month. **Bob** coordinated attendance for the SIRs and guests desiring to play. The normal attendance averages 8 regular players and at times reaches 12. The group has reserved times starting at 0930 and usually finishes by noon. The players expressed their appreciation for his dedication at a luncheon. The Greenery Restaurant has daily specials that are served in their sports bar area. 9 holes of golf plus cart is \$25.

Call the coordinator, **Sir John Denham** (925) 938 1143 begin or E-mail to jdenhamone@astound.net to register to play.



Garden Club Steve Dawkins

At our December meeting we had the privilege of hearing **Patrice Hanlon**, manager of Heather Farms; speak to us about the history of the Gardens and their plans for the future. If you have roses and would like to learn how to prune them, please join us February 2nd at Heather Farms at 9:30am for our annual volunteer project of helping prune the Garden's roses. Of note, we have had very little rain. Both cold weather and wind dry out your plants. Make sure the ground is staying moist. Happy New Year and may your gardens flourish in 2012.

SIR Happenings Newsletter

SIR Happenings is the statewide SIR Newsletter. Just go to www.sirinc.org and click on SIR Happenings to read the current issue. You may enjoy reading about the activities of other SIR branches.



Wine Tasting ... Bill Holly

Our next wine tasting will be on Wednesday, January 25th from 2:30pm to 5:00pm at the home of Walt and Sue Busenius at 10 Cedarbrook Ct., Walnut Creek, CA 94597.

Directions: From Highway 680 exit at Treat Blvd. Go East on Treat Blvd. about ¼ mile and turn right at Cherry Lane. Turn left at the second intersection and go to corner house at 10 Cedarbrook Ct.



Red wine from Oregon or Washington State



White wine from Oregon or Washington

Please bring a single bottle of either the red or the white wine (under \$20) in a brown paper bag plus an appetizer to share. Also, please write where you bought the wine and the approximate purchase price on the bottom of the bag for reference.

Spouses are always invited to attend.

Please RSVP to **Bill Holly** before January 18th either by telephone (925) 691-5337 or by email at bill.holly@comcast.net



ROMEO

(Retired Old Men Eating Out)
Malcolm Hendry



The ROMEO group meets on the third Thursday of the month at 6:30PM. We select eclectic restaurants recommended by you, as well as, those favorably reviewed by the media.

Come join us and experience a great dinner, while learning more about your fellow SIR and male guests, in a relaxed and friendly surrounding.

“SILK ROAD”

Located in the heart of downtown Walnut Creek, "Silk Road" is a casual Greek/ Mediterranean restaurant with a great selection of food from the region. Specialties include Lamb and Chicken Kebab, Mousaka and Pomegranate Chicken. They provide a full bar and a wide selection of wines.

Location: 1440 North Main Street, Walnut Creek, Ca. 94596 (Street parking and nearby public garages)

Web Site: www.silkroadwalnutcreek.com
(menu, map and color)

Phone: 925-932-9090

Please let me know no later than Tuesday, January 17th, that you will join us.

Your suggestions are welcomed.

Mal

NEW MEMBER RECRUITMENT IS SUCCESSFUL BRANCHES ARE IMPROVING

Our goal was to recruit 1,900 new members in 2011. Branch leaders exceeded this goal by recruiting and inducting 2,100 new members. This is an outstanding accomplishment which puts to rest the idea that newly retired men are not joiners. They will join SIR branches that are appealing. But this successful year is only a start.

The SIR organization fell on hard times in recent years. Overall membership declined from about 32,000 members in 1990 to about 18,000 now. 44 branches failed and closed in the last 12 years. We know why this happened. We lost our focus on maintaining a good balance of newer and older members in our branches. We did not recruit enough new members annually to maintain a good proportion of newer members and our branches became less appealing and lost members.

Our challenge now is to restore this balance. We have found that recruiting new members every year at the annual rate of at least 10% of membership is needed. We met and exceeded this goal in 2011. So when Branch leaders remind you to sponsor a new member, please respond by inviting your retired friends and acquaintances to join. Each successive year this goal is met the proportion of newer members in your branch will increase. Over time balance will be restored and your improved branch will be there for you and for those who come after you.

