

WE ARE SIR – MAKE FRIENDS FOR LIFE



Big Sir's Notes

Alan Elnick

At our June meeting we happily inducted two new members to our branch, **John Kluesener** sponsored by **Roger Peters** and **Howard Zimmerman**, sponsored by **Bruce Borgman**. Let's offer them a hearty welcome. We also entertained six guests. Through November of this year, the branch is picking up the lunch for guests who are exploring membership, so now is a good time to sponsor a guest that you think will find benefit in joining SIR.

We also had an excellent presentation from Charles Vella, Ph. D., on Brain Health. He had me mesmerized. Little Sir **Bruce Borgman** has another excellent program planned for our July 13th luncheon meeting.

Our July luncheon is going to be a bit of a busy meeting. Our nominating committee, **Walt Busenius, Bill Holly** and **Doug Eisner**, has been hard at work gathering candidates for our 2018 Branch Executive Committee. Yes, it's that time of year again. They have done an excellent job and the candidates they have come up with are as follows:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ◆ Big Sir | Bruce Borgman |
| ◆ Little Sir | Jonathan Korfhage |
| ◆ Secretary | Brad Hatcher |
| ◆ Assistant Secretary | Richard Hockenbrock |
| ◆ Treasurer | Steve Ybarra |
| ◆ Assistant Treasurer | Joe Stengel |
| ◆ Director 1 st Term | Tony Greco |
| ◆ Director 1 st Term | Pierre Mebane |
| ◆ Director 2 nd Term | Dave Pierce |
| ◆ Director 2 nd Term | Bill Schultz |
| ◆ Director 2 nd Term | Cal Tucker |
| ◆ Director 2 nd Term | Bob Mehus |

We hope to introduce all our prospective slate of officers to you at our July meeting. Election of officers will be held at our August 10th luncheon. You may offer additional nominations for officers and directors from the floor at that meeting.

Luncheon – Thursday , July 13th
At the Boundary Oak Clubhouse

Guest Speaker
Brian Hill, PhD
Professor of Physics and Astronomy
St. Mary's College, Moraga
"The Great American Solar Eclipse of 2017 "

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

Bringing a guest or can't attend?
Email: nolunchbranch146@gmail.com
Telephone Message: (925) 979-5146
By Noon Friday, July 7th



Colorful Shirt Day at the June luncheon meeting

Adding to our busy July schedule, Director **Steve Sprague** will be conducting our annual fire drill.

I would like to give kudos to **Gary Brown** for offering to assist our beleaguered Book Exchange Committee with bringing in and carrying out our books. We are an organization made up of volunteers and our success as a SIR Branch (we are the best SIR Branch) owes to a membership that is willing to give a little back. If anybody else would like to help out, please let me, or **Dick McElroy** know. We all love books.

The next meeting, again is, July 10th, same time and place. It is an excellent time to bring a guest or two or three! See you there.

SIR Mission Statement

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



Little Sir's Corner

Bruce Borgman

I am sure that all of you were as mesmerized as I with the stimulating talk by Dr. Charles Vella during our June luncheon. His discussion of "Brain Fitness" and the risk factors for cognitive decline were a fascinating topic and the volume of information was near overwhelming. Luckily, much of his talk can be found on his website – which is www.charlesjvellaphd.com. He is a true renaissance person and has many interests as you can see on his website. Many of the slides he reviewed in his talk can be found in the Neuropsychology Seminar entry—click on the Brain Fitness tab. It's not quite the same as listening to Charles, but it will remind you of some of the tips he gave for maintaining a healthy brain. Hopefully it's not too late for us!

As mentioned, one of his other areas of expertise is Human Evolution – and we may try to get him another time to speak on this topic. He is also a movie buff and has a long list of recommended films on his website if you are looking to fill your Netflix queue.

I am pleased to let you know that we will have an equally stimulating talk in July for our luncheon. Many of you know that on August 21 we will experience a total solar eclipse which can be seen as close as Oregon – and will progress across America in an event that has not occurred as such in 99 years. So, in July we have, as guest speaker, a prominent astronomer to discuss this event and the significance of a solar eclipse – Brian Hill, PhD, professor of physics and astronomy at St. Mary's College in Moraga. He is also the director of the observatory at the college. I am sure it will be a talk to stimulate your brain cells and thus stave off the effects of aging!

Don't miss this luncheon and invite your friends and neighbors. Remember that our board has decided that our guests can enjoy the lunch for free – an added incentive to check out our branch. There are always some business cards located at the registration table which describe our branch and some of the many activities we enjoy. Take some, keep them in your wallet to distribute to recently retired colleagues or friends – there's a place for you to fill in your name and phone number as a contact. I look forward to seeing you at the July luncheon!



Membership

Dave Pierce

In June we inducted two new members, **John Kluesener** and **Howard Zimmerman**. **Harvey Oxman** resigned (moving out of the area). With the recent deaths of **Al Twyford** and Charter Member **Elmer "Kap" Kaprielian**, that drops our active membership to 288, but we are still up three from last year. The better news is we had six guests in June; keep up the good work! We will have a "free lunch" drawing in July for everyone who sponsored a new member in the first half of 2017; be there to win.

New Member Photos will be shown next month for the months of June & July (*Editor*)

Photo by Henry Thatcher



June luncheon speaker
Dr. Charles Vella

SIR Call Newsletter Group

Editor
Assistant Editors
Proofreaders
Internet Posting

Richard Hockenbrock
Walt Busenius, Rob Melrose
Jeff Baily, Cal Tucker
Jonathan Korfhage, & Pat Lucia
Ron Plachy



Sunshine

Calvin Tucker

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

- ◆ **Jim Saavedra**
- ◆ **Bob Walton**

We remember with sadness the death of long-time member **Al Twyford** on May 28th.

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

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

Cal Tucker, Sunshine Chair

phone: (925) 389 6070

Email: calvinctucker@gmail.com

2017 Branch 146 Officers and Directors

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

RAMP – Chair Members

Recruitment	Bill Schultz
Activities	Jerry Kaplan
Member Relations	Steve Sprague
Publicity	Bob Mehus

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



THE CLUBHOUSE

AT BOUNDARY OAK

SIR 146 Luncheon

July 13th, 2017

~Salad Course~

Louis Salad

Butter Lettuce, Applewood Smoked Bacon,
Vine Ripened Tomatoes
Feta Cheese, Hardboiled Egg,
Creamy Louis Dressing

~Entrees~

Pork Loin

Grilled Herb Marinated Pork Loin, Garlic
Mashed Potatoes & Seasonal Vegetables,
Spicy Peach Compote
Red Wine Reduction Demi

Or

Potato Crusted Cod

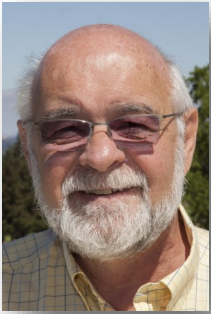
Alaskan Cod, Rice Pilaf,
Seasonal Vegetables
Lemon Chive Butter Sauce

~Dessert~

Grand Marnier Cake

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.



Luncheon Chairman

Rob Melrose

Attendance: We consumed 209 meals at our March luncheon which was slightly less than our guarantee.

Next Luncheon: Our next regular monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, July 13th, at the Boundary Oak Golf Course Club House in Walnut Creek. The price of the luncheon is still \$26 as it has been for a few years. There will be the usual no-host bar. The assembly will be called to order at 11:45 a.m. Please allow enough time to check in and make payment. The money guys really prefer checks so you might want to take a minute right now and write out a \$26 check payable to "SIR 146". Stick it in your wallet and you are good to go on the day of the luncheon, that is assuming you don't leave home without your wallet.

Opt Out Deadline: Please remember that your deadline to opt out of the luncheon is Noon on Friday, July 7th. We will email at least one reminder of this deadline during the preceding week. Nevertheless, you would do well to mark it on your calendar right now. If you are unable to attend, please send an e-mail message to "nolunchbranch146@gmail.com" before Noon on the Opt-Out deadline day. Please provide your badge number in that message. If you do not have convenient access to a computer, please call (925) 979-5146 before the no show deadline and leave a message with your name and badge number. A non-attending member who without good cause fails to meet this deadline is required by our rules to reimburse the Branch for the liability we will incur for his meal, in this case \$26. We appreciate the "Advance Payers" who timely notify us that they cannot attend a luncheon. As noted above, this courtesy results in an economic benefit to our Branch. A REMINDER TO ADVANCE PAYERS: BE CERTAIN TO CHECK IN.

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

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

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

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

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



Photo by Henry Thatcher

June SIR Greeters, L to R: **Steve Olsen, Walter Harrower, and Gene Voelkel**



Walking Group

Frank Ascigno

Every Friday at 9:30 am at various locales.

*Call **Frank** for current walk.*

Rain cancels any walk.

Ladies Welcome

Tel: (925) 429-2232

SIR Explore & Eat Event

2 hour Bay Cruise/History Tour on USS Potomac - August 17th

The "Floating White House" was originally commissioned the USCG Cutter Electra in 1934. In 1936 it was renamed the USS Potomac and served as Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Presidential Yacht until his death in 1945.

At this time we have 38 people who have made a paid reservation for our SIR 146 Explore & Eat group on the USS Potomac that is scheduled for August 17th, 2017. The good news is that there is plenty of room for more sign-ups! This event will start with a slide show presentation of the history of the USS Potomac at 9:45 am at the USS Potomac's office located at 540 Water Street, Oakland (across from the boat dock in Jack London Square). At 10:15 am we will board the USS Potomac and depart at 10:30 am. The 2 hour cruise/tour will return to Jack London Square at 12:30 PM. We will be making arrangement for a lunch spot in the Jack London Square area immediately following the cruise at approximately 1:00 pm.

Since we have 38 signed up, we have secured the group rate spot on the USS Potomac tour and we have the ability to sign up all future reservations (Based on space available) for any additional people who want to go on the cruise at the discounted price. The boat holds 120 people and there are approximately 50 spaces open at this time. There is plenty of convenient parking in a garage one and half blocks from the boat dock and some meter street parking. More on cruise, parking and arrangements will be provided to all participants when we get closer to the event.