SIR President **Jim Stedman**

Area 2 Computers and Technology Group



The Area 2 Computer and Technology Group invite all Sirs and their guests to our next meeting at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge on Thursday, January 19th at 9am.

Barry Brown will explain why the good looking image on our screen often turns into something unrecognizable when we print it! Why do the colors change so much? (Is my face really that red?) The photos I got back from Costco (or whoever) are terrible considering the time I spent adjusting the colors to get them exactly right! Find out why color is so difficult to define and reproduce. Learn how you can improve your color prints with a little effort that soon becomes a simple routine. The knowledge you gain should reduce wasted ink and paper. Come to learn, socialize, and save money too.

After this presentation **Dick Curry** will lead a Q&A to address current computer issues. So please join us for a fun and informative session. As always there will be coffee and cookies available before and during the meeting.

Meetings of the Area 2 Computer and Technology Group are held the 3rd Thursday of each month (except June and December) from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Drive. Whether you are a beginner or a seasoned user, we try to offer something for everyone. We ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and cookies. See you there.

The planned meetings for the next 4 months will be on: Feb 16, Mar 15, Apr 19, and May 17. Topics should include online telephone services and video, home wireless networks, file organization and back-up, home automation and security, and new consumer technology devices. Later in the year we hope to discuss principles of basic scanning and sending images, photo restoration and, possibly, developments in genealogy research. If you can suggest other titles of interest please contact one of the co-chairs.

Phil Goff and Derek Southern Co-chairs



FISHING REPORT PAUL DUBOW



Winter is here but it did not stop the intrepid members of the Area 2 Fishing Group. **Joe Miscione** and **Mario Moratorio**, who have become our experts on Lake Berryessa, continued their success there with ample catches of kokanee salmon and trout. They did digress from their lake forays on one occasion to fish in Suisun Bay off Pittsburg, landing five small sturgeon. **Paul Dubow** and **Carl Moyer** duplicated that total at Pittsburg a few days later. **Paul** also picked up a keeper striper. We also resumed our trips to Shadow Cliffs Reservoir. **Carl Moyer, Barry Rauchle, Ron Yates, Romano Gnusti, George Schulze, Steve Greytak,** and **Gordon Linebaugh** fished there at various times and they all returned with good sized rainbow trout. **Gordon** was especially proficient. Fishing with two rods, he hooked a rainbow on each rod at the same time and landed them both. **Terry Miller** and **Carl Moyer** found a beautiful day on the ocean and came home with some rockfish and Dungeness crabs. **Clem Teeters** traveled to Eagle Lake in Plumas County and caught a limit of rainbows while trolling. **George Vogt** caught a limit of crab and rockfish plus one ling cod on a party boat out of Bodega Bay.

Our current fishing schedule for 2012 has been set. We will making monthly trips to Shadow Cliffs (except in the summer), a number of trips to the delta for sturgeon and stripers plus a few others in the delta for black bass, several trips for kokanee and trout in Lake Berryessa, at least one to Lafayette Reservoir, and some halibut trips in the bay. We also plan overnight trips to Lake Oroville and the Sacramento River for salmon and to Bass Lake and Lake Davis for trout.

Our next meeting will be on January 26 at the Legends Sports Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course at 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. The meeting starts at 8:30 am but you can join us for breakfast at 8. For further information, call **Paul Dubow** at 415-495-6504.

Mac User Group

The SIR Mac User Group meets the 2nd Monday of the month at the Thurman Casey Library on Oak Grove Road from 3 to 5pm. The leaders are **Jeff Baily, Max Burchett,** and **Verner Laursen.**

From time to time we email suggestions to the people on our list, so if you use a MAC computer and are not receiving emails from us, please join the group and let us know what your email address is. At our monthly meetings we discuss Mac user issues. This is not a class in the traditional sense but rather a discussion group wherein the leaders don't have all the answers and the solutions sometimes originate from the attendees.

We welcome new attendees. If you have a Mac question or would like to be on our email listing, please contact one our leaders. We are here to help you.