The cost to our SIR group is \$45/person or \$90/ couple. If you are interested, please make check payable to "USS Potomac Association" and mail check to:

Jim Pope
385 Bryan Drive
Alamo, CA. 94507

We hope you and your guest will come and sail with us on this historic vessel.

Ahoy,

Henry Thatcher (925) 997-5032
&
Jim Pope (925) 699-644

Photo by Carl Tilchen



Acoustic Musicians

Carl Tilchen

The next meeting of The SIRS Acoustic Musicians Group is Thursday, 2 pm, July 20th, at 1281 Homestead Ave, #1D near Ygnacio Valley Road, Walnut Creek. Park on Homestead Ave, walk into garage, call last name **Elnick** on communication device, enter door, take elevator to 1st floor, & walk to unit 1D.

Our Acoustic Musicians Group welcomes all guitar, banjo, mandolin, bass etc. .The objective will be to enjoy our music. All levels of musical skill are welcome. Spouses & singers are also encouraged. Please bring your instrument, & any songs you enjoy.

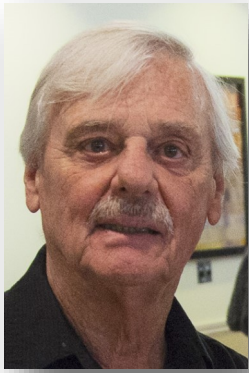
Editor's Note: I want to thank **Walt Busenius** who did a wonderful job in editing the June issue of the SIR CALL in its entirety. He along with **Henry Thatcher**, who took most of the photos appearing in this issue, were instrumental in allowing us to continue to produce a top quality newsletter that Branch 146 members expect.



Photo courtesy of Potomac Association



Photo courtesy of Potomac Association



SIR 146 Hiking

Rich Ahlf

On Friday, July 14th, we will be doing an easy four mile hike on the northeast side of Mt Diablo. This is an easy hike with views of Clayton and the Delta. We will meet at the Regency Gate at 9:00 am (early start to beat the heat). Our ascent will be about 700ft. and it should take about 3 hrs. If you are thinking about joining our group this would be a good one to start with. After the hike we will get together at Ed's Mudville Grill for a light lunch.

Directions—Drive out Ygnacio Valley Road, turn right on Clayton Road, go about five miles, turn right on Regency Drive and drive to staging area at the end of Regency, walk down the hill to the gate.

Rain Cancels

Spouses always welcome
Friday July 14th, 2017
Hike Starts at 9:00 am
Rich Ahlf
Cell 925-550-4967



Photo by Henry Thatcher

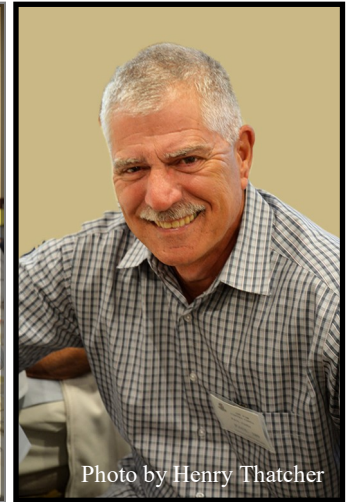


Photo by Henry Thatcher

Birthdays Drawing Winners for May & June,
L: **Bob Burley** and R: **Paul Fama**



Photo by Henry Thatcher

Dan Holland wearing an impressive & colorful Woodstock shirt



Photo by Henry Thatcher

Colorful Shirt winner by member applause was **Paul Dubow** presented by Big Sir Alan Elnick



Fishing Report

Paul Dubow

All SIR members and guests are welcome, and indeed encouraged, to participate in fishing trips as well as attend the monthly meetings. Next meeting will be Thursday, July 27th, at the Legend

Sports Bar and Grill at the Diablo Creek Golf Course at 4050 Port Chicago Highway in Concord. Meeting starts at 8:30 am, come early.

June has us split in two: the ocean and bay start to produce; and the piney mountains summon us to their pristine waters. Twelve of us led by **Chuck Vanoncini** went to Lake Almanor where 40 trout were caught during two days of fishing. Both **Brad Hatcher** and **Chuck Cornell** enjoyed success at Almanor. From the big pond: **Brion Beetz** and **Carl Moyer** caught rockfish; and **Lee Clark** caught salmon. **Ernie Wong** had a good early summer with over a hundred shad, **Don Mittlesteadt** and **Carl Moyer** also enjoyed fly fishing.

Ernie and **Ken Konzak** took time out for the big cutthroat at Pyramid lake in Nevada. **Ernie** released his biggest yet, a 10 pounder. **Tom Kostik** led a group to Pinecrest Lake where they caught bass and trout. **Tom** and **Mike Corker** caught striped and black bass from the delta. **Terry Miller**, **Ron Lew**, and **Carl Moyer** caught Halibut from the bay. **Karl Droese**, **Ken Konzak** and **Joe Miscione** traveled to Pyramid Lake, NV, catching and releasing cutthroat from a charter boat. **Thom Watkins**, **Terry Miller** and **Carl Moyer** ended a bad local trout spring season by catching one small trout at San Pablo Reservoir.



Photography Group

Richard Hockenbrock

At our June meeting, **Peter Plante** showed pictures of Holland taken on his iPhone. The quality of the photos were excellent. He also explained how he transmitted the pictures to me using Apple Cloud.

We also watched two videos from the *Great Courses on Photography* series titled Animal Photography and Smartphone Photography.

A request was made to have another field trip prior to the next meeting. If there is interest, we will plan a trip to Martinez in early August with a showing of our photos at the August meeting. Look for email from me in late July or early August for date and time of the field trip.

Richard Hockenbrock

Email: rhock@pacbell.net

Cell: (925) 324-1713

Home Phone: (925) 935-7464

Next Meeting

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

Subject: Presentation by **Bruce Borgman** documenting his recent trip to Egypt.

When: Next meeting, August 25th at 9:00 am—11:00 am
Possible field trip to Martinez to capture town photos.



Cribbage

John Pearl

In June, a group of seven die-hard cribbage players gathered at the home of **Barney Meade**.

The Brit, **Dennis Hallett**, went undefeated for first place money for the second month in a row!, with host **Barney Meade** coming in a close second, with only one loss. Third place was taken by our co-chair, **Ron Afdal**, winning his ante back. The chair managed to come in last. Our next scheduled event is Wednesday, July 26th.



Photo by Henry Thatcher

Gene Schulting and **Martin Perkins** at the June luncheon



Couples Dining Out Bruce Borgman

Sue and I are out of town but before we left we got a head start on selecting the restaurant for our July Dining Out event. I know that I said we would continue the adventuresome dining experience we had at Alborz in May with our Persian cuisine - but, we noticed that there was a new restaurant in the place where Salvatore used to be on North Broadway in Walnut Creek.

It opened the first week in June and is actually a new and improved version of Salvatore with the same owners and Italian cuisine - but only better. Many of you will remember we dined at Salvatore several years ago. We were able to get a good price for a menu that includes a salad, a choice of four of their best entrees, and their homemade Lemon Chiffon cake for dessert - for \$45, all inclusive. Please indicate your choice of entree with your reservation.

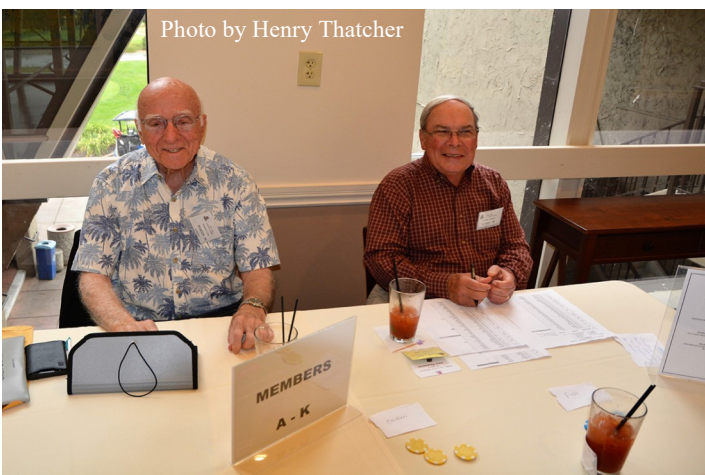
The restaurant is closed on Monday, so we will dine on Tuesday, July 25th, with our social hour at 5:30 and dinner at 6:15 pm. We will have the separate section on the right side of the restaurant. It will seat just 40 diners, but we will take a few extra tables next to that section to accommodate our group, since we will likely exceed the capacity of the first section. The restaurant has a nice bar area with good pricing for wine, and some specialty cocktails during the extended happy hour. I think we will enjoy this dining experience!



Cass Buys and Richard Lyon take time out to pose for a picture at the June luncheon



Martin Harper looks on as Steve Dinning plays the piano



Martin Lyle and Larry Brown checking-in member at the registration tables

Mexican Train Dominoes Groups



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 1 (UNO)

Jerry Kaplan

The June Mexican Train Game Night was held on June 9th at the inviting Martinez home of Sir **Rob Melrose** and his wife, **Carmen Schiavone**. All three tables were almost full for the evening's game

playing. Guests included Sir **Jim Barry** and his wife, **Joyce**, as well as semi-regular group subs, Sir **Jeff Bailly** and wife **Alicia**, as well as Sir **Chuck Denney** and wife **Mary**.

The first-place winner for the June Game Night was Sir **Jerry Kaplan** (me!) with an average score of 10.9, followed by **Alicia** (average 14.7) with Sir **Jim Stedman** coming in 3rd with an average of 17.2. Sir **Chuck Denney** finished just out of the money with an average of 17.9

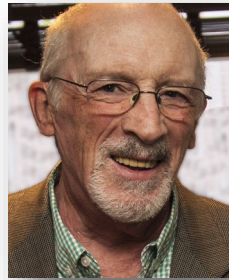
The June Game Night was the first of six months of play (through November) when the \$1.00 that everyone puts in the pot each month is awarded to the best three average scores during the period. A player must complete 60% of the average of each month's games played to be eligible.