Area 2 \$ums Investment Group

The Area 2 \$ums Investment Group will meet on Wednesday January 25, 2012 at 8:00 AM at the Diablo Creek Golf course, 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Our guest speaker **Tom Kopas** returns again this year to present "**Market Outlook 2012 – Is the Cyclical Bull Market for Stocks Over?**" **Tom** will deliver an update to Pring Turner Capital Group's secular and cyclical outlook for stocks, bonds and commodities. Packed with fresh new material based on their unique, internationally recognized research, this presentation will answer many topical questions, including: What's ahead for the Economy? Are We in a Recession or Not? Is the Cyclical Bull Market for Stocks Over? What are the Long-Term Themes for Profitable Opportunities? **Mr. Kopas** is a familiar and popular speaker to \$ums in Retirement, having been invited to speak each year since 2001. **Tom** will discuss what asset allocation decisions will bring investors profitably through this cycle, and where the risks and opportunities are for investors now and in the coming months and years.

The timeliness of **Tom's** presentation is one all will enjoy. The restaurant at the course opens at 7:00am for those would like to enjoy breakfast with your colleagues.

Co-Chairs

Allen Espenmiller (Br-174) 925-376-3977

George Schulze (Br-8) 925-429-1756

Leary Wong (Br-8) 925-457-0807

Ken Nakashima (Br-171) 925-376-0421

Cribbage John Pearl



Six of our group tore themselves away from the holiday festivities long enough to gather at **Barney Meade's** home on Wednesday, December 28, for another exciting afternoon of cribbage. When the dust had settled and the shouting was over, our host, semi-pro player **Barney Meade** took home first place money, former Big Sir **Dennis Hallett** found himself in second place, and the refugee from Branch 116 **Kirk McVean** took home third place money. It was a great way to end our year of fun and games!

Please let me know if you'd like to join our group in 2012, and a chance to make a lot of money.

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

Bocce Ball Martin Lyle



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

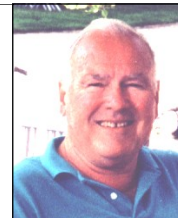
We are continuing our off-season Bocce Ball Program of relaxation training, in anticipation of startup of play next May. Will keep you informed.

Non-Responsibility Declaration

Rule 345: All activities arranged for or by Sons In Retirement, Inc. and its branches are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their guests who desire to participate. Sons In Retirement, Inc. and its branches do not assume any responsibility for the well being or safety of the participants or their property, in any matters pertaining to said activities.



Walkers John Lewis



*Every Friday at 9:30 am at various locales. Call **John** or just show up.
 Rain cancels any walk.*

January Walks Planned by **Lo McCarley**

- Jan. 6 Concord Community Park South: Cowell Rd Concord
 Meet: At Concord Community Park on the exit side of the driveway
 Walk: North four blocks on Cowell Rd Then left on Contra Costa Canal Paved Level No Shade
 Coffee: Deli Delight Shadelands Office Park
- Jan 13 Lafayette Moraga Trail from Saint Mary's Moraga
 Meet: At parking lot across St Mary's Rd from Saint Mary's before St Mary's drive way
 Walk: South on Lafayette Moraga Trail.
 Paved: Level Some Shade
 Coffee: Terzetto Cuisine Moraga
- Jan. 20 Bruce Lee Trail: Clayton Road Clayton
 Meet: At Clayton Library
 Walk: Cross Clayton Road to Marsh Cree Rd., left on Center St, pass the creek, right on trail
 Paved Gently uphill No shade
 Coffee: Deli Delight Shadelands Office Park
- Jan. 27 Walden Park South: Oak Rd. Walnut Creek
 Meet: At Walden Park parking
 Walk: South on Iron Horse Trail
 Paved: Level some shade
 Coffee: Panera Bread Bancroft and Treat

Thanks to **Bill Cammerer** for folding labeling and mailing and Editor **Rich Ahlf** for photography.

SIR CALL

Newsletter

Sons In Retirement, Inc.
63 El Molino Drive
Clayton, CA 94517-1723

sircall@hotmail.com

<http://www.sir146.com>

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