Group One is always looking for other SIR members and guests who may be interested in playing occasionally as a substitute. Mexican Train Dominoes is fun to play and easy to learn. Several individuals who had never played before have come to our Game Night and after just one open hand were right in the midst of the fun. Please contact **Jerry** if you want to join a fun night out! Single Sirs as well as a Sir and his guest are always welcome. (925) 930-7076 or mtdana@aol.com.



Photo by Jerry Kaplan

L to R: **Jim Stedman, Jeff Bailly, Susan Kaplan, Mary Denney, Joyce Barry, and Carmen Schiavone**



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 3 (TRES)

Jeff Bailly

Group 3 had a pleasant night of playing Mexican Train Dominoes at the beautiful home of **Lynn and Sally Shafer**. **Sally** produced a delicious array of goodies such as cakes, chocolates, ice cream and popcorn.

Three tables played; at one table the competition was fierce - **Alicia Bailly** played the first 4 games with an average of 12 then blew it up with a hand of 61 to allow **Judy Richmond** and **Laurie Hoban** to pass her. **Lynn Shafer** went out 3 times and had two games of 2 each but all that wasn't enough to put him in the winners' circle. **Laurie Hoban** clinched 3rd place with 16.8, and **Judy Richmond** beat her by 4 points winding up with 15.9 for the second slot.

At table 2 there was no mistaking it - **Jeff Bailly**, your correspondent, blew away the competition by going out twice and racking up a series of low scores for an average of 11.6 and securing 1st place.

Coincidentally, **Jeff** was also the main scorekeeper prompting whispers of possible collusion. A full 2 minute and 15 second investigation by his wife **Alicia** into his scorekeeping and comments produced no evidence of collusion, so his win officially goes into the record book - just kidding!



Photo by Jeff Bailly

Winners L to R: **Laurie Hoban, Jeff Bailly and Judy Richmond** flash their winnings at MTD 3 night of May 23rd



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 2 (DOS)

Dick Woodman

It is with a sad heart that we say good-bye to **Al Twyford**. We will miss him and **Helene** from our game nights. Thankfully, **Bill** and **Lynnette Holly** are able to rejoin the group as

regulars.

Chuck and **Mary Denney** put on a great party for us in May 6th. Besides having some very competitive games for the evening we also finished up the January—May Pot so we have several scores to post:

May Results:

- ◇ 1st Place: **Martha Plante**—Average game score 14.10
- ◇ 2nd Place: **Janice Woodman**—Average game score 15.62
- ◇ 3rd Place: **Dick Woodman**—Average game score 15.64

(Notice the close 2nd and 3rd place game scores)

January—May Pot Results:

- ◆ 1st Place: **Ismini MacLean** Average game score 16.6
- ◆ 2nd Place: **Bill Cammerer**—Average game score 21.3
- ◆ 3rd Place: **Rich Ahlf**—Average game score 22.0

Congratulations to all the winners!! They are all great competitors. We met again on June 23rd at **Bill** and **Bernice Cammerer's** home. Those results will be reported in the August SIR CALL.



Cooking Lunch & Wine

Pete Gates

The LAW cooking group meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at a different member's home with one member responsible for preparing the menu for the rest of the group.

We gather at 11:00 am for good conversation, appetizers and wine followed by lunch.

My mind works like lighting.
One brilliant flash and it is gone.

The only time the world beats a path to your door is if you're in the bathroom.



Mexican Train Dominoes Group 4 (El Quattro)

Jim Pope

There are no pictures of the group as we all were distracted by the 18 inch King Snake on the patio deck and in our swimming pool at the beginning of the evening. Since we live with Mt. Diablo State Park just over our back fence, having "Mother Nature" visit our backyard is a regular event.

Now to Mexican Train Dominos, we had 16 in attendance; **Henry** and **Barbara Thatcher**, **Lo** and **Sue McCarley**, **Ron Louis** and **Fran Matthews**, **Dick** and **Leslie Firth**, **Darlo** and **Mariwyn Boone**, **Dick** and **Christy DeVoe**, **Rich** and **Kim Pace**, **Jim** and **Renie Pope**. Rousing games of Mexican Train Dominos was enjoyed by all three tables.

The food provided by the "Sweets & Savory" team was wonderful and just right for warm evening.



Photo by Jim Pope

An uninvited 18 inch King Snake showed up at the MTD El Quattro game night on **Jim Pope's** patio deck prior to start of play



Photo by Henry Thatcher

More color shirts at the June luncheon
John Boyan **Dave Pierce**, and **Bob Yolland**



SongSirs

Bruce Borgman

The SongSirs continue to practice the “Romantic Song” repertoire which **Ken Donnelly** and **Steve Dinning** have put together. **Ken** has also arranged for us to perform at the Concord Senior Center on July 14th. We are also checking to see if we might be able to add another performance at a skilled nursing facility in the area. Since we are all decked out in blue vests, khaki pants and white polo shirts, we think that it make sense to do more than one performance on that day.

We are always looking for others who enjoy singing to join our group as we practice every first and third Wednesday at the Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church at 1:30 pm. Come and see!

Photo by Henry Thatcher



Bruce Borgman (center) lead the SongSirs in a song at the June luncheon



Table Pool Bill Weinberg

We meet every Monday at 11:30 am at Masses, 2721 North Main in Walnut Creek. No advance notice is necessary. Just show up and play. Cost is \$5 for as long as you want to play. This is a special rate that Masses gives SIR members. You can also play at other times during the day for the same \$5. Just tell them you are a member of SIR. We play mostly two man teams of eight ball, or a unique three-player game, called “Crazy Eights”, depending on the number of participants. We usually play about 2 hours but not everyone stays for the final curtain. All Sirs in Area 2 are welcome.

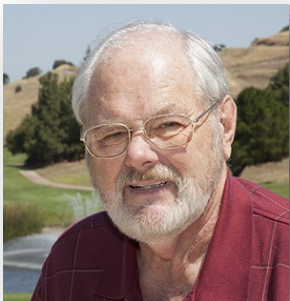


Book Nook

Peter Plante

The Book Nook will be open for the July meeting on the 13th. Please bring any books you have at home that you have read and/or no longer need taking up space. And, of course, you can always browse the Book Nook and take home a few new books to read.

No doubt you have noticed that my by-line now graces the Book Nook column instead of **Hank James**. Hank has turned the reins over to me but he is still graciously storing all the books in his garage. His are big shoes to fill but I look forward to serving you and making **Hank**, who incidentally was my SIR sponsor, proud. Please let’s all extend our heartfelt appreciation to **Hank** for his commitment and faithful service to Book Nook.



Theatre Gary Schaub

ROLLICKING MUSICAL ON TAP FOR NEXT SIR 146 THEATER PARTY

What a smashing combination! **Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis and Carl Perkins** performing together for one time only. That's the premise of *Million Dollar Quartet* – a reenactment of the 1956 recording session with four of America's top pop stars. This musical evening is the SIR 146 Theater Party for Thursday, October 5th at the Leshar Center in Walnut Creek. Curtain time is 8:00 p.m.



Original Broadway Cast. Photo by Joan Marcus

A limited number of reduced rate seats have been set aside for SIR members and friends for this magical evening from the '50s. Ticket reservations for the SIR group will be available until September 5th by contacting Sir **Gary Schaub**. 1400 Canyonwood Ct., Apt. #8 Walnut Creek 94595. (925) 938-5454. Seats are \$36.00 per person, with a check payable to SIR 146. *Million Dollar Quartet* is produced by Center Repertory Company at the Leshar Center in Walnut Creek. It's the opening production of REPs 50th anniversary season.

On December 4th, 1956, four young musicians gathered in a recording studio in Memphis, TN for what would be one of the greatest jam sessions ever. *Million*



Travel Opportunities

Milt Smith

Blue Angels aboard SF Belle, Saturday October 7th, \$144pp. includes transportation, brunch aboard the San Francisco Belle and the Cruise to see the show. Registration begins now.

SIR Day at the Races tentative date is Friday October 20th, put it on your calendar now, will get more info soon...Cell: (925) 285-2897, Home Phone: (925) 280-0328

The Ultimate Africa Trip for next May has filled up with the exception of one space for a single traveler. Contact me for more information



Book Club

Chuck Campbell

The SIR Book Group met June 19th at the Black Bear Restaurant to discuss *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles. In short, the book is well-written and an easy read. The story is about Count Restov and how he manages his sentence by the Emergency Committee of the People's Commissariat for Internal Affairs to confinement in the Hotel Metropol for the remainder of his life, starting June 1921. Somehow the Count keeps his good humor and gentlemanly principles as he goes about establishing relationships with the hotel employees and guests. The story covers a period of 40 years during which we learn about old friends who appear and depart along with new friends frequenting the hotel. In truth, the story moves rather slowly for the first 20 years until young Sophia appears and changes Count Rostov's life. The ending is a bit of a surprise and a little vague, but the book is worth a read.

Our next book will be *Hillbilly Elegy* by J.D. Vance. We will next meet Monday, July 17th at the Black Bear Restaurant at 8:30 am.

Dollar Quartet brings that legendary night to life. Be ready for "Blue Suede Shoes," "Great Balls of Fire," "Walk the Line," "Fever," and "Whole Lotta Shakin' Goin' On," and many more Pop and R&B hits of the day.

Tickets will be distributed at 7:30 pm in the lower lobby of Leshar Center, 1601 Locust Street, Walnut Creek. Parking is available in the city garage adjacent to Leshar Center.



Couples Duplicate

Bridge 1

Bob Yolland

We had a very nice evening with three tables of bridge on June 21st hosted by **Jim Brown**. The bridge was good, he had lots of great goodies and some fine wines. **Rich Ahlf** and **Ismeni Maclean** placed first with 25 points. **Dave and Joan Pierce** came in second at 24 points with **Dick and Christy DeVoe** placing third at 20.5 points. Congratulations to all the winners. Our next bridge will be at the **DeVoes** the third Wednesday, July 19th.



Men's Duplicate

Bridge 1

Doug Eisner

Rich Ahlf hosted 4 tables of Duplicate Bridge 1 on June 19th. The group played only 16 boards, rather than the usual 24 boards. The weather outside was hot but inside **Bob Yolland** was even hotter as he took AM honors with 18.0 pts, well ahead of pursuers **Roger Peters** with 16.0 pts and **Jim Jackson, Ed Marlovits, and Fred Kovar** with 13.5 pts. each. In the PM session, while the outside temperature soared to over 100^oF, inside **Bob** remained hot and closed out the day with 46.5 pts, far outdistancing all pretenders. No doubt, much of **Bob's** PM success can be attributed to his partners. In any event, **Fred Bolton** claimed 2nd prize with 41.0 pts, while **Doug Eisner's** 40.5 pts, was good enough for 3rd place and **Roger Peters** and **Bill Schultz** shared 4th place at 40.0 pts.

Fred Bolton will host our next game on July 17th.



Couples Duplicate

Bridge 2

Dave Pierce

Tony and Cindy Greco hosted us on June 13th. The results [after a careful audit] had subs **Rich Ahlf** and **Ismeni McLean** tied for third with **Dick and Christy DeVoe** (20 matchpoints, 50%). **Tony and Cindy** were second (23.5, 59%), and **Brad and Lynne Hatcher** were first (26.5, 66%). The **DeVoes** and **Hatchers** had seven top boards; **Ken and Elaine Richter** and **Tony and Cindy** had six. Everyone made six on Board 5 but only **Rich** and **Ismeni** bid the slam. Congratulations, all.



Men's Duplicate

Bridge 3

Sid Landman

Our June 16th Duplicate Bridge 3 event was graciously hosted by **Roger Peters**. Some little-known facts: The difference between 1st and 4th place overall was one of the smallest ever (3 points).

For the first time in memory, the top four rankings had exactly one point difference separating 1st from 2nd / 2nd from 3rd / 3rd from 4th.

An amazing eight of the twelve players met or exceeded the average of 12 points in the 1st half.

Final Results

1st Place - **Dick DeVoe** (28.5); 2nd Place-**Brad Hatcher** (27.5); 3rd Place - Mark Curtis- guest (26.5); 4th Place- **Bill Schultz** (25.5).

Most Points in a 3-Board Round—Partners **Bill Schultz / Charlie Abrams** and partners **Steve Dawkins / Brad Hatcher** each earned the maximum 6 points, doing so on Boards 4/5/6.

Most Twos- **Brad Hatcher** had nine. Least Zeros-guest Mark Curtis only had two.

Comeback Kid- **Ed Marlovits** perhaps broke the Branch 146 all-time record, with 11.5 points difference from 1st half to 2nd half, while easily securing 1st place in the 2nd half with 17.5 points.

Report by Dick DeVoe



Couples Party Bridge

Dave Pierce

Larry and Linda Brown kindly hosted our Couples Party Bridge Group on June 6th. **Tony and Cindy Greco** captured 1st place, with **Dick and Christy DeVoe** only a few points behind after a fortuitous 6 No Trump bid and made. Hosts **Larry and Linda** slipped into 3rd place. Subs **Jerry and Chris Benoit** never claimed a handicap even though **Chris** had one arm in a cast; thank you for hanging in there with us, **Chris!** They, plus the **Hatchers** and **Rammells** were very gracious while watching everyone else get the good hands.

Report by Dick DeVoe



Party Bridge

Fred Bolton

We played three tables of bridge at the home of **Fred Bolton** on June 5th. The winner with 5710 points was **Bob Yolland**, second went to **Fred Bolton** with 5280, and third went to **Jim Jackson** with 4580.

Our next game will be on July 3rd at the home of **Jim Stedman**.



Bocce Ball

Martin Lyle

July will bring us some warm weather, but our early play on courts with some shade is pleasant.

We have welcomed some new players along with the regulars. Come out and enjoy this light exercise. Time and location shown

below.

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



L to R: **Dave Devincenzi, Tony Fiorica, Peter Plante, and Martin Lyle** enjoying Bocce Ball at Newhall Park in Concord

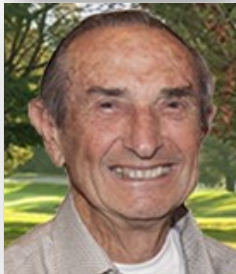


Poker Group 1

Dan O'Sullivan

Poker Group 1 had its outing at the home of **Bill Cammerer**. As always a good time was had by all.

Our next outing will be at the home of **Don Del Bene** on July 12th.



Poker Group 2

Al Zamolo

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



Poker Club 3

Sig Kalteis

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



Old Money Poker Group 6

Brad Hatcher

With the passing of our leader, **Al Twyford**, the Old Money Poker Group 6 did not play in June. We will, however meet at **Frank Lucas' house** in July. Since two of our group will be moving away, we are quite open to take on a few replacements. If you are interested, contact **Frank Lucas** at (925) 316-6122 or fplucas.fl@gmail.com.

*Reported by **Frank Lucas***



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. The regular players going forward are **Bill Roberts, Bob Spellman, Charlie Koeber, Doug Eisner, Ken Richter, Frank Rockwell, and Paul Dubow**.*

Subs are sometimes needed due to travel and the like. Play begins at 4 pm and ends around 8 pm with time out for dinner.



GOLF

Ed Marlovits

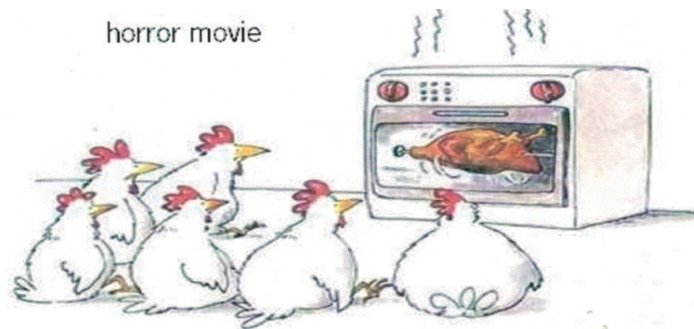
It has been an eventful month for golf since our last SIR CALL. On May 23rd while playing from the white tees at Boundary Oak, **Jim Burk** shot a 76, shooting his age for the first time with SIR. Later that week, **Jim** and **Bill Cammerer** were partners at the Area 2 team qualifier when **Bill** made a hole in one. On Tuesday, May 30th, **Bill** followed that up by shooting an 84 -- and his age for the 13th time.

The SIR Area 2 annual team qualifier scramble was held May 25th at the Hiddenbrooke Golf Club. **Bill Cammerer**, **Ken Sihler**, **Bob Lucido**, **Ray Spears**, and **Gary Brown** should each get close to the pin money. Nine SIR Branch 146 teams participated and the foursomes led by **Dick DeVoe**, **John Harrington**, and **Jim Burk** were among the top finishers.

The Division 4 Individual Qualifier will be on August 23rd, also at Hiddenbrooke. If interested, you will need to sign up and pay in advance. The forms will be attached to a GEM.

June's Tournament Tuesday event was a four-club competition. The range of scores was the same as our normal scores, begging the question, what is the added value of those next ten clubs? July's Away Golf expedition will be on July 6th at the Mare Island Golf Club in Vallejo.

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



Nine Hole Golf Group

Verner Laursen

The SIR 146 golf group tees off at 9:30 am at the Diablo Hills Golf Course on most Thursdays. The exceptions are the 2nd Thursday when we normally go to the SIR luncheon.

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

More Colorful Shirt Photos



Larry Mitchell Pierre Mebane and Bruce Jones



Carl Tilchen and Bob Lucido

Area Two Events

Mac User Group (MUG)

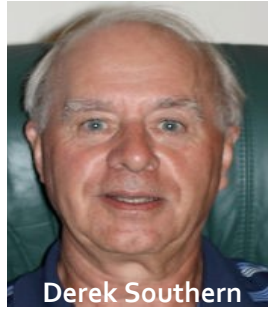


Max Burchett



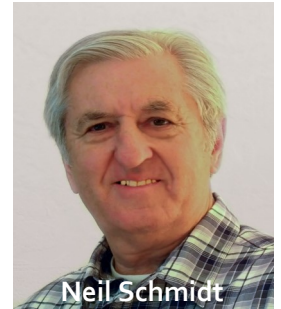
Vern Laursen

Computers and Technology



Derek Southern

PCs



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 [formerly A2CAT] announces that our next meeting will be at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge on Thursday July 20th, starting at 9:30 am, but come early for coffee, goodies, and chat. Sirs from all branches and their guests are welcome and invited to attend.

Neil Schmidt will be discussing "Travelling with Technology". Do you remember the old days when you carried heavy hardbound books in your suitcase, brought magazines to read on the plane and made calls on payphones? Thanks to technology, times have sure changed.

Neil will be presenting ways to use technology to help plan and assist you in your travels. This discussion will include his favorite travelling apps and techniques and he will encourage others in attendance to contribute their own travelling tips and tricks.

We look forward to seeing you around 9:15 am, Thursday, July 20th, at the Walnut Creek Elks Lodge, 1475 Creekside Drive. We ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of the hall rental, coffee and cookies -- but some months are free, so come and see if our July meeting is another one of those! All SIR members and their guests (spouses included!) are welcome to attend. See you there.

Neil Schmidt, Chairman

Area 2 \$ums Investment Group

We will have no meetings in July and August. Back again on Wednesday, September 27th.

\$UMS Chairman **Tom Henry** tomhenry925@gmail.com
Co-chair **Dave Sutton** davesutn@comcast.net



Photo by Henry Thatcher

Bill Schultz (in yellow) introduces potential SIR member guest to the head